

short 47 years, more than 187,000 volunteers in 139 countries, have worked on issues ranging from environmental preservation to information technology.

Despite the fact that many people recognize this global need, fully committing to serving is often easier said than done. Mary and Tom Evans, of Humble, Texas, however, are an example to us all. These Texan grandparents want to “return to the communities of the world,” their “good fortune.”

At the age when most of the couple’s peers are retiring, they will soon be departing for their second tour with the Peace Corps. The Evans’s are part of the volunteer organizations recent drive to utilize the wisdom of America’s baby boomers. Life experiences, undergone by this generation give them a better understanding of what is required to more effectively aid others in foreign cultures. Already serving the community at home in Humble, Mary has taught at local schools for 15 years. Her Husband Tom is retired chemical salesman, who too began teaching as a substitute at area schools.

The grandparents’ combined experience adds to the proficiency of their ability to educate and assist different populations, as was demonstrated on their first tour in the Republic of Kiribati. During their previous trip, Mary and Tom’s main task was to create textbooks for the Gilbertese speaking islanders. The “tangible difference” that the couple observed in the people they helped, made up for the seemingly remote living conditions.

Currently, these Peace Corps volunteers are busy preparing for another adventure this time in the Ukraine. In anticipation of their upcoming trip, Mary and Tom are busy learning both the language and culture of their new posting. Although time has passed since their last endeavor, the couple is confident that they will even now be able to “serve their country in the cause of peace.”

Giving back to the global community is truly an honorable endeavor. The example set by the Evanses and numerous other Peace Corps volunteers should be heeded by all. These patriots show the world what it means to be American; I commend their noble service.

And that’s just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO DR. NORMAN E.
BORLAUG

HON. TOM LATHAM
OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, up until July of this year, in all the history of America, there are only four individuals who ever received the Nobel Peace Prize, the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal, America’s highest civilian honor. They are Mother Theresa, Nelson Mandela, Elie Wiesel, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On July 17, President George W. Bush joined with the bipartisan Congressional leadership in presenting the Congressional Gold Medal to a fifth person, a native of Iowa, born in my congressional district, Dr. Norman E. Borlaug. Dr. Borlaug’s name is not as well known as those other four vaunted individuals, but the achievements of this humble and self-

effacing man are just as magnificent. It was one of the proudest moments of my service in Congress to be on the dais with the President and Dr. Borlaug and to hear him described as: the Father of the Green Revolution; the man who saved a billion people from starvation; and the man who, “has saved more lives than any other person who has ever lived.”

If there is one person who is the symbol of our struggle to diminish hunger in the world it is Dr. Borlaug. He is a hero on almost every continent from Mexico, where he first developed his “Miracle Wheat” that could triple the yield of the plant; to India and Pakistan where his new approach to agriculture staved off famine and helped those two countries become self-sufficient in wheat; to the Middle East and East Asia where his revolutionary agricultural innovations produced unprecedented surpluses in both wheat and rice; and finally to Africa, where his efforts continue to this day as he heads the Sasakawa Global 2000 effort to uplift food deficit countries there.

Dr. Borlaug is in Iowa today attending the first ever Iowa Hunger Summit, which is organized by the World Food Prize Foundation and which is drawing hundreds and hundreds of participants from across Iowa and across America for a day-long focus on countering global food insecurity. I was pleased to learn that members of the Alliance Against Hunger and Bread for the World are traveling to Iowa from many States to take part in this exciting and innovative program. It is highly appropriate that Dr. Borlaug will be surrounded by the bipartisan political leadership of the State of Iowa for the past 40 years in the person of Governor Chet Culver and former governors Bob Ray, Terry Branstad and Tom Vilsack.

While we cannot be there to join with them in this important work, we can send messages of support such as this so that all who are attending the Hunger Summit can know that we in the Congress are also present in spirit, indeed a bipartisan spirit, which comes from the admiration Republicans and Democrats share of Dr. Borlaug and the shared concern we have for people who do not have enough to eat.

RECOGNIZING MITCHELL JOSEPH
CREAGH FOR ACHIEVING THE
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mitchell Joseph Creagh, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 303, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Mitchell has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Mitchell has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Mitchell Joseph Creagh for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS HOMECOMING TRIBUTE

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, whereas, the veterans and home front workers of WWII will reunite with great pride; and

Whereas, they will honor Dreamville, USA as the place that served them during WWII; and

Whereas, they will share their memories with one another and reflect on their time served; be it

Resolved that along with friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the soldiers and home front workers for your commitment, recognizing that all great achievements are a result of dedication. With great appreciation and respect, I wish you continued success.

PRAISING TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
PM PATRICK MANNING

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Hon. Patrick M. Manning, whose triumphs were fittingly and deservedly acknowledged by Medgar Evers College on September 26, 2007. The head of government was presented with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, according to a New York CARIB News article published on September 25, 2007, titled “Medgar Evers College Honors Prime Minister Manning Of T&T.”

Mr. Manning is noted for his fervid defense of democracy in the region and as a generous supporter of his struggling neighbors. A liberal democracy known as a leader among its peers, Trinidad and Tobago is a steadfast member of CARICOM—the regional pact intent on economic integration—and it sits on the recently created Caribbean Court of Justice. But Mr. Manning is well-reputed for striving to bolster his nation’s political and economic prowess even further, vowing to surge it to developed-country status by the year 2020.

The Prime Minister has kept a keen and perceptive eye on the future, all the while refusing to forsake those peers embattled with a harrowing present. He is to be lauded for possessing the foresight and wherewithal to dream an ambitious destiny for the Caribbean and set it on the path towards getting there.

[From The New York CARIB, September 25, 2007]

MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE HONORS PRIME
MINISTER MANNING OF T&T

The Hon. Patrick M. Manning, Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, will be honored by Medgar Evers College on Wednesday, September 26, 2007 with the conferring of a Doctor of Laws degree—Honoris Causa. The ceremony will take place at 10.00 a.m. in the Founders Auditorium. Prime Minister Manning is expected to deliver a major address on the occasion.

Prime Minister Manning's statement will address "The Role of Trinidad and Tobago in Shaping Regional and Global Affairs."

Trinidad and Tobago, a liberal democracy located in the southern Caribbean, is a political leader in the region. The country is a member of the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM)—a regional organization aimed at the ultimate integration of its member economies—and also the Seat of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ)—the recently established regional judicial tribunal.

"Medgar Evers College welcomes Prime Minister Manning in the spirit of ongoing international exchange. His visit is yet another indication that our work here at Medgar is receiving worldwide recognition," says Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President of Medgar Evers College.

The College has been a venue of choice for several government dignitaries speaking on issues of global import such as Director General of US Commercial Services Israel Hernandez, who spoke on the Bush Administration's Economic and Trade Initiatives.

ABOUT PRIME MINISTER MANNING

The Honorable Patrick Manning was elected to his third term of office as the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago on October 7, 2002. Born in San Fernando in 1946, Mr. Manning entered politics in 1971, at the tender age of 24, emerging victorious in the general elections as the People's National Movement candidate for the Constituency of San Fernando East.

Under two Prime Ministers, young Representative Manning served as Parliamentary Secretary in Ministries ranging from Works and Transport, Industry and Commerce, to Petroleum and Mines. He became a full-fledged Minister in 1981 holding the Industry and Commerce, and Information portfolios, then Energy and National Resources. In 1986, he became the Leader of the Opposition and within two months was elected to the post of Political Leader of the PNM.

In 1991 Mr. Manning was elected Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago. Four years later he returned to opposition after a loss in the general election of 1995. In 2001, after a deadlock in the House of Representatives, Mr. Manning was appointed Prime Minister by President Arthur N.R. Robinson. A general election was then held on October 7, 2002 and Mr. Manning again emerged victorious. He is currently the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance.

Prime Minister Manning is well-respected in the international community for his vision as a new-style Caribbean leader dedicated to propelling his nation to developed country status by 2020, while simultaneously contributing to the development of fellow regional states.

His accolades include the Guyana Institute for Democracy "Democracy Prize" for his outstanding work in upholding the principles of democracy in the Caribbean region (December 2003) and the Caribbean—Central American Action's "Star of the Caribbean Award," for his unwavering support of Caribbean neighbors in their time of distress (December 2004).

Mr. Manning attained his primary and secondary education in South Trinidad followed by his B.Sc. Degree (Special Honors) in Geology at the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.

He is married to the Honorable Senator Hazel Manning, current Minister of Education, and they have two sons—Brian and David.

RAPE OF A NATION

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, Congo is facing a rape epidemic. The sexual violence in Congo is the worst in the world. Congolese women are raped, butchered by bayonets, and assaulted with chunks of wood. These brutal attacks leave their reproductive and digestive systems beyond repair.

The election last year has not ended the violence and instability in Congo. The government is inept. The justice system and military barely function. Large parts of Congo remain authority-free, leaving civilians at the mercy of armed militiamen, the Rastas. The Rastas are known for burning babies, kidnapping and raping women, and butchering anyone along their path. Rastas are former Hutus, who escaped into Congo after exterminating 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus during Rwanda's genocide. Rastas seek to destroy the Congolese women.

According to the U.N., 27,000 women in the South Kivu Province alone reported sexual assaults in 2006. That's only a fraction of the number of raped women across Congo. This is especially disturbing because the largest U.N. peacekeeping force in the world, over 17,000 troops, is in Congo.

Rape is a common weapon of war, but the sexual assaults in Congo are now a social phenomenon. Abuse of women, even by their husbands, is now considered "normal."

Congolese women face an extraordinary struggle. Their husbands leave them after they are raped for fear of "disease." Congo does not have enough resources to treat sexual assault victims. The lack of hospital beds forces rape victims to return to their villages before they have fully recovered.

Rape victims are often left with colostomy bags, damaged internal organs, pregnant or unable to bear children, and afraid of being attacked again.

I founded the Congressional Victim's Rights Caucus to provide a voice for victims and to advocate on their behalf. As the co-chair of the caucus, I hope we continue to raise awareness of the devastating effects of domestic violence and other crimes on victims across the world.

Congolese women are victims of sadistic sexual assaults, irreversible internal damage, and a government that has failed to protect them. And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO ALYSSA RANDALL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alyssa Randall of State Center, Iowa, as the recipient of the Golden Apple Award for her commitment and enthusiasm as an educator.

Alyssa teaches the Trojan Tots program at West Marshall Elementary School, which includes two separate programs for 3 and 4-year-olds. At an early age, Alyssa acquired a

strong interest in utilizing her talent for working with young children. As she was growing up Alyssa's own teachers played a crucial role in this interest. I am certain that Alyssa's passion for the teaching profession is, and will continue to be, a significant influence on a number of her own students as well.

The Golden Apple Award is a special recognition given to one exceptional teacher each month during the school year by WHO-TV 13 in Des Moines, Iowa and by Allied Insurance. Alyssa's own students, Ryan and Kody Carver, nominated her for this recognition by writing letters describing why she is their favorite teacher.

I consider it a great honor to represent this dedicated teacher Alyssa Randall in the United States Congress. And, I also know that my colleagues in Congress will join me in expressing my gratitude to Alyssa and to all of our Nation's educators for their hard work and dedication to our children and grandchildren.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I would like to state for the record my position on the following votes I missed due to flooding in my county.

On Monday, October 15, 2007, I was tending to personal matters and thus missed roll-call votes Nos. 961, 962, and 963. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all votes.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 32ND ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE PAN-MESSINIAN FEDERATION OF USA AND CANADA

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, whereas, the people of the Pan-Messinian Federation of USA and Canada celebrate the 32nd National Convention with great pride; and

Whereas, the 180th Anniversary will be celebrated, recognizing the Navy of Battle of Navarino; and

Whereas, the battle which took place on October 20, 1827 ensured Greece's independence

Whereas, they are known for fostering fraternal bonds, renewing acquaintances and annually gathering to conduct official business; and

Whereas, Pan-Messinian Federation of USA and Canada is recognized for their hard work to preserve cultural traditions, educational scholarships, and charities;

Be it resolved that along with friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the Pan-Messinian Federation of USA and Canada for your unwavering commitment, recognizing that all great achievements are a result of dedication. With great appreciation and respect, I wish you continued success.