

the Greater Cleveland Area, as well as for her extensive and diverse service to many individuals and families who call the Cleveland Area home.

HONORING JERSEY CITY POLICE  
INSPECTOR JON L. TOOKE

**HON. ALBIO SIREs**

OF NEW JERSEY  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, June 18, 2008*

Mr. SIREs. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jersey City Police Inspector Jon L. Tooke on the occasion of his retirement. Inspector Tooke who will retire on July 1, 2008, received numerous recognitions for his service, evidence that he was an outstanding member of Jersey City Police Force.

Inspector Tooke, was appointed to the Jersey City Police Department in 1979 and initially assigned to the North District. His dedication garnered the trust of his superiors and earned him other opportunities to serve the Department in the Medical Bureau, Welfare Investigation Unit, Gun Permits Unit, Planning and Research Unit, Police Academy, South District, City Command, Public Information Officer and Patrol Bureau. His experience and his knowledge of the community was recognized by the receipt of numerous awards including ten Excellence Police Service Awards and one World Trade Center Award.

Please join me in honoring Inspector Tooke for his distinguished service to the Jersey City Police Department, and in congratulating him on his retirement.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MINQUAS FIRE COMPANY NO. 2

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, June 18, 2008*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the Minquas Fire Company No. 2 of Chester County, Pennsylvania as they celebrate their 100th anniversary of service to our community. Organized on April 2, 1908, their countless hours of service and dedication are a testament to the brave men and women who strive each and every day to keep our communities safe.

The Minquas Fire Company No. 2 was initially organized at a meeting at the Downingtown Opera House. Opening a firehouse shortly thereafter in 1909, the Minquas Fire Company No. 2 has been a fixture in the community ever since. In 1923, Minquas expanded to provide EMS service by creating a separate ambulance committee and ambulance fund and this joint company of fire and EMS crews continues to serve the Downingtown area today.

Presently, the Minquas Fire Company No. 2, home to both fire and EMS crews, runs approximately 2,700 calls annually and covers portions of the Borough of Downingtown and East Caln Township. It also serves the surrounding municipalities as needed. Today, the Company is a combined company of mostly volunteers and some paid EMS staff. There

are more than 75 active members running emergency calls under the leadership of President and Fire Chief Michael Miller and EMS Captain Joel Swisher. The Minquas Fire Company No. 2 will commemorate this great milestone on Saturday, June 21, 2008 with a day of celebration.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the brave men and women of Minquas Fire Company No. 2 as they celebrate 100 years of protecting our communities. We can never thank our first responders enough for all their dedication and sacrifice to protect the lives and property of their neighbors and the Minquas Fire Company No. 2 is an exemplary example of unselfish service to others.

ANDREW L. JEFFERSON ENDOWMENT FOR TRIAL ADVOCACY

SPEECH OF

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, June 17, 2008*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 31, which will congratulate the Honorable Andrew L. Jefferson, Jr. on his achievements and his selection as the First Endowed Chair of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law Trial Advocacy Program. Judge Jefferson is a friend of mine and a fine American who earned this recognition.

Judge Jefferson has dedicated almost 50 years of service to the legal profession, serving in both public and private practice. He served with honor as a judge of the Court of Domestic Relations in Harris County, and later as the 208th District Court Judge for Harris County. Throughout his career, he has received numerous commendations and awards, including the Anti-Defamation League National Torch of Liberty Award and the League of United Latin American Citizens National Community Service Award, to name a few.

Judge Jefferson has also been an integral member of the Houston community. He has devoted much effort to public service in our area and has been involved with community organizations and services throughout his life. He stands as a lifetime member of the Houston Area Urban League and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

This endowment will be an invaluable resource to the Thurgood Marshall School of Law and the legal profession at large. Its creation ensures that Judge Jefferson's legacy continues.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO**

OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, June 18, 2008*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, June 17, 2008, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 415. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on the motion to sus-

pend the rules and pass H.R. 3702—Montana Cemetery Act of 2007.

CONGRATULATING THE BROADWAY MUSICAL "IN THE HEIGHTS" FOR WINNING FOUR TONY AWARDS ON JUNE 15, 2008

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, June 18, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to praise and congratulate the Broadway musical "In the Heights" for winning four Tony Awards on June 15, 2008 in the categories of Best Musical, Best Original Score, Best Choreography, and Best Orchestrations.

"In the Heights" written by Lin-Manuel Miranda a Puerto Rican native of Washington Heights, highlights the lives of a Dominican and Puerto Rican community in Washington Heights during three days allowing the viewer to delve deeper into a community that is especially dear to me in that they are my constituents. Not only does this Broadway musical showcase issues that affect any family but it also takes the viewer a step further by seeing how specifically the Puerto Rican and Dominican Latino community in Washington Heights is affected by everyday life and also their perspectives on various issues.

I would like to commend the cast and crew of "In the Heights" for their hard work and also the very pertinent issues raised in their musical. As Congressman for this specific constituent community I am very proud that this Broadway musical has had so much success and I congratulate all those involved in making it come to fruition.

CONGRATULATING THE ST. LOUIS KIWANIS CLUB

**HON. W. TODD AKIN**

OF MISSOURI  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, June 18, 2008*

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the St. Louis Kiwanis Club on their 90th anniversary. The St. Louis Kiwanis have been providing community service since 1918.

The Kiwanians have one common goal: To serve the children of the world. Kiwanis advocates this vision everyday by providing opportunities to serve for every member of a community through Service Leadership Programs. Through these opportunities, youth and young adults around the world become competent, capable, and compassionate leaders.

The St. Louis Kiwanis have served their community in many ways, including supporting local charitable organizations including, but not limited to: The Boys and Girls Club of St. Louis, Kiwanis Camp Wyman, Key Clubs, and the Kiwanis Children's Dental Foundation Mobile Clinic. They serve by providing manpower at local events and promoting other children's related causes.

The Kiwanis have reached out to their fellow citizens in need and, in the process, have enriched their own lives.

I want to congratulate and thank the St. Louis Kiwanis for the time and service they

dedicate to the Second District of Missouri and the people of the United States.

RAY BROCK

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the lifetime achievements of Raymond R. Brock, Jr., of Gladstone, Missouri. Ray has been awarded the Alexander Doniphan Community Service Award on the 200th birth anniversary of Alexander W. Doniphan. Ray's prestigious recognition exemplifies Alexander Doniphan's greatest qualities through education, jurisprudence, statesmanship, patriotism and as a successful businessman.

Ray Brock has dedicated his entire life to giving back to the community. From being a member of the Board of College Hill, Inc., to a pioneer in the development of the Northland area, Ray has shown committed excellence over the years. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1952 to 1954, and has worked with the Salvation Army, Northland Community Foundation, the Liberty Hospital Board of Directors, Clay County Parks & Recreation Board, and countless other organizations. All of these qualities embody the unique character required for the Alexander Doniphan Community Service Award.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in applauding Raymond R. Brock, Jr., for his selfless acts of generosity through volunteerism. His life should serve as an example to all of us to help each other and our community.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
SMYRNA UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH FOR THEIR 150TH ANNI-  
VERSARY**

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Smyrna United Methodist Church was established in 1858, predating the Civil War; and

Whereas, Smyrna United Methodist Church continues to have weekly Bible studies and an active choir; and

Whereas, Smyrna United Methodist Church continues to be a central gathering point in the heart of their community; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Smyrna United Methodist Church for contributions to her community and country.

IN HONOR OF PHILLIP D. STAR

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Phillip Star; a profoundly re-

spected and influential member and civic leader in the Greater Cleveland community; and in recognition for his twenty years of service as Director of the Center for Neighborhood Development (CND) in the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University.

As a civic leader, community organizer, educator and author, Phillip Star carries with him a rich history of public service and advocacy in the Greater Cleveland Area. He earned his B.A. from the University of Wisconsin, an M.A. from New York University, and a J.D. from Case Western Reserve University. He has served the community in various leadership roles, dedicating his life to empowering and educating local residents in order to improve the quality of life in Cleveland's urban communities. He began his career in community organizing and neighborhood development as a volunteer in Gary, Indiana with VISTA. Prior to joining CND in 1988, he served as a consultant at University of Michigan's National Housing Institute and Housing Law Reform Project and as director of the Cleveland Tenants Organization.

Since joining CND twenty-years ago, Mr. Star has had a tremendous and lasting effect on our community and all those who have been touched by his work. He has worked to develop future leaders in the field of community organizing and neighborhood planning by instituting year long internships for undergraduate Urban Studies students at various community development corporations, with over one-hundred students being placed in over sixty organizations. Mr. Star has successfully initiated several programs which empower the local community and promote civic engagement, including a mediation program for the Cleveland Housing Court and an online community resource for Cleveland Residents, NeighborhoodLink. Under his leadership, CND was designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Affairs as a community partnership center.

Mr. Star demonstrates his leadership abilities and dedication to fostering community development both in the classroom and in the community. He teaches courses such as neighborhood planning and Cleveland neighborhoods and neighborhood institutions at Cleveland State University and was Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's appointee to the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Action to Support Housing. His other Leadership positions include serving as President of the Ohio Housing Coalition, serving on the Board of Trustees of the National Low Income Housing Coalition, and serving as Acting Judge of the Cleveland Housing Court. Mr. Star is also the founding trustee and past president of the board of Eco-City Cleveland and as president of the board of the Living in Cleveland Center. He currently serves on the board of the Cleveland Tenants Organization and the Neighborhood Housing Service and for eight years served as past chairman of the Cuyahoga Affordable Housing Alliance.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Phillip Star, who has dedicated his life to serving his community and everyone in the Greater Cleveland Area. Let his advocacy on behalf of the welfare of others serve as inspiration for all of us.

HONORING JERSEY CITY POLICE  
CAPTAIN WILLIAM STETSON

**HON. ALBIO SIRE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2008*

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jersey City Police Captain William Stetson on the occasion of his retirement. Captain Stetson who will retire on July 1, 2008, received numerous recognitions for his service, evidence that he was an outstanding member of Jersey City Police Force.

Captain Stetson, was appointed to the Jersey City Police Department in 1981, and initially assigned to the East District. His dedication garnered the trust of his superiors and earned him other opportunities to serve the Department in the Special Patrol Bureau, Central Communications Bureau, Operations Division and Support Services Division. His experience and his knowledge of the community was recognized by the receipt of numerous awards including one Commendation, five Excellence Police Service Awards, three Unit Citations and one World Trade Center Award.

Please join me in honoring Captain William Stetson for his distinguished service to the Jersey City Police Department, and in congratulating him on his retirement.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PREVENT  
HOME IMPROVEMENT FRAUD  
MONTH

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2008*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and recognize National Prevent Home Improvement Fraud Month and to honor the efforts of Mr. Michael McGee of West Chester, Pennsylvania in raising awareness of the importance of this issue in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and across the country.

As the home remodeling industry continues to grow with the aging of the country's housing stock, so to does the opportunity for fraud by unscrupulous contractors who take advantage of vulnerable home owners, particularly the elderly. Recognizing National Prevent Home Improvement Fraud Month allows the remodeling industry and advocacy professionals a platform to educate homeowners, provide them with the resources to make sound decisions with regard to their home improvements, and raise awareness about potentially scandalous practices that could significantly impact homeowners financially.

Buying a house is an important purchase, but turning a house into a home is an incredible investment. Raising awareness and combating home improvement fraud and contractor dishonesty will help homeowners avoid unfinished projects, substandard materials, and an unsafe, unlivable dwelling.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise and join me today in honoring National Prevent Home Improvement Fraud Month. May this month continue to bring awareness to issue of home improvement fraud and efforts to prevent these types of scams both locally and nationally.