

including: Robin Hood Foundation Hero of the Year Award, New York City Award, American Institute for Public Service Jefferson Award, Points of Light Award (Awarded by George Bush), and Maxwell House Hero Search Award. Among the many honors he has received, Rocky was selected to carry the Olympic torch down Fifth Avenue in New York City, en route to Atlanta, in 1996. Rocky's status as a hero was even recognized by the children of Wilkes Country Elementary School in North Carolina, who named him as their black hero in 1998. (Choosing him by a landslide over the other candidates, including Michael Jordan). Of all the honors and awards that Rocky has earned, he describes his greatest reward as the satisfaction he enjoys from seeing young people succeed in medical careers after training with BSVAC.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing James "Rocky" Robinson, an "on-call," unselfish community servant.

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HONORING THE POINTS OF LIGHT  
INSTITUTE

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 16, 2009*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important milestone in the history of an organization that has made a difference in the lives of many Americans and many communities across the nation—the Points of Light Institute.

Twenty years ago, a newly-inaugurated President George H.W. Bush challenged us to "bring in the generations, harnessing the unused talent of the elderly and the unfocused energy of the young . . . to spread like stars throughout the Nation, doing good." It was this challenge that became the foundation of the Points of Light initiative. President Obama dramatically expanded this movement with his leadership of the bipartisan Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, legislation that I sponsored, which was signed into law earlier this year.

The Points of Light Foundation recently merged with Hands On Network to form the Points of Light Institute. This organization has been transforming American lives and communities around the nation, offering tangible and meaningful ways for people to serve.

In 2008, the Points of Light Institute and its 250 Hands On volunteer action centers engaged over 1.2 million volunteers in service and managed over 520,000 volunteer projects. The value of this service is over \$600 million, a remarkable contribution to the health and welfare of American communities from Seattle to Miami.

One of Points of Light's affiliates is the Long Island Volunteer Center headquartered in my Congressional District. Daily, this great local organization connects individuals and groups to help nonprofit organizations expand programs and services that improve the environment, mentor at-risk youth, assist the elderly, help hungry and homeless people, and enhance appreciation of cultural arts.

Congratulations to Points of Light on this 20 year anniversary and for the many acts of service that have improved the lives of those

in need in our midst. We all look forward to many more years of inspiring work.

Madam Speaker, it is with pride and admiration I offer my thanks and recognition to Points of Light Institute.

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A TRIBUTE TO ERMA A. WINSLOW

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 16, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Erma A. Winslow, a dedicated educator and community servant.

Erma Winslow is a retired administrator and guidance counselor for the New York City Board of Education. Ms. Winslow was a counselor and assistant to the principal at Joan of Arc Junior High School, a guidance counselor at Junior High School 258, and a guidance counselor at Richmond Hill High School. While working for the Board of Education, Ms. Winslow was committed to providing quality counseling to elementary, middle, and high school students. Ms. Winslow's areas of expertise are in education, special education, guidance and counseling, curriculum development, recreation, library and media services.

Ms. Winslow holds a Master's Degree in Health Education from Columbia University, a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling from Fordham University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Health and Recreation from Talladega College in Alabama. She was founder and chair of Bedford Stuyvesant Community Block Association. She is also the recipient of a community service award and a guidance counselor award for her tireless service to the New York City Board of Education.

Erma has successfully counseled junior high and high school students, assisting them in meeting their academic, personal and social needs, so they could be active in the communities in which they live.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Erma A. Winslow.

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A TRIBUTE TO TERESA COAXUM

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 16, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Teresa Coaxum, a tireless leader in the community.

Born and raised in Walterboro South Carolina, Ms. Coaxum began her career at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina at the age of 16. Shortly after her first semester she moved to New York and completed her Bachelor's degree and later her Master's degree at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Ms. Coaxum would later graduate from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government's Senior Managers in Government Executive Program. Always one to know the true importance of education, Ms. Coaxum is also a graduate of Coro Leadership New York XV.

In Ms. Coaxum's former job, she served as Project Manager of Community Relations under Brooklyn District Attorney, Charles

Hynes. There she addressed the needs of residents in Crown Heights, Prospect Heights, Bedford-Stuyvesant, Stuyvesant Heights, East Flatbush, and Bushwick by successfully coordinating community agencies, organizations, churches and elected officials in major initiatives such as ComALERT (Community and Law Enforcement Resources Together), a district attorney program that assists people on probation and parolees in getting jobs, training and education in Crown Heights and Bedford Stuyvesant.

Ms. Coaxum has worked tirelessly to empower New York residents through her commitment to community and human services. In her current position, she works countless hours directing community outreach and planning in NYC, assisting in the management of Senator SCHUMER's eight regional offices, as well as advising the Senator and his Washington, D.C. staff on key policy issues.

Ms. Coaxum is a lifetime member of the NAACP. She serves on several committees such as John Jay College of Criminal Justice Alumni Association as the 2nd Vice President, Interfaith Medical Center Auxiliary, Church Women United, Community Board 8, Partnership for Youth and Community Empowerment, Brooklyn Blizzard Youth Organization, The Women's Caucus for Ed Towns, and Brooklyn Young Democrats.

In recognition of her loyalty and service, Ms. Coaxum was selected as one of The Network Journal's "Top 40 under 40 Dynamic Leaders" in June 2009, and as one of City Hall News' "Rising Stars 40 under 40". She received the John Jay College Alumni of the Year Award, various community service awards from Concord Family Services and the 77th, 79th, 81st, 83rd Precinct Community Councils. Among her many honors and recognitions, she has also received The Harriet Tubman Humanitarian Award and Proclamations from Senator Carl Andrews and Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, as well as Special Recognition from Congressman EDOLPHUS "ED" TOWNS, and Citations from Assemblyman Vito Lopez, New York City Councilmembers Erik Dilan and Diana Reyna, and former Councilman James E. Davis for dedication and hard work in the community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this relentless and dynamic community leader.

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A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND ANDRÉ  
RAMÓN SOLEIL

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 16, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Reverend André Ramón Soleil, a seasoned lawyer, artist and entrepreneur with an extraordinary life story.

Reverend Soleil was raised in New Hope Baptist Church, Niagara Falls, New York, a church founded by his great-grandparents during the great migration of African-Americans northward to New York from North Carolina in the early 1900s. He was a member of the choir, an usher and a Sunday school teacher. At age 12, André confessed Jesus as Lord, was baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit. At 13, Pastor Belk recognized God's call on

André's life and began training him for ministry as an "acolyte".

Mr. Soleil is a talented artist and his drawings, paintings and craftworks have been displayed at cultural events and museums since his pre-teens. Mayor Michael O'Laughlin honored the 15-year-old Soleil by appointing him to the Niagara Falls Council of the Arts for his role in many school and community productions in semi-professional and professional regional productions of *The Wiz*, *Pippin*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, to name a few.

In 1985, André Soleil came to New York at 17 and attended Parsons School of Design, majoring in illustration and painting. In 1989, André Soleil's son, Donald, was born. While looking for work after the closing of "Little Wing", Reverend Soleil took a part time job at the New York Public Interest Group, Inc. Soon after Reverend Soleil was promoted to Department Director, he began his career in activism, law and politics. Reverend Soleil was appointed by then Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger to Manhattan's Community Board 12. Mayor Giuliani next appointed Mr. Soleil to the position of Executive Liaison in the Mayor's Office of Legislative Affairs to the Public Health, Human Rights, General Welfare and Cultural Affairs Committees of the New York City Council. Subsequently, Governor George Pataki appointed Mr. Soleil to the Executive Chamber staff as Assistant Secretary for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs. A year later, in 1996, Reverend Soleil completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from LaSalle University, cum laude.

Mr. Soleil attended City University of New York School of Law at Queens College from 1999 to 2002, where he then became President of the Class of 2002 and Editor-in-Chief of the *New York City Law Journal* in 2000. In 2000, America's Black Law Student Association elected André National Executive Director of the National Black Law Student's Association's 73 Chapters and 8,000 members; and in 2001, these students elected him to the Board of Governors of the National Bar Association. In 2002, Reverend Soleil graduated, achieving his Juris Doctorate and his Master of Arts degree in Business Administration and Media Management, with honors from Metropolitan College of New York.

In 2003, Reverend Soleil returned to the work of Jesus Christ and His church. In 2004, Bishop Dr. Wesley J. Wiley and the Elders of the Resurrection Temple of Our Lord ordained Mr. Soleil as a Reverend. Rev. Soleil then entered Columbia Evangelical Seminary to obtain his Doctorate of Ministry. In 2003, Reverend Soleil was admitted to the Bar of the State of New York and founded his law firm, Soleil & Company, P.C., which was opened out of his apartment's living room. In six years, Soleil & Company, P.C. now employs four attorneys, six staff members, and is known for innovative litigation, criminal defense and mortgage/foreclosure defense work. Soleil & Company, P.C. has taken Mayor Bloomberg to task as lead counsel in the matter of *Cohen v. Bloomberg*, a citizens' lawsuit to block the Mayor's destruction of the term limits law, and has developed a reputation for innovative legal practice in criminal, real-estate, civil rights and family law practice.

Rev. Soleil founded Christian Way, Ltd. in 2007, a non-profit advocacy and research group dedicated to the development, protection and promotion of Christianity as a way of

life. He also hosts a daily early-morning radio bible study program, "Breakfast with the Bible," that is carried by Massachusetts and Texas based radio and Internet broadcasts.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reverend André Ramón Soleil.

#### A TRIBUTE TO LANCE GOODWIN

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 16, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lance Goodwin, a devoted community servant who has done so much for our community by establishing Trucked Out, Inc., a parent organization for a number of clubs. Lance's vision expanded to form Trucked Out Divas SUV Club and Trucked Out SUV Social Club. These clubs partner with politicians, police precincts, churches, and community organizations for the betterment of their neighborhoods.

Mr. Goodwin attended New York City public schools and graduated from George Westinghouse High School. Upon graduating, Mr. Goodwin opted to work so that he could have an income which would make him more independent. After several jobs, he landed an ideal job with the phone company Bell Atlantic, now Verizon. It was during this time that he started the Trucked Out SUV Club with the help of friends. He envisioned him and his friends making a difference in the lives of those they encountered on a daily basis. The members of Trucked Out SUV Club consider themselves to be blessed to be able to afford their vehicles in which they ride and established a model of responsible living for their peers. Lance also saw the need for strong male influences in the lives of children at his son's High School PTA meetings.

Trucked Out's members are all firm believers in the saying "each one teach one". Trucked Out has sponsored a variety of community events over the years and will continue to do so every year, most notably, their Back to School Giveaway, a Halloween Party for the women in need of shelter. Trucked Out gives out over one thousand toys each holiday season and hosts several teen parties at its clubhouse so our teens have a place to go and enjoy themselves without fear of violence. Trucked Out is also a sponsor of the New York Warriors kid's football team.

Whether it is to protest an act of violence, a crime against a member of the community, a vigil to remember the life of someone or to go to a funeral to give support to a grieving family, Trucked Out will continue to help out in any way it can in our communities.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Lance Goodwin.

#### IRAN SANCTIONS ENABLING ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

### HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 13, 2009*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud cosponsor of H.R. 1327,

the Iran Sanctions Enabling Act of 2009. Iran's ambition to become a nuclear power is unquestionably clear, and now is the time for debilitating sanctions that will curtail this dangerous path.

Despite the assertions of Iranian leaders that they seek to enrich uranium for peaceful purposes alone, their actions and obfuscation suggest otherwise. Further, President Ahmadinejad has continued to cause international frustration through comments he made at the United Nations summit in September. His efforts also go far beyond words. On numerous occasions, Ahmadinejad has tested mid to long range missiles, and in February 2009, Iran launched a low-orbit rocket that is the necessary first step to firing an intercontinental ballistic missile. Further, intelligence sources point to Iran's ready capability of firing short, medium, and long range missiles that endanger our brave men and women deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq.

I therefore do not support President Obama's cuts to missile defense in the FY10 National Defense Authorization Act. In fact, I believe that we are putting our friends and allies at risk, as well as the eastern shore of the United States. However, if this chamber is forced to rely so heavily on economic sanctions, we must encourage and enable American investment from Iran to squeeze their economy to a point that will rein in their dangerous ambitions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

#### A TRIBUTE TO COUNCILMAN BILL DE BLASIO

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 16, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Councilman Bill de Blasio, a tenacious leader in the community and an inspiration to all of New York.

Bill de Blasio understands the importance of education. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Urban Studies from New York University; he then attended Columbia University and earned a Master of Arts degree in International and Public Affairs.

Councilman de Blasio began his impressive political career in New York City government in the 1989 David Dinkins mayoral race. Following the campaign, Mr. de Blasio served as an aide in Dinkins' Administration, where he worked on projects such as the Safe Streets, Safe City initiative to reduce crime throughout New York City. While working at City Hall under Mayor Dinkins and later with the City Council, he learned first hand how city government works. He used this knowledge in the passage of key legislation establishing New York City's domestic partnership program. Later, Mr. de Blasio would eventually manage Hillary Rodham Clinton's successful run for Senate.

From working for the parents of Community School District 15, where he helped spearhead some of the most comprehensive reforms in the city, such as capping first grade class size at 20 students and establishing universal Pre-Kindergarten; to serving as the highest-ranking official in the New York/New