

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

the world. It reaches back into history, particularly into Sudan where much of the activities of fundamentalist Islamist groups found their origins, and traces them to the modern-day struggle against extremist forces around the world. We cannot understand the current war on terror, which extends far beyond the terrible events of September 11, without examining this important book by Collins and Burr.

I have attached Dr. Collins' obituary printed in the Los Angeles Times. The loss of this bright mind will be felt acutely by all whose lives Dr. Collins touched with his scholarship. I extend my condolences to his family and friends.

[From the Los Angeles Times, Apr. 25, 2008]

ROBERT O. COLLINS, 75; UC SCHOLAR'S BIN
LADEN BOOK WAS WITHDRAWN BY PUBLISHER
(By Jocelyn Y. Stewart)

In a career devoted to the study of Africa's Upper Nile Valley, particularly Sudan, historian Robert O. Collins wrote books and articles that were considered required reading for scholars and students of Africa.

The U.S. government sought his insight on the conflict in Darfur and on Osama bin Laden. Hollywood filmmakers asked his advice in depicting the region on screen. A former president of Sudan presented Collins with a distinguished award for scholarship.

But when Collins and a colleague wrote the 2006 book "Alms for Jihad: Charity and Terrorism in the Islamic World," the two historians found themselves in the middle of what the New York Times called an international cause celebre.

To avoid a defamation lawsuit in British courts—where the burden of proof is on the defendant—the publisher of "Alms" apologized to a wealthy Saudi mentioned in the book, Sheikh Khalid bin Mahfouz, and paid a settlement. The publisher, Cambridge University Press, also destroyed all unsold copies of "Alms," an act of pure heresy to Collins and other scholars.

Until his death from cancer in Santa Barbara on April 11, the 75-year-old Collins maintained that he and J. Millard Burr had written a good book that deserved to exist. "The Shaykh can burn the books in Britain, but he cannot prevent the recovery of the copyright by the authors nor their search for a U.S. publisher to reprint a new edition of 'Alms for Jihad,'" Collins said in an essay posted online at George Mason University's History News Network.

The "Alms" debacle was a rare incident in the life of the professor emeritus who was a preeminent scholar in his field.

Robert Oakley Collins was born in Waukegan, Ill., on April 1, 1933. His interest in Africa was ignited while browsing the library at Dartmouth University in the 1950s.

He found the Africa area and he just became enthralled," said his daughter, Catharine Collins Kristian. "At the time, it was an emerging area. All the colonial countries were either leaving or talking about granting independence."

Collins traveled to Sudan in 1956, the year the country gained independence. It was the first of many trips and the beginning of a lifelong relationship with the nation, Kristian said.

After earning a bachelor's degree from Dartmouth in 1954, Collins earned many other degrees in history: bachelor's and master's degrees from Oxford University's Balliol College in 1956 and 1960, as well as a master's degree and a doctorate from Yale University in 1958 and 1959. He was fluent in Arabic.

Collins taught for brief periods at Williams College in Massachusetts and at Columbia University in New York before joining the faculty of UC Santa Barbara in 1965.

For 10 years Collins served as dean of the graduate division. After his retirement in 1994 he continued to teach, write and mentor. With his doctoral students he was demanding, affable and always available.

"He wanted us to have a holistic understanding of African history from the beginning of times to modern times. And he was tough," said Scopas S. Poggo, a native of Sudan who is now an assistant professor of African American and African studies at Ohio State University.

Collins wrote or co-wrote at least 30 books and many articles. His book "Shadows in the Grass: Britain in the Southern Sudan, 1918-1956" won the John Ben Snow Foundation Prize for the best book in British studies in 1984.

An eloquent public speaker, Collins brought strong storytelling skills to his writing, melding them with meticulous research. "Alms" was also thoroughly researched, "our interpretations judicious, our conclusions made in good faith on the available evidence," Collins wrote in his online essay.

But "Alms" may be on the shelf again with a new publisher, Kristian said. Collins' book "A History of Modern Sudan" is scheduled for release in May. The book traces Sudan's history over 200 years and reveals the link between tragedies of today and events of the past.

"I wish all of his books could be reprinted," Poggo said. "He has made very significant contributions to the history of southern Sudan. He left a very strong legacy."

In addition to his daughter, Collins is survived by two sons, Randolph William Collins of Healdsburg, Calif., and Robert Ware Collins of San Jose; two brothers, Jack Gore Collins of Portland, Ore., and George William Collins II of Chesterland, Ohio; and five grandchildren.

There will be no public memorial service. Memorial donations may be sent to the Sudan-American Foundation for Education (SAFE), 141 N. Henderson Road, No. 1205, Arlington, VA 22203.

HONORING LEWIS CHAPPELEAR

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commend and congratulate an outstanding California teacher, Lewis Chappellear, for being named a finalist for the National Teacher of the Year award.

Mr. Chappellear is an accomplished scholar, receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in biomedical engineering from Boston University in 1994, a Master of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Columbia University in 1995, and a California Clear Teaching Credential in math, physics, and electronics in 2001. He received a National Board Certification in 2005. Highly praised by both his students and the community, he has received several awards including: Los Angeles Unified School District, LAUSD, Teacher of the Year, Los Angeles County Teacher of the Year, and California Teacher of the Year, and is California's nominee for the National Teacher of the Year Award.

Most importantly, Mr. Chappellear is a renowned teacher. He developed Monroe's School of Engineering and Design—an extremely successful hands-on learning environ-

ment which has received several prestigious awards. The school's mission is to prepare students for high-tech jobs by placing students in internships through collaboration with local organizations and businesses. Students work on projects related to careers in engineering and jobs skills such as how to write a resume or business letter. He encourages learning by incorporating the most recent computer software and technology into his classroom lectures in a way that inspires all of his students.

Realizing that robotics is one of the most effective ways to teach science and math, Mr. Chappellear has recruited and trained teachers from all over California to begin similar robotics programs. In 2007, his students took first place in a regional robotics championship held at California State University, Northridge.

Mr. Chappellear's work extends beyond the classroom. After noticing that students in his classes were having problems with drugs and alcohol, he facilitated groups to help students during his breaks. He considers himself an important part of the community: His students are his family. His philosophy on teaching is to make emotional connections with each student and to make their learning relevant. He believes that everything in the classroom should be interdisciplinary. In his words, "I am not just an Engineering and Design teacher * * * I am also a mentor, a guide and a critical link in my students' lives." He feels that student achievement is based in rigor, relevance and relationships.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Lewis Chappellear as a finalist for the National Teacher of the Year award. I am truly honored to pay tribute to this outstanding teacher.

HONORING MRS. DEBORAH ROZANSKI

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Deborah Rozanski on the occasion of her retirement. Mrs. Rozanski has served as a New Jersey public school teacher for 34 years. She has dedicated herself to the Audubon School District for the past 29 years, enriching the lives of countless students. In addition, Mrs. Rozanski deserves to be commended for her dedication over the past 28 years as an advisor to the Audubon Safety Patrol, as a student council advisor, and as a representative on the instructional council.

Beyond the classroom, Mrs. Rozanski is also an advocate for the protection of our environment. Mrs. Rozanski has organized the planting of many trees on the Mansion Avenue School campus, which add to the beauty of the school and the surrounding community.

Madam Speaker, the devotion that Mrs. Rozanski has shown to her work and to the community is truly praiseworthy. I want to thank Mrs. Rozanski for her tireless effort as a teacher and wish her the best of luck upon her retirement.