

truly exceptional officer, has served our great Nation for more than 20 years and I am proud to call him my friend.

Over the past three years, I have had the honor of working with LTC Fortunato on a variety of issues during his tenure as the Congressional Liaison for all Army Aviation programs. As a fellow aviator, I have come to know and respect Ed and his dedication to his work on behalf of the warfighter. There is no doubt that LTC Fortunato has been instrumental in educating Members of the House Armed Services Committee on Army Aviation programs and initiatives. His tireless efforts working with members of the Committee and staff was singularly instrumental in the successful authorization and appropriation of the Light Utility Helicopter, Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter, Joint Cargo Aircraft, Chinook Multi-year, Apache, Black Hawk Multi-year and numerous Unmanned Aerial Vehicle and Aviation Research and Development projects.

My staff and I worked especially closely with Ed on the Joint Cargo Aircraft program, and I am convinced that the success of our Congressional efforts, and the ability of the JCA program to move forward, is in large part due to LTC Fortunato.

On behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank LTC Fortunato for his tireless efforts in the support of Army transformation. His professionalism, expertise, and efforts showcase his patriotism, and his dedication to his fellow aviators and warfighters in the field. LTC Fortunato is a true Jedi Knight.

I want to personally thank LTC Ed Fortunato, his wife Monique and his entire family for their commitment, sacrifice, and the contributions they have made throughout his honorable military service. I congratulate LTC Ed Fortunato on completing an exceptional and extremely successful military career and his dedicated service to our Nation. I wish Ed and his family many blessings and much success as he begins his future endeavors and embarks on new adventures.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD votes I would have cast had I been present for Rollcall votes 434 through 440 and 465 through 470. I was absent on part of the day Friday, June 20th, Monday, June 23rd, Thursday, June 26th, and Tuesday July 8th due to personal reasons.

If I were present I would have voted, "nay" on Rollcall vote 434; "nay" on Rollcall vote 435; "nay" on Rollcall vote 436; "yea" on Rollcall vote 437; "yea" on Rollcall vote 438; "yea" on Rollcall vote 439; "yea" on Rollcall vote 440; "yea" on Rollcall vote 465; "yea" on Rollcall vote 466; "aye" on Rollcall vote 467; "yea" on Rollcall vote 468; "nay" on Rollcall vote 469; "yea" on Rollcall vote 470; "aye" on Rollcall vote 471; "aye" on Rollcall vote 472; and "aye" on Rollcall vote 473.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF DOROTHEA E. HOSKINS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise with great sadness as I pay tribute to Dorothea E. Hoskins an outstanding daughter of Harlem who recently passed away. As I speak with profound sorrow, I ascend to celebrate a life well lived and to remember with fondness the accomplishments of a remarkable woman who, over her many years and under much adversity, was an ardent supporter of civil rights, human liberty and a leader in the Postal Service.

The death of Dorothea on June 28, 2008, brought immense sorrow and loss to her family and friends, and to the countless individuals associated with the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees. Dorothea was respected and esteemed by all the members throughout the United States Postal Service where she served as a clerk from 1989 until her retirement from the New York Planetarium Station.

"Dottie" as she was affectionately known, was an inspiration and true symbol of strength and commitment to her church family as a faithful member of St. Luke's Baptist Church for more than 60 years. She was a shining representation of selfless love for mankind, and derived significant gratification from her years of service with St. Luke's, citing the joy of spreading the word of salvation through Jesus Christ to the lost and created support for missionaries throughout the world.

As a staunch supporter of civil rights and human liberties, she served as an Executive Committee Member of the NAACP Mid-Manhattan Branch for over two decades, served on various committees, and frequently chaired Black History Month Programs.

Dorothea also served as a leader by encouraging the exchange of professional knowledge among Alliance members nation-wide and provided long-term service within District VIII of the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees while serving as District VIII President from 1990–1992. She achieved so much during the span of her career that her comrades will continue to benefit from her work even as they miss her ongoing presence among us.

Madam Speaker, rather than mourn her passing, I hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating the life of Dorothea Hoskins by remembering that she exemplified greatness in every way.

GREATER LAKE HOUSTON HEART WALK

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, On June 30th Texans from the greater lake Houston area joined together to participate in The American Heart Association's Greater Lake Houston Heart Walk. The number one and number three killers of Americans Heart disease and

stroke do not discriminate against age, race, or gender.

By raising awareness, encouraging physical activity, and involving the community, participants are empowered with life altering information. Through initiatives like the greater lake Houston walk, the American Heart Association's goal is to not only encourage physical exercise but to also educate the community about circulatory diseases. According to the census bureau, in 2005 over 36,000,000 people reported being diagnosed with either Heart Disease or Stroke.

Participants in the American Heart Association Walks can learn about why it is important to stay healthy, and at the same time contribute to research, advocacy, and public education. Donations raised through sponsorships and citizens alike have allowed the American Heart Association to continue its mission since 1924. In the years 2005–2006 they invested more than \$543 million in the fight against heart disease and stroke.

Perhaps one of the most important means of Heart Disease and Stroke prevention is the regular maintenance of a healthy lifestyle. This measure is especially connected to regular physical exercise as many risk factors are all interrelated to a lack thereof. These include inactivity, excess weight, high cholesterol, and high blood pressure.

Through educating Americans of risk factors, symptoms, and prevention the hope is to reduce instances of heart disease and stroke 25 percent by 2010. Community involvement in the Greater Lake Houston Heart Walk and others like it encourages others to also become aware of the number one and number 3 killers of Americans. From heart healthy eating to physical activity, learning the means of prevention and passing them along, is the key to these walks' successes.

EXPRESSING THE APPRECIATION OF MARVA ALLEN AND HER CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation for Marva Allen and the Hue-Man bookstore's contribution to the community.

Marva Allen, entrepreneur, author and visionary, became a managing partner/CEO of the Hue-Man bookstore in 2004. Born in Jamaica, Allen earned her degrees in England and the U.S., launched a multi-million dollar computer tech company and built a very successful career in the business world. Her creative ways and fresh ideas for a new business made Hue-Man Bookstore and Cafe a successful project and a crown jewel of Harlem. In addition to being a bookstore, Hue-Man is a cultural and community center.

Marva Allen's focus is the literacy for all. She firmly believes that through her business, she is able to bring and impact change for the community of Harlem. She is a member of various philanthropic organizations, such as LitWorld, that addresses literacy worldwide, St. Hope Leadership Academy, an educational center, and Melvin Van Peebles Foundation,

that promotes worldwide access to education and research.

Despite the difficulties and hardships of competing with internet website stores and street vendors, the Hue-Man bookstore remains a thriving venture with a lot to offer. Marva Allen's plans for the future are enthusiastic and impressive. She envisions the expansion of the Hue-Man bookstore through the e-commerce project with state of the art technology, branding and global marketing.

TRIBUTE TO METRO UNITED U-17
GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding group of young ladies from Madison County, IL.

The Metro United U-17 girls soccer team won second place in the Illinois Youth Soccer Association State Cup finals June 15 in Libertyville, IL. Their only loss was in the championship game to Eclipse Select, the number one ranked team in the nation. Along the way to the finals, Metro United beat Eclipse Select South 2-0, Illinois Fusion 3-1, and Chicago Magic 1-0.

I want to congratulate coaches Tony Segobiano and Mitch Bohnak, and the members of the Metro United U-17 team: Megan Pawloski, Brittney Dailey, Jenny Humphrey, Emily Morris, Kelli Segobiano, Tess Huetner, Allison Menchak, Ashley Juravich, Jordan Hendrickson, Kaisi Hartwick, Kaitlyn Hoffman, Sam Poteet and Maureen Nesbit.

These young ladies have devoted many hours of hard work and dedication toward reaching this achievement, and I join with the other members of the House in congratulating them.

HONORING IRENE PEVERI FOR
HER DECADES OF PUBLIC SERVICE
AND COMMITMENT TO THE
NEIGHBORHOODS OF NEW YORK
CITY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, New York lost an exceptional community leader this month when Irene Peveri passed away. Irene Peveri was not just a leader, but a mentor and innovator who helped change the very skyline of Manhattan by persuading the city to require livable streetscapes in our densely urban community.

For nearly three decades, Irene Peveri passionately advocated both growth and preservation in New York City neighborhoods, and became a leading voice for "contextual zoning"—the idea that taller buildings are appropriate for avenues with their wider boulevards and retail activity, while low scale buildings are a better fit for side streets. She worked tirelessly with community boards, grassroots organizations, neighbors, politicians, business leaders, and entrepreneurs to ensure that New

York's neighborhoods retained a human scale. When she testified, her presentations were always thoughtful, factual, impressive and delivered with persuasive sincerity.

In the early 1980s Irene joined with her neighbors in successfully challenging the construction of a "sliver building." Sliver buildings are tall slender buildings constructed on lots that have a narrow frontage, typically 45 feet or less. The effort was successful when the city adopted a law banning sliver buildings in 1983.

In 1985, local leaders in founded East Side Rezoning Alliance (ESRA), a coalition of community groups dedicated to advocating zoning changes that would scale down allowable heights for new buildings on side streets. Irene served as ESRA's co-chair for most of its existence. At every opportunity, Irene encouraged builders and community groups to work together to ensure that new developments would be compatible in scale with older buildings in the neighborhood.

ESRA funded several planning studies to change the New York City Zoning Resolution, using the proceeds from an annual street fair along Third Avenue and grants from philanthropic organizations. These studies persuaded the Department of City Planning to support the rezoning of many areas between 14th and 59th streets, and led to a permanent change in city law. The new zoning text restricted large scale development to the avenues, and imposed stricter building heights on the side streets. This mix of development allows tall buildings to rise without overwhelming the neighborhood. The latest study funded by ESRA was the CB6 197-a Plan, a community-based plan covering the entire Community Board 6 area. It was adopted by the City Council on March 26, 2008.

The model Irene and her allies developed was replicated elsewhere in the city. ESRA gave support and guidance to community groups that were trying to fend off overbuilding. With Irene's assistance, other neighborhood groups were able to persuade the city to adopt contextual zoning for their areas. As a result, most neighborhoods enjoy a mix of development, and Manhattan residents can still enjoy a glimpse of the sky.

More recently, Irene worked with the Coalition for Community Facility Reform to oppose the proliferation of rear yard incursions. New York City's zoning resolution mandates rear yards, which were intended to provide residents with unbroken, block-long swaths of green. In 1961, the law was amended to allow community facilities (a term that includes everything from doctors' offices to monasteries, from day-care centers to various non-profits) to build extensions in the rear yards of residential buildings all the way to the property line, so long as the addition is no more than 23 feet high. These rear yard incursions reduce the availability of light, air and green space for residents of neighboring properties. Irene and other community leaders worked to persuade the city to change the zoning resolution to further restrict the types of entities that are eligible for the exemption to schools, houses of worship, colleges or universities, and hospitals and related facilities.

Irene was a member of Community Board 6 and served on its Land Use Committee. During that time, Irene was a vital participant in every major zoning review and initiative of Community Board 6, from the rebuilding of

Third Avenue, to, most recently, the development proposals for the Con Edison site on First Avenue. She remained active in the Community Board until her death and was Second-Vice Chair of the Board when she passed away. The Board recently celebrated her achievements at a ceremony held May 19, 2008.

Irene Peveri had a genuine passion for and dedication to all of Manhattan's neighborhoods. She was a consensus builder who understood the importance of working in concert with her neighbors. Irene had a unique gift for empowering others and engaging them in the community. She possessed a talent for bringing people and ideas together, forging unlikely partnerships that helped achieve the goal of making sure New York remains a livable city.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the enormous contributions to civic and political life made by Irene Peveri, a dedicated activist who made an extraordinary difference in the way New York City has developed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to note that I would have voted in favor of H.R. 3981, the Preserve America and Save America's Treasures Act (Rollcall No. 471). I was unable to be present during the vote for this bill because my flight from Memphis to Washington was delayed due to an air traffic control constraint.

IN SUPPORT OF THE RECENT SUPREME COURT DECISION ON DC'S
HANDGUN BAN

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my support for the recent decision made by the United States Supreme Court upholding the right of residents of the District of Columbia and elsewhere to keep and bear arms. On Thursday, June 26, 2008, the Court rightly struck down the decades old ban on handgun possession and ownership in the District of Columbia, one of the strictest bans in the country.

Throughout my tenure in Congress, I have co-sponsored legislation to end this ban and to expand gun rights within the District to preserve the Second Amendment rights guaranteed to all Americans by the U.S. Constitution. Furthermore, I signed an amicus brief along with 249 other members of this respected body opposing the District's gun ban and urging the Supreme Court to recognize its constitutional defects.

In issuing its decision, the Court affirmed and protected the Constitution and the right of a sportsman to have a registered shotgun in his home and renewed the right of a homeowner to possess a handgun in order to protect one's family and property from intruders.

While I certainly understand the desire to consider occurrences of violent crime when