

TRIBUTE TO THE 100TH BIRTHDAY  
OF THE SETTLEMENT MUSIC  
SCHOOL

**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2008*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 100th birthday of Settlement Music School, the largest community school of music in the United States. Settlement Music School originated in 1908 at the College Settlement House, a social service center for newly arrived immigrants in south Philadelphia when two young women volunteers, Jeannette Selig and Blanche Wolf, offered piano lessons for a nominal fee. Their effort grew into an independent community school of the arts. Today, there are six Settlement branches serving every zip code in the Greater Philadelphia region. The Jenkintown and Kardon-Northeast branches of Settlement Music School are located in my Congressional District, serving residents of Montgomery County and northeast Philadelphia.

Since its inception, the mission of Settlement Music School has been to provide community-based music and arts instruction and activity to students of all ages, races, religions, economic standings, talent levels and music preferences. In addition to the school's core program, it offers educational and enrichment programs for disabled children and adults, preschool programs for low-income inner-city children, and a Teacher Training Institute to disseminate best practice techniques to the broader educational community. Settlement Music School tuition fees have remained modest with over 60 percent of the student population receiving financial aid.

Annually, close to 15,000 students participate in music, dance and visual arts programs guided by a faculty of experienced and credentialed musicians. Settlement Music School is the largest employer of musicians in Pennsylvania, providing a source of income for many freelance musicians. Since its opening, Settlement Music School has served over 300,000 students. Today there are Settlement graduates in every major symphony in the United States, as well as alumni who have distinguished themselves in the worlds of opera, theater, popular music, and jazz. Settlement Music School has produced Pulitzer prize-winning composers and former students have served as Mayor of Philadelphia, Philadelphia City Council member, Pennsylvania Senator and Representative, and Member of Congress.

Settlement Music School will celebrate this milestone centennial year with banquets, concerts and recitals featuring alumni and present-day students. Settlement Music School will honor the "Settlement 100"—a roster of diverse Settlement alumni whose experiences at Settlement Music School helped to shape their lives.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Settlement Music School's centennial milestone and wishing the alumni, students, teachers, and board directors much continued success.

TRIBUTE TO THE 162ND ANNIVERSARY  
OF METROPOLITAN AME  
ZION CHURCH

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2008*

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to acknowledge the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in Jersey City, New Jersey, on the celebration of its 162nd anniversary. Metropolitan AME Zion Church, established in 1846, has a long and rich history as the oldest African-American congregation in Jersey City.

Metropolitan AME Zion Church grew out of the John Street Methodist Church, established in 1796 near the African Burial Ground National Monument in New York City. Since its founding in Jersey City 19 years before the United States abolished slavery, the church has occupied several locations in Jersey City and thrived under the leadership of a long line of dedicated pastors.

On March 27, 1968, Metropolitan hosted Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., for what would be one of his final speeches. He addressed an overflow crowd of more than 2,000 people promoting his "Poor People's march on Washington."

The deep history of Metropolitan AME Zion Church is a story of strong faith and passionate work on behalf of the surrounding community. Theirs is a journey that we hope will continue for many years to come. I am pleased to congratulate the Metropolitan Church and its current pastor Reverend Nathaniel B. Legay on this momentous occasion.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in wishing the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church of Jersey City a joyous anniversary and best wishes for the future.

IN TRIBUTE TO  
PERCY JULIAN, JR.

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2008*

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Mr. Percy Julian, Jr., a pioneering civil rights and civil liberties attorney from my home State of Wisconsin. My friend, Percy Julian, Jr., passed away on February 24, 2008, at the age of 67.

Mr. Percy Julian, Jr. helped to make the civil rights laws passed in the Martin Luther King, Jr. era real tools for justice. He became best known for representing University of Wisconsin-Madison students charged in the Dow Chemical demonstrations in the 1960s, and further for handling pioneering employment discrimination and voting rights class action suits across the United States, often in cooperation with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund.

Percy Julian, Jr. grew up in the Chicago area but made Wisconsin his home. He was son to Percy Julian, Sr., an acclaimed scientist of the 20th century. A 2-hour documentary on Julian Sr., "Forgotten Genius," which aired

last year, not only highlighted his enormous contributions as a chemist, but also detailed how racism had hampered his career. Julian, Jr. said of his father in the documentary, "My father took advantage of the country's promise of equality, but was in some ways undone by the country's failure to live up to that promise." Julian Jr. spent much of his legal career insuring the country met its promises.

Percy Julian, Jr. was both a fierce advocate and a model for other attorneys in promoting the importance of civility. While serving as a State senator in Wisconsin, I called upon Percy Julian, Jr. to utilize his expertise on voting rights and civil rights issues. His presence often caused the other side to retreat rather than face his formidable knowledge base.

He is survived by his wife, Jan Blackmon; daughter, Kathy Julian; and sister, Faith Julian. Wisconsin and our country have lost a valuable leader and a civil rights and civil liberties pioneer. Percy Julian, Jr.'s work in the areas of fair housing, voting rights, school desegregation, and first amendment issues have proved invaluable in preserving the rights of all people in our State and our Nation. I extend my condolences to his family and friends on this tremendous loss. Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Percy Julian, Jr.

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION TAX ACT  
OF 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2008*

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, on February 27, 2008 the U.S. House of Representatives agreed to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 5264 by voice vote. Had I been given the opportunity to vote on this measure I would have voted "no" on H.R. 5264, the Trade Preference Extension Act of 2008.

In fact, prior to the voice vote on H.R. 5264, I sent a Dear Colleague with Representatives DALE KILDEE and MARCY KAPTUR to all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives urging our colleagues to vote against extending the Andean Trade Preference Act.

The Trade Preference Extension Act of 2008 extends the Andean Trade Preference Act for another 10 months. Since the last extension, 8 months ago, Congress has still not adequately addressed fundamental problems of labor practices in the region and the agreement's effect on U.S. agriculture. Furthermore, with the on-going debate surrounding the Colombia Free Trade Agreement it is irresponsible to simply extend these preferences without thorough discussions.

Originally passed in 1991, the Andean Trade Preference Act, ATPA, was designed to develop economic alternates to narcotics production in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. However, ATPA has failed to reduce cocaine production, but it has harmed American farmers.

In both Colombia and Peru, the size and production of illegal drug crops has remained virtually unchanged. In a 2001 report to Congress, the U.S. Foreign Agricultural Service said that they "do not believe that Peruvian asparagus production provides an alternative

economic opportunity for coca producers and workers—the stated purpose of the Act.”

As a result of the ATPA, the U.S. had a \$10 billion trade deficit with the four ATPA countries in 2006. Specifically, the asparagus and fresh-cut flower industries have been severely hurt by lower prices. Since the implementation of ATPA, asparagus acreage in the United States dropped from 90,000 acres in 1991 to under 49,000 acres in 2006.

There are 40,000 flower workers in Ecuador and over 100,000 in Colombia working to grow, harvest, and package flowers. Unfortunately, these workers routinely experience labor rights violations including violations of the right to freedom of association. H.R. 5264 does not include stronger labor provisions.

Before agreeing to extend the Andean Trade Preferences Act for a third time, Congress should have taken a closer look at damage it has done to American farmers and how it has failed to reduce illegal drug production in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE JOSE  
FRANCISCO “FRANK” TORRES

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2008*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Judge Jose Francisco “Frank” Torres, a native of southern Colorado and until his passing a resident of the 3rd Congressional District of New Mexico.

Judge Frank Torres was a crusader for civil rights who upon retirement lived in New Mexico, the home of his ancestors, for 21 years. He was descended from the original Spanish colonists that arrived with General Juan De Onate in 1598 to establish the first European settlement in the United States. He was married to Crusita Kimball Torres, who was a descendant of the first territorial Governor of New Mexico. His daughter, Eva Torres Ashenbrenner, is my constituent, renowned for her involvement in the community and for her love and commitment to New Mexico and its cultural heritage. She continues her father's tradition of community involvement and public service.

Judge Torres practiced and taught good citizenship throughout his life and brought the highest moral values and standards not only to each position he occupied, but to his private life as well.

Judge Torres was an accomplished man who despite adversity became one of the first Hispanic attorneys in Colorado. Among his many accomplishments, Judge Torres strongly opposed the activities of the Ku Klux Klan, organized the first credit unions in southern Colorado in 1938, and was actively involved in the Boy Scouts of America for some 70 years, earning its highest honors “the silver beaver award,” for his leading of Troops and service on the Boy Scouts Regional Council. Also, during the Depression years Judge Torres organized and directed a charitable homeless persons shelter in Trinidad, Colorado, which was one of the earliest efforts in the region.

He provided strong and equal legal representation to everyone, including those too

poor to afford legal representation. He worked to secure the rights and interests of the elderly poor and defended the Alianza Hispano Americana in legal cases brought by the State of Arizona to take control of that organization.

Judge Torres organized and was elected president of the Colorado Spanish American Club, served as president of the Colorado State Board of credit unions, was elected vice-president of the Colorado Young Democrats, and worked as legal counsel to the Las Animas County Catholic Church's Knights of Columbus, representing them at national conventions.

Judge Torres was well known in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and befriended notable New Mexican historians such as Fray Angelico Chavez and Orlando Romero and other notable figures such as Raphael Chacon, Casimire Barela, Elfego Baca, and former Congressman Bronson Cutting.

Madam Speaker, Frank Torres was a crusader during his time as an attorney and judge, and it is fitting that he is honored for his great work and service to the people of Colorado and New Mexico.

THE NATIONAL OCEAN  
EXPLORATION PROGRAM ACT

**HON. CAROL SHEA-PORTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2008*

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Madam Speaker, I was pleased to cosponsor and vote for the National Ocean Exploration Program Act, H.R. 1834, which authorizes two excellent and successful National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, programs, the National Undersea Research Program, NURP, and the Ocean Exploration program, OE.

While new technologies have enabled us, for example, to create high-resolution maps of the sea floor, to measure plate movements, or to study ocean processes quantitatively, the world's oceans remain, to a great extent, unknown. We know so little about the ocean's living creatures, nonliving resources, and processes. We don't know enough about the impact of global climate and other environmental change on the ocean. Ocean exploration and ocean research complement each other. Because of the importance of our oceans to life on earth, we need to step up the pace of both exploration and research to be able to make informed decisions about issues related to the ocean.

This bill promotes integration of the two programs, combining their strengths and capabilities, in order to serve our country and NOAA more effectively. NURP has maintained a network of regional centers of undersea science and technology for 30 years, while OE, when established in 2001, began a national effort to explore the ocean. Both programs have been collaborating in development of innovative technologies for exploration, and on voyages of exploration, such as an expedition in the South Pacific that discovered new marine environments and ecosystems.

The complementary relationship between the two programs within NOAA will make the

whole greater than the sum of its parts. The bill's authorization of these programs will help provide the best scientific information on ocean habitats and other phenomena, and will ensure that this information is widely distributed. We must explore and work to reveal the unknown so that we can deepen our understanding of crucial oceanic environmental issues and inspire scientists, educators, decision-makers, and the public to learn more about the ocean. In the coming years, America's economic, environmental and national security may depend on our knowledge of the ocean, and our understanding of how it sustains life on earth.

TRIBUTE TO THE PEACE CORPS  
47TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2008*

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support and appreciation for the Peace Corps on their 47th anniversary. Since 1961, more than 190,000 American volunteers have served in 139 developing countries around the world. Since its founding, the Peace Corps has sought to meet its legislative mandate of promoting world peace and friendship by sending American volunteers to serve at the grassroots level in villages and towns abroad. These Peace Corps volunteers live and work with local people, helping them improve their lives, and helping them understand American culture. The volunteers often work as teachers, environmental and agriculture specialists, health promoters, and small business advisors.

I have been an extremely strong supporter of the Peace Corps ever since President John F. Kennedy first proposed it in a speech in Ann Arbor, Michigan, many years ago. The Peace Corps is one of America's most effective ways to share our compassion and values abroad, and, in many instances, the volunteers play the important role of dispelling myths about the U.S. I would dearly love to see the Peace Corps double or triple in size.

I also praise and recognize those volunteers from the Third Congressional District of Michigan who are currently serving abroad in the Peace Corps. My thanks go out to: Chad Anderson, serving in Uganda; Brent Benner, serving in Peru; Edna Bermejo, serving in Mauritania; Brendan Brink-Halloran, serving in Guatemala; Amanda Collier, serving in Romania; Christopher De Bruyn, serving in Mongolia; Adrienne Gilbert, serving in the Dominican Republic; Sara Igleski, serving in Jordan; Rachel Jacobs, serving in Zambia; Joshua Johnson, serving in Romania; Jeffrey Luehm, serving in El Salvador; Elizabeth Smith, serving in Senegal; Joseph Stevens, serving in Bolivia; Daniel Vander Ploeg, serving in Kazakhstan; Meredith Vanover, serving in Ukraine; Kirstin Webster, serving in Romania; Daniel Westerhof, serving in Paraguay; and Michael Wilcox, serving in Senegal.

Again, congratulations to the Peace Corps on their 47th anniversary. I thank and commend all of those who so faithfully volunteer to serve our Nation abroad.