

and Independents—will rise to the challenge of the moment and validate our powerful claim to the value of bipartisanship when it must serve the public interest.

Senator Byrd and I engaged in partisan warfare more than either of us would like to acknowledge today, but even in the midst of such warfare, we knew we were serving an important political purpose: giving voice to the full range of public opinion on matters of national importance.

That is the basis for the Senate's claim to being the "world's greatest deliberative body." America's Founders did not design the Senate as a model of efficiency but as a vessel of democracy, into which the Nation's passions could be poured to cool, and from which the Nation's collective wisdom could be discerned.

The two-party system, which the Founders did not design and from which many of them would have recoiled, has had a similarly steadying influence on our national life.

Two broad-based political parties have over the centuries become very effective means of communicating the public's views to their government, particularly through the legislative branch.

Partisanship has its place—and it is an honorable and useful place—in public life, and those who disdain it often do not understand its value in venting the full expression of our citizens' demands and dissents.

But the greatest of America's Founders—George Washington—feared "factions" above all, and I share his fear that political hostility can overcome the better angels of our nature in some future hour of national peril.

Too often in today's Washington, I see a refusal to hear, much less respect, a differing point of view. I see a refusal to even try to understand the other person's argument. This is new, in my experience, and it is not healthy.

Robert Kennedy was a young lawyer who served as minority counsel in the Army-McCarthy hearings. I was chosen by Ray Jenkins, a great Tennessee trial lawyer, to assist him in the hearings. By the way, my principal responsibility was reading the daily transcripts! Robert Kennedy and I became quick friends because we had much in common—we were within days of each other in age, had World War II experience, and we shared an enthusiasm for convertibles, although his Cadillac put my Ford to shame.

When we returned to Washington years later as Senators ourselves, just after the assassination of President Kennedy and in the early years of the Vietnam war, we and our colleagues—including Bob Byrd—knew that some things were more important than partisanship.

Having served in the waning days of World War II, we knew that the capacity for calamity in human affairs was almost limitless—and we knew how much the rest of the world looked to the United States for leadership and example.

The men and women of today's Congress know about war, and terror, and now you know how quickly a strong economy can spiral out of control without constant vigilance.

These are sobering events in momentous times, and it is useful for the ordinary men and women serving in this Capitol today to know that others before them rose to similar extraordinary challenges and rescued their country from harm.

"What is past is prologue," the National Archives reminds us. "Study the past." That is what the United States Capitol Historical Society has been encouraging us and enabling us to do for many years.

I thank you for that valuable service. I am humbled by your tribute. And I am honored to be in your company tonight.

HONORING LOUIS DE LA PARTE

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to praise the lifetime achievements of distinguished Tampa lawyer and Florida legislator Louis de la Parte. Mr. de la Parte was honored for his unselfish compassion and courage to voice his beliefs on causes, even against popular opposition. He was a noble public servant and lived to help his family, friends, and community.

Mr. de la Parte was born in Ybor City, Tampa, and grew up with his mother, a homemaker, and his father, who ran a men's clothing store, whom Louis helped out during the summer. His grandmother lived in public housing in Tampa, and his large family came from a modest background. He used his experience growing up around people less fortunate than he to help out his community and voice the opinions of those who could not be heard. He graduated from Jesuit High School in Tampa in 1946 and received his bachelor of arts degree in psychology from Emory University in 1950. His articulate leadership and natural ability for persuasion led him to earn his juris doctor from the University of Florida.

After law school he joined the Air Force and started a family. He worked as a prosecutor but soon discovered that many of the problems that he was prosecuting could be avoided through science and the more effective delivery of mental health services. This revelation led Mr. de la Parte to run for public office. He served as a Democratic member of the Florida House of Representatives from 1962 through 1966 and the Senate from 1966 through 1974. He served his final year in the legislature as senate president.

During his time in office, he built the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services to assist the poor, mentally disabled, elderly, and sick. He avidly promoted environmental legislation and educational programs in prisons.

A dedicated family man, Mr. de la Parte was deeply loved by his family. His wife and two children would follow him to work sometimes, carrying his briefcase for him. Mr. de la Parte loved to have big family dinners on Sundays, and to take his family on travels all around the world, particularly to those places he had been while serving in the Air Force. The de la Parte family is a Tampa treasure.

Mr. de la Parte worked in private practice with his son for 4 years. He retired in 1990, when he began to develop the early symptoms of Alzheimer's disease. To congratulate his dedication to progress in the area of mental health, in 1996 the Florida Mental Health Institute at the University of South Florida was named after Mr. de la Parte.

Madam Speaker, Louis de la Parte was a man of the highest regard who dedicated his life to the public good. He will be greatly missed by the State of Florida. My thoughts are with his wife, Helen, his children, Peggy and L. David, and the entire de la Parte family.

HONORING THE KIWANIS CLUB OF ASTORIA—LONG ISLAND CITY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to pay tribute to the Kiwanis of Astoria—Long Island City for its outstanding work in supporting philanthropic and community organizations serving the people of western Queens.

This year, the Kiwanis Club named as its Man of the Year Panagiotis Manolas, M.D., Chief of Surgery at Mount Sinai Hospital of Queens. Born and educated in Greece, Dr. Manolas immigrated to America to complete his studies. Certified by the American Board of Surgery, he has developed a highly successful multi-specialty practice in general, breast and laparoscopic surgery. Named a "New York Super Doctor" and one of the "Best Doctors in New York", he is devoted to his patients, often providing his services pro bono or on a sliding scale.

The Kiwanis Club is naming as its Women of the Year several deserving honorees. These include: Rose Anne Alafogiannis, past president of the Kiwanis Club and member of Queens Community Board #1, the Astoria Civic Association, SHAREing & CAREing, and a Lector for the Immaculate Conception parish;

Donna Furey, an Astoria native, Kiwanis Club member, and attorney specializing in elder law who serves as a member of the board of St. John's University School of Law Alumni Association and the Queens County Women's Bar Association and who has dedicated herself to helping local seniors;

Roberta Gualtieri, a life-long Astoria resident who has served countless hours as a volunteer at the Steinway Senior Center, the Kiwanis Club, the 114th Police Precinct, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic Church, St. John's Hospital emergency room, and with literacy programs for underprivileged youth;

Laura Jean Hawkins, a longtime community activist and lecturer who served for many years as Chief of Staff to former Assemblyman Denis Butler and advocate for non-profit groups like SHAREing & CAREing, a breast and ovarian cancer support group;

Teresa Jarnich, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Astoria—Long Island City and a volunteer with its Christmas Auction and Anti-Crime programs;

Christine Lolas, an Athens native who immigrated to the U.S. to launch her career in the banking industry. She is active in the Kiwanis Club, the 30th Avenue Business Association, and serves on the Advisory Board of SHAREing & CAREing;

Anna Kril, the founder of SHAREing & CAREing, Inc. She serves on the Board of Directors of the New York City Health & Hospitals Corporation, on the Executive Board of the Community Advisory Board of Elmhurst Hospital Center, as Chairperson of the Health Committee of Queens Community Board #1 in Queens, and as a member of the Kiwanis Club;

Vera Martucci, who, although widowed at an early age, still devoted herself to serving others by volunteering to assist immigrants through the International Ladies Garment

Workers Union and at St. John's Hospital's emergency department, the Steinway Senior Center, and P.S. 7 and P.S. 126;

Charlene Perno, a Registered Nurse who serves on the Board of SHAREing & CAREing, as coordinator of New York Hospital of Queens' health fair, and who provides health education to local high schools;

Linda Ann Vinci-Perno, an Astoria native who has volunteered for the Boy's Club of Queens, Ladies Auxiliary, President of St. Margaret Mary Rosary Society, and the Long Island chapter of Cancer Care; and

Eartha Washington, who serves as Chair of the Board of Elmhurst Hospital and is active with the New York City Department for the Aging Advisory Board, SHAREing & CAREing, the Kiwanis Club, and the Astoria Civic Association.

I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in paying tribute to these outstanding individuals for their extraordinary commitment to serving others.

HONORING DR. JAMES P. COMER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and honor that I take this time to recognize one of the most influential and renowned individuals to emerge from Northwest Indiana. Dr. James P. Comer, M.D., M.P.H., has made many distinguished contributions to the field of child psychiatry throughout his prestigious career, and I take this time to welcome him back to Northwest Indiana, where he will serve as the keynote speaker for the 2008 Parent University on Saturday, October 11, 2008, at East Chicago Central High School in East Chicago, Indiana. This extraordinary event is sponsored by the School City of East Chicago, the City of East Chicago, the Lake Shore Chamber of Commerce, and Purdue University.

Dr. Comer was born in East Chicago, Indiana. In 1956, he completed his studies at Indiana University and went on to receive his M.D. in 1960 from Howard University College of Medicine. From there, he went on to complete his M.P.H. degree from the University of Michigan School of Public Health in 1964. Following this, he went on to Yale University, where he was trained in psychology at the School of Medicine's Child Study Center. Today, Dr. Comer serves as the school's Maurice Falk Professor of Child Psychiatry. As part of his preparation for his remarkable career, Dr. Comer also completed a one-year residency at the Hillcrest Children's Center in Washington, D.C.

While his contributions to his field are many, Dr. Comer is quite possibly most well known for the founding of the Comer School Development Program in 1968. The goal of this program is to promote the collaboration of parents, educators, and the community to improve social, emotional, and academic outcomes for children that will help them to achieve greater success in school. His approach to focusing on teamwork has been utilized throughout the country at more than 500 schools to improve their educational environments.

As if his work in research and teaching, not to mention the founding such an influential program, were not impressive enough, Dr. Comer is also the author of nine books and the writer of more than 150 articles for Parents Magazine and more than 300 other articles on children's health and development and race relations. He has also worked as a consultant for the Children's Television Workshop, which produces Sesame Street. Throughout the years, Dr. Comer has also committed himself to service on many local, collegiate, and national boards, and he has been recognized with an abundance of prestigious awards and accolades for his work, including an astonishing forty-six honorary degrees.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Comer has made extraordinary contributions to his field and to school systems throughout the United States. His dedication and devotion to the youth of our nation are to be admired. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Dr. James Comer for his lifetime of contributions to the American way of life through his work in the area of child psychiatry.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
WILLIE HERD RUSHTON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Mobile and indeed the entire nation recently lost a true American hero, and I rise today to honor the memory of Willie Herd Rushton and pay tribute to his memory.

Many Americans came to know Mr. Rushton last year as his courageous story, along with those of other Mobilians, was told in the Ken Burns documentary series, "The War."

Born in Nadawah, Alabama, Mr. Rushton grew up on a saw mill farm in Atmore. After graduating from high school, he moved to Mobile to work at the Coca-Cola Bottling Plant. He was drafted in the spring of 1943, just a year after getting married.

He signed on with the Marines and was shipped to the Pacific in July 1943. His son was born just one month later, a son he would not see for more than two years. Assigned to the 11th Depot Company, he served in the South Pacific from July 1943 until October 1944. He and his unit—a unit that sustained the highest casualty rate of any black Marine unit—took part in the invasion of Peleliu along with the 1st Marine Division.

Mr. Rushton himself was wounded in the leg by shrapnel from a mortar round while on the island. Following his discharge in November of 1945, Mr. Rushton was awarded the Purple Heart as well as the Good Conduct Medal for his valor in service. He worked at Sears, Brookley Field and the United States Postal Service, where he stayed for 43 years. During his career with the Postal Service, his colleagues affectionately referred to Mr. Rushton as "The Chief."

Madam Speaker, I rise to ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a true American hero and friend to many throughout Alabama, as well as a wonderful husband and devoted father. Mr. Rushton will be deeply missed by his family—his wife, Evelyn Bush

Rushton; his two sons, Willie Herd Rushton Jr. and Derrick Rushton; his daughter, Deborah Rushton Campbell; his brother, John Lee Jones; his six grandchildren; and his six great grandchildren—as well as the many countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND
HEROISM OF THE 630TH TANK
DESTROYER BATTALION

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the heroes of the 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion upon their 32nd reunion.

Activated on December 15, 1941 at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, the 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion; often called the "Fightingest," distinguished itself in battle during World War II. On July 24, 1944, the Battalion landed on Omaha Beach in Normandy, France and was attached to the 28th Infantry Division XIX Corps.

The men of the 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion fought valiantly in the European Theater during the war. From December 15, 1944 and December 31, 1944 the Battalion participated in actions against enemy forces in some of the most difficult operations known to warfare. The Battalion bravely liberated France, Luxembourg, and Belgium and provided critical support to allied victory in the Battle of the Bulge; proving the resistance and stamina of the American soldier was unbreakable. The heroism of the 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion was undoubtedly critical in bringing victory and peace to Europe. Tragically, many of these heroes never returned home, however their memory will live on forever in the hearts and minds of those they left behind. Beginning in 1963, and annually since 1992, the veterans and their families have reunited thus growing into an extended family of friends.

Madam Speaker, the soldiers of the 630th Tank Destroyer Battalion are heroes and champions of American freedom. As we recognize the outstanding contribution these veterans and those lost in battle have made for the cause of freedom, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring their many years of selfless service to their community and our country.

IN MEMORIAM OF A TRAIL-
BLAZING AFRICAN AMERICAN
JOURNALIST

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the lifelong accomplishments of the late Nancy Hicks Maynard, a pioneering advocate for greater diversity in the newsrooms of this country's newspapers. She was a native daughter of Harlem, where her mother nurtured her love for journalism, where she first