

HONORING THE LOUISIANA
HONORAIR VETERANS

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a very special group from South Louisiana.

On May 3, 2008 a group of 96 veterans and their guardians will fly to Washington with a very special program. Louisiana HonorAir is providing the opportunity for these veterans from my home state of Louisiana to visit Washington, DC on a chartered flight free of charge. During their visit, they will visit Arlington National Cemetery and the World War II Memorial. For many, this will be their first and only opportunity to see these sights dedicated to the great service they have provided for our nation.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these great Americans and thanking them for their unselfish service.

HONORING JOSE DE ARMAS Y
CARDENAS

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Jose de Armas y Cardenas, a prominent Cuban journalist who wrote under the pseudonym Justo de Lara.

From the time of his birth in 1866 in Guana-bacoa, Cuba, Mr. de Armas y Cardenas was taught the fundamentals of journalism and literature by his parents Jose de Armas y Céspedes, the editor of La Nación newspaper and his mother Fermina de Cardenas, a noted feminist, who founded and was the editor of the Pink Pages newspaper.

After being educated as a lawyer Mr. de Armas y Cardenas began his remarkable and prolific journalistic career at his father's newspaper, La Nación. He then went on to found El Peregrino magazine in Madrid, Spain, and La Avispa magazine in Havana and New York. He also served as a journalist for The New York Sun and New York Herald newspapers. While working for The Sun during Cuban War of Independence and later during the Spanish-American War he became an official translator of conversations between Cuban General Calixto Garcia and U.S. Lt. Colonel Theodore Roosevelt.

But his career as a journalist was not enough to satisfy Mr. de Armas y Cardenas' intellectual curiosity. Mr. de Armas y Cardenas was fluent in Spanish, Italian, French and English. He also became a distinguished Cervantes scholar and in 1916 was the only Spanish-speaking person to be named by the Government of the United Kingdom to be a member of a commission responsible for the celebration of the life and work of William Shakespeare.

Although Mr. de Armas y Cardenas passed away in 1919 he continues to posthumously serve as an example to all true journalists throughout the world. So much so that the

Florida House of Representatives recently honored Mr. de Armas y Cardenas by designating March 28, 2008 as "Spanish Language Journalism Day in Honor of Justo de Lara."

Madam Speaker, I am proud to join my fellow Floridians in honoring Mr. de Armas y Cardenas for being an exemplary model for journalists of calling everywhere.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on a resolution that was passed in the House on April 14, 2008. H. Res. 994 expresses support for designation of a National Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia Awareness Day.

Glanzmann's Thrombasthenia is an inherited, rare bleeding disorder that affects many men, women and children. The disease can present symptoms in these patients ranging from minimal bleeding to life-threatening hemorrhages. This serious disease deserves careful attention within the medical community and I am pleased this resolution brought attention to this issue.

I was regrettably detained from casting my vote, but had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on the resolution.

IN SUPPORT OF GO SKATE-
BOARDING DAY, JUNE 21, 2008

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the International Association of Skateboarding Companies for their work promoting increased participation and safety in skateboarding among children and adults alike. The association, and skaters across the country, will recognize and celebrate National Go Skateboarding Day on June 21, 2008.

Skateboarding, a native sport of my home State of California, continues to attract new riders every day and has grown into a major domestic industry and employer. Today, we see the sport throughout our country. From major metropolitan cities to small heartland towns, we see skateboard shops and skateboard parks creating opportunities for outdoor recreation, at a time when the health and physical activity of our citizens is in crisis.

This truly unique sport has grown up with our younger Americans, and has influenced untold aspects of our culture and society. While once thought of as a sport for the young, many of the top tier skateboarders are now older than many top tier athletes in more traditional sports, proving it is simply a sport for the young at heart.

Anyone who has seen skateboarding in the media or watched a skateboarder perfect their trade knows that it is a sport of intense discipline. As is true with traditional sports, many skateboarders learn larger life lessons from the activity. Persistence, discipline, creativity, individuality, community, risk-taking skills, and

accomplishing one's goals are all important character traits that can carry over into real world success.

Go Skateboarding Day will further promote this worthwhile sport. According to the association, "Go Skateboarding Day, an international event, began in 2004. Each year the holiday grows bigger and better than last. Skateboard parks, skateboard shops, cities and skateboarders plan events such as barbecues, fundraisers, contests, or simply took to the streets."

The work of the International Association of Skateboarding Companies has promoted skateboarding and encouraged young people to enjoy the outdoors and exercise while strengthening their coordination, focus, and cardiovascular health. Skateboarding builds confidence and self-esteem while promoting teamwork and group participation. As a representative in Congress, one of my most important priorities is promoting and maintaining healthy living opportunities, and I thank the International Association of Skateboarding Companies for their efforts toward this important goal.

I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledgement and support of Go Skateboarding Day, this June 21st.

SAGEN BLACKWELL

HON. BOB INGLIS

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. INGLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise to highlight the accomplishments of Sagen Blackwell, a 15-year-old from Woodruff, South Carolina.

In 2006, Sagen visited Walter Reed with her family and saw the sacrifices made by America's heroic servicemembers. She felt called to service, so she started by sending care packages to Walter Reed.

In April 2007, Sagen became President of the South Carolina Society of Children of the American Revolution. For her State project, she chose to raise funds for the Wounded Warrior Project.

So far, Sagen has raised over \$50,000 through a variety of fundraising initiatives, including the Carolinas Challenge Soldier Ride. She has touched the lives of over 500 families. Sagen's service is an example to us all.

She shows us the difference that one person can make, when we answer the call to service that we feel in our hearts. America's future is bright in the hands of a generation of Sagens.

JICARILLA APACHE RESERVATION
CONVEYANCE

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today the House will take one of the final steps in securing a long overdue resolution to a dispute between the Jicarilla Apache Nation and Rio Arriba County in the State of New

Mexico. After 20 years of negotiation and effort, I am pleased that the House is moving this bill forward.

In September of 1988, a parcel of land formerly referred to as the Theis Ranch became part of the Jicarilla Nation Reservation. Since that land transfer, there has been continued dispute between the Jicarilla Nation and the County of Rio Arriba over the ownership of a particular road on this land.

A lawsuit was filed in October of 1987 to determine the ownership status of the disputed road. In the original lawsuit, Rio Arriba County sought to establish that the County acquired the disputed road by prescription and, therefore, that the County was the road's rightful owner. However, the Jicarilla Nation contended that the Nation owned the road because the road was, and continues to be, within the boundaries of the expanded 1988 Jicarilla reservation. On December 10, 2001, the District Court found in favor of the Jicarilla Nation, determining that the disputed road traversed the Jicarilla reservation in several locations. Rio Arriba County appealed the District Court decision, and the appeal is currently pending before the Court of Appeals of the State of New Mexico.

In an effort to settle the road dispute amicably, the Jicarilla Nation and Rio Arriba County entered into mediation, and the parties successfully reached a settlement. Representatives of the Secretary of the Interior approved the settlement on June 18, 2003. The settlement agreement, which would be implemented by this legislation, provides that the Jicarilla Nation will transfer approximately 70.5 acres of land located with the expanded 1988 Jicarilla reservation to Rio Arriba County. In exchange for the Jicarilla Nation's land conveyance, Rio Arriba County agreed to permanently abandon any and all claims to the disputed road. The settlement also provides that the terms of the agreement do not take effect until all parties complete their respective promises in the agreement and the United States, pursuant to federal law, approves of the conveyance of this particular Jicarilla trust land to Rio Arriba County.

I commend both parties and the Secretary of the Interior for having already executed the terms agreed to within the settlement agreement. All that stands between the parties to this dispute and long overdue resolution is Congressional approval.

The legislation we are voting on today upholds Congress' trust responsibility to the Jicarilla Nation by placing restrictive covenants on the trust land transferred to the County. As a result of the transferred land's proximity to the reservation, certain uses of the transferred land would have a detrimental effect on the remaining reservation. Therefore, this legislation allows the County to use the land only for "governmental purposes" and specifically prohibits the County from using the land for prisons, jails, or other incarcerated persons, and other purposes.

In the 109th Congress, this bill received broad support and passed the House by voice vote. Unfortunately, the bill was then held up in the Senate, but the provisions that raised minor objections have been resolved and I expect bicameral support and passage of this long overdue legislation.

The Jicarilla Nation and Rio Arriba County have done their part; they have found a fair solution. Today, the House will do its part. I

urge my colleagues to support passage of this important legislation. Both the Nation and the County have waited years for this agreement to be implemented.

FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1079, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month 2008. It is fitting that in April, the month that our taxes are due, we bring attention to the important issue of financial literacy.

As citizens face their taxes this year, they have also been facing the burden of increased financial difficulties as foreclosure rates soar, health care and energy costs continue to rise, and substantial numbers of jobs are cut. During this time of economic strain, it is especially crucial that consumers become knowledgeable about their own financial situation and that we take steps to ensure our children receive proper financial education to plan for their future.

In my district, groups such as the Indianapolis Asset Building Campaign are working to increase financial literacy in the city, especially among moderate and low income individuals. The campaign was spearheaded by my grandmother, Representative Julia Carson, former Mayor Bart Peterson, Momentive, Purdue Cooperative Extension, Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership, the Boner Center, Junior Achievement, the Internal Revenue Service and the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

It has been proactive in connecting taxpayers with financial literacy information such as free preparation services, tax credit information, the availability of low or no cost savings accounts and predatory lending. These kinds of efforts are critical to stem the cyclical debt low and moderate income individuals frequently become trapped in.

I want to thank Chairman FRANK for bringing light to this issue by holding a hearing in the Financial Services Committee and I want to also note Congressman HINOJOSA's strong leadership in this issue and his dedication to educating consumers on the importance of debt management and asset building.

We must continue working on this issue to help consumers become savvy on the complex financial products we have in the marketplace today and prevent them from becoming dependent on credit or victims of predatory lending.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, April 29, 2008, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall vote 224.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" for rollcall vote 224.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. REBEKAH STIEGLER

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Ms. Rebekah Stiegler, who was nominated to be the 2008 Delaware Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of America and the Reader's Digest have nationally sponsored the Youth of the Year program since 1947. The goal of Youth of the Year has been to recognize outstanding members of the Boys & Girls Club and their contributions to their club, community, school, and family. More than 32,000 youth are served by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware.

Twelve students were nominated for the honor of Youth of the Year through an intensive local and state level selection process, including the nominees' personal contribution to home and family, community, school and their Boys & Girls Club. The nominees had to prepare two essays explaining why post-high school education is important and what the club means to them. Additionally, students had to prepare a 3–5 minute speech and have an interview session with a panel of judges. The candidates attended the Youth of the Year Summit, where they received professional guidance regarding public speaking, writing, and interviewing skills.

After winning the local Youth of the Year award, Rebekah moved onto the state level competition, where she refined her essay and prepared for the next round of interviews. Rebekah was a highly qualified candidate for the Youth of the Year 2008. Rebekah actively participates at her high school, as a band member, Flag Team Captain, and Spanish Club member. At the awards ceremony, Rebekah was awarded with the Demonstrates Best Service to Club Award.

Once again, I would like to commend Rebekah Stiegler for being nominated as the Boys & Girls Club of Delaware's Youth of the Year and being awarded Demonstrates Best Service to Club Award.

IN HONOR OF DR. ROBERT O. COLLINS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Dr. Robert Collins, esteemed author and expert on Africa's Upper Nile Valley, particularly Sudan.

Dr. Collins' expertise in Sudan was a tremendous asset to academia and policymakers alike. First traveling to Sudan in 1956, the year Sudan achieved independence from Great Britain, Dr. Collins spent literally decades traveling in and writing about Sudan and its many wars. I had the honor of knowing Dr. Collins and am deeply saddened by his death.

Dr. Collins' seminal works included *Alms for Jihad*, which he co-authored with J. Millard Burr. This critical analysis details the use of Islamic charities to fund terrorist activity around