

Cuyahoga Valley National Park Education Center. These institutions have gone to great lengths to reach out to the central city by bringing children out to their suburban and exurban facilities. I appreciate all of the efforts they have made over the years, and I hope they continue.

What distinguishes Audubon Ohio's Urban Conservation Crew is that it is being conducted right in the neighborhood where the children live. Given the enthusiasm I saw in the children during their visit, I am confident that they will continue to explore Rockefeller Park, looking for birds, plants and other animals, long after the camp is over.

After my visit I learned that Cleveland is not the only location where Audubon has been offering programs like the Urban Conservation Crew to central city children. In Columbus, Audubon is developing the Grange Insurance Audubon Center, a nature-based education center slated to open in 2009 in a central city neighborhood just a mile south of downtown. Audubon already has similar facilities at Prospect Park in Brooklyn and in Debs Park in East Los Angeles. Another urban center, known as "the Rio Salado Center," is under development in the heart of Phoenix.

It is notable that Audubon Ohio produced the Urban Conservation Crew program almost entirely with private funds. Support came from the Cleveland Foundation, the Kent H. Smith Charitable Trust, and the Shaker Lakes Garden Club. Audubon Ohio did, however, receive a small amount of federal money, specifically a \$5,000 grant from the U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service. It goes to show how a relatively small amount of federal dollars can be leveraged to produce great results.

I commend Audubon, Ohio for helping to reconnect children with nature, particularly in the central city. Audubon and its Ohio program deserve high marks for their creativity and skill in doing so at the Rockefeller Park Greenhouse in Cleveland and elsewhere. They provide great hope for the future.

WELCOMING HIS HOLINESS
KAREKIN II, SUPREME PATRIARCH
AND CATHOLICOS OF ALL
ARMENIANS TO THE 10TH CON-
GRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF ILLI-
NOIS

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, I am honored to welcome His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, to the 10th Congressional District of Illinois. His Holiness Karekin II was a pivotal figure in rebuilding the Armenian Church in the aftermath of the Soviet period and providing spiritual leadership for 7 million Armenian Apostolic Christians around the world. He has undertaken extensive philanthropic and humanitarian work, including opening orphanages, hospitals, soup kitchens for the elderly and cultural centers for the youth of Armenia. We would like to honor His Holiness Karekin II for his dedication to the people of Armenia and thank him for visiting the 10th District of Illinois.

I hope this trip to the United States compels my colleagues to bring the Armenian Genocide

resolution, H. Res. 106, to a vote before the full House of Representatives. For more than 90 years, Armenians were denied recognition for the Genocide of 1915.

We promised in 1945 to never forget the Holocaust, to never again let such atrocities be committed. But the world could forget the first genocide of the 20th Century. In fact Hitler used the world's denial of the Armenian Genocide as justification for his invasion into Poland and the ensuing ethnic cleansing of Europe's Jewry. In a speech he gave in late August of 1939, Hitler stated, "I have placed my death-head formation in readiness . . . with orders to send to death mercilessly and without compassion, men, women, and children of Polish derivation and language . . . Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?"

As a defender of human rights, America must formally recognize the genocide Hitler once dismissed so easily. From 1915 to 1923, the Ottoman Turks systematically annihilated more than 1.5 million ethnic Armenians. There is no other way to describe this organized campaign of murder than as genocide.

I encourage my fellow Congressmen to support the Armenian Genocide resolution so that we may finally provide the Armenian community with the recognition and justice they deserve.

IN HONOR OF JAMES R. CLARK,
UNITED STATES ARMY AIR CORPS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor James R. Clark, a World War II veteran. World War II was in progress when James decided to leave his position as the high school principal of Star City ISD in Arkansas. He realized his country needed him and enlisted with the Army Air Corps on November 3, 1942.

During his tenure at Aloe Army Base in Victoria, Texas, he taught cadets how to disassemble and reassemble machineguns while blindfolded and navigation before being relocated to headquarters. At headquarters, James was the only public relations writer and news photographer on base. After spending over 2 years at Aloe, he was relocated to California and was at Fort Ord when he was notified that would be going to Japan. Fortunately, the war ended before he was deployed for Japan and James was discharged on November 22, 1945.

World War II is known as the deadliest conflict in human history, taking the lives of over 70 million people. During this difficult time, our country stood united behind our brave servicemen and women who so willingly took to the battlefields to defend freedom and democracy. It is veterans like James that helped us emerge victorious from World War II and restore hope and humanity in a world that was shattered by the darkness of hatred and violence.

His patriotism, courage, and selflessness should be commended and his dedication to public service deserves our highest regard. Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude for his service to this great Nation.

IN MEMORIAM OF ROGER LEE
GORE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of a dear friend's life, that of Roger Lee Gore—a man of limitless smiles, generous laughter, and amiable spirit. He toiled in the New York hospitality business for years, serving a 30-year stint as waiter, maitre d', and banquet captain for Hilton Hotel. An ardent voice in his community, he remained a lifelong member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and contributed his time and talents to the Civil Rights Movement. A lover of people with an effortless sunny disposition, he asked that no tears be shed over his blessed life.

Roger was born on August 30, 1944 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina to the late Harold Gore and Sadie Gore Graham. Nicknamed "Ducky," he was an early-age churchgoer and hard worker, moonlighting as a caddy and waiter to financially help out the family. In high school, he participated in team football, basketball, and glee club, earning his diploma in 1963.

He travelled the country after school, but settled in New York by the late 1960s as a waiter and bartender at Henry Stamper's Steakhouse. He was a union man, a member of Local Six, Unite, and HERE Hotel unions and chairman of the Elections and Objection Committee. In 1993, he married Lena McPhatter, who later passed in 1998. He then married Noveria Epps in March of 2007. Roger passed away September 30, 2007 and was memorialized in his funeral held October 19, 2007.

Today, we are moved, stirred, sobered by this loss, but we are more so grateful and joyful by the legacy he's left behind.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1680, SECURE
HANDLING OF AMMONIUM NI-
TRATE ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1680, legislation critical to securing our Nation against further acts of terrorism. I am proud to cosponsor this legislation, which I believe effectively balances necessary measures to provide additional security with the need to protect our agricultural industry.

On September 11, 2001, our enemies demonstrated their ability to use everyday objects as deadly weapons. Ammonium nitrate is a product of great use to our Nation's agricultural sectors, but, in the hands of terrorists, could cause America great harm. Like the airplanes flown into buildings, fertilizer bombs

have been used to deadly effect, beginning infamously with the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. We need to balance these very real security concerns against the vital value of ammonium nitrate fertilizer to the U.S. plant food industry, its many local retail agribusiness outlets, and the farmers and livestock producers they serve.

Ammonium nitrate fertilizes our Nation's crops, and it helps the American economy grow. It provides a relatively inexpensive source of the nitrogen required to grow crops, and it has economic, agronomic, and environmental benefits to the entire society. It can also, however, be used to create explosive devices, as demonstrated by the Oklahoma City bombing as well as by subsequent terrorist plots in 2000, 2002, 2003, and 2004.

According to a 1998 National Research Council report, "Containing the Threat From Illegal Bombings," short of a method of neutralizing the explosive properties of ammonium nitrate, which we do not yet have, commercial controls and regulatory action "offer the best means of reducing the threat from illegal bombings."

H.R. 1680 will require the creation of these controls and regulations. This bill will provide the Department of Homeland Security with the authority to develop a nationally consistent, effective, and integrated approach to control access to ammonium nitrate, and it will require the Department to develop a regulatory system aimed at keeping these fertilizers away from those who would use it to threaten our Nation. Under the provisions of this legislation, the Department of Homeland Security will register all producers, sellers, and purchasers of ammonium nitrate, and those who purchase and take custody of this product will be required to provide their names, addresses, and telephone numbers to the Department. All of these individuals will be accountable for any ammonium nitrate they take possession of.

In addition, this legislation will require producers and sellers to maintain records of all sales and transfers for at least three years. Sellers will have the right to refuse sale to prevent misappropriation of this potentially dangerous substance, and they will be provided with guidance on identifying suspicious activity, as well as how to alert law enforcement officials to such behavior. Additionally, producers and sellers will be required to report any loss or theft to law enforcement within 24 hours.

This legislation also provides further means for enforcement, establishing a process for the Department to track, monitor, and audit the ammonium nitrate records. Under the provisions of this bill, enforcement may be delegated to States where cooperative agreements and sufficient funding exist. To punish violations, the Department may levy civil fines of up to \$50,000. This legislation does not preempt or alter any State statute providing additional protection against ammonium nitrate falling into the hands of terrorists.

Yet in our counterterrorism efforts we should not lose sight of the need to protect the American farmer, especially small and minority farmers struggling to make ends meet on the family farm. Ammonium nitrate is an essential tool they use to sustain themselves and their families and those essential needs should not be overlooked. Our counterterrorism efforts should not be detrimental to the continued availability of ammonium nitrate fertilizer to

U.S. farmers, endangering their way of life and threatening their livelihoods.

H.R. 1680 offers an opportunity to strengthen our defenses against the threat of terrorism without placing an extraordinary burden on industry. This legislation has the support of the Fertilizer Institute, an industry group representing most fertilizer producers.

Mr. Speaker, as our Nation's leaders, it is our responsibility to be proactive, and to make every effort to remain several steps ahead of any who might attack our country. This bill is an opportunity to do just that, to not wait for another devastating attack to address what we already recognize to be a serious security threat. I strongly support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to do likewise.

FOREIGN GANGS OPERATING IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, since June, national law enforcement agencies have teamed up with their state and local counterparts. The result? The arrest of more than 1,300 violent street gang members, associates, and illegal aliens in 19 states.

In 2005, the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement launched a national effort called Operation Community Shield. This effort has already led to the arrests of over 7,600 gang members from 700 different gangs; 107 were gang leaders. ICE agents also seized 340 grams of cocaine and over 1 lb. of marijuana and crack cocaine.

Operation Community Shield focuses on keeping criminal gangs off our streets. ICE agents investigate the crimes and the immigration status of the criminals. Since 2005, ICE charged 5200 gang members with immigration violations and processed them for deportation.

This is a great example of successful law enforcement partnerships. Local, state, and federal anti-gang efforts are leading the fight against street gangs. These partnerships allow law enforcement agents to share resources and leadership and to arrest, prosecute, imprison and deport criminal and illegal alien gang members. And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID B. HUMPTON

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. David B. Humpton for his twenty-two years of service to the City of Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Mr. Humpton began his career with the City of Gaithersburg in 1986 as an intern and quickly rose to the position of Deputy City Manager. Having proven himself as a dynamic and capable leader, Mr. Humpton was appointed City Manager in 1995. During his 17-year tenure, Mr. Humpton has guided the city through significant change and growth with dedication and commitment.

As City Manager, Mr. Humpton has had numerous significant accomplishments. Among other successes, he developed a strategic planning process, implemented new procedures to streamline the budget process, and served as an effective advocate for inter-governmental collaboration. Mr. Humpton's management has been instrumental in the completion of several notable development projects, including the Washingtonian Center and the Kentlands. Under his leadership, Gaithersburg has been recognized for its "livability," economic development initiatives, budgeting and accounting, communications and recreation services.

Mr. Humpton's "retirement" will be short-lived as he will soon join Montgomery Village, Maryland as its top administrator. His experience as an effective administrator will serve him well as he meets the challenges of his new position.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to honor Mr. David Humpton for his outstanding service.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF OFFICER SERGIO CARRERA, JR.

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today in remembrance of a distinguished member of the Rialto community, Officer Sergio Carrera, Jr.

While serving his community, Sergio Carrera, Jr., 29, a 4-year veteran of the force and a member of the SWAT team, lost his life in the line of duty. Despite efforts by doctors at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton, Officer Carrera passed away leaving his wife, Louise Andrea Carrera, 2-year-old son, Sergio Carrera III, and 1-year-old daughter, Izabella.

A dedicated member of the Rialto community, Officer Carrera was hired by the Rialto Police Department in June 2003 and loyally served 4 years of his life to ensure the safety of the citizens of Rialto. Along with Carrera's wife and children, his father, Sergio Carrera caring mother, Aurora Carrera, and siblings, Shirley Magana and Susan Colao, mourn the sudden loss of their dear son and brother.

While it is with sadness that we mourn the unexpected death of this valiant officer, we think of him with joy and fondness as we recognize his devotion to family, friends, and the city of Rialto. The use of his life to protect and ensure the safety of our community is unquestionable. Although now gone, in his absence we will remember the significance of selfless servitude that so many of our public officers show for our citizens on a daily basis.

I thank Officer Sergio Carrera, Jr., for dedicating his life to the city and people of Rialto, CA. I am honored to consider him a hero and I truly appreciate all he gave to our community and our country.

Barbara, my family, and I extend our deepest condolences to Officer Carrera's family during this difficult time. May God bestow his comfort upon them as they grieve the loss of their loved one.