

HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER STENY H. HOYER'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 13, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from House Majority Leader STENY H. HOYER in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009:

I want to offer my deepest sympathy to all those in American Samoa and Samoa who lost loved ones in this terrible tragedy. We are all saddened by the loss of life and the scope of damage done. Our thoughts are with Eni Faleomavaega, American Samoa's delegate to the House of Representatives, and we will keep him and everyone affected in our prayers.

CHAIRMAN HOWARD L. BERMAN'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

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*Tuesday, October 13, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Chairman HOWARD L. BERMAN of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009:

I want to express my deepest condolences to the people of American Samoa and Samoa who have suffered great losses from the tsunami that swept the islands. The losses are staggering. The sympathy of the Foreign Affairs Committee is with our good friend and the chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment, Eni Faleomavaega, the delegate from American Samoa. We commend him for his efforts and extend our fullest support during this trying time.

RECOGNIZING SUSAN ANN (LISTON) SKERBISH FOR HER SERVICE TO THE FIRST DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

**HON. PAUL RYAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 13, 2009*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mrs. Susan Ann (Liston) Skerbish, Wisconsin's First Congressional District Constituent Services Representative.

I have been fortunate to work with staff whose attitude and outlook are positive. But Susie's sweet nature stands out. She joined my office fresh out of college as an idealistic young woman dedicated to the cause of freedom and the desire to help make our society a better place. Susie's winsome smile has al-

ways brought sunshine to our office, uplifting morale on the busiest and most difficult days.

By now she has assisted hundreds of religious and nonprofit organizations to secure the grants to help fulfill their social mission, as well as local governments to receive the share of federal resources to which they are entitled. Her contribution to the well-being of Wisconsinites has been tremendous.

In the time since she came to my office, Susie became a loving wife and has recently become a new mom. With her sweet nature and great attitude, all of us in the First District offices feel like part of her family.

I am pleased to recognize Susie's 10 years of service to Wisconsinites in the First District.

TRIBUTE TO NEW A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 13, 2009*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding religious institution, New A.M.E. Zion Church in Paterson, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 60th Anniversary of dedicated service to its parishioners, and by extension, the greater community.

It is only fitting that New A.M.E. Zion Church be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, for the spiritual home it has provided to American families, and its dedication to the entire community that helps keep this deeply rooted congregation growing towards the future.

The New A.M.E. Zion Church was organized at the home of Mrs. Augusta McCormick, on Fair Street in Paterson in May 1949. The first service as a Church was held on the first Sunday of June 1949 with 69 members. The Rev. Frank Thomas Roberts was founder of the Church, and he inspired the members to make it into a thriving faith community. With the financial support of Mr. John Spencer, Mrs. Florence Spencer, Mr. Robert Robertson, and Mrs. Elnora Tourse, a building located at 140 Lawrence Place was purchased to serve as a place of worship.

Rev. Roberts served as pastor until he was reassigned, and Rev. M.R. Cuthbertson was the second pastor. He brought many young people into the Church. He was followed by Rev. J.O. Fountain, and the Rev. Wesley Brown, who began in 1957. Numerous new programs were started and the first organ was purchased in addition to the first parsonage. Rev. Brown organized a building fund, but instead of building a church they purchased the former Holy Cross Polish National Church, at 153 Lawrence Place. This has been the home of New A.M.E. Zion since 1965. The first service was held there in May and Presiding Bishop William H. Smith formally dedicated it in December of that year. Rev. Brown served until his health declined and Rev. Wallace Lee was assigned. The Church continued to prosper under his leadership. The next pastor was Rev. Dr. Albert J. White, who was assigned in 1976. During his 24 years as pastor, membership grew and many capital improvements were made. A food pantry was started, as well as a summer free lunch program for children in the community and outreach programs for

the youth and their families. When Dr. White retired, Rev. Wayne Harris was assigned for a few months, until Rev. Robert C. Russell, who currently still serves as pastor, was assigned.

The New A.M.E. Zion Church currently has many ministries, including Music, Prayer Band, Youth, Health Awareness, Food Pantry, and Van Transportation. Scholarship Fund Committee, Summer Reading, Sunday School, Prayer Meeting, Bible Study and Christian Development are all offered.

Each of the pastors, with the assistance of the other ministers, bishops, and presiding elders as well as the membership, has helped to keep the Church growing and strengthening throughout the last six decades. I am certain that New A.M.E. Zion Church will continue to thrive and to help to better the surrounding community as it moves into the next chapter in its history.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to learning about and recognizing the efforts of wonderful, thriving faith communities like New A.M.E. Zion Church.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join all of the members and clergy of New A.M.E. Zion Church, all those whose faith has been enriched throughout the years, and me in recognizing the outstanding contributions of New A.M.E. Zion Church to the community and beyond.

RECOGNIZING SHOWROOM SHINE ON THEIR 2009 HOODIE AWARD

**HON. WM. LACY CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 13, 2009*

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise before you today to recognize a star in St. Louis County's active small business community, Showroom Shine, for their 2009 Hoodie Award. The Hoodie Awards aim to recognize excellence in the lives of everyday Americans who contribute their leadership to urban communities. The 7th annual award ceremony honored co-owners Sylvester Chisom and Arthur Shivers with the award for Best Detail Shop. We in the Show Me State are proud that Showroom Shine, a standout in the field of auto detailing and vehicle restoration, is one of our very own.

Sylvester Chisom and Arthur Shivers truly exemplify the entrepreneurial spirit that continues to be the backbone of the American economy. Outfitted only with a water hose, bucket, and drain, Chisom and Shivers started Showroom Shine in 1999 as high school seniors. Showroom Shine has grown into a highly successful detailing company, winning their second Hoodie Award this year. Showroom Shine is known city-wide for their professionalism and personalized service, and hold contracts with numerous corporate and government entities, including the U.S. Postal Service, Enterprise Rental & Leasing, Clear Channel Radio, and Live Nation.

They take seriously their duty to pass along their success to the community and to future business leaders. The two pioneers have penned a book, "The Young Entrepreneur's Guide to Success," aimed at spreading the message of entrepreneurship to young people seeking advice and mentorship for their business ventures. Showroom Shine is a bright

example of ingenuity and diligence. I stand before you offering heartfelt congratulations for their recent accolades and applaud their entrepreneurial excellence.

#### HONORING JAMES ALLEN CLOAR

#### HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 13, 2009*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give recognition for outstanding service by James Allen Cloar to the residents and City of Saint Louis as President and CEO of the Partnership for downtown St. Louis.

Mr. Cloar worked to revitalize America's heartland by improving the living conditions and safety of one of America's greatest cities, the City of Saint Louis.

He brought over a 100 new businesses and 11,000 new residents back into the downtown area of the City of Saint Louis. In doing so, Mr. Cloar secured accolades and recognition for the City, including the All American City Award.

Madam Speaker, James Cloar enjoys the love and support of his family, and I would also like to recognize them.

He is so proud of Anne Bock Cloar, his wife of over 40 years; his daughters Tracy Cloar Rogers and Jennifer Cloar Smith, along with their husbands; and his granddaughters Haley, Alexandria, Skyla, and Phoebe.

I commend Mr. Cloar's dedication to his family, his service to the City of St. Louis, and his work to bring about the revitalization of City's downtown area.

#### RECOGNIZING TERESA MORA FOR HER SERVICE TO THE FIRST DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

#### HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 13, 2009*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Miss Teresa Mora. Teresa is the Field Representative in my district office and has worked with me for more than ten years.

Teresa's personal experience is an embodiment of the American Dream. She was born in Mexico to a loving and close family. They recognized the opportunities for prosperity and freedom which the United States held out to them, and made the difficult decision to come to this country in pursuit of a better life for themselves and their children.

Teresa is conscientious and loyal. Her unique experience has given her a great love for her adopted country combined with passion to help others of Hispanic background who make up a considerable part of Wisconsin's First Congressional District.

Teresa's sincerity and heart of gold help her to win the confidence of immigrants who need assistance in working with the federal government. With bilingual skills, she works comfortably within the immigrant community to build trust and candor to help solve documentation and other government-related problems.

In her role as a representative working in a conservative Republican Congressional office,

Teresa has at times encountered hostility based on misunderstanding. Teresa is never partisan, but her positive experience as an American citizen empowers her with a sincere message of hope and success in this country that never fails to open minds and hearts.

I am proud to acknowledge the excellent service and positive efforts Teresa Mora has made over ten years to make life better for the families of Wisconsin's First Congressional District.

#### MICHAEL CAVANAUGH

#### HON. MICHAEL E. McMAHON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 13, 2009*

Mr. McMAHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Cavanaugh, a dedicated Staten Islander, dear friend, tireless community organizer, and great humanitarian who will be retiring this year.

Mr. Cavanaugh was born to Daniel and Mary Cavanaugh on June 23, 1949, in Astoria, Queens. He attended McKee Vocational High School, and served as an Apprentice with Local Union 3. He went on to a career as an outstanding electrician. He has dedicated the last 15 years of his working career as a local shop steward and active union representative fighting for the best benefits and working conditions for his fellow workers.

Throughout his career, he has always advocated for the interest of his fellow electricians and his community. He has served as the Vice President of the Dakota Group, a local group of individuals dedicated to helping our community. He has also served as the Legislative Coordinator for the Staten Island Electrical Club, North Shore Democratic Club, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Brighton Kiwanis, and the Special Olympics.

Mr. Cavanaugh is known for his neverending generosity. In addition to the many groups that he belongs to and supports, Mr. Cavanaugh also, on his own time and without any remuneration, has helped numerous people, families and organizations on Staten Island. To name a few, he has helped replace the lighting at St. Peter's Church, helped install a scoreboard at St. Paul's School, and he has helped many homeless people fix up apartments so they can have a decent place to live. Mr. Cavanaugh is one of the most generous people I know.

Mr. Cavanaugh has helped the campaigns of just about every Staten Island Democratic candidate over the last 15 years. His assistance has been essential to the success of many campaigns including mine. No job is too big or too small for Mike. He will help in any way possible.

Outside of his professional life, Mr. Cavanaugh is a devoted family man. He has been married to his wife, Monica, for the past 35 years. He is the father to his son, Daniel, and daughter, Erin. He is also the beloved grandfather to James. In addition to his family, Mike is totally devoted to his wonderful Golden Retriever, Rusty.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Mr. Cavanaugh on his dedication to the people of Staten Island and wish him a happy and healthy retirement.

#### ON THE RETIREMENT OF COLONEL STEPHEN M. CHRISTIAN, UNITED STATES ARMY

#### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 13, 2009*

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I want to take a moment to honor a fine officer who will shortly be leaving active duty. Colonel Stephen M. Christian will be retiring from the United States Army on October 21, 2009 after more than 30 years of active military service, culminating as Garrison Commander for the United States Army Garrison, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

Colonel Christian enlisted in the Army in 1978 and in 1984 attended Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as an Air Defense Artillery Officer. Throughout his career Colonel Christian has held numerous high level command and staff positions, including tours with the 7th Infantry Division (Light) at Fort Ord, California; the 25th Infantry Division (Light) at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; and the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York. He commanded at the Battalion level on two occasions and served two tours of duty in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, during which he was awarded two Bronze Star medals. Colonel Christian's civilian education includes a Master's of Science in Administration and a Master of Security Strategy from the National War College, National Defense University. Colonel Christian is married to Laura Christian and they have two adult children, Captain Nicholas Christian and Leslie Roop.

Madam Speaker, our active duty families make many sacrifices for the rest of us, and this is especially true of those who make the military their career. I thank COL Christian for his long and honorable service to our nation, and I wish him and his wife Laura the very best as they prepare to enter a new phase in their life journey together.

#### RECOGNIZE CHIPS FAMILY VIOLENCE CENTER IN ERWIN, TN DURING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

#### HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 13, 2009*

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, October is Domestic Violence Awareness month, and great organizations such as CHIPS Family Violence Center in Erwin, Tennessee are educating the community on the dynamics of domestic violence.

This exceptional organization has an important mission to provide shelter and service to victims of domestic violence and their children, ultimately, enabling them to begin and maintain a life free of violence.

This month, CHIPS Family Violence Center in Erwin is holding their third annual candle light service. This event will not only educate the community, it will also honor victims and bring attention to their struggle.

Madam Speaker, the help, opportunity and encouragement provided by CHIPS Family Violence Center is helping families throughout