

life. In 1997 he founded the Guardian Angel Society, which provides tuition assistance, technological updates, and other improvements to the former Cathedral School in Syracuse. He raised more than \$2 million for the program, and for that effort he was awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award by President George W. Bush in 2005. He also received the Post-Standard Achievement Award in 2005 and the Temple Adath Yeshurun Citizen of the year award this past October.

Msgr. Champlin's commitment to the Catholic Church and the people that he served is unquestionable. He was a beloved priest and friend, and will be sorely missed.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARTHA W. BARK

#### HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. SAXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Martha Bark. On February 21, 2008, Mrs. Bark will be celebrated for her contributions to southern New Jersey at the Burlington County Republican Committee and Burlington County Republican Women's Annual Lincoln Day Dinner.

Martha Bark has dedicated a lifetime of service to our communities. A resident of Medford for over 40 years, Martha served on the township school board for 10 years and the township committee for 7 years. She was also appointed mayor and served two full terms.

Furthering her interest in serving the broad community, Martha was elected to the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders in 1984. Given her background in education and community preservation, she became the chairperson of the Water Quality Management Board and worked on several additional committees aimed at increasing open space. Martha served four consecutive terms and was appointed freeholder director for 2 years.

After her tenure as a freeholder, Martha went on to become a member of the New Jersey State Assembly for 2 years and finally, a member of the New Jersey State Senate in 1997. As a senator, she served on the Transportation and Economic Growth, Tourism, and Agricultural Committee, where she was elected chairperson. As a former business owner, it was natural for Martha to become a member of the Senate Community & Urban Affairs Committee and also a member of the Senate Budget Committee.

Outside public office, Martha has volunteered her time to various organizations. She was a member of the Burlington County Farmland Preservation Advisory Board and the Burlington County Open Space Advisory Board. Martha also sat on the Burlington County Family Services Board and was a member of the HB Industrial Village Conservancy Board of Trustees.

Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for her leadership, commitment, and service to the public.

#### HONORING OF ONE ACCORD MINISTRY AND ALL FIRST DISTRICT VOLUNTEERS

#### HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the efforts of the volunteers of Tennessee and the First District. Of One Accord Ministry is a charity that is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. Tennessee has been called the "Volunteer" state by the great efforts of our citizens during The War of 1812. Since The War of 1812 the people of Tennessee continue to show pride, dedication and service through volunteer efforts. People from around the nation are moving into my district to enjoy the wonderful quality of life found in its beauty and the spirit of its people. Our first volunteers were heroes serving in The War of 1812 and our citizens today are heroes sacrificing their time and effort to volunteer in an assortment of ways.

Of One Accord Ministry serves two rural and lowly populated counties in my district and continually utilizes the efforts of nearly 500 people during 2007. These 500 volunteers have sacrificed over 51,533 hours of service and have served over 71,695 people in various ways. The ministry serves from four physical sites offering emergency food distribution, meal delivery for seniors five days a week, participating in our states summer feeding program, offering a free medical clinic, doing home repairs, organizing the county's Christmas programs and others.

Of One Accord does not work alone. They work hand-in-hand with schools, clubs, scouts, and Postal workers to help complete their mission. Similarly, partnerships with businesses, hospitals and laboratories provide other services for the clinic. The help does not stop there; many others supply resources and help in any way possible.

We tend to overlook the millions of volunteers across the nation giving their time and efforts. Madam Speaker, I rise today to applaud the volunteers from Of One Accord Ministry who have served for twenty years and all of the volunteers in Tennessee's First District alike.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF DOLORES "DEE" BENSON

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance and honor of Dolores "Dee" Benson, a beloved figure in Cleveland area politics and a loving wife, mother, and grandmother.

Dee was born in 1925 in Altoona, Pennsylvania, where she spent most of her early life. She was an exceptional student at Altoona High School, and had a special gift for foreign languages and science. She was offered a full tuition scholarship to Penn State University, but chose to go to work instead. She married Bud in 1947 and they moved to Cleveland to raise their seven children, Robert, Patrick,

Jacqueline, Mary, Elizabeth, Denise, and Christine. She will also be dearly missed by her eleven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Dee was incredibly active in her Cleveland neighborhood, serving as President of the Southwest Military Moms; President, Treasurer, and Secretary of Parma Women's Democratic Club; Precinct Committeewoman and Democratic Ward Leader for the community of Seven Hills; and a founding member of St. Anthony of Padua Parish; just to name a few of her many accomplishments and activities.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Dee Benson, a much-loved activist whose contributions to her community will continue to uphold her legacy.

#### COMMEMORATING THE COURAGE OF THE HAITIAN SOLDIERS THAT FOUGHT FOR AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE IN THE "SIEGE OF SAVANNAH"

SPEECH OF

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in appreciation of the significant Haitian contribution to the American fight for independence. A pioneering band of 500 Haitians volunteered at the inception of this Nation's great story, laying life and limb on the line for the cause of liberty. That effort left an indelible mark on history, drawing the largest unit of soldiers of African descent to fight in the 'Siege of Savannah.'

It is the highest expression of selflessness and generosity to brush aside geopolitical divisions and serve nobly in support of another nation. We salute these valiant men—over 300 of which were killed on our soil—for helping secure and establish our great democracy, for answering the call in defense of neighbors, in defense of friends.

That island nation has, over the years, proven its commitment to courage—leading a successful battle for independence of its own and repudiating early the pernicious institution of slavery. Hundreds of years later, we have not forgotten.

#### EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE TOM LANTOS, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

#### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor the life and legacy of TOM LANTOS. The passing of Chairman LANTOS is a great loss to the Congress, our Nation, and to oppressed people worldwide.

Born in Budapest, Congressman LANTOS was 16 in 1944 when Nazis captured and occupied the city. He twice escaped Nazi labor

camps and was one of the thousands of Jews saved from the Holocaust by the humanity of the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg. Yet most of his family members did not survive the Holocaust.

At the end of the Second World War, Representative LANTOS came to the United States with his childhood sweetheart, and soon-to-be wife, Annette Tillemann. Over the past 58 years, LANTOS and Tillemann were rarely far apart and worked tirelessly together to champion human rights around the globe. Today, my thoughts and prayers are with her and the Lantos children.

When LANTOS came to Congress in 1980, the first major piece of legislation he introduced was to award honorary American citizenship to Raoul Wallenberg, whom he called "the central figure in my life." Wallenberg was a central figure in the lives of many European Jews.

A few years later TOM founded the Human Rights Caucus. As co-chairman of the caucus, LANTOS was the leading critic of abusive and despotic regimes abroad. He was unafraid to confront the Chinese Government for its human rights record and he was undeterred in his efforts to end the ongoing genocide in Darfur. Most recently he helped move through Congress tough sanctions on the Burmese junta to help restore that country's democracy.

As chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs for the past year, Congressman LANTOS continued to be a moral leader on human rights and an advocate for those who had none.

TOM LANTOS was a friend to me and to all people who believed in the basic rights of all people. I am honored to have served with him and I will do my best to work for continued fulfillment of his ideals.

#### IN MEMORY OF CHERIE LOVE

### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in memory of my longtime friend, Cherie Willard Love. She passed away a couple of weeks ago but she will always be remembered by those she touched.

And she touched many.

Cherie was a Ventura County, California, native, having been born in Oxnard 76 years ago. After earning a bachelor's degree from Whittier College and a master's from La Verne College, Cherie embarked on a career as a kindergarten teacher. For the first twelve years, she taught in Oceano and San Luis Obispo, but then returned to her roots and taught in the Ventura Unified School District for the next 26 years.

Teaching was not a job to Cherie; it was her passion.

That passion for her students and profession earned her recognition in October 1986 as the top teacher of the month by the Greater Ventura Chamber of Commerce's Youth and Education Committee. Outside the classroom, Cherie was an active member of the Philanthropic Education Organization, Alpha Delta Kappa, Delta Kappa Gamma, and the California Retired Teacher's Association.

Cherie also served as president of the Ventura Retired Teachers Association Scholarship

Foundation, which provides scholarships to local college students studying for a career in education. As a final act toward her beloved profession, Cherie directed friends and relatives to donate to the fund in her memory.

Cherie outlived two husbands. Don Crinklaw and Don Love, and a son, Bruce Crinklaw, but is survived by a host of other family, including her twin sister, Charlene Blalock-Carlson, and three other sisters, Carrie Perkins, Cyndie Huntsberger, and Sandy Elkhart; daughters, Sharlee Villa and Carla Dennis; cousin, George Cady; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in remembering Cherie Love's lifelong passion for education and her love of family and community and in offering our condolences to her family and friends.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF COLEMAN'S AUTHENTIC IRISH PUB

### HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of Coleman's Authentic Irish Pub in Syracuse, New York.

Founded in 1933, Coleman's, located on Tipperary Hill, is a fixture of the Central New York community. Throughout its long history, Coleman's has transformed from a working man's saloon in the 1930's to a college hot spot in the 1970's to the first class restaurant and pub it is today. With its great food, wonderful service, and Irish atmosphere, Coleman's Authentic Irish Pub is a place for all generations to enjoy and is a premiere attraction in central New York.

Coleman's has always strived to maintain the highest standards of public service, and I am proud to recognize them today. I congratulate owner Peter J. Coleman, his wife Mary Pat and children, and his employees, both past and present, on reaching this milestone. On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I thank them for their 75 years of business that has been such a positive influence on the community.

#### TRIBUTE TO LARRY CHATZIDAKIS

### HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. SAXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Larry Chatzidakis. On February 21, 2008, Mr. Chatzidakis will be celebrated for his contributions to Burlington County at the Burlington County Republican Committee and Burlington County Republican Women's Annual Lincoln Day Dinner.

Since 1985, Larry Chatzidakis has represented the best interests of Burlington County residents. He was first elected to the Mount Laurel Township Council and remained until 2000. Proving a valuable asset to the community, Larry was re-elected mayor four times and spearheaded numerous projects during

his tenure. Residents may remember him most for his role in the construction of Laurel Acres Park. It has become a natural choice for Mount Laurel residents looking for recreation, with its many exercise trails, playground equipment, and sledding hill. Most recently, a veteran's memorial was added to the site to honor those who have served in our Armed Forces. In addition to his mayoral duties, Larry was elected to the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders in 1995.

From 1997–2008, Larry represented the 8th District as a member of the New Jersey State Assembly. He continued to offer his talents in the Assembly as a member of the Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee, the Judiciary Committee, and as vice-chair of the Solid and Hazardous Waste Committee. As a conscientious elected public official, Larry took the concerns of his constituents to heart as he became a member of the Commission to Deter Criminal Activity and a member of the Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee.

No stranger to the community at large, Larry served on the board of the Burlington County Red Cross and was also chairman of the Burlington County Boy Scouts Mahalala District. He is also a member of the Mount Laurel Rotary Club for 17 years and served one term as president.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it gives me great honor to recognize Larry Chatzidakis for his tremendous efforts and devotion to his community. I and the people of New Jersey are greatly appreciative of him and sincerely thank him for all of his dedication.

#### IN HONOR OF THE VIETNAMESE NEW YEAR: TET, 2008—YEAR OF THE RAT

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, 2008, is the Year of the Rat. As the Vietnamese community in Greater Cleveland gathers at St. Helena Catholic Church to enjoy their Vietnamese culture, I join them in celebration of this rich heritage.

The Tet is the time of the year for our Vietnamese neighbors to honor those that have gone before us and enjoy the company of family and friends. This year's celebration will honor community leaders, and serve as a demonstration of Vietnamese music and dance.

2008 also marks thirty-three years of service to the community by the Vietnamese Community in Greater Cleveland, Inc. The Vietnamese Community, Inc. has been an invaluable resource for hundreds of Clevelanders, linking them to needed services and serving to maintain the rich heritage of the Vietnamese people.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize Le Nguyen, President of the Vietnamese Community in Greater Cleveland, Inc., and all their members, for their commitment to Vietnamese-Americans of Northeast Ohio.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebration of the Vietnamese New Year, Tet 2008: Year of the Rat. May the Vietnamese community of Cleveland, and throughout the nation, carry on their proud heritage throughout the year.