

In *Loving v. Virginia*, Warren wrote that miscegenation laws violated the Constitution's equal protection clause. "We have consistently denied the constitutionality of measures which restrict the rights of citizens on account of race," he said.

By their own widely reported accounts, Mrs. Loving and her husband, Richard, were in bed in their modest house in Central Point in the early morning of July 11, 1958, five weeks after their wedding, when the county sheriff and two deputies, acting on an anonymous tip, burst into their bedroom and shined flashlights in their eyes. A threatening voice demanded, "Who is this woman you're sleeping with?"

Mrs. Loving answered, "I'm his wife."

Mr. Loving pointed to the couple's marriage certificate hung on the bedroom wall. The sheriff responded, "That's no good here."

The certificate was from Washington, D.C., and under Virginia law, a marriage between people of different races performed outside Virginia was as invalid as one done in Virginia. At the time, it was one of 16 states that barred marriages between races.

After Mr. Loving spent a night in jail and his wife several more, the couple pleaded guilty to violating the Virginia law, the Racial Integrity Act. Under a plea bargain, their one-year prison sentences were suspended on the condition that they leave Virginia and not return together or at the same time for 25 years.

Judge Leon M. Bazile, in language Chief Justice Warren would recall, said that if God had meant for whites and blacks to mix, he would have not placed them on different continents. Judge Bazile reminded the defendants that "as long as you live you will be known as a felon."

They paid court fees of \$36.29 each, moved to Washington and had three children. They returned home occasionally, never together. But times were tough financially, and the Lovings missed family, friends and their easy country lifestyle in the rolling Virginia hills.

By 1963, Mrs. Loving could stand the ostracism no longer. Inspired by the civil rights movement and its march on Washington, she wrote Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and asked for help. He wrote her back, and referred her to the American Civil Liberties Union.

The A.C.L.U. took the case. Its lawyers, Bernard S. Cohen and Philip J. Hirschkop, faced an immediate problem: the Lovings had pleaded guilty and had no right to appeal. So they asked Judge Bazile to set aside his original verdict. When he refused, they appealed. The Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals upheld the lower court, and the case went to the United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Cohen recounted telling Mr. Loving about various legal theories applying to the case. Mr. Loving replied, "Mr. Cohen, tell the court I love my wife, and it is just unfair that I can't live with her in Virginia."

Mildred Delores Jeter's family had lived in Caroline County, Va., for generations, as had the family of Richard Perry Loving. The area was known for friendly relations between races, even though marriages were forbidden. Many people were visibly of mixed race, with *Ebony* magazine reporting in 1967 that black "youngsters easily passed for white in neighboring towns."

Mildred's mother was part Rappahannock Indian, and her father was part Cherokee. She preferred to think of herself as Indian rather than black.

Mildred and Richard began spending time together when he was a rugged-looking 17 and she was a skinny 11-year-old known as Bean. He attended an all-white high school for a year, and she reached 11th grade at an all-black school.

When Mildred became pregnant at 18, they decided to do what was elsewhere deemed the right thing and get married. They both said their initial motive was not to challenge Virginia law.

"We have thought about other people," Mr. Loving said in an interview with *Life* magazine in 1966, "but we are not doing it just because somebody had to do it and we wanted to be the ones. We are doing it for us."

In his classic study of segregation, "An American Dilemma," Gunnar Myrdal wrote that "the whole system of segregation and discrimination is designed to prevent eventual inbreeding of the races."

But miscegenation laws struck deeper than other segregation acts, and the theory behind them leads to chaos in other facets of law. This is because they make any affected marriage void from its inception. Thus, all children are illegitimate; spouses have no inheritance rights; and heirs cannot receive death benefits.

"When any society says that I cannot marry a certain person, that society has cut off a segment of my freedom," the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said in 1958.

Virginia's law had been on the books since 1662, adopted a year after Maryland enacted the first such statute. At one time or another, 38 states had miscegenation laws. State and federal courts consistently upheld the prohibitions, until 1948, when the California Supreme Court overturned California's law.

Though the Supreme Court's 1967 decision in the *Loving* case struck down miscegenation laws, Southern states were sometimes slow to change their constitutions; Alabama became the last state to do so, in 2000.

Mr. Loving died in a car accident in 1975, and the Lovings' son Donald died in 2000. In addition to her daughter, Peggy Fortune, who lives in Milford, Va., Mrs. Loving is survived by her son, Sidney, of Tappahannock, Va.; eight grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Loving stopped giving interviews, but last year issued a statement on the 40th anniversary of the announcement of the Supreme Court ruling, urging that gay men and lesbians be allowed to marry.

#### IN HONOR OF COACH PHILIP LEVY

#### HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. PICKERING. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Coach Philip Levy, as he leaves the Veritas School to pursue his law degree at the University of Mississippi. At the Veritas School, Philip taught both Latin and humanities while also serving as a coach.

Philip Levy grew up in Jackson and has served as head soccer coach at the Veritas School for a year now. He coached both the high school boys and girls soccer teams. This year, he led the girls' team all the way to the State Championship. In his athletes, he built character, leadership, sportsmanship, and teamwork; in the classroom he trained his students to seek truth. The entire Veritas School is thankful for Philip's invaluable example that he provided to all of his students and athletes.

Madam Speaker, I hope the Congress joins me in paying tribute to Coach Philip Levy for his leadership and for serving as a role model. He has touched the lives of many young students, and I know they will be forever grateful. I wish him well in Ole Miss Law School and

know that he will be successful in his future endeavors.

#### SENSE OF HOUSE OF ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL TEACHER DAY

SPEECH OF

#### HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 952, to honor and recognize our Nation's teachers. I want to thank my colleague and good friend, Congressman RON KLEIN for sponsoring this resolution. Today marks the beginning of National Teacher Appreciation Week, but America's teachers deserve more than a week of recognition for their investment in our country's most precious resource, our children.

Too often teachers are overworked and underpaid. They spend long hours in the classroom, many hours after the school day coaching our kids and leading their extracurricular groups, and then go home to spend more time grading papers. They invest their own lives in the lives of our children, and every day they empower young people with the knowledge and tools they need to be successful and confident. America's future is in the hands of our children, and we owe our teachers a universe of thanks for their hard work.

#### RECOGNIZING THE BUCKHEAD COALITION'S INITIATIVE TO EQUIP PHARMACIES WITH BACKUP POWER GENERATORS TO BE USED IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY

#### HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Buckhead Coalition of Atlanta, Georgia, for its innovative program to ensure that Atlanta residents are able to access prescription medications in the event of a disaster or power outage. Buckhead Coalition is a nonprofit organization of chief executive officers, business owners and community leaders representing part of the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia. Led by its president and my good friend, former Atlanta Mayor Sam Massell, the Buckhead Coalition is advancing a plan to equip pharmacies and drug stores with backup power generators to ensure that people are able to have access to their medications in the event of a disaster, either natural or manmade.

One of the lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina's devastation of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast was the necessity for emergency generators in pharmacies. In today's business environment, pharmacies cannot operate without working computers, refrigerators and other electrical equipment. In the Buckhead area, of the twenty-two pharmacies, now only four do not have emergency generators. According to the American Pharmaceutical Association, the

pharmacies of Buckhead provide prescription medications to more than 32,000 of the neighborhood's 70,000 residents. An estimated 6,500 of these medications are dispensed on a daily basis, with many of them being time-sensitive medications for senior citizens.

In order to prevent a potential disaster, the Buckhead Coalition, in conjunction with Home Depot and Georgia Power, has created a subsidy to cover up to seventy-five percent of the cost for purchasing a generator. This subsidy significantly reduces the barriers of cost, making it much easier and more affordable for these pharmacies to be equipped with these possibly life-saving generators.

I commend the Buckhead Coalition, Home Depot and Georgia Power for coming together to provide this opportunity, this safety net, for my community. I encourage other communities to emulate this plan.

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INTRODUCING THE U.S. COMMISSION ON REBUILDING AMERICA FOR THE 21ST CENTURY ACT

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the United States Commission on Rebuilding America for the 21st Century Act. The challenges of the 21st century require a renewed national focus on the infrastructure that is essential to our cities, our rural communities, our economy, and the health of our planet. We have neglected the foundations of America's communities, threatening our environment and our future economic prosperity.

This Act will provide a mechanism for Congress to reach out to the American people and develop a national vision to guide infrastructure investment for the twenty-first century. The legislation creates a commission of 17 members appointed by Congress, the Administration, and State and local governments, to synthesize existing reports to identify challenges and needs; to commence a thorough set of public hearings on infrastructure conducted in not fewer than 50 Congressional districts across the United States to ensure geographic and demographic representation; and to articulate a national vision for infrastructure investments.

Those challenges are both myriad and significant. Consider:

To avoid the worst effects of climate change, we must greatly reduce our carbon emissions. Transportation is the second largest—and fastest growing—source of U.S. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Personal vehicle use accounts for nearly 60 percent of these emissions.

The National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission recently calculated that maintaining our existing transportation system over the next 50 years will require \$225 billion annually.

The American Society of Civil Engineers has given our nation's public infrastructure—water, sewer, and transportation systems—a grade of D-minus, estimating that it will cost \$1.6 trillion over the next 5 years merely to repair our existing infrastructure.

More than 72,000 miles of municipal water and sewer pipe are more than 80 years old,

threatening the health, environment, and economy of communities large and small.

From 1999 to 2009, the Nation's electricity demand rose nearly 20 percent while our transmission capacity grew only 3.5 percent.

By 2050, we will build 89 million new or replaced homes as well as 190 billion square feet of new offices and other non-residential buildings. Strategic development choices could reduce total transportation-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 7 to 10 percent.

The American people, it should be noted, have met similar challenges in the past. This year marks the bicentennial of the Gallatin Plan, crafted by President Jefferson's Secretary of the Treasury, Albert Gallatin, to develop the infrastructure needed by our new nation. One hundred years later, President Theodore Roosevelt invited every state and territorial governor to join members of his Cabinet and Congress, professional organizations, and government bureaus in a National Conference at the White House to plan for the infrastructure needs for the 20th century. Today, a new national vision and plan is necessary to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

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IN APPRECIATION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR TEACHERS

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, this week we celebrate National Teacher Appreciation Week. It is a time for us to recognize the teachers who are working hard today to prepare students for the future, and the teachers who helped each of us become who we are. As a former teacher, I feel strongly about the work that today's teachers are doing. Beyond the rhetoric of "failing schools" there is a reality in which teachers in classrooms across the country are doing incredible work, with difficult students and limited resources. Many of these teachers are devoting extra hours to help struggling students, to learn new teaching techniques, and to develop innovative strategies and programs to improve student learning, and using their personal financial resources to acquire needed supplies and equipment.

There is no doubt that teachers are the core of our education system. As much as researchers and policymakers debate the values of standards and assessment and incentives and reform, education occurs in a classroom, and consists of an interaction between a teacher and his or her students. Good policy will help these teachers and support them in their work. America's teachers provide instruction in academic subjects, such as English, Math, Science, History, and PE, but they also teach social-behavioral skills, and look out for their students' health and well-being. Good teachers do not just teach a subject, they teach the whole child.

Today's teachers face a unique set of challenges in providing students with the knowledge and skills they will need to be successful in tomorrow's workforce. To be competitive, our students need much more than they did just a decade ago. They now need advanced technology skills and a solid understanding of

science. That is why I will soon be introducing legislation to improve the coordination of the Federal science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education efforts, helping foster cooperation between the States and Federal agencies.

As a Member of the House Appropriations Committee, one of my highest priorities is increasing funding for Federal education programs that will ease the burden on States and localities to provide vital education services. We need to give our teachers more than an apple. They need well-equipped classrooms, instructional materials, and up-to-date facilities. They need smaller classes, a diverse curriculum, time to prepare, and adequate compensation. When budgets are tight, teachers are often expected to accomplish the same goals, but without sufficient help. We must increase funding for education.

I would also like to take this opportunity to publicly congratulate Mrs. Dawn O'Connor, who hails from California's 15th District, for receiving the 2008 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching. Since 1983, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching have honored outstanding kindergarten through 12th grade mathematics and science teachers for their contributions in the classroom and to their profession. I am honored to recognize Mrs. O'Connor as a recipient of the Presidential Award, the highest recognition that a mathematics or science teacher can receive. Mrs. O'Connor teaches seventh grade biology at Ascension Solarsano Middle School in the Gilroy Unified School District. Mrs. O'Connor and I had the pleasure of meeting last week during her visit to Washington, DC, and I was extremely impressed by her accomplishments.

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THE DAILY 45: D.C. RESIDENT MURDERED ON SCHOOL STEPS

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, every day, somewhere in America, an average of 45 people are shot and killed at the hands of a gun-wielding assailant. This senseless loss of life comes in all shapes, sizes, colors and zip codes.

On March 12, 2008, 23-year-old Anthony Maddox, of Washington, DC, was killed on the steps outside Truesdell Elementary School when small children were still inside. Fortunately, no children were harmed but they were surely traumatized by the fact that a man from their neighborhood, casually socializing with neighbors on a balmy spring night, suddenly lost his life at the hands of a gun.

In the words of the late revolutionary patriot, Thomas Paine, "these are the times that try men's souls." These times require action, right now, from men and women like me who are determined to stop the carnage.

We must stop the senseless murders of "The Daily 45." When will Americans say "enough is enough, stop the killing!"