

throughout the game and trailing late in the third quarter, the Lady Mustangs came back to secure a 48–43 victory over Sudan.

I especially want to recognize the three seniors on the team, Jordan Barncastle, Taylor Daniel and Christa Williams, for the extraordinary achievement of securing two State championships. In addition, I want to congratulate Jordan Barncastle for being named the tournament's Most Valuable Player after contributing 18 points, eight rebounds, and three steals in the championship game.

I also want to recognize Head Coach Doug Barncastle, who began coaching at Martin's Mill High School in 2005 and has led the Lady Mustangs to the State tournament all 3 years. This victory was extra special since he was coaching his daughter, Jordan Barncastle, in her last game before graduating and heading to Lubbock to play for the Texas Tech Lady Raiders. With the game falling during the week of his birthday, the victory was an answered birthday wish for Coach Barncastle.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth District of Texas, I am honored to recognize the Martin's Mill Lady Mustangs—both coaches and players—for their talent, dedication, and exceptional performance.

CONGRATULATING THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY, NEW JERSEY, ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the borough of Ramsey, New Jersey, on its centennial celebration. Today, March 10, is the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of Ramsey.

Ramsey is located at the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains in northeast New Jersey and covers 5.9 square miles. Dutch, English, Scottish, and German settlers were among the first colonists to live in Ramsey. The Old Stone House was built as a Dutch colonial farmhouse in the 1700s, and it is still preserved today. A gristmill was erected in the mid 1780s, and six decades later a railroad station was assembled—both brought commerce and development to the area. Ramsey quickly became known as the strawberry capital, due to the large amounts of strawberries grown in the region and then shipped to other States.

Today, Ramsey is the site of six churches, three parks, four public schools, and a public library. Several scenes from The Sopranos episode “The Happy Wander” were shot at the Maple Shade Motel, and Ramsey was also a setting for scenes from the 2006 film World Trade Center. Several notable Americans have resided in Ramsey, including Ryan Grant, running back for the Green Bay Packers; Danny Aiello, a stage and film star; and Ryan McGinley, a photographer. Perhaps the most distinguished resident to call Ramsey “home” was Army Master Sergeant Charles Ernest Hosking, who received a Medal of Honor for self-sacrificially saving the lives of several of his commanders during the Vietnam war.

The borough of Ramsey is rich with historical, cultural, educational, and recreational in-

stitutions. For 100 years, Ramsey has been the cherished residence of many Americans. It is my hope that the borough of Ramsey will continue to be a vibrant community for many years to come.

CONGRATULATING PERKINS COUNTY PLAINSMEN ON WINNING CLASS C-2B NEBRASKA GIRLS BASKETBALL STATE TITLE

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Perkins County Plainsmen on their 62 to 49 victory over Sutton to take the Class C-2B Nebraska Girls Basketball State Title on March 1, 2008. They embody the spirit of teamwork, determination, and heart, which champions display.

They finished the season unbeaten, but definitely not untested. Sutton, who allowed an average of just 35 points a game this season, gave the Plainsmen all they could handle, but came up short.

So, it is with a sense of pride that I congratulate the Perkins County Plainsmen girls' basketball team on winning this championship. This victory is the result of months and years of hard work by the players, students, and their coaches.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING EARL LLOYD FOR BECOMING THE FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN TO PLAY IN THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION LEAGUE

SPEECH OF

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Representative JIM MORAN's House resolution expressing the sense of Congress to recognize and honor Earl Lloyd for breaking the color barrier as the first African-American to play in the National Basketball Association (NBA).

In addition to Earl Lloyd's accomplishments during the 1950 season, I want to take this opportunity to also recognize the Boston Celtics franchise and legendary coach and general manager Red Auerbach for their work in the advancement and inclusion of African-Americans in the NBA.

In 1950, before Earl Lloyd became the first African-American to play in an NBA game, Chuck Cooper became the first African-American to be drafted in the NBA by the Boston Celtics in the second round of the selection process. This milestone was the first in a long list of accomplishments the Celtics organization has made during their storied history to break down the color barrier in professional sports.

In addition to drafting the first African-American player, Red Auerbach was also the first to have an all African-American starting lineup which included Bill Russell, Willie Naulls, Tom Sanders, Sam Jones and K. C. Jones. In the

1966–67 season, the Celtics would go a step further by making Bill Russell the first African-American to coach an NBA team.

I hope all of my colleagues will join me today in honoring Earl Lloyd, Chuck Cooper and all the individuals who were a part of breaking down the color barrier in professional sports.

RECOGNIZING EILEEN MCGUCKIAN

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2008

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation and gratitude to Eileen McGuckian, founder of Peerless Rockville, for her 35 years of service to the cause of historic preservation.

Eileen was driven to take action in 1974, when she witnessed the demolition of the historic and beautiful Masonic Lodge in Rockville. Along with a group of like-minded community members, she formed Peerless Rockville and began raising money for the preservation of historic buildings and sites and educating the public on the importance of protecting our shared history.

Peerless Rockville has become a model of public-private partnership, whose successes have included the rescue and preservation of the 1873 B&O Railroad Station, the Montrose School and Baptist Cemetery, the Dawson farmhouse, the Grand Courtroom of the Red Brick Courthouse, and Wire Hardware, one of the few examples of 19th century commercial architecture remaining in Rockville. In addition, Peerless Rockville fulfills its educational mission by providing walking tours and history programs, and maintaining an impressive collection of maps, historic photographs, architects' drawings and other documents. These documents are an invaluable resource for local residents, students and scholars. Eileen herself made full use of this collection in her award-winning book, Rockville: Portrait of a City. Today, Rockville is a richer and more beautiful place thanks to Eileen McGuckian.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing and honoring Eileen McGuckian for 35 years of dedicated and outstanding service to the city of Rockville and to Montgomery County, Maryland.

CONDEMNING THE ONGOING PALESTINIAN ROCKET ATTACKS ON ISRAELI CIVILIANS

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, I rise to explain the reasons and the scruples that led me to vote “present” on H. Res. 951.

I would note, first, that the resolution as amended and passed is more acceptable to me than the original draft. Most important to me is that the amended resolution recognizes the suffering of innocent victims on both sides of the conflict. However, I continue to believe that resolutions containing language such as

some of the language in H. Res. 951 do not advance us towards the most important goal relative to this issue: peaceful co-existence for the region.

The resolution properly states America's support for the people of Israel and their right to defend themselves. It notes the near daily rocket and mortar attacks on southern Israel that have been launched from the Gaza Strip since Israel withdrew from Gaza in the interests of peace in 2005. It fairly condemns Hamas and other terrorist organizations. I have never wavered in my support for Israel's right to defend itself against terrorists. I approved their action against the Iraqi nuclear site. I was bitterly criticized for my defense of the "targeted assassination" of Sheikh Yassin in 2004. I led the resistance in the city of Somerville to a campaign to divest in Israel. I am a friend of Israel and I do not believe this resolution makes Israel safer. It fails to reconfirm our commitment to peace and to a process that can bring about peace. I believe this failure renders America less able to be an effective broker for peace in the region.

In addition, I question the desirability and wisdom of reiterating the status of Iran and Syria as "state sponsors of terror". The Department of State has so listed them and, certainly, there is ample evidence that both countries have actively and passively provided aid and comfort to Hamas and also to Hezbollah. Certainly, the current leaders of Iran have publicly stated their vile opinions about Israel and their determination to eradicate it. No one can deny these facts. Nonetheless, I have always been of the opinion that finding a way to peace is more important than name calling—even if the names seem to be well-deserved. I believe that those who are truly committed to finding a peaceful solution—two democratic states, recognized by other nations and coexisting in peace—must not succumb to the temptation of name-calling. We cannot let terrorists shape our agenda. We must remain determined to pursue peace.

I would ask anyone whether they are more or less likely to open their ears so they can hear their opponent if that opponent constantly calls them names. I would ask anyone whether they are more or less likely to believe that someone who calls them names can truly understand their concerns. We all suffer from the same human weakness that causes us to lash out at those who attack us. This is a natural and understandable emotional reaction. However, it is one that we must resist, especially when engaging in what should be seen as deliberative and thoughtful endeavors such as Congressional resolutions.

That said, I believe every observer agrees that Egypt and Syria must be active participants in resolving this conflict. Many might agree that Iran must participate as well—or at least acquiesce. How then does it encourage them to do so when the Congress states or implies that they are to blame for the problems in the region? This question seems particularly relevant because the resolution, a condemnation of Hamas rocket attacks and an expression of solidarity with the people of Israel does not require us to condemn other regional powers. There is no need to "poke our finger in the eye" of governments able to thwart or advance a peaceful solution.

I would point out that the Congress has taken this approach for years. We have passed numerous resolutions—too many, in

my view, that are gratuitously confrontational. I ask: Have those resolutions moved us any closer to finding a peaceful solution? The approach has not worked thus far and I see no reason to believe it will start working now.

I voted "present" rather than "no" because I was in sympathy with much of the resolution. I voted as a Member of Congress determined that the United States act responsibly in pursuit of peace.

HONORING JOHNNIE BENDY FOR RECEIVING THE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2008

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Johnnie Bendy for receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Mineola Chamber of Commerce.

Johnnie Bendy, named after her father who passed away weeks before she was born, is known for the impact she has made in her community. Ms. Bendy's grandmother and elderly neighbors influenced her love for nature and education by taking her fishing, teaching her to identify medicinal herbs, and explaining the intricacies of nature. Being raised by a single mother in the 1930s inevitably led to difficult times, and Ms. Bendy recalls going hungry for days.

After attending grade school in Mineola, Ms. Bendy worked to pay her way through school at Texas College. After graduating, Ms. Bendy taught at McFarland School until 1964 when she began her career as a librarian at Mineola Middle School, a post she held for 38 years.

In addition to teaching, Ms. Bendy devoted her time volunteering and serving on the city planning and zoning commission, the Kindness Cottage, the Mineola Chamber of Commerce, the Community Chest, United Way, the East Texas Council of Government, and is a former president of Friends of the Library. Ms. Bendy has been recognized both locally and nationally as a Distinguished Teacher, Volunteer of the Year, and 1998 Woman of the Year.

In 2007, Mineola Mayor Pete Smith dedicated a historical marker to Ms. Bendy in the Mineola Nature Preserve on the Sabine River that now marks a trail leading to the International & Great Northern Rail Road where she spent her childhood playing outdoors.

In the midst of all this activity, Ms. Bendy sang in her church choir and devoted time to organizing and serving on various church committees.

Ms. Bendy's perseverance and selfless attitude in the face of cumbersome obstacles qualifies her to receive this lifetime achievement award. Her work helped Mineola become a better place to live, work, raise a family, and realize the American dream.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth District of Texas, I am honored to recognize Johnnie Bendy for earning the Lifetime Achievement Award and for sharing her passions to inspire those around her.

TRIBUTE TO CLEORA MAGEE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Cleora Magee as she retires as the executive director of the city of Flint Human Relations Commission. A celebration will be held in her honor on Saturday, March 15 in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Cleora Magee has served the people of the Flint area for many years. After working in the registrar's office at Mott Community College, Cleora became a community organizer at the Urban Coalition of Greater Flint. She went on to work at the Flint Neighborhood Improvement and Preservation Project, Incorporated, as a Community Organizer, and a Neighborhood Service Center manager. In 1996 she became the executive director of the city of Flint Human Relations Commission.

In her capacity as the executive director, Cleora has touched the lives of thousands of people. She serves many organizations and is affiliated with the following: secretary for the board of the Fair Winds Girl Scout Council; secretary of the board of the Flint Neighborhood Improvement and Preservation Project, Incorporated; secretary for the board of the Flint Neighborhood Coalition; a member of the board of directors and chairperson of the Michigan Outstate Chapter of the National Association of Human Rights Workers; member of the board and mediator with the Community Resolution Center; Member of the Advisory Board of YouthBuild; the Mayor's Representative on the Emergency Food and Shelter Program Local Board and Allocations Committee; a member of National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; a member of Flint Rotary; the chairperson of the Sponsorship Committee for the National Multicultural Diversity Institute; co-chairperson of the Community Response Committee with the Michigan Alliance Against Hate Crimes; a member of the Hurley Medical Center Bioethics Committee; a member of the M.L. King, Jr. Annual Tribute Planning Committee; a member of the Genesee County Committee for Community Peace; a member of Community Challenge Visual Change Group; a member of the city of Flint Threat Assessment Team; the coordinator of the city of Flint Employee Combined Charitable Campaign; a member of the United Way of Genesee County Strengthening Families System of Care; a member of the New Immigrant Services Coalition of MidMichigan; a member of the Kwanzaa Committee; the secretary for Unification for Urban Equality; a member of the Donald Riegle Annual Service Award Event Committee; a member of the Community Outreach for Family and Youth Steering Committee; a member of the McCree Special Groups Committee; the African American Heritage Collaborative Committee; the Youth Violence Prevention Coalition; and the city of Flint Emergency Evacuation Committee.

Cleora is married to Percy Magee. She has four children and three stepchildren. She received her bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University in Community Development. Cleora attends True Gospel Missionary Baptist Church where she serves as deaconess.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating