

East Norriton Township, Montgomery County, is a 6.1-square mile municipality that was established on March 9, 1909. However, East Norriton's roots can be traced back to the early days of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The vast tract where East Norriton is located was one of William Penn's early manors known as Williamstadt. The Township's long history includes a direct connection to America's courageous fight for independence. George Washington visited his wounded troops at Bartle Bartleson's Tavern along Germantown Pike during the Revolutionary War, according to historians.

As the region grew, a number of additional municipalities did as well. Eventually, East Norriton was formally incorporated in 1909 when it was carved out of the larger municipality known as Norriton Township.

Residents have been commemorating the 100th anniversary with events throughout the past year and will continue their celebration on Friday, February 20, 2009 with a Centennial Celebration Dinner.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the Township on its momentous anniversary and extending best wishes for continuing prosperity, harmony and quality of life.

#### TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE FELIX LONGORIA

#### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2009*

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to honor the 60th Anniversary of WWII Private Felix Longoria, the first Mexican American to be buried at the Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, DC.

Private Felix Z. Longoria was drafted into the United States Army on November 11, 1944, at the age of 25 from Three Rivers, Texas.

While on a voluntary patrol on June 1945, Private Longoria was killed in action by a Japanese sniper in Cagayan Valley, Luzon, Philippines. He posthumously received the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Combat Infantryman Badge for his service and sacrifice.

Sadly in 1945, when the remains of Private Longoria were finally identified and returned back to the United States, Beatrice Longoria, the widow of Private Felix Longoria, was turned away and unable to hold a funeral service for her deceased husband at a private funeral home in Three Rivers, Texas. At the time, the city of Three Rivers' sole cemetery was divided by a barbed wire fence, into two sections, one for whites and another for non-whites.

This act of discrimination moved Beatrice Longoria to contact Dr. Hector P. Garcia a surgeon general of the area, and the founder of the newly created American GI Forum.

Dr. Hector P. Garcia sent out seventeen telegrams to elected and government officials, which stated "the denial was a direct contradiction of those same principles for which this American soldier made the supreme sacrifice in giving his life for his country, and for the same people who deny him the last fu-

neral rites deserving of any American hero regardless of his origin".

Just recently founded during that time on March 26, 1948, the American GI Forum and its founder, Dr. Hector P. Garcia launched a civil rights movement to help the Longoria family.

Then a junior United States Senator, Lyndon B. Johnson, on January 11, 1949, sent a telegram to Dr. Hector P. Garcia that read "... I have today made arrangements to have Felix Longoria buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery here in Washington where, the honored dead of our nation' war rest. . . This injustice and prejudice is deplorable. I am happy to have a part seeing that this Texas hero is laid to rest with the honor and dignity his services deserve".

Thanks to the AGIF, Dr. Garcia and Senator Johnson, Private Felix Longoria became the first Mexican American serviceman to be awarded this honor. On February 16, 1949, Private Felix Longoria was given a full military burial with honors in Arlington National Cemetery. The Longoria family was joined at the service by United States Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, Lady Bird Johnson, Congressman John Lyle and President Harry Truman's military aide, General Harry H. Vaughan.

The work and legacy of the late Dr. Hector P. Garcia and the American GI Forum that he founded, still continues to this day, in the name of all Veterans and Hispanics in the United States.

February 16, 2009 marks the 60th anniversary of the burial of Private Felix Longoria, the first Mexican American servicemen to be awarded this honor. On this day, I encourage all Americans to remember the great sacrifices made by our American heroes in all the conflicts in the history of the United States.

#### IN THAT MOMENT

#### HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2009*

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, to commemorate the heroism of the Captain and crew of US Airways Flight 1549, as well as the emergency personnel of the New York fire and police departments, Congresswoman DIANE E. WATSON would like to submit this poem to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

This poem is dedicated to the valor and heroism of Captain Chesley B. Sullenberger III; First Officer Jeffrey B. Skiles; flight attendants Sheila Dail, Doreen Welsh, and Donna Dent; the fine men and women of the New York fire and police Departments; the Coast Guard; ferry boat captains; and the citizens of New York.

#### IN THAT MOMENT

In . . .  
In that moment . . .  
When who lives or dies!  
But, to see another sunrise . . .  
All in their hand's which lies . . .  
All of those most precious lives . . .  
Whose loved ones, upon them rely  
Who will be left to cry . . .  
When high above, up in those blue skies . . .  
With just seconds to react . . .  
Just moments from the black . . .  
With eminent death approaching, the facts . . .

With only a few choices . . .  
Listening, to their most inner voices . . .  
A lifetime of training . . .  
All for this one moment counting . . .  
With the time to live or die, so waning  
Most precious moments in time which lie . . .

Now remaining . . .  
Determining, who lives and dies . . .  
With but no room for error . . .  
As born, all in this moment such heroes . . .  
While, all around them crisis looms . . .  
As they must keep their cool . . . as their  
fine hearts must swoon . . .

While, against all odds . . . they give to this  
our world this jewel . . .

This gift, which will now forever over our  
hearts so rule . . .

This moment, when they stood strong . . .  
with hearts full . . .

Full of courage and might, to win the day  
. . . to win that night . . .

To carry with us until we grow old . . .  
As God was with them on that day, in this  
miracle on 48th street in so many ways . . .

On A Wings of A Dove, as he helped bring  
them down so safe . . .

As City, once again must unite . . .  
Police Officers, Firefighters, Citizens, Coast  
Guard, Ferry Boat Captains bringing  
the light . . .

As the echoes of a past were all heard in  
their hearts that night . . .

A Gotham City, with Gotham Hearts . . . as  
on this day, all did their part . . .

And what child will be born?  
Who might save the world, or upon it such  
great things unfurled . . .

Because of that moment!  
And what loves will be worn? Given that sec-  
ond chance now to now continue on . . .

For only a future knows . . .  
From these moments as time will tell us . . .  
will show . . .

When in that moment . . . Quiet Heroes so . . .

We would discover, the true meaning of that  
word heroes . . . our new lovers . . .

Bless them, bless them all . . .  
For each and everyday, our lives on them so  
depend so all . . .

For we will long remember . . .  
This winter day, all in the embers . . . of our  
hearts . . .

When, in the moment of truth . . .  
A Magnificent Captain and Crew gave us the  
proof . . .

That miracles do come true . . .  
And how courage can come shining through . . .

In That Moment . . .

HONORING EASTERN MICHIGAN  
UNIVERSITY AS A RECIPIENT OF  
THE 2008 COMMUNITY ENGAGE-  
MENT CLASSIFICATION

#### HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2009*

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Eastern Michigan University for being selected by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching to receive its 2008 Community Engagement Classification.

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1905, is a highly regarded, independent higher education policy and research center. Of the 217 institutions who declared an

interest in applying for the classification, Eastern Michigan University was one of the select few institutions to receive this high distinction.

As an institution receiving this Carnegie classification, EMU is recognized as a national model for community engaged campuses. Eastern Michigan University has always promoted and supported involvement in the community and this is evident in their mission, as they seek to “extend our commitment beyond our campus boundaries to the wider community through service initiatives and partnerships of mutual interest addressing local, regional, national, and international opportunities and challenges.”

Eastern Michigan University and its students reach out a helping hand to the community in so many different ways, from fundraising for Habitat for Humanity, Relay for Life, and St. Jude’s Hospital to the students’ partnerships with Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels, S.O.S. community services, and Upward Bound. Even with all their academic commitments, students at EMU still managed to provide over 38,000 volunteer hours in the community through VISION and student organizations. This is a testament to the great students and community outreach programs at Eastern Michigan University.

Madam Speaker, the Carnegie Foundation of Advancement of Teaching has bestowed its 2008 Community Engagement Classification upon Eastern Michigan University because of its remarkable work to interact with, aid and improve its surrounding community. This is a tremendous honor and it speaks to the fine character and great dedication of the university’s faculty, administration, and students. EMU truly serves as a model for community engagement between this nation’s higher education institutes and their respective communities. I ask that you and all of my colleagues join me in congratulating EMU on this remarkable accomplishment.

#### THE INTRODUCTION OF THE YOUTH PROMISE ACT

**HON. ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2009*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with the gentleman from Delaware, Mr. CASTLE, to introduce the “Youth Prison Reduction through Mentoring, Intervention, Support and Education Act”, or “Youth PROMISE Act,” a bill we believe will greatly reduce crime and its associated costs and losses. Companion legislation to this bill is also being filed today in the Senate by Senator CASEY of Pennsylvania, and Senator SNOWE of Maine.

The Youth PROMISE Act implements the best policy recommendations from crime policy makers, researchers, practitioners, analysts, and law enforcement officials from across the political spectrum concerning evidence- and research-based strategies to reduce gang violence and crime. Under the Youth PROMISE Act, communities facing the greatest youth gang and crime challenges will be able to enact a comprehensive response to prevention and intervention of youth violence through a coordinated response that includes the active involvement of representatives from

law enforcement, court services, schools, social services, health and mental health providers, foster care providers, Boys and Girls Clubs and other community-based service organizations, including faith-based organizations. These key players will form a council to develop a comprehensive plan for implementing evidence-based prevention and intervention strategies. These strategies will be targeted at young people who are involved, or at risk of becoming involved, in gangs or the juvenile or criminal justice system to redirect them toward productive and law-abiding alternatives. The Youth PROMISE Act will also enhance state and local law enforcement efforts regarding youth and gang violence.

Title I: Federal Coordination of Local and Tribal Juvenile Justice Information and Efforts. Sec. 101 creates a PROMISE Advisory Panel. This Panel will assist the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in selecting PROMISE community grantees. The Panel will also develop standards for the evaluation of juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention approaches carried out under the PROMISE Act. Sec. 102 provides for specific data collection in each designated geographic area to assess the needs and existing resources for juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention. This data will then facilitate the strategic geographic allocation of resources provided under the Act to areas of greatest need for assistance.

Title II: PROMISE Grants. Sec. 201 establishes grants to enable local and tribal communities, via PROMISE Coordinating Councils, PCCs, Sec. 202, to conduct an objective assessment, Sec. 203, regarding juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity and resource needs and strengths in the community. Based upon the assessment, the PCCs then will develop plans that include a broad array of evidence-based prevention and intervention programs. These programs will be responsive to the needs and strengths of the community, account for the community’s cultural and linguistic needs, and utilize approaches that have been proven to be effective in reducing involvement in or continuing involvement in delinquent conduct or criminal street gang activity. The PCCs can then apply for federal funds, on the basis of greatest need, to implement their PROMISE plans, Sec. 211–213. Title II also provides for national evaluation of PROMISE programs and activities, Sec. 222, based on performance standards developed by the PROMISE Advisory Panel.

Title III: PROMISE Research Center. Sec. 301 establishes a National Research Center for Proven Juvenile Justice Practices. This Center will collect and disseminate information to PROMISE Coordinating Councils and the public on current research and other information about evidence-based and promising practices related to juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity and intervention. Sec. 302 provides for regional academic research partners to assist PCCs in developing their assessments and plans.

Title IV: Youth-Oriented Policing Services. Sec. 402 provides, within the office of Community Oriented Policing Services, for the hiring and training of Youth Oriented Policing, YOPS, officers to address juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity in coordination with PCCs and other local youth

services organizations. Sec. 403 also establishes a Center for Youth Oriented Policing, which will be responsible for identification, development and dissemination of information related to strategic policing practices and technologies to law enforcement agencies related to youth.

Title V: Enhancing Federal Support of Local Law Enforcement—Mynisha’s Law. Mynisha’s Law provides appropriate federal coordination and collaboration by requiring the placement of an interagency task force—consisting of representatives from the Departments of Justice, Labor, Education, HUD and HHS—to prevent and address gang activity in specific designated high intensity gang areas. The interagency task force would be responsible for identifying and coordinating access to federal gang prevention resources, such as after-school programs, Job Corp programs, and low income affordable housing.

Sec. 511 authorizes the COPS Office to make grants to local and tribal governments with a PROMISE Council to develop community-based programs that provide crime prevention, research, and intervention services designed for gang members and at-risk youth. Sec. 522 authorizes the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to partnerships between a state mental health authority and one or more local public or private entities to prevent or alleviate the effects of youth violence in urban communities with a high or increasing incidence of such violence by providing violence-prevention education, mentoring, counseling, and mental health services to children and adolescents. Priority is given to grant applicants that agree to use the grant in communities that lack the resources to address youth violence.

Title VI: Precaution Act. To coordinate the volumes of data and research on crime prevention and intervention, this Title creates a national commission on crime prevention and intervention strategies to identify those programs that are most ready for replication around the country, and to provide guidance in a direct and accessible format to state and local law enforcement on how to implement those strategies. The commission also would identify those promising areas of crime prevention and intervention programming that would benefit from further research and development, and would report to federal, state, and local law enforcement on the outcomes of a grant program administered by the National Institute of Justice to pilot programs in these areas and test their effectiveness. The use of this information would ensure that the criminal justice community is investing its limited resources in the most cost-effective way possible.

Title VII: Additional Improvements to Juvenile Justice. Sec. 701 provides additional improvements to current laws affecting juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity, including support for youth victim and witness protection programs. Sec. 702 provides for an expansion of the Mentoring Initiatives program for system-involved youth. And Sec. 703 calls for a study on adolescent development and the effectiveness of juvenile sentences in the Federal system.

During my more than 30 years of public service, I have learned that when it comes to crime policy, we have a choice—we can reduce crime or we can play politics. For far too