

leader of the Hispanic community in Kansas City, Missouri, in my District. Born on October 23, 1939, Mrs. Jaramillo, also more affectionately known as "Becky", set forth on the long journey of advocacy of equal rights and equal opportunities for minorities and women before passing on May 13, 2005. Her passing has created a deep loss felt by her family, the greater Kansas City area, and most assuredly, the thousands of lives she touched throughout our great Nation.

Rebecca Jaramillo, as the fifth of twelve children, entered the world curious for knowledge and eager to stir up excitement. She lived a joyous life until the rigors of racism and discrimination entered her life and inspired her to proactively work for equality. After marrying her husband, Joe, and settling down in Kansas City, they soon encountered discrimination when they were repeatedly denied the privilege of restaurant service. The couple became active in fighting the issue when they joined the NAACP and Kansas City, Missouri's People for Public Accommodations drive, which sought the passage of a bill requiring public businesses to provide service to all persons regardless of race, national or ethnic origin, and skin color.

In 1981, Becky received community service awards from the HUD Kansas City Area Office, the Hispanic Chamber of Greater Kansas City and the Guadalupe Centers, for her role as the HUD office coordinator in the application process for Posada del Sol: a senior citizen's high-rise apartment complex in Kansas City's West Side. That same year, Becky, together with her fellow HUD employee Jose Gonzalez, and Ninfa Garza, program coordinator for the Guadalupe Centers Senior Citizens program, founded the Greater Kansas City National Hispanic Heritage Committee and created the Fiesta Hispana, to annually commemorate National Hispanic Heritage Month.

For many years Becky actively continued her advocacy by serving on boards of local and national community agencies such as: Model Cities; the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity; the American G.I. Forum, the League of United Latin American Women; the Panel of American Women; the Incorporated Mexican American Government Employees (IMAGE)—1979 to 1982 as national chairwoman of the IMAGE Women's Action Committee with headquarters in Washington, DC; the Federally Employed Women; the United Nations Women's Commission; the Women's Political Caucus; the Guadalupe Centers, Inc.; the Mexican American Women's National Association (MANA); the Heart of American United Way; the Salvation Army and several others.

While serving as national secretary for the Panel of American Women, Becky was part of a select group of panelists invited to the White House on April 27, 1979, for a special reception hosted by President Jimmy Carter in their honor for their many years of work in the area of human relations.

Becky also received distinguished awards from the Federal Executive Board of Greater Kansas City, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Panel of American Women, the Mexican American Women's National Association, and the Salvation Army. In 1981, The Central Exchange of Kansas City honored Becky by naming her its second Woman of the Year.

In 2002, the Guadalupe Centers awarded Becky its coveted I. Pat Rios Award for out-

standing contributions to the Community, recognizing her for her role in the historical completion of Posada del Sol and the first West Side neighborhood fountain. The fountain was formally dedicated on September 15, 2000 by the Kansas City, Missouri Parks and Recreation Department.

On March 4, 2005, Becky received the YWCA Hearts of Gold Award for Economic Empowerment for her service 30 years before as a United Nations delegate on a commission studying the status of women in the world.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of Mrs. Rebecca Dolores Jaramillo and expressing our heartfelt sympathy to her husband, Joe Jaramillo, her children, Romulo Joseph, Cynthia and James, and her many relatives and friends. I urge my colleagues to please join me in conveying our gratitude to her family for sharing this great woman with us, and to accept our condolences for their tremendous loss. She was an inspiration to us all.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF MILDRED LAVERGNE BOUTIN PROTHROW

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 29, 2007*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I would like to honor the 90th birthday of Mildred LaVergne Boutin Prothrow.

Fourscore and 10 years ago on April 7, 1917, Mildred LaVergne Boutin was born in Point-a-LaHache, Louisiana. At the age of three, she remembers wearing a navy sailor suit, hand and gloves to the train station as her family prepared her to move to Jackson, Mississippi.

A true daughter of the South, Mildred's loving parents, Ruby Anita and Hamilton Henry Boutin, along with her Aunt Nea Learner, instilled all the qualities of a perfect southern lady, refined and generous.

Once more, her journey continued with a train ride to Marshall, Texas in the fall of 1937 to attend Wiley College. There she trained for her future profession as a teacher, joined the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, and met her life partner, Percy W. Prothrow, Jr. With marriage came a home in Marshall and the births of her daughters, Lady Percy Prothrow and Deborah Boutin Prothrow-Stith.

The family moved to Atlanta as Percy ascended the ranks of Atlanta Life Insurance Company and Mildred became an entrepreneur, opening a very popular childcare center. The family moved to Houston in 1968 where Mildred received a master's degree in elementary education from Texas Southern University and taught in the public schools until retirement in 1983.

As a widow, Mildred decided to retire and move to Boston to help her daughter and son-in-law raise their nephews, son and daughter. Known as Memama and Bibi to her grandchildren (Trey, Tony, Percy, and Mary Mildred), Mildred is a wonderful cook, a loving friend and confidant, and a dedicated mother and grandmother.

#### A TRIBUTE TO GRANT AINSWORTH THOMPSON

**HON. DON YOUNG**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 29, 2007*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, today I wish to honor Grant Ainsworth Thompson who has recently left the world of politics to follow his calling in the Church. Grant served as my Communications Director for the last 5 years. Prior to that, he worked as a Legislative Assistant in my office focusing on Veterans Affairs and Postal issues.

Grant Ainsworth Thompson was born June 9, 1962 here in Washington, DC and was educated in the DC public school system. After graduating from Cardozo High School in 1981, he spent a number of years working in the private sector as both a substance abuse counselor and for United Airlines. He then chose to pursue a higher education and attended the University of the District of Columbia from 1991 to 1995, majoring in Mass Media and Television Production. Grant has been happily married to Margaret for 22 years and is the father of 2 sons: Justin, 21 and Jeremy, 17.

Grant used his skills in communications and management to help me better serve the people of Alaska. He was a driving force behind my office's expansion into cutting edge media and always seemed to know what the "next big thing" would be. His positive personality and confidential counsel were invaluable to me and my staff; he will be sorely missed.

Grant was an integral part of my office for many years and it deeply saddens me to see him leave. We often joked that he was my "brother," as we share the same birthday. I wish him all the best as he begins a new chapter in his life. Grant is now going to continue the work he started as Pastor and Founder of the Church of the Rock Praise Factory, located in Washington, DC. He will continue to be involved in many community outreach programs over the coming years, spreading the word of the Lord, and helping those in need. Grant Ainsworth Thompson is a truly great American, with a heart the size of Alaska.

#### GRUNDY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BIO-DIESEL PROJECT A RE- SOUNDING SUCCESS

**HON. LINCOLN DAVIS**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 29, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, when it came to my attention that a group of students in a Future Farmers of America class and educators at Grundy County High School were developing bio-diesel to use in tractors and school buses, I could not have been more proud.

The fuel, which is made from vegetable oil, methanol, and lye, will be used to make tractors and buses run cleaner, more efficiently, and in a cost effective manner. Additionally, everything in the process is 100 percent biodegradable.

The idea for the project began after a seminar at Middle Tennessee State University in

Murfreesboro, Tennessee that called upon area schools to research alternative fuels.

Not only did these inventive students and educators take it upon themselves to develop their own bio-diesel, the Family and Consumer Science class is looking at ways to make soap from the glycerin that settles to the bottom of the mixture as it develops. There are plans to market the soap as a fundraiser for the school if efforts to make it are successful.

I applaud the actions of these students and the encouragement they are getting from their teachers. These students are receiving life lessons and skills they will be able to keep with them forever. They will not only be passing along these lessons to family and friends, these students are poised to go on to great things in the field of alternative/renewable energies.

There is no quick solution to the rising cost of fuel due to current demands and the lack of infrastructure to support renewable and alternative fuels. The long term solution will be in our ability to commit and invest in the development of these fuels. These young adults have taken this to heart and are to be commended for promoting this practice.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM  
"BILL" WRIGHT

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of William V. "Bill" Wright, who for over 57 years contributed immensely to the people of Southern Nevada in a variety of roles both civically and professionally. As a result of his commitment to his fellow Nevadans, the Clark County School District Board of Trustees named a new elementary school in his memory and honor.

Bill was born in Corsicana, Texas in 1917 and he was raised in Illinois. He attended the University of Missouri where he earned a degree in journalism. Prior to his move to Las Vegas with his wife, Annelle, he began his professional journalism career as an advertising salesman at The Peoria Star in Peoria, Illinois.

After his move to Las Vegas, Bill joined the Las Vegas Review-Journal as a member of the staff. He was promoted to advertising director in 1945 and served in this capacity until 1966 when he was appointed to the position of general manager. During his tenure as general manager of the Las Vegas Review-Journal, Bill was responsible for many of the important milestones in the development and growth of the newspaper. He oversaw the newspaper's circulation increase from 48,273 to 89,079 subscribers, which allowed it to claim the title of being the largest daily newspaper in the state of Nevada. He was also responsible for the construction of the newspaper's facilities on Bonanza Road and the modernization of the newspaper printing process from molten lead-typography to computerized typesetting.

As general manager of the Las Vegas Review-Journal, Bill was committed to the idea that its readers should understand how the news stories impacted their lives and insisted that the articles included information on how it would impact the Las Vegas community.

In addition to his many successes and achievements with his professional career, Bill was also passionate about history and was an adamant collector. As a result of his interests in history and his pride for Nevada, Bill became involved with many civic organizations such as the Nevada Historical Society and the Nevada State Museum. He served in several leadership positions and was both a member of the board of trustees and also chairman of the board for 14 years. In 1980, the University of Nevada Las Vegas honored him with the Distinguished Nevadan Award for his many years of service to his state. He was also honored by the Nevada State Press Association with the Silver Makeup Rule Award and inducted into the Nevada Newspaper Hall of Fame.

Unfortunately, Annelle, his wife passed away in 1977 but Bill remained general manager of the newspaper until 1981. Bill was active with his civic organizations and projects until his passing in 1998 at the age of 80 years old. Bill and his wife were survived by 4 children, 6 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren with many of them residing in Southern Nevada.

Madam Speaker, William V. "Bill" Wright was an outstanding Nevadan whose commitment to civic and community organizations has made a profound difference in our state. I thank the Clark County School District for honoring Bill Wright's memory by naming a school after him and I congratulate his family on this special occasion.

HONORING MATTHEW W.  
PLUMMER

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, below is a narrative for the RECORD by Mr. Matthew W. Plummer, an original Tuskegee Airman.

In September 1937 when I arrived at Tuskegee the Nation was busily engaged in attaining the Nation's goal in building a fleet of 50,000 airplanes to counter the Axis's warlike threats to our European Allies. I was from San Antonio, Texas where there was located several air fields; in fact I was born adjacent to one of them. The earliest I can remember was making my own airplanes imagining flying myself. It was not long after arriving in Tuskegee I met other boys who were similarly interested. We decided on our own to form a flying club where we could get together and talk about flying.

The next year we were contacted by the school officials seeking the club's help locating an airfield where two visitors could land. They were C. Alfred Anderson, the pilot, and Dr. Forsyth, who were returning from a visit to the Caribbean islands. I informed them of an airport owned by the Sheltons where they could land. The Sheltons owned an ice house in downtown Tuskegee and were in the process of building an airplane I sometimes visited after school.

The information I provided the school officials was helpful and they appointed me as the flying guests' host during their stay in Tuskegee. The height of my enthusiasm was when "Chief" Anderson took me up for a ride over campus. I will always remember that short flight; it was a WacoUP47 4 place cabin craft.

It was not long after the Anderson-Forsyth visit the discontent by a growing voice of citizens demanding inclusion of blacks in programs involving government expenditures was heard by Washington officials. In response to this demand Tuskegee was invited to the hearings along with other black schools offering higher education. It has been reported along with other testimony Tuskegee officials proudly announced there already existed on its campus students anxious to learn aviation citing the existence of an aviation club. It is reasonable to assume that the existence of the flying club constituted one of the factors that inspired the faculty to obtain CPT programs which were the predecessor to the military training facility.

I was in the second class of students enrolled in the civilian pilot training program. After completion of that program I was hired as an instructor for U.S. Army cadets training at Tuskegee. I volunteered for the Armed services, but deferred from active duty due to my position as an instructor.

One of the rewards of being an instructor was the feeling of modesty upon meeting an old student who expresses his admiration for the initial days of teaching lessons on the skill of flying! Consistently they are gracious in thanking us for the assistance in learning the skill of handling an airplane.

A TRIBUTE TO ROYCE O.  
CHAPMAN

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. Royce O. Chapman. Mr. Chapman has been an integral part of my operations for more than a decade. He managed my Fairbanks campaign office during the 1992 election and since then Royce has run my Fairbanks District Office. He has been a truly tireless public servant, helping me, the people of Fairbanks and the whole of Alaska.

Royce was born March 4, 1951 in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. He spent his early years in the small farming community of Johnstown, Colorado and graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1969. He attended Western State College of Colorado in Gunnison, Colorado in 1969-1970. After leaving college, Royce started work for Great Western Sugar Company in Johnstown until entering the United States Air Force in April of 1971.

Royce has two brothers: Rodney who lives in Wisconsin, and David in Colorado; and a sister Jana who lives in Oregon. Royce has been married to the former Carolyn Warman since September 2, 1971. They have two adult daughters, Shannon and Stacie, and four grandchildren: Justin, age 10 and Shane, age 7 who live in Seattle, Washington; and Meghan, age 7 and Ryan, age 4 who live in Tok, Alaska.

Royce's public service started in the Air Force. He spent the majority of his time in the Air Force as a Public Affairs Specialist and Technician working in the community relations, internal information, and public information sections. He was also the editor of several base newspapers; along with this he wrote many articles for publication in civilian newspapers and magazines.

Royce served for 20 years with assignments in Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota; Davis-