

Whereas, Coach Mishler has been a role model for 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 Coach Michelle Mishler for leading the Hiland High School Girls' Basketball Team to winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and leadership she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 Basketball season.

ASSESSING THE BURDEN AFRICAN AMERICANS FACE IN A SLOWING ECONOMY—AND WHAT CONGRESS HAS DONE TO ALLEVIATE IT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to underscore the unfortunate financial squeeze many African American families will face as a result of the slumping economy. African American families and other families of color will suffer the most from a recession because they are disproportionately poor and do not have the safety net enjoyed by others. They carry a significant and disproportionate share of the burden, victim to an economic downturn that will harm working- and middle-class Americans most—unless we offer fresh and bold solutions to cultivate an economy that works for us all. Not just the wealthy. Not just the politically connected. But us all.

The “New Direction” Congress has been swift in addressing this need. The stimulus package will provide much-needed tax relief to the tune of \$600 per individual, \$1,200 per married couple, and an additional \$300 per child. But it doesn't stop there. It goes on to protect the least among us, committing \$32 billion for those 35 million families who work tirelessly but do not earn enough to pay income taxes and guaranteeing rebates to seniors on Social Security, disabled veterans, and military widows. The package is estimated to create more than 500,000 jobs before the end of this year, of particular good news to African Americans, whose unemployment rate climbed from 8 percent in the fall to 9.2 percent just a few months afterwards.

A second phase of increases in the minimum wage will take effect this July, not a moment too soon for those two million African Americans who benefit from the hike, and the 1.1 million more African Americans now living in poverty since President Bush took office. Our work on behalf of small businesses has strengthened the 1.2 million of them owned by African Americans, with revenues eclipsing \$88 billion. That work has resulted in tax cuts for small business of \$4 million over the next 10 years, increasing their share of Federal contracts, and lowering their cost of financing. And in response to the subprime mortgage crisis—the result of bad lending practices that saddled African Americans and Hispanics two times as much as Whites with high-cost subprime loans—we've passed legislation providing some mortgage debt tax relief, cracking down on predatory lending, and expanding affordable loan opportunities.

As Americans endure the hardships of a sputtering economy, it is incumbent upon the

people's Government to get us through it and steer us back to the path of prosperity. We have been responsive—and so shall we remain—to the needs of those communities most harshly hit in times of economic calamity, and as a unified people, looking after our own, we will get through this stronger and far more prosperous.

TWIN OAKS ESTATE

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, atop a hill on Woodley Road in northwest Washington, DC is a 26-room mansion known as the Twin Oaks estate, which served as the official residence of nine ambassadors from the Republic of China between 1937 and 1978. During its heyday, the Twin Oaks estate welcomed to its 17.6-acre compound countless American dignitaries and friends in the local Chinese community, to meet with ROC ambassadors and representatives and chart a course of friendship and cooperation between our two nations. Among the more prominent guests to visit the estate were U.S. Secretaries of State, Senators and Congressmen and U.S. military leaders including General Dwight D. Eisenhower and General George Marshall. Distinguished visitors from Taiwan to the estate included Madame Chiang Kai-shek and the future Republic of China Presidents: Mr. Chiang Ching-kuo, Mr. Lee Teng-hui and Mr. Chen Shui-bian.

The Twin Oaks estate also played a role in the termination of official ties between the United States and the Republic of China, Taiwan, in the winter of 1978. During those uncertain days and weeks, ownership of the Twin Oaks estate was transferred to an American private organization; later returning to the ownership of the Taiwan government in 1982. Since then, the Twin Oaks estate has again become a popular spot in Washington, DC, hosting many social functions each year, at which Washingtonians continue to admire the estate's gorgeous peony gardens, its Georgian Revival architecture, and its priceless Ch'ing dynasty antiques.

The Twin Oaks estate was built in 1888 by the family of Mr. Gardiner Greene Hubbard, founder of the National Geographic Society. In celebrating this historic site's 120 year history we also celebrate the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, which protects the Republic of China's legal ownership of the estate. May the Twin Oaks estate remain a symbol of United States-Taiwan friendship in our Nation's Capital for the next 120 years.

HONORING PASTOR HOWARD-JOHN WESLEY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, it is an honor and privilege for me to celebrate the success of Pastor Howard-John Wesley. Pastor Wesley has accomplished a

great deal in his 10 years at St. John's Congregational Church. Increasing the membership from 40 to over 3,000 is a very impressive feat. It may be his impressive sermons that continue to bring people from all walks of life to this church. Or perhaps it is his willingness and ability to help people who need his guidance. Either way, he consistently gathers thousands of people every week to celebrate together and follow in God's path.

Pastor Wesley has brought Baptist influences to one of the oldest African American churches in the State, which tended to be very traditional and affluent. This uneasy path certainly came with a great deal of opposition. Nevertheless, he continued to encourage all citizens of the community to join his congregation as he stressed the need to closely follow the teachings of the bible.

While thousands gather at St. John's to hear Pastor Wesley, he has also brought his powerful influence and God's word into the community. He is on several boards in Springfield and has established several ministries within the church to deal with specific needs in education, youth, and the elderly. He welcomes many students from local colleges who consistently attend his services. He also influenced former residents of the York Street and Ludlow jail systems to become “Ministers In Training”. These accomplishments truly highlight his desire to give back and help those throughout the community.

I would like to close by thanking you for allowing me to speak on this wonderful occasion. I am so grateful to be able to honor this tremendous man, who has given almost 20 years proclaiming God's word. His service to the church and the community has not gone unnoticed. Although today marks the end of his time here in Springfield, he will continue to touch others through his eloquent sermons and teachings at Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, VA. Congratulations, good luck, and thank you for all you have done for this community.

A TRIBUTE TO ANGELINA LEVY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Angelina Levy of Temple City, California. Every March we celebrate Women's History Month in recognition of the contributions and the sacrifices made by our Nation's women. Accordingly it is my privilege to highlight Ms. Levy as a woman whose extraordinary efforts are vital to my district.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Angelina Levy began her career in fashion when she graduated from the Fashion Institute of Technology in 1954. After 20 years of experience in the New York fashion industry, she moved her family to California but was unable to find programs that catered to her son's special developmental needs. In response to the void, Angie established the School of Fashion and Design for the Developmentally Disabled in 1984 and embarked on a remarkable legacy of community service and leadership.

Angie's School of Fashion and Design for the Developmentally Disabled works to provide students with tools to become self-sufficient and to boost self-esteem. It proves that

the skills necessary for sewing and crafts can also be used to improve the learning and the concentration skills of those who are developmentally disabled. In addition to sewing, dressmaking, and tailoring, the groundbreaking facility provides daily instruction via their "Healthy Living Skills" program, where students learn about food shopping, cooking, and computing, using the resources of the local community. At any given time there are over 40 students who range from young adults to seniors, and each emerges with enhanced social skills needed to integrate in today's complicated world.

In addition to her work with the School of Fashion and Design for the Developmentally Disabled, Angie is a past president of the United Commercial Travelers of America, the East Los Angeles Regional Center, and Civitan International. She has volunteered with the Special Olympics and the San Gabriel Civic Theater Group, as well as served on the Presidential Task Force on the Employment of Adults with Disabilities, PTFEAD, and its related U.S. Congressional Advisory Board. Angie is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars Distinguished Service Award and the 2004 Soroptimist International Woman of the Year. It is little wonder that Angie's peers are proud to call her a "marvel."

Angie's selfless service to the Temple City community is an invaluable addition to the legacy of Women's History Month. With gratitude and admiration, I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an extraordinary woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Ms. Angelina Levy.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING
HILAND HIGH SCHOOL FOR
THEIR SUPPORT OF THE HILAND
HIGH SCHOOL'S GIRLS' BASKET-
BALL TEAM**

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Hiland High School has displayed incredible dedication to creating well-rounded students; and

Whereas, the Hiland High School has been supportive of their athletes; and

Whereas, the Hiland High School has broadened the abilities and skills of their athletes in the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, the Hiland High School has always promoted sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with their friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate the Hiland High School on supporting their girls' basketball team in winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous amount of support they have given to their athletes.

**EXPRESSING THE BENEFIT OF
EDUCATING PEOPLE ABOUT THE
NEGATIVE HISTORY AND IMPACT
OF THE N-WORD**

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my full support and recognition of the efforts made by Council Member Leroy Comrie, with cosponsors Abolish The N-Word Project Inc. and the Universal Circus, to organize the second annual Black History Month Essay Contest, which essay theme was: "Why The N-Word Should Never Be Used?"

In New York City, freedom of speech is granted depending on which word you use, but do not dare let the "n-word" slip to your comrades. The "n-word" has been around for nearly as long as language itself. According to Merriam-Webster, the origin comes from the "neger" modification, and the French "nègre," and the Spanish "negro." However, within the English language, the n-word was used to depict blacks during the slave trade. Blacks subsequently embraced a more palatable form, "negro." This with the end of slavery and imposition of the Jim Crow was altered as a sign of disrespect and contempt. Today, some "mainstream" hip-hop recording artists slide the n-word into their albums. And when they clamor their way up the Billboard pop charts everyone listens, including the New York City Council.

The abolish the N-Word Project Inc. has many worldwide supporters, with a mailing list of 27,000 people and 13 million hits on their Web site. Some critics state that focusing on a word will not solve the multitude of problems that exist within the black community. I support the council member's initiative; after all it has developed critical thinking wither and conversation about the use of the word is appropriate.

The initiative of the council member's n-word essay contest educated young people about the negative history and impact of the n-word. Educating our society and making us conscious is important, because we need to begin to work with our children to have them understand the history and cultural meaning of a word that should only be used with such understanding.

**RECOGNIZING THE OAKTON HIGH
SCHOOL UPON ITS 40-YEAR ANNI-
VERSARY**

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Oakton High School as it prepares to celebrate its 40th anniversary.

Oakton High School was the first high school established in the Providence District of Fairfax County. Originally founded in 1911, the school was located above the Sutton Store in Oakton, Virginia. In 1914, it relocated to a two-story building on Chain Bridge and Blake Lane, recognized today as "Old Oakton High

School." Oakton initially taught 1- and 2-year courses, but by 1922 it had become a 4-year state accredited institution. Since then, Oakton High School has committed itself to lofty standards of academic and extracurricular excellence. The school provided the first indoor basketball court in all of Fairfax County, and in 1935 it graduated 235 students, a great academic accomplishment for the time period. As the Oakton area began to change from a rural community to a suburb of Washington, D.C., the growth in population required the construction of larger facilities. In 1967, Oakton High School was relocated to its current site on Sutton Road.

Today, Oakton High School remains a distinguished and greatly lauded school in all aspects from sports to the arts to academics. In past years, U.S. News and World Report and Newsweek magazines have ranked Oakton High school one of the top 100 schools in the Nation. This year, Governor Kaine recognized Oakton High School with the 2008 Governor's Award of Excellence. Additionally, the school has won multiple State championships in men's and women's lacrosse, cross country, baseball, football, golf, and gymnastics. In the arts, the Virginia High School League has honored the band program multiple years in a row, and Oakton's One Act Play won the State championship in 1992.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Oakton High School faculty and staff for the immeasurable contributions that they have made to the community by shaping today's youth and tomorrow's future. I congratulate the high school on its successes over the last 40 years and I wish it more successful years in the future. I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this outstanding and distinguished institution.

**HONORING TERRY C. WICKS, CRNA,
MHS, PRESIDENT OF THE AMER-
ICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSE
ANESTHETISTS**

HON. PATRICK T. MCHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, today I pay tribute to Terry Wicks, CRNA, MHS, of Rutherford College, North Carolina, in my congressional district. Mr. Wicks, my constituent, recently completed his 2006-2007 term as the national president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA).

Having celebrated its 76th Anniversary, the AANA is a professional organization that represents more than 36,000 practicing Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) nationwide.

Originally from the state of Iowa, Mr. Wicks received his education in the art and science of Nurse Anesthesia while serving as an officer in the United States Army. His anesthesia training took him to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, for the first phase of his education, and then to Fitzsimmons Army Medical Center in Aurora, Colorado. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from the University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa. In addition, Mr. Wicks also holds a Master of Health Sciences (MHS) degree from Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth, Texas. Previously serving