

and averting what would have been the college's immediate closure.

While 1973 marked the college's first test in Hannibal, it wasn't the last or most severe. Sixteen years later, on June 22, 1989, a small fire that started in the college's cafeteria area soon grew to a raging inferno, swallowing many of the college's vital facilities, including the campus' administration building, auditorium and gymnasium. Black smoke billowed into the air, visible from miles away. Emergency responders worked through the night to douse the fire. But doused with the fire were hopes and dreams for the coming fall semester and the collective futures of incoming students. By daylight, as only charred remains of the structures stood, any thoughts of a successful future vanished into the air with the remnants of the previous night's smoke.

However, President Dr. Paul Brown began the next morning with a pledge to hold classes on campus that very fall. Dr. Brown led college trustees and personnel on a massive effort to rebuild and expand the campus. A large burlap tent was erected on campus for chapel services that fall, classes were held in dormitory basements and trailers on campus and a massive reconstruction program began in an effort to rebuild what had been lost.

Just 3 years later, following the construction of a new sports complex, computer center and cafeteria, the college dedicated its new administration building under the leadership of Dr. Brown and current President Dr. Woodrow Burt. On the cornerstone of this building, built on the site of the administration building lost in the 1989 fire, is a passage from Isaiah 61:3, "A crown of beauty instead of ashes." This building was later renamed for Dr. Burt, who became president of the college in 1995 and still proudly yet humbly serves in that position today.

But the journey for HLG is not complete. The vision for the college's growth and service continued forward over the past decade, as the college constructed a new dormitory and the Roland Fine Arts Center, the centerpiece of the college's recent expansions. The college is also in the midst of a \$30-million campaign, "Building for the Future," which calls for the construction of a new library, allied health and science center and dormitory renovations, as well as enhancing the college's endowment.

Throughout this journey, beating in the heart of HLG is a desire to serve Christ, embodied in the college's motto, "Knowledge for Service." HLG strengthened this commitment over the last 4 years through its implementation of missions programs that serve both domestic and international missions opportunities year-round. HLG is a multiple recipient of the Courts Redford Award, the top award among U.S. colleges and universities for mobilizing students for missions with the North American Mission Board. In May of this year, HLG was named number one among 314 colleges and universities that send students to work with the NAMB.

Madam Speaker, I was honored to stand before this Chamber 10 years ago to commend HLG's commitment to excellence and its use of knowledge for service during their 140th anniversary. I am again privileged to stand before this body and congratulate my friends at HLG for 150 years of quality Christian education. May God continue to bless this fine institution for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 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 567 through 569. I was absent on Monday, September 8 due to CODEL travel.

If I were present I would have voted, "aye" on rollcall vote 567, "aye" on rollcall vote 568, and "aye" on rollcall vote 569.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, on rollcall 567; S. 2403, I was not present. If I had been there, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall 568, S. 2837, I was not present. If I had been there, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall 569, S. 2135, I was not present. If I had been there, I would have voted "yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MR. AND MRS. MARSHALL PRICKETT

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully request the attention of the House to pay recognition to an important day in the lives of two constituents of mine, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Prickett.

On September 13, the Pricketts will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. Marshall Prickett was born on October 19, 1934, in Alexandria, Alabama, and his wife, Margaret, was born on July 2, 1935, in Weaver. Over the years, Marshall and Margaret have been blessed with three sons, Marshall, Michael, and Matthew, as well as eight grandchildren.

I would like to congratulate Marshall and Margaret for reaching this important milestone in their lives. They are shining examples of love and dedication for us all, and I wish them and their family all the best at this important occasion.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

SPEECH OF

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the memory of former Ohio Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES and her lifetime of dedication to the people of Ohio and the United States. I

was deeply saddened to learn our colleague passed away so suddenly. We have not only lost a wonderful friend but an individual who made a number of historic achievements during her lifetime.

After graduating from law school at Case Western Reserve University, STEPHANIE began her career with Cleveland's sewer district before serving as an attorney with the city's Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. In 1976, she served as an assistant Cuyahoga County prosecutor before her election as Cleveland Municipal Court judge in 1981. Two years later, the governor of Ohio appointed her to a judgeship with the Court of Common Pleas of Cuyahoga County, and in 1991, STEPHANIE was appointed Cuyahoga County prosecutor.

STEPHANIE was elected to represent the 11th District of Ohio in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1998. Throughout her 5 terms of office, she strove for advances in health care, economic development, and education. Recently, she had become a leader in the fight against predatory lending practices.

Most notably, STEPHANIE's legacy will be her career filled with firsts. She was the first African-American and the first female to serve as prosecutor in her native Cuyahoga County, Ohio. STEPHANIE was the first African-American to be chief prosecutor in the State of Ohio's history. She also became the first African-American woman to represent Ohio in Congress and the first to serve on the House Ways and Means Committee.

At the beginning of the 110th Congress, STEPHANIE was named chairwoman of the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, of which I am a member.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES will be deeply missed by her family—her son, Mervyn Jones II and her two sisters—as well as the countless friends she leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

MS. SANDRA IRONS AND MR. MARVIN SETZER, JR.

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I take this time to honor two of Northwest Indiana's most distinguished citizens, Sandra Irons and Marvin Setzer, Jr., upon their retirement from their positions with the Gary, Indiana Teachers Union, Local Number 4, American Federation of Teachers (AFT). Sandra and Marvin's membership in the Gary Teachers Union date back to the beginning of their careers in 1961 and 1962, respectively, and the impact they have had on the quality of life for educators in the city of Gary is immeasurable. For their lifetime of service to the Gary Teachers Union, the Indiana Teachers Union, and the American Federation of Teachers, Sandra and Marvin were honored at a retirement celebration that took place at the Genesis Convention Center in Gary, Indiana, on Friday, August 15, 2008.

Sandra Jean (Carr) Irons' career in education began following her graduation from Kentucky State College in 1960, where she completed her Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and Chemistry. Following that, she

went on to receive her Master's degree in Teaching Mathematics from Purdue University, West Lafayette. Prior to her work with the Gary Teachers Union, Sandra was a mathematics teacher for the Gary School Corporation from 1961 to 1971. Following her ten years in the classroom, Sandra was elected President of the Gary Teachers Union, a position she held until her recent retirement on June 30, 2008. During those years, she served in many other capacities, not only with the Gary Teachers Union, but with the Indiana Federation of Teachers and the American Federation of Teachers as well.

Sandra has also participated in numerous civic and community organizations, including: the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Lake Area United Way, the Lake County Mental Health Association, the Coalition of Labor Union Women, the YWCA, and the Gary Educational Foundation. For her outstanding efforts, Ms. Irons has received many accolades and awards. To name a few, she was awarded the Viola Briley Service Award by the Gary Teachers Union, the Adam Benjamin, Jr., Advocacy Award by the Mental Health Association, the Labor Leader of the Year Award by the Calumet Project, and the United Way of America's Joseph A. Beirne Community Service Award.

Marvin Setzer, Jr., completed his Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education at Winston Salem Teachers' College in North Carolina in 1962, followed by his Master's degree in Elementary Education from Indiana University, Bloomington. From 1962 to 1981, Marvin was employed by the Gary Community School Corporation as an elementary school teacher. During that time, he began his career as the Working Conditions Committee Chairperson for the Gary Teachers Union. He held this position for more than 30 years before his recent retirement on June 30, 2008. During this time, he has also held other positions with the Gary Teachers Union, including the Coordinator for the Pre-Retirement Planning Seminar, as well as several other posts with the Indiana Federation of Teachers, where he served as its president, the Northwest Indiana Council of Teachers Unions, and the American Federation of Teachers' Progressive Caucus.

Throughout the years, Marvin has also donated much of his time to various community and civic organizations, including: the Lake Area United Way, the Referral Emergency Agency, the Northwest Indiana Open Housing Center, Tots and Teens, and Saint Timothy Community Church.

Madam Speaker, Sandra Irons and Marvin Setzer, Jr., have given their time and efforts selflessly to the teachers, as well as to the students and the community, in Gary, Indiana. Throughout the years, and through their efforts, the quality of life for their colleagues has improved, and the pair has served as true role models to their peers and as true friends to Northwest Indiana. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Sandra and Marvin for their outstanding contributions and in wishing them well upon their retirement.

ASSISTANCE NEEDED FOR CAREGIVERS SUPPORTING CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to a looming crisis. I have been involved in finding ways to address the growing nursing workforce shortage that threatens access to quality health care for retiring members of the baby boom generation. There is another workforce crisis with which we should also be concerned, which is that facing direct support professionals, often referred to as personal assistants or home health aides. These dedicated individuals provide the kind of daily assistance that allows people with intellectual and developmental disabilities the option to live in home or community-based settings rather than institutions when appropriate. This not only saves taxpayer dollars through the Medicaid program but dramatically improves quality of life for these Americans.

However, wages for direct support professionals have historically been low, particularly those in private non-profit settings. Vacancy rates for direct support professionals are rapidly increasing as other service and health care sector jobs become more competitive. In my home state of Iowa the annual turnover rate at non-profit service providers ranges from 20 percent to more than 40 percent.

It takes individuals with special skills and compassionate motivation to be direct support professionals. For example, Pete Faust has been working at Opportunity Village, a home and community-based services provider in Clear Lake, Iowa, for over 31 years. Although Pete must work extra hours just to pay his bills, he continues to work at Opportunity Village because he understands that consistency and familiarity are what his clients need. Many direct support professionals like Pete would like to continue in this field but are faced with hard choices when there are opportunities to earn more money for their families in other occupations.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the demand for this workforce will increase 41 percent by 2014, and the number of people needing personal assistance services will double by 2050. The current crisis will soon grow exponentially. That is why I strongly support measures like H.R. 1279, the Direct Support Professionals Fairness and Security Act, which creates federal-state Medicaid partnerships to find innovative ways to provide incentives such as increased wages for these workers on a sustainable basis.

I urge my colleagues to support this effort by cosponsoring this legislation and urging the leadership of the House of Representatives to move this and similar proposals forward.

IN RECOGNITION OF HERSCHEL ELKINS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, the consumers of California and our nation will lose

their premier protector when Herschel Elkins retires from the California Attorney General's Office this month. Mr. Elkins has devoted his entire career to public service and protecting California's consumers. He is the most senior attorney and longest-serving employee in the AG's office, having celebrated his 50th anniversary in December, 2006.

Herschel Elkins received his J.D. from UCLA in 1956 and began work the same year as a Deputy Attorney General, where he served briefly in the criminal section before transferring to the civil division. Following the Watts riots in 1965, a report commissioned by Governor Pat Brown cited a contributing factor as frustration in the community with merchants taking unfair advantage of the poor. The legislature acted by bolstering the Attorney General's nascent Consumer Fraud Unit and Mr. Elkins was appointed to lead the effort, a position he occupied until 2004 when he was appointed Special Assistant Attorney General for Consumer Policy, Coordination and Development.

During his long tenure with the Consumer Law Section, Herschel used all the arrows in his quiver—litigation, legislation and education—to protect the rights of consumers and push California to the forefront of consumer protection. Mr. Elkins drafted or shepherded many of our state's vital consumer protection laws, including anti-pyramid statutes, the establishment of the Bureau of Auto Repair, laws providing for a "cooling off period" for home solicitations, and mandating civil penalties for unfair competition. As a litigator, Mr. Elkins has represented the Attorney General in more than 150 appellate cases. He has also publicized the Section's work and educated the public about their rights on hundreds of radio and television programs.

Madam Speaker it was a distinct privilege to work side-by-side with Herschel on consumer issues during my time in the California legislature. His knowledge, passion and creativity improved every piece of legislation he reviewed and made those of us whose names were on the bills look that much smarter. I am just one of hundreds of legislators who owe him a sincere debt of gratitude.

After so many years looking after the public welfare, Herschel and Miriam, his wife of 48 years, will enjoy a retirement devoted to their inspiring and growing family. They will travel to Israel, New York and Pennsylvania to spend time with their three sons, David, Jeremy and Joel and their families. Herschel, known as much for his storytelling ability as his legal brilliance, will entertain his grandchildren and, no doubt, pass along his commitment to community and his profound sense of justice. Our state's loss is the Elkins family's well-earned gain.

But Madam Speaker, a dedicated public servant like Herschel Elkins doesn't just walk away from his life's work. Something tells me that Herschel will make himself available to members of the Consumer Law Section and others devoted to the public good who seek his help and guidance.

On behalf of the many millions of protected consumers in the State of California, I ask that the United States House of Representatives join me in saluting Mr. Herschel Elkins for his long career devoted to protecting and guaranteeing a vibrant, just and equitable marketplace.