

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.

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

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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.

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

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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 Crew 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.

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RECOGNIZING THE OAKTON HIGH  
SCHOOL UPON ITS 40-YEAR ANNIV-  
ERSARY

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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.

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

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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

as Director of the Anesthesia Department at Catawba Valley Medical Center in Hickory, NC, before taking over as National President of the AANA, Mr. Wicks continues his work as a Staff Anesthetist helping provide anesthesia services to residents of the Unifour, a geographic area encompassing Burke, Catawba, Alexander, and Caldwell counties in the western foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, whose population has grown to over 350,000 people.

Mr. Wicks has held numerous leadership positions in the AANA as Regional Director, Vice-President, and President-elect before becoming the National President of the AANA in 2006. In addition, he has served terms as President, President-Elect, and Vice-President, for the North Carolina Association of Nurse Anesthetists (NCANA).

Adding to his professional accomplishments, Mr. Wicks has been recognized for speaking on anesthesia-related topics over the years. He has taken his experience and knowledge from the workplace and AANA leadership roles to lecture on political and academic anesthesia-related topics before different professional groups.

Madam Speaker, I rise to ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing my constituent, the outgoing President of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Mr. Terry Wicks, CRNA, MHS, for his notable career and outstanding achievements.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING GREGG VAN VOLKINBURG FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION II STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP**

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 4, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Gregg Van Volkinburg showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Gregg Van Volkinburg was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Gregg Van Volkinburg always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Gregg Van Volkinburg on winning the Boys' Division II State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

**A TRIBUTE TO VALARIE GOMEZ**

**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. Valarie Gomez of San Gabriel, 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. Gomez as a woman whose extraordinary efforts are vital to my district.

Valarie Gomez was born and raised in the San Gabriel Valley and attended both Marymount College in Rancho Palos Verdes and Loyola Marymount University. There she tackled the formidable combination of double majors in English and Business Administration, as well as double minors in Philosophy and Religious Studies. She and her husband Carlos have three children, including two daughters and one son.

Valarie and Carlos first immersed themselves in the local community by opening Bob's Old Fashioned Freeze in 1983. Children and adults alike would flock to the establishment for the ice cream, the sandwiches, and the friendly owners who helped neighborhood children learn the value of hard work and of a supportive mentor. It was at that time that Valarie learned the importance of showing youth their true potential. Her sweet-toothed patrons have since become responsible community leaders and still keep in touch.

After owning and operating the family business for several years, Valarie turned her attention to community outreach. She rose to Executive Director of Children's Ministries at San Gabriel Union Church and Christian School, founded its After-School Day Care program, served as the Executive Director of the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce, and led the Gabrielino High School Career Partners program. Valarie is also the 2-time past President and current member of the San Gabriel Rotary, is a volunteer for various Kiwanis and Asian Youth Center events, and is a member of the San Gabriel Coordinating Council and the Parks & Recreation Commission.

The 25-year San Gabriel resident recently became the CEO of the West San Gabriel Valley YMCA after only 17 months with the organization. She showed an enterprising attitude from the start and approached challenges with optimism and energy, leading to a doubling in profit compared to the previous year, newly rebuilt community relations, and the largest Service Club department in the nation. It is no wonder, then, that Valarie's generosity, approachability, and efficiency are so highly respected in the San Gabriel community.

Armed with a passion to "make memories that last a lifetime," Valarie is dedicated to empowering others to succeed. Her selfless service to the San Gabriel 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. Valarie Gomez.

**EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR HARRIET ROSS TUBMAN**

**SPEECH OF**

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 1, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the House Congress Resolution 310. Resolution 310 proposes a national day of remembrance for Harriet Ross Tubman, a fearless champion for civil rights.

Harriet Ross Tubman was a pioneer to say the least. For the better part of a decade, Tubman made over 13 trips South to escort more than 300 hundred slaves to freedom. With no regard to her own well being, she sacrificed her own safety, so that countless other slaves could have the opportunity to realize and experience freedom, a right supposedly enshrined in our Constitution. Tubman was not merely a woman of steadfast conviction, principle and determination, but a hero and savior to those people who often had no hope. I am deeply humbled and inspired by her courage and bravery in the face of remarkable adversity.

Harriet Tubman was a woman of unyielding principle, unparalleled courage and sheer grit. Therefore, I stand here today advocating House Congress Resolution 310 supporting the creation of a national day of remembrance for Harriet Tubman, a woman that inspires us all to stand and fight for freedom.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING CHILlicothe HIGH SCHOOL FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE CHILlicothe HIGH SCHOOL'S BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM**

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 4, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

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

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

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

Whereas, the Chillicothe 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 Chillicothe High School on supporting their boys' basketball team in winning the Boys' Division II State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous amount of support they have given to their athletes.

**RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF MR. ROBERT ZERKLE**

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 4, 2008*

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the distinguished career and extensive community involvement of Mr. Robert Zerkle of Mascoutah, Illinois.

Bob served in the Mascoutah School District for 38 years, as a math teacher, business manager and assistant superintendent, before retiring in 2001.

Even after his retirement from the Mascoutah School District, Bob has continued to be a staunch advocate of Impact Aid, the Federal program which provides assistance to