

IN HONOR OF ELEANOR WASSON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today, with my colleagues ANNA ESHOO and DENNIS KUCINICH to honor the memory of an optimistic, vivacious woman whose positive outlook and zeal for life inspired many. Eleanor Wasson, a driving force behind WomenRise for Global Peace, passed away peacefully on April 6, 2008. She was 100 years old.

Miss Wasson grew up in Los Angeles, California and was raised by a loving, supportive family. In her life she was always conscious of the importance of giving back to the community. She devoted her life to fighting for political and social causes in the United States and abroad. Miss Wasson was an active volunteer, working three decades as a coordinator of Volunteer Services for UCLA, and later, creating her own organization. Miss Wasson helped introduce volunteerism to the rest of the world through the creation of International Volunteer Education, which was designed to teach foreign countries to recruit and train large numbers of volunteers.

A feminist ahead of her time, Miss Wasson's activism and longevity was fueled by her uplifting outlook on life. Miss Wasson was noted for the ability to befriend people from all over the world and from diverse walks of life. Her warm heart led her to treat each individual with equal respect and friendliness; noting that having plenty of friends attributed to her own longevity. Above all, she led her life believing in the universal power of love, and that we all had power, providing that every action was motivated by love.

Later in her life, Miss Wasson was drawn to the beauty of California's Central Coast. She moved to Santa Cruz in 1989, where she continued to cultivate her spirit of volunteerism, contributing much to a local environmental organization. EarthSave. There, she continued to make friends and spread her contagious optimism with Santa Cruz locals. Old age could not stop Miss Wasson as she continued her activist lifestyle up until her recent passing. Her memories live on, along with her book "28,000 Martinis and Counting," which details her centenarian life of "living, learning, and loving."

Eleanor is survived by her daughters Joan Smith and Diane Wright; along with numerous beloved family members and friends.

Madam Speaker, I would like to extend our Nation's deep gratitude for Eleanor's service to the United States and her own local community. I know I speak for every Member of Congress in offering our condolences to Joan, Diane and the entire Wasson family for the loss of their beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING TRAVIS GLASGOW FOR WINNING THE OHIO DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Travis Glasgow showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Travis Glasgow was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Travis Glasgow 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 Travis Glasgow on winning the Ohio Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Rollcall votes 192, 199, 200, and 201. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 192, "yea" on rollcall No. 199, "yea" on rollcall No. 200, and "yea" on rollcall No. 201.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 175, 176, 177, 180, and 182 I am not recorded because I was absent due to illness.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING MRS. PINKIE PARKER HARDY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Mrs. Pinkie Parker Hardy. We lost our beloved Mrs. Pinkie Hardy on April 3, 2008. She led a full and vibrant life during her 91 years on this earth, raising a loving family and mentoring many in her church and community.

On May, 19, 1916, Pinkie Parker was born in Washington, Louisiana to Alice White and John Parker. During Pinkie's life, she witnessed many of the Nation's most turbulent and controversial moments. Growing up in the south in the first quarter of the last century, Pinkie was self-educated and she devoted her energies to her community, her family, and her faith. She was a lifelong resident of Eunice, Louisiana.

In 1936, at the age of 20, Pinkie Parker married Herman Joseph Hardy. From this loving union, five sons and two daughters were

born. In 1949, Mrs. Hardy became a parishioner at St. Mathilda Catholic Church. She remained a devout and extremely active member of this parish until she became ill just last year.

Mrs. Hardy contributed immeasurably to the growth and service of St. Mathilda Parish during her life. Bishop Flynn appointed her as the first Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist at St. Mathilda. She also served as Lector and Parish Council President for several years. For 50 years, Mrs. Hardy was an active member of the Knights of Peter Claver (KPC) Council #92. Mrs. Hardy spent 26 of those years serving as the Grand Lady of KPC.

In 1987, Mrs. Hardy was the recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Award from the Diocese of Lafayette. In 2002, she received the Bishop's Medal for devoted service to her church and society.

It is clear that Mrs. Hardy was an indispensable component of her community. She came of age and lived her adult life during the most tumultuous and influential political period in American history. Mrs. Hardy's life exemplifies that of many African-Americans during this century, their struggle for human rights and civic freedom, and their strength and perseverance.

These important men and women are seldom recognized for their greatness. Mrs. Hardy's life is one to be remembered and admired as an example of the true work and inner fortitude that keeps this country together. These individuals dedicated their lives to the service of their God and community in the face of incredible odds. Each and every one of them had a unique story, a special impact, and a loving family. Mrs. Pinkie Parker Hardy was a member of mine.

On a very personal level, Mrs. Hardy was "family" to me. She shared her deep religious faith, her wonderful Creole cooking (especially her gumbo) and her insights as a strong, yet gentle African-American woman with me on several occasions. To know "Mrs. Pinkie" was to love her.

Mrs. Pinkie Parker Hardy will be sorely missed by all those who loved her and were honored to have her kindness and spirit touch their lives. Her memory and legacy will live on through her seven children, five daughters-in-law, 22 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren as well as innumerable relatives and friends.

Today, California's 9th Congressional District salutes and honors Mrs. Pinkie Parker Hardy. We extend our deepest condolences to her family and children. Thank you for sharing her great spirit with so many people over the last century. May her soul rest in peace.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING KERSHAL ZEHNDER FOR WINNING THE OHIO DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Kershal Zehnder showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Kershal Zehnder was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Kershal Zehnder 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 Kershal Zehnder on winning the Ohio Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

QUIANNE HOLMES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

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

The dedication demonstrated by Quianne Holmes 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 Quianne Holmes 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.

JUBILEE ACT FOR RESPONSIBLE LENDING AND EXPANDED DEBT CANCELLATION OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2634) to provide for greater responsibility in lending and expanded cancellation of debts owed to the United States and the international financial institutions by low-income countries, and for other purposes:

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2634, the Jubilee Act. This bill seeks to help those struggling under the most grievous economic circumstances abroad. It reflects a strong bipartisan effort to assist in full debt cancellation for 24 of the world's poorest countries.

Under this bill, introduced by Congresswoman WATERS, debt relief would be extended to countries not currently eligible under the IMF's Heavily Indebted Poor Countries program. Nine of these countries would receive immediate assistance under this act while the remaining countries would have to

meet stringent standards in order to receive the forgiveness.

These standards would ensure countries receiving assistance do not acquire new debt or encourage bad actors within their government. Countries would not be eligible for assistance if they lack transparency in their budget, commit human rights violations, support international terrorism, have excessive levels of military funding, or fail to cooperate on international narcotics control issues. The bill further provides that external financing needs of these countries are met through grants rather than loans to prevent them from falling victim to exploitive lending in the future.

Debt relief for the most severely disadvantaged throughout the world concerns us all as global citizens and numerous constituents in my district have reached out to me expressing their overwhelming support for this compassionate bill. I am proud to be a member of the committee that passed this bill with a favorable recommendation and of this House which has moved this legislation today. H.R. 2634 helps our world's neediest individuals, many of which have suffered under repressive regimes, move forward and use their countries' future capital on important economic growth activities and health care.

JUBILEE ACT FOR RESPONSIBLE LENDING AND EXPANDED DEBT CANCELLATION OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2634) to provide for greater responsibility in lending and expanded cancellation of debts owed to the United States and the international financial institutions by low-income countries, and for other purposes:

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Hastings amendment to H.R. 2634 which expresses the sense of Congress that Haiti's debts should be immediately forgiven. This amendment seeks to empower a nation that has endured a turbulent past and has fought courageously to achieve a relative measure of stability.

As the world has experienced a 40 percent rise in global food prices since mid-2007, Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, has keenly felt this increase on a greater scale. Eighty percent of Haiti's population lives on less than \$2 a day. The cost of staple foods which Haiti's economy depends on, such as rice, beans, fruit, and condensed milk, has gone up 50 percent in the past year.

The high cost of food in Haiti has led to anti-government protests and riots, in which at least 5 people have died and 40 people have been wounded. These extreme reactions to the humanitarian crisis will jeopardize Haiti's security and the capacity of its democratic institutions to govern effectively. To put it simply, Haiti's democracy cannot survive if it is unable to ensure that its people have access to basic food commodities at a reasonable price.

The Hastings amendment reinforces the point that Haiti is scheduled to send

\$48,700,000 in debt payments to multilateral financial institutions in 2008—money that could be better spent on providing for its people.

In light of this devastating global food crisis and the crisis in Haiti, we must urge the Secretary of the Treasury to do all that he can to expedite the complete and immediate cancellation of Haiti's debts to all international financial institutions.

This is a reasonable amendment that responds to an urgent need, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL CRITTENTON FOUNDATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the National Crittenton Foundation, an organization that supports empowerment, self-sufficiency, and an end to cycles of destructive behaviors and relationships for at-risk and system-involved girls, young women and their families.

On this historic occasion, I am particularly honored to recognize the ongoing contribution of one of the leading members of the Foundation's Family of Agencies, DePelchin Children's Center in Houston, which proudly serves my home district and other children and families from across Texas.

DePelchin Children's Center has strong roots in our community. More than 120 years ago, Charles Crittenton, the well-known American philanthropist, visited Houston and inspired a group of local activists to establish one of the country's first maternity homes, a refuge for young unmarried mothers. In response to changing community needs, the Crittenton Home significantly expanded its services over the years, merging with DePelchin Children's Center in 1983.

Recognizing that a child's needs are best met in a family environment, DePelchin Children's Center strives to strengthen the lives of children and families by providing a continuum of services to prevent and resolve social and emotional crises. Each year, the agency provides more than 30 programs for over 26,000 vulnerable children and families each year in multiple locations in Harris, Montgomery, Brazoria, Galveston, Fort Bend and Waller counties. In addition to teen parenting and independent living services, DePelchin offers foster care, adoption, prevention, residential, and an array of other services designed to meet its clients' complex needs.

The unique partnership between DePelchin Children's Center and The National Crittenton Foundation is an additional strength for Houston's children and families. This ongoing collaboration was and is based on Charles Crittenton's and Dr. Kate Waller Barrett's belief that the most effective way to address compelling national social issues was through a network of affiliated independent, local organizations supported by a national body.

I am proud of the work The National Crittenton Foundation and DePelchin Children's Center continue to do on behalf of vulnerable children and families across the state