

Words cannot express the sense of sadness we have for his family, and for the gratitude our country feels for his service. Lance Corporal Watson, like other brave men and women who have served in uniform, died serving not just the United States, but the entire cause of liberty. Indeed, he was a true American.

We will forever hold him closely in our hearts, and remember his sacrifice and that of his family as a remembrance of his bravery and willingness to serve our Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF BEVERLY
LYNE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Beverly Lyne of Boulder, Colorado for her selfless contribution to providing desperately needed medical attention to the people of Uganda. Ms. Lyne's background as a patient education consultant at Longmont United Hospital provided her with a strong foundation from which to offer her services to the developing world. Before volunteering her skills in Uganda, she had worked in the infectious-diseases field for almost twenty years as a registered nurse while also caring for AIDS patients in Boulder County.

Two years ago, an e-mail from one of her former physician associates sparked her interest in setting up a health clinic in Uganda. Lyne partnered with three Canadian nurses to help establish the Learning Empowers Uganda Medical Clinic that now serves more than 30,000 Ugandan men, women, and children. These people had escaped the violence of their homelands and settled in a semi-permanent camp in Soroti often with only the clothes on their back. Prior to Lyne's arrival, hospitals were little more than empty shells, with no supplies and minimal medicine or staff. Today, the same buildings have been transformed into functioning health and education centers, complete with labs and refrigerators for medicine.

Because of the compassion of Beverly Lyne and her colleagues, valuable care is being provided for those most in need. She has made incalculable contributions to advance the quality of life for the Ugandan people and in doing so has made her world a better place in which to live.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Beverly Lyne for her courage and compassion. Within her spirit lays the hope for a better tomorrow. I wish Beverly congratulations for her accomplishments and good health and happiness to both herself and the people she serves.

FREEDOM FOR JUAN CARLOS
HERRERA ACOSTA

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about

Juan Carlos Herrera Acosta, a political prisoner totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Herrera Acosta is a tireless advocate for the freedom of Cuba and has dedicated much of his life to the cause of freedom for the Cuban people. He believes that every trapped citizen in totalitarian Cuba deserves to live with the most basic and fundamental human rights and protections of individual liberty.

Juan Carlos Herrera Acosta is an independent journalist with the Agencia de Prensa Libre Oriental (APLO) in Santiago, Cuba and national coordinator for the Cuban Youth Movement for Democracy. He was arrested on March 20, 2003, as part of the despicable island-wide crackdown on peaceful human rights activists and independent journalists. In April of 2003, he was wrongfully sentenced on trumped-up charges claiming that he undermined "national independence and territorial integrity" and served the "imperialist ends" of the United States, to 20 years in a hellish totalitarian gulag. In reality his only "crime" was challenging a corrupt, brutal, and repressive system that robs its citizens of every freedom.

Reporters Without Borders reported that on August 29, 2006, Mr. Herrera Acosta was severely beaten and dragged along the prison's corridors by two regime henchmen because he reiterated a demand to be allowed to make a phone call—a right the dictatorship has routinely denied him. According to Directorio, Mr. Herrera Acosta has undertaken numerous hunger strikes while in prison to protest the deplorable, inhumane and degrading conditions in which prisoners of conscience in Cuba are held.

Most recently, in an urgent declaration read aloud to the Cuban Democratic Directorate by Rolando Rodriguez Lobaina, executive member of the Cuban Youth Movement for Democracy, Mr. Herrera Acosta reaffirmed his commitment to the cause of freedom for the Cuban people:

I fight because the light of truth and liberty reaches this land converted into a feudal estate before a Caesar that bleeds her dry. As a dignified son of this country, I am willing to offer my life if it is necessary to defend pacifism, so that peace and concordance would thrive in the land of Varela and Marti. I do not discard the possibility that a clinically induced death, at the hands of the commissars of terror, will truncate my life. But as long as I have strength and my heart is beating, I will continue to fight from inside the monstrous womb of Castro's prisons.

I will never lower myself to bow down, nor will I live on my knees, and as Jose Marti would express, I reiterate: "I want the first law of our Republic to be the respect of Cubans for the plain dignity of man." The price to pay has been very high. Pain, grief, and exile constitute the panacea that is Castro's reign of terror.

But I do not resign to live condemned, I am simply continuing the dignified example of the historical Cuban political prisoners. Freedom for Cuba! God, Country, and Liberty! May human rights thrive and prevail in my country!

Let me be very clear, Mr. Herrera Acosta is imprisoned because he refuses to accept the Castro brothers' dictatorship today. Madam Speaker, Mr. Herrera Acosta is representative of the fighting spirit of the Cuban people: of their rejection of the brutality, discrimination, depravity, and oppression of the totalitarian tyranny.

We must speak out against the abominable violations of human rights, dignity, and free-

dom on that oppressed island. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Juan Carlos Herrera Acosta and every other political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

IN HONOR OF THE HONORABLE
WILLIAM T. McLAUGHLIN

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the 90th birthday of The Honorable William T. McLaughlin, former mayor of Wilmington. Bill McLaughlin has led an extraordinary life, filled with exceptional acts of public service, as well as a strong dedication to my home State of Delaware. He certainly has packed a great deal of accomplishment into his 90 years.

During World War II, Bill flew 50 combat missions in the South Pacific as a tail gunner and radioman. After the war, Bill went to night school under the G.I. Bill and spent his career with the DuPont Company. He spent 58 years married to the late Mary McLaughlin, with whom he raised two fine sons. Bill did not begin his political career until 1964, when he was elected to the city council in an upset victory. After serving as a strong advocate for progressive causes on the council, he was elected as mayor in 1976, and served the city from 1977–1984. I had the privilege of serving as Lieutenant Governor of Delaware during his second term as mayor and enjoyed working with him on many different issues.

The McLaughlin years were prosperous ones for both the city of Wilmington and the State of Delaware. Together with Governor Pete duPont, Bill helped to enact the Financial Center Development Act which brought Delaware to the forefront of the banking industry. Mayor McLaughlin worked tirelessly to protect jobs, attract new employers, and grow the local economy.

Not only was the economy successful during Bill McLaughlin's time, but crime rates declined, city and water systems were improved, and low-income families had increased access to housing. While a tireless worker for the city of Wilmington, the mayor should also be remembered for his sense of humor. One St. Patrick's Day, Mayor McLaughlin made his way down King Street in a green leprechaun costume.

Bill continues to serve as a dignified leader in countless service organizations. I commend him for a life of service and thank him for his tireless dedication to Delaware. I am proud to call him a friend.

HONORING CEDAR HILL HIGH
SCHOOL FOR WINNING THE 5A
DIVISION II FOOTBALL STATE
CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to the

2006 Cedar Hill High School football team, which on Saturday, December 23, 2006 earned the title of 5A Division II State Champions and finished its storybook season a perfect 16–0.

On that day it was clear to everyone in the Alamodome that the Cedar Hill Longhorns squad deserved the glowing praise it had received all season long from its adoring fans. Under head coach Joey McGuire and his staff, the Longhorns ripped through four playoff opponents before routing the Cypress Falls Golden Eagles 51–17 in the championship game. A balanced team effort prevailed with both the Cedar Hill offense and defense shining brightly throughout the Longhorns' first ever playoff run. Cedar Hill won with discipline, with heart and perhaps most importantly, with class and dignity.

Over the last few years Coach McGuire has developed a special family-like atmosphere between his players and staff that has resulted in a growing sense of camaraderie and purpose. The team's winning attitude surfaced many times during the regular season and playoffs, perhaps most notably in a comeback, doubleovertime victory over district rival DeSoto that showed the true intestinal fortitude of the Longhorns.

Throughout its historic championship run, Cedar Hill represented the ideal virtues of amateur athletic programs—teamwork, tenacity, competitiveness and dignity—and its immaculate season will be recounted for generations to come in Southwest Dallas County.

I could not be more proud than to represent Cedar Hill High School in Congress, and I congratulate the players, coaches, fans and parents who made the 2006 season such a memorable one.

IN RECOGNITION OF "LITTLE"
JIMMY SCOTT, RECIPIENT OF
THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS JAZZ MASTERS
AWARD

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of "Little" Jimmy Scott, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, located in my congressional district, who will be honored on Friday, January 12, 2007, in New York City with the Jazz Masters Award presented by the National Endowment for the Arts, NEA.

Born in 1925 in Cleveland, Ohio, as one of ten children, Jimmy Scott has been delighting audiences with his vocal talents around the country and around the globe since he was a young man. He began by performing throughout Northeast Ohio, sharing the stage with some of the most famous names in jazz.

He began his solo career at Harlem's Baby Grand, impressing the likes of Billie Holiday and well-known songwriter Doc Pomus. Jimmy Scott's friendship with Doc Pomus began during that stint in Harlem and lasted for 45 years and endured despite long periods away from the microphone. In fact, it was not until Jimmy Scott sang at Doc Pomus' funeral in 1991 that he gained international fame and began to tour around the world. His re-emergence as a singer was heralded by his Grammy-nomi-

nated album, "All the Way," and he has thrilled fans, both young and old, ever since.

Established in 1982, the National Endowment for the Arts' Jazz Masters Award has recognized numerous jazz artists, ranging from household names to less well-known performers. The 2007 Jazz Masters will be honored with an awards ceremony and concert, a one-time \$25,000 fellowship and a 50–state Jazz Masters Tour. NEA Jazz Masters are selected from nominations from the public and reviewed by a panel of jazz experts before being submitted to the National Council on the Arts and the Chairman of the NEA.

Therefore, on behalf of the people of the 11th Congressional District, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize "Little" Jimmy Scott on being selected as a 2007 Jazz Master and to thank him for—sharing his beautiful voice and boundless talent with fans around the world.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIRE-
MENT OF JUDGE SAM MONK

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition to Judge Sam Monk who is retiring after 28 years of service. Judge Monk currently resides as Circuit Judge of the Seventh Judicial Circuit in Anniston, Alabama.

Judge Sam Monk graduated from the University of Alabama School of Law in 1975. Prior to law school, Judge Monk served in the United States Army. Judge Monk has worked in both private practice and has served as Presiding Judge for the 7th Judicial Circuit, Circuit Judge for the 7th Judicial Circuit, and as District Judge for Calhoun and Cleburne Counties.

Judge Monk will officially retire on January 15, 2007, but a reception in his honor will be held on January 12, 2007, at the Calhoun County Courthouse.

I salute Judge Monk and congratulate him on his service to the legal field over the past 28 years. I wish him all the best on this important occasion.

RULES OF THE HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 6, and commend Speaker PELOSI, the majority leader, the chairman of the Democratic Caucus, and the Rules Committee for bringing this comprehensive reform package to the floor. Indeed, with this resolution, the new Democratic majority says with one, clear voice that we are prepared to change the way Congress does business—to make good on our pledge—and restore open, honest government to Congress.

With this legislation, we take the critical steps necessary to preserving the integrity of this institution, its Members and, indeed, the democratic process in this country. This No-

member, the American people, weary from scandal after scandal, said "enough." They said it was time to clean up Washington—to sever ties between lawmakers and lobbyists and elect a Congress engaged in the people's business—in improving people's lives, not 1 in securing perks and privileges for themselves. They want Members of Congress who are accountable for their actions.

With this Congress—and this rules package—that is exactly what they will get. This resolution closes the curtain on an era in which legislation in this body was written not by lawmakers representing their constituents, but lobbyists paid for by special interests. It puts an end to the gifts from those lobbyists—to the free meals, tickets, and the trips and vacations they paid for. It requires complete transparency for any travel paid for by outside groups. And it tells Members of Congress that when they have to fly somewhere, they can do so not on corporate Jets, but on a commercial airline, just like other Americans.

In so doing, this legislation says clearly to the American people, "We are here to do work on your behalf, not ours."

Mr. Speaker, it is a new day in Washington, DC. And with war, budget deficits, and the skyrocketing cost of health care and energy, there is so much we need to do to get this country back on track. But it starts with restoring the public trust in this institution, so that the American people understand that when we cast our votes, we do so with the utmost integrity. That is what this new House rules package ensures, and I am proud to support it.

TRIBUTE TO DR. OFELIA
TABARES-FERNANDEZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Ofelia Tabares-Fernandez for her outstanding contributions to the south Florida community. Both in her professional and private life, Dr. Tabares-Fernandez has dedicated countless hours to enriching our community culturally and economically. I wholeheartedly commend Dr. Tabares-Fernandez for her hard work and dedication on behalf of south Florida.

Through years of hard work spanning three decades, Dr. Tabares-Fernandez consistently proved herself a capable leader and an extraordinarily active volunteer. Her professional successes, of which there are many, include her career as a banker and marketing consultant, college trustee, research associate for the Cuban Research project, and director of the College Center for Latin American Studies.

Dr. Tabares-Fernandez earned many civic distinctions as well. To name only a few, she founded the Cuban Patriotic Education Board and the Cuban Women's Club, where she also served as president, and founded the Spanish Speaking Volunteer Service at Jackson Memorial Hospital. To promote and preserve Cuban culture, she produced and directed a local weekly television show, "Cuban Culture," and founded the Cuban Museum of Arts and Culture. Her contributions have earned her numerous awards including "Outstanding