

Agency by Governor Alexander Farrelly and rose to the position of Director, where he served until his retirement in 1995. In addition, Rhudel George served as a part-time instructor of business management and accounting at the CAHS Adult Continuing Education Program from 1981 through 1990. He also taught Business Management at the University of the Virgin Islands in 1991. He also served as a panelist with the U.S. Small Business Administration, conducting small business seminars and workshops in the U.S. Virgin Islands, the British Virgin Islands, and St. Martin for over 10 years.

Mr. Rhudel George received several prestigious awards for his work, to include being named the Small Business Advocate of the Year from the U.S. Small Business Administration 1990/1991 and a Certificate of Commendation for Service beyond the call of duty after Hurricane Hugo in 1989. He also served his community on various boards and commissions, lending his financial and business management expertise as Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Virgin Islands Port Authority, the Public Employees Relations Board, the Board of Land Use Appeals, the V.I. Small Business Development Agency's Board, the U.S. Small Business Administration Advisory Council for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Rhudel George is currently the President of Concerned Native Virgin Islanders, Inc., an organization that has awarded 15 scholarship awards to deserving high school graduates. Mr. Rhudel George is an extraordinary community minded individual who has lent his expertise when needed. He has been married for 43 years to Lucia Cid-George and has two daughters, Semele and Sionne.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE WILLIAM DICKINSON

#### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the memory of former Alabama Congressman William "Bill" Dickinson and his lifetime of dedication to the people of Alabama and the United States. I was deeply saddened to learn of his passing. Our Nation lost a wonderful friend and an individual who made countless contributions toward the betterment of America.

A native of Opelika, Alabama, Bill enlisted in the Navy upon graduation from high school. He served from 1943 until 1946 before joining the Air Force Reserves. He graduated from the University of Alabama Law School in 1950 and was admitted to the bar that same year. He returned to his hometown of Opelika and practiced law there until 1952 when he became an Opelika city judge. Two years later, he became judge of Lee County Court of Common Pleas and of the Juvenile Court before becoming a judge on the Fifth Judicial Circuit of Alabama in 1958. In 1962, Bill was named assistant vice president of the Southern Railway System and moved to Montgomery.

A lifelong conservative Democrat, Bill changed parties in 1964 and ran as a Republican to the U.S. House of Representatives for

Alabama's Second District. In so doing, he was part of the Barry Goldwater sweep in Alabama that propelled five Republican congressional candidates to victory in what had previously been solid Democratic country.

Bill Dickinson went on to serve 13 consecutive terms in Congress and was a leading advocate for a strong national defense. He served as ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee, and from this position, he was a staunch supporter of increased military funding and halting the spread of communism throughout the world. He was also a fierce protector of military bases vital to Alabama's economy.

Madam Speaker, we are privileged to have known such a passionate and loyal individual, and I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering this dedicated public servant. Congressman Dickinson will be deeply missed by his family—his wife, Barbara; their four children, Christopher Dickinson, Michael Dickinson, Tara Dickinson Sherer, and William Dickinson, Jr.; and their five grandchildren—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING KATELYN STUCKEY FOR WIN- NING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPION- SHIP

#### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Katelyn Stuckey showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Katelyn Stuckey was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Katelyn Stuckey always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Katelyn Stuckey on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

#### HONORING RODNEY ALEXANDER AMES

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Rodney Alexander Ames, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 134, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Rodney has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Rodney has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous

merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Rodney Alexander Ames for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### ATSEDU KIDANE

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Atsedu Kidane who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Atsedu Kidane is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Atsedu Kidane is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Atsedu Kidane for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her high school career to her college career and future accomplishments.

#### LOSS OF GEORGE LACKMAN

#### HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to herald the lifetime achievements of Tampanian George Lackman. Mr. Lackman was a jack of all trades. He made contributions to our community ranging from shipbuilding to banking to philanthropy.

Mr. Lackman was born in Palmetto Beach in 1931. He spent most of his career as a shipbuilder. He worked his way up the ranks from a mechanic's assistant to vice president at Tampa Ship Repair and Dry Dock, and he oversaw construction of Tampa's legendary pirate ship, the Jose Gasparilla. For 35 years he served as the ship's captain during Tampa's annual pirate invasion and festival, "Gasparilla." He also built submarines and stern-wheelers and refurbished a steam locomotive for the opening of the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World in 1971.

Working with bass pro Doug Hannon, Mr. Lackman invented an electric boat propeller that prevents seaweed from becoming entangled in the blades. Many anglers swear by this invention, and Mr. Lackman would joke that it raised enough money to put his kids, son Peter and daughter Nancy, through college.

In a new career endeavor, Mr. Lackman founded Citrus Park Bank, where he served as president. Later, he started the private banking program for First Union Bank in

Tampa. He retired from First Union as vice president of corporate development. He also served as president of Nutri-Sol Chemical Company, Marine Insulation Company, Corban Industries, and Acetogen Gas Company of Florida.

In his philanthropic efforts, Mr. Lackman started Genesis Clinic to provide prenatal care to mothers who were unable to afford proper health care. Infant mortality dropped in Tampa as a result of the services provided at Genesis. He also served as chairman of the Hillsborough County Hospital Board for two terms and helped save Tampa General Hospital when it faced the possibility of closing its doors.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Lackman's death on March 29 marked a great loss to his wife Patricia, to Peter and Nancy, to his grandchildren George III, Caroline, and Grace, and to the entire Tampa Bay area. His unique contributions to our community and his common sense and intelligence will not soon be forgotten.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SPEECH OF

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 1, 2008*

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 1061, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and encouraging people of the United States to pause and remember the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. King dedicated his life to fighting for equality for all men and women, regardless of race, creed or class. He was a courageous activist who worked tirelessly to give a voice to Americans whose voices had been silenced.

We live in a society that has undergone infinite change because of this courageous man and his relentless pursuit of a better America. Yet while we have made immense progress in some areas, we must not turn a blind eye to the fact that the work that Dr. King started is not yet complete. Today the responsibility rests on our shoulders to continue his efforts. We must keep working.

The American Dream means something different to everyone. And while it may mean something different to you than it does to your parents or the person sitting next to you at church, I know this: The American Dream is about being able to afford health care, and not having to decide between prescriptions and groceries. It is about being able to earn a wage that is sufficient enough to provide for your family. It is about being able to send your kids to college so they have access to more opportunities than you do.

We teach our children that Dr. King gave his life in Memphis, but we forget to tell them that he was there helping sanitation workers fight for a living wage. We honor Dr. King by name today, but I believe we honor him best by passing legislation that makes it easier for Americans to realize the dream that Dr. King fought for. Most recently, we voted to approve

the College Opportunity and Affordability of 2008, which authorizes the Federal Government's major federal student aid programs, among many other things. Our successes in these areas are made in his name and will help serve as a catalyst for even greater movements.

Dr. King's eloquence and determination forced this House to pass long overdue civil rights legislation. This House should never be forced to do the right thing again. Dr. King said: "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." This House should never be silent on the issues that mattered most to Dr. King, including protecting the rights of working Americans.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH GREECE AHEAD OF THE NATO SUMMIT AND URGING A MUTUALLY AGREED UPON RESOLUTION TO THE NAME ISSUE REGARDING FYROM

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for a resolution of a 15-year impasse on a mutually agreed upon name for the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as we near the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Heads of State and Government summit in Bucharest, Romania. One of the major issues considered will be the expansion of NATO and the possible extension of membership invitations to Albania, Croatia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM). Greece is the greatest supporter and promoter for the realization of the Euro-Atlantic aspirations of all countries in S.E. Europe and has contributed to that end enormous human and financial capital.

Greece has been FYROM's best friend in the Balkan neighborhood by donating over \$1 billion in aid and bolstering its fledgling market economy. While Greece wholehearted, however, cannot agree to the accession of FYROM that is wholly contrary to the principles of NATO.

According to the Membership Action Plan NATO adopted in 1999, potential members must first display a willingness "to settle international, ethnic or external territorial disputes by peaceful means, commitment to the rule of law and human rights, and democratic control of armed forces." Clearly, the FYROM has failed to meet even this first criterion. The addition of FYROM to NATO would undoubtedly enhance the Alliance but only if it displays an adherence to the rule of law. FYROM must resolve the name issue in accordance with adherence to U.S. policy and a UN-brokered agreement that calls for ending negative propaganda against Greece by the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) and settling the name issue.

Madam Speaker, I hope that NATO and the international community will do the right thing by requiring FYROM to work with Greece in reaching a mutually agreed upon name resolu-

tion that comports with bilateral and international agreements. Once that is accomplished we can then and only then know that FYROM is serious about engaging in good neighborly relations.

81ST BIRTHDAY OF CESAR CHAVEZ

**HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize and to celebrate what would have been the 81st birthday of Cesar Chavez by urging Congress and the President to make this day a national holiday.

Cesar Chavez grew up in migrant labor camps, into the poverty of a migrant worker's life. He became an historical figure who embodied humility and extraordinary strength in his peaceful struggle toward social justice. By dedicating his life to tirelessly championing the rights of farm laborers, along with Dolores Huerta, he helped found the United Farm Workers Union, fighting for better wages, conditions, and respect for farmworkers.

As our country faces the continuing bad news on the economy and more Americans are searching for jobs, we are reminded on the birthday of Cesar Chavez that the types of working families to whom Chavez dedicated his life will suffer the most if gas prices continue to rise, people continue to lose their homes, and job losses continue to grow.

Cesar Chavez has been an icon in my home State of Texas, where he is honored statewide on his birthday. In San Antonio, there is an annual Cesar Chavez march, which took place this past Saturday and had about 4,000 people in attendance. In San Antonio, we also have Cesar Chavez Boulevard, and in the county of Hidalgo there is a town named after Cesar Chavez, where 1,469 people live.

I hope that his legacy and memory will someday become a fundamental piece of American history so that all Americans will understand the fight that Cesar Chavez began in the fields—a fight for social justice, civil rights, and human rights that continues today.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues in urging the President and Congress to establish a national holiday by passing H. Res. 76.

ARIEL TOVAR

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ariel Tovar who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Ariel Tovar is a student at Arvada Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ariel Tovar is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels