

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PINELLAS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY DEDICATES 100TH ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA HOUSE

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, The volunteer spirit is alive and well in our nation and it remains one of our country's core values. Habitat for Humanity is one of the programs that capture that spirit by helping our neighbors in need to achieve the great American dream of home ownership.

Pinellas Habitat for Humanity, the chapter I have the privilege to represent, achieved a milestone last November when it dedicated its 100th St. Petersburg, Florida house. Executive Barbara Inman and her entire staff, her Board of Directors, her Advisory Board, and her volunteer team are to be congratulated on their work even during these most difficult economic times to bring affordable housing to our community.

Norm Bungard, one of St. Petersburg's greatest volunteers and champions of Habitat for Humanity, told me that the program typifies the values of a successful society. These include hard work, which is exemplified by the thousands of hours of sweat equity by volunteers and the new homeowners; community involvement, witnessed by the long list of volunteers who help build and finish the homes; government involvement, evidenced by the city's land donations for the homes; corporate and church sponsorship; and common sense business practices that are the result of countless seminars that ensure owners stay in their homes.

Madam Speaker, the spirit of giving, the commitment to hard work, and the joy of homeownership were all evident as Cynthia Ivey and her daughter Chauncey were given the keys to their first home. This was the result of the Habitat for Humanity network of Pinellas staff, volunteers, and community and corporate sponsors. Join me in congratulating all those who made this such a special milestone day for such a special cause.

HONORING DR. MARY ELLEN
BENZIK OF BATTLE CREEK

HON. MARK H. SCHAUER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Mr. SCHAUER. Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor today one of Michigan's finest healthcare professionals, Dr. Mary Ellen Benzik of Battle Creek. Dr. Benzik has been a dedicated member of the healthcare community for over two decades and has served our state with honor and distinction. She has shown extraordinary devotion as an Outstanding Volunteer Teacher and Volunteer

Physician, and her efforts have been recognized by the Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies as well as Calhoun County. Dr. Benzik has promoted clean air for our county and state as a member of the Calhoun County Cancer Control Coalition, and has served on the Battle Creek Community Foundation to supervise healthcare initiatives and funding for our community. She has done all of this as a loving partner with her husband, David, and mother to her two children, Matthew and Elizabeth. Doctor Benzik is a model of community service and well deserves our respect and appreciation for her service.

HONORING MORRIS HONICK

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of an American hero whose service began around the time of the fall of the Nazi Third Reich and lasted until the time that cracks began to appear in the Berlin Wall before it too, fell. That man is Mr. Morris Honick.

Mr. Honick's military career began in a critical time in the history of the World War Two in the West, the Battle of the Atlantic, when the German submarine fleet threatened to strangle American efforts to keep England free. A member of the U.S. Army Air Forces, Mr. Honick served aboard a convoy bound for Liverpool from New York as U-boats stalked them throughout the 17-day crossing, losing 22 of 62 ships but maintaining the Atlantic Alliance.

Mr. Honick continued to serve with the USAAF throughout the Second World War and later with the newly established U.S. Air Force in Korea as well.

After successfully competing for a position at SHAPE, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Mr. Honick quickly stood out, being promoted to Chief of the Historical Section.

The saying is that those who do not remember history are condemned to repeat it and nowhere is there more at stake in remembering history than in military affairs. Mr. Honick, through his writing helped make sure that history would not be forgotten, having written extensively on the history of SHAPE and on NATO-SHAPE affairs. Mr. Honick was also the Command Historian, a key policy function for the NATO Supreme Commander.

Mr. Honick had the distinction of being, at the time of his retirement in 1989, the longest serving member of the staff of SHAPE.

For his service, Mr. Honick was awarded the Efficiency, Honor, Fidelity Medal, with three clasps; the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, with Anti-Submarine Campaign Battle Star; the World War II Victory Medal; and the National Defense Service Medal.

For his courage, for his long service to our nation and our alliances, I ask my colleagues

to join me in honoring Mr. Morris Honick and all war heroes of the past, present, and future.

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SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise and join all Americans of good will in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the NAACP.

Others will recall that fate-filled day, February 12, 1909, when 60 prominent Americans, black and white alike, issued "The Call" for a national conference to renew "the struggle for civil and political liberty." They also will reflect upon how, back in 1909, this country was unfair to people of color and, especially for African American men, a very dangerous place.

The organization's founders, however, were people of deep integrity. They created an organization dedicated to achieving social justice, ending racial violence, abolishing forced segregation and promoting equal opportunity and other civil rights under the protection of law.

My gratitude to the NAACP is personal, as well as philosophical. The NAACP—and the movement that its founders created 100 years ago today—transformed my life.

I shall never forget how Juanita Jackson Mitchell and the Baltimore Branch of the NAACP stood up for us as we marched to integrate South Baltimore's Riverside Swimming Pool. It was then that I realized, for the first time in my young life, that I had rights that other people had to respect.

Nor shall I forget how a young Thurgood Marshall (who once lived just blocks from where I live today) convinced a Baltimore judge to integrate the University of Maryland School of Law. My law degree and all that I have been able to accomplish in my professional and public life are living testaments to the value of that achievement.

Moreover, as long as I shall live and be privileged to serve the people of Maryland's 7th Congressional District, I shall remember that our community—that also gave America former Congressmen Parren J. Mitchell and Kweisi Mfume—now serves as the national home of the NAACP.

So it is with deep appreciation and respect that I join millions of my countrymen and women in applauding the NAACP and pledging our continued support in the days and years ahead.

I do so at a historic moment when we have come together to elect a gifted African American to the highest office in the land. Yet, even as we celebrate this victory of competence and conscience, America remains a dangerous and unfair place for far too many of our neighbors, whatever may be the color of their skin.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Like W.E.B. DuBois and the other founders back in 1909, we, too, must answer the call. In our own time, we must continue the work of creating a better, more unified nation—an America that will truly assure liberty, justice and opportunity for all.

We, too, have a legacy of justice and opportunity to create—for our children and for the generations of Americans yet to be born.

HONORING THE NAACP ON ITS
100TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the 100th anniversary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP. Today, February 12, 2009, marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the NAACP and the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. For a Nation that is less than 250 years old, the centennial of the NAACP is a major milestone.

I shudder to imagine what this country would look like if our history did not include the stories and struggles of people like Frederick Douglass, Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., our own Representative JOHN LEWIS, and many countless others who have fought and continue to fight for equal rights and equal opportunity.

The NAACP's roots date back to the "Niagra Movement" of 1905 when thirty-two prominent African Americans met to organize and call for the end of racial inequality. A forceful agent for change, the NAACP was the leading party behind many accomplishments of the Civil Rights Movement, including the landmark case *Brown v. the Board of Education* which ended racial segregation in our schools.

The Niagra and Civil Rights Movements were not the first calls for freedom and equality in our nation's history and will not be the last. But their success provided a blueprint for future generations to follow, an example of hope to all those who seek to secure the basic freedoms guaranteed by our Constitution.

Today, the NAACP continues to cement its reputation as a trailblazer for basic civil and human rights. Led by its young new president, Benjamin Jealous, the NAACP has refocused its objectives on resolving wide disparities in access to jobs and healthcare among Americans. During the next 100 years, I have no doubt that the NAACP will lead many more breakthroughs in civil and human rights.

This anniversary gives all Americans an opportunity to recognize and learn about African-American history, which is also the history of the United States. I am proud to do my part to promote and honor the contributions made by the NAACP and the African American community to our great Nation.

HONORING JOHN D. DINGELL FOR
HOLDING THE RECORD AS THE
LONGEST SERVING MEMBER OF
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
TIVES

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as do so many, to honor JOHN DINGELL as he achieves a great milestone: our longest-serving House member.

In December 1955, at the age of 29, JOHN won a special election to replace his father. 19,420 days later, we honor him and his spectacular record in serving the people of the United States and of his Michigan district.

In December 1955—just to give you a sense of the eras, then and now—Rosa Parks took a stand by refusing to give up her seat on a bus home from work in Montgomery, Alabama.

Today, as we honor JOHN, we have an African-American President.

People make change—and JOHN DINGELL has made more than his share.

As Chairman, now Chairman Emeritus, of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, he has carried perhaps the broadest portfolio of any House member in history, from energy, trade and telecommunications to Medicare, Medicaid, consumer protection and government oversight and investigations—Energy and Commerce handled up to 40% of all House legislation in some sessions.

An avid outdoorsman and former forest ranger, JOHN was an "environmentalist" before the word "environmentalist" existed.

He was instrumental in the passage of some of our nation's most important environmental laws, including the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the 1990 Clean Air Act.

And JOHN almost single-handedly has created the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, which began in 2001 with some 400 acres and has grown since then to encompass over 4,000 acres from River Rouge to Lake Erie.

He has been steadfast in supporting health care for all Americans. Each Congress, he sponsors a national health insurance plan—picking up the baton from his father who first introduced it in 1943. He fought for the Patient's Bill of Rights and the Children's Health Insurance Program. And he was the presiding officer as this House passed Medicare in 1965.

Together, JOHN and I worked on identifying the persistence of the "glass ceiling" which limits the advancement of women in the workplace.

JOHN could not have known in 1955 the changes he would see, and the change he would make, as a member of this body. It has been a career of accomplishment—but now, also, it is a career of longevity.

Martin Luther King once said "It is the quality, not the longevity of one's life that is important." But JOHN DINGELL has had BOTH quality and longevity. May he keep up the great work.

JOHN, please accept my humble congratulations and extend my love to Debbie and your family.

PRODUCED WATER UTILIZATION
ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 469—the Produced Water Utilization Act of 2009—introduced by the Ranking Member of the Science Committee, Mr. HALL of Texas. I want to thank Mr. HALL for constructing this thoughtful legislation and for the constant leadership he has provided to both Energy and Commerce Committee and the Science Committee.

Produced water is comprised mainly of salty water that is trapped in reservoir rock below ground. It comes to the surface when drilling for oil or natural gas and usually contains oil and metals from production. Approximately 10 barrels of produced water are captured for every barrel of oil derived, and that results in a total of 15–20 billion barrels of produced water generated here in the United States on an annual basis.

Mr. Speaker, as the population of the United States continues to grow, additional potable water supplies will be required to sustain individuals, agriculture, and industry all over the country. H.R. 469 represents an innovative way in which we can utilize the produced water resources that would otherwise go to waste.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation directs the Secretary of Energy to establish a program for research and development to harvest produced water in an environmentally safe way for irrigation, municipal, and industrial purposes. Once this program is established, we can help address the droughts that are occurring across the country—including in my Northwest Georgia district—simply by providing the public with additional water resources.

Mr. Speaker, I have to commend my colleague from Texas on his leadership on this issue and working in a bipartisan manner to bring it to the floor today.

I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 469.

RECOGNIZING THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICANS TO JOIN THE BALTIMORE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, Black History Month allows this nation to pay homage to pioneering African Americans who have enriched our lives through their leadership and courage. Citizens across the globe are familiar with the legacies of Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, and now President Barack Obama. However, today I rise to recognize some lesser known, but equally important figures in history: the 41 African American males that integrated the Baltimore City Fire Department in the early 1950's.

On June 19, 1953, the Board of Fire Commissioners voted to hire "Colored" firemen. In