

that the federal land management agencies lack such a plan and the USDA Inspector General found that the Forest Service lacks any system to ensure that the highest priority fuel reduction projects are being funded first. This report by the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture will address the recommendations made by both GAO and the USDA Inspector General.

To ensure that the money is going to where it is most needed, the bill requires that yearly reports be made available to the public on the use of the FLAME Fund. It also requires the Secretaries to conduct a review of wildland fire incidents that result in expenses greater than \$10,000,000 and requires the Secretaries to notify Congress whenever the FLAME Fund drops to a level estimated to cover just two months worth of expenditures.

The FLAME Act establishes a wildfire grant program within each department that will assist communities in preparing for wildfires. Grants will go towards purchasing firefighting equipment and training programs for local firefighters. The money will also be used for education and public awareness of wildfires and to development community wildfire protection plans.

This bill is necessary so that agencies no longer have to move funding around to make up for the increased costs of wildfire suppression programs. The fund will provide a safety net in the event of catastrophic fires, such as those that occurred in California last year. It will also ensure that the Federal Government has an effective and comprehensive plan for wildland fire management.

I'm proud to support this bill and I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 26, 2009*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on March 25, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my vote for Rollcall No. 151.

Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 151—"yes"—Providing for the consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 146, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act.

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#### A TRIBUTE TO LINDA BRADLEY

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 26, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Linda Bradley, a champion of Nursing and health and wellness promotion.

Linda Bradley was born in Brooklyn, New York to Lola Balance and the late Jerry Balance. Linda is the oldest of four siblings, her brother and sisters are Denise, Michelle and Jerry, Jr. She is wife of Calvin Bradley, mother of four children Nicole, Calvin III, Michael and Johnathan and grandmother of Amir. Linda was always a curious child and now is very active in her community.

After graduation from Canarsie H.S., Linda indulged her desire for inquiry and obtained a degree in Medical Laboratory Technology in Applied Science from N.Y.C Community College. Linda went on to obtain an A.A.S. and a B.S.N. in Nursing. Linda continued her education and earned a dual degree; she earned a Master's of Science in Nursing and a Masters of Public Health and received the Outstanding Community Leadership Award from Hunter College.

She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, International Honor Society, American Public Health Association and Public Health Association of NYC. She held P.T.A. positions in her children's school, is an active member of A.C.O.R.N. and was one of three women who were instrumental in the development of a Kwanzaa community event. She has held positions as Director of Nursing at a licensed agency, Patient Service Manager at Hillside Manor LTHHCP and a staff nurse and then a community outreach nurse for St. Johns Episcopal Hospital. Linda currently works at the Visiting Nurse Service of New York Lombardi Program as a Manager of Clinical Support Services in the boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens. Linda has been an NYU adjunct clinical faculty for the clinical rotation in the Community Health course since 2007. Linda has dedicated her life to nursing, health and wellness which shows through her professional and community activities.

Linda believes that through faith in God and healthy choices people can prevent a multitude of diseases. In her promotion of the profession of nursing, and belief that there are young, intelligent and vibrant minds within her community, she has participated in a community career day, appeared on a Brooklyn cable show and mentored two young women who are now R.N.'s. Linda is the current Health Ministry Director at Solid Rock S.D.A. church, who promotes ongoing health emphasis activities. Linda has assisted in the administration of NIH/Loma Linda Health Study II surveys from 2004–2007 at Solid Rock Church. She has taught as a Sabbath School teacher in the youth division for more than 20 years and is active with the Adventurer's and youth at the church and in the community.

Linda believes that she is a living testimony of God's blessing and healing power and is very committed to nurturing the spirit, mind and body of every person she comes in contact with. Linda believes in excellence and that knowledge is power and whatever knowledge she has is to be shared. Linda has often described the essence of her being as "one who shares" in every aspect of her life.

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#### INTRODUCTION OF THE BORDER SECURITY SEARCH ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2009

### HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 26, 2009*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to call attention to the Border Security Search Accountability Act of 2009, which I will be introducing in the House today.

With the support of 16 bipartisan, original cosponsors, the bill will call on the Department

of Homeland Security to establish strict guidelines for Customs and Border Patrol, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement's electronic device seizure policy.

It is important to ensure that Customs and Border agents have the tools necessary to go after potential terrorists.

This bill allows for the appropriate search, review, retention and sharing of information on an individual's electronic device as it is necessary for security purposes.

Equally important is the need to protect the rights of travelers, and especially American citizens.

My legislation ensures that when an individual's property is seized at a point of entry, there is a well-defined procedure in place that will protect their privacy and electronic data, especially the doctor-patient and attorney-client privileges.

This legislation also requires the Department of Homeland Security to post information about individuals' rights related to border searches in visible areas near the search points, so that individuals will understand their rights if their property is seized.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

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#### IN RECOGNITION OF MEADOWLARK LEMON

### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 26, 2009*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, born in Lexington, South Carolina, Meadowlark Lemon came from humble beginnings only to follow his love of basketball and entertaining to tremendous success as a member of the widely popular Harlem Globetrotters. The "Clown Prince of Basketball" as he is known has given of his time to not only entertain on the court but to serve his community off the court. Through his ministry program, Meadowlark Lemon is helping young people prepare for their future, learn the tools necessary to get a job, and have the confidence to compete and be successful in their own lives.

Role-models like Meadowlark Lemon play a vital role in our community because they embody the can-do spirit of the American Dream. They show the youth of today that no matter the circumstances, their lives are precious and filled with potential to make their hopes a reality. Meadowlark Lemon's story is a perfect example of someone who did just that and has chosen to give back to others.

I am grateful for his service and commend Meadowlark Lemon on his lifetime of success.

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#### RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORLD WILDLIFE FUND EARTH HOUR MOVEMENT

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 26, 2009*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of Earth Hour 2009, sponsored by the World

Wildlife Fund (WWF). The WWF has been a major advocate for our earth and addressing the environmental threats we face. Earth Hour 2009 is an opportunity for individuals all across globe to join together in responding to the rapid deterioration of our earth's climate. On March 28, 2009 at 8:30 pm (EST), the world will come together to participate in the first global vote for action on climate change. With their light switch as their ballot, hundreds of millions of people in more than 75 countries will cast a powerful, visual vote for action by turning off their lights for one hour.

Earth Hour was first celebrated two years ago in Sydney, Australia in partnership with the WWF, when 2.2 million people and thousands of businesses turned off their lights for one hour. In March 2008, Earth Hour went global with more than 50 million people in over 400 cities participating, including an estimated 36 million Americans.

Earth hour 2009 has expanded its reach with the support of nearly 1,000 cities around the world, including U.S. cities Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, Nashville, New York, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, St. Louis, and Washington, DC. Additionally, international cities committed to the cause include Beijing, Copenhagen, Dubai, Hong Kong, London, Moscow, and Paris.

Madam Speaker, by participating in Earth Hour here in the U.S., it sends a message that Americans care about climate change and stand with the rest of the world in raising awareness about this escalating crisis. With every flick of a light-switch, a vote is cast for meaningful action. I urge my colleagues take part in this historic event by turning off their lights and taking a stand for our environment on March 28.

A TRIBUTE TO LOTTIE DOBSON-SHANNON

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 26, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lottie Dobson-Shannon.

Lottie Dobson-Shannon is an educator with the Department of Education, Office for Family Engagement and Advocacy. She was born in North Carolina and moved to New York at the age of nine. She was raised in Bedford-Stuyvesant, in Brooklyn, New York.

Shannon began her career in 1972 at the Department of Education and worked her way to a management position. In 1987, she became the Project Director of the New York City Board of Education Mentoring Program, where she is still a mentor in the Women in Government Mentoring Program. She involved corporate, government, and cultural institutions in mentoring young high school students throughout New York City. The program thrived under her leadership and became the prototype for Matilda Cuomo's statewide mentoring program.

In 1990, Shannon became the Executive Director for the Parent Advocacy Center of Medgar Evers College. She coordinated staff, raised funds and developed and conducted an award winning Parent Training Institute that was directed at teaching parents skills in ad-

vocating for their children in the city public schools. The program received recognition throughout the state, and from the former Commissioner Tom Sobol, New York State Education Department. The Parent Training Institute became a model for the development of parent participation in programs in Mount Vernon and Hempstead New York.

Shannon returned to the Department of Education in 1996 as the Borough Deputy to the Chancellor (Rudy Crews). She was responsible for the development and implementation of projects and assisting the Superintendents and Principals in obtaining resources for their schools.

In 2002, Shannon became the Parent Support Officer for District 17, Region 6 where she empowered parents, trained them in how to advocate for their children, and to learn how to navigate the school system. In 2007, Shannon became the District Family Advocate for District 22, where she continues to empower parents to become parent leaders and partners in their children's education. She also conducts professional development trainings, seminars and conferences that will develop the skills of the parents to become successful leaders in their schools.

Shannon is also the host/producer of the award winning show, "Keeping it Real with Shannon", a talk show and entertainment that began in 1998. The show has aired on Brooklyn Community Access Television (BCAT) and various networks for ten years. "Keeping it Real With Shannon" reflects on a wide variety of topics such as Domestic Violence, Police Brutality, Education, Male/Female Relationships, Health and Community issues. The show addresses the issues of the growing community and promotes local artists as well as professional artists. Past guests have included Terrie M. Williams, Publicist/Author, Bad Boy Michael Baisden, KISS FM Radio Personality Dominic Carter, NY1 News Reporter Colleen Babb and Frank Laghezza from the District Attorneys' office, legendary R&B singers the late Isaac Hayes and Maxine Brown, Baby Washington, The Ink Spots and renowned gospel singer Vicki Winan.

"Keeping it Real With Shannon" is the 2002 winner of the National Hometown Video Festival Award. It won first place for best in public access programming for talk show and entertainment. She was recognized for her award winning show with a Proclamation from Brooklyn Borough President Mary Markowitz.

Shannon personifies the qualities of intelligence, endurance, compassion, and a strong faith that characterize black foremothers who held the family, church, and community together through all adversities. Shannon is a woman of distinction who has accomplished great professional and educational victories, while maintaining a household and rearing a daughter who is a graduate of Morgan State University. She strongly believes that Christian fellowship should be practiced in all aspects of life. Shannon attended college and obtained three degrees, including a Masters.

Shannon served on the Board of Directors for several Corporate and Community Based Organizations. She has won numerous awards and citations from national and local organizations including being recognized by DA Charles Hynes, the Brooklyn Borough President and NYS Governor Mario Cuomo. She was featured on (ABC) "Like it Is" with Gil Nobles, "Metro Magazine" (WYNE), "The Hotline

Show" (Channel 31), "McCreary Report" (Channel 5), Fox 5-Dayside with Linda Vester and in the publications Caribbean Life, Daily News, Brooklyn Paper, New York Newsday and Medgar Evers Radio Station.

HONORING RECIPIENTS OF THE  
IGOR I. SIKORSKY AWARD FOR  
HUMANITARIAN SERVICE

**HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 26, 2009*

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the recipients of the 2009 Igor I. Sikorsky Award for Humanitarian Service. The recipients of this award have exhibited bravery in the face of grave danger during an event in my home state of Arizona.

Last August, during the summer monsoon season in Arizona, Havasu Canyon suddenly flash flooded, and as the canyon flooded, nearly 400 people had to be evacuated from the area. Havasu Canyon, which leads into the Grand Canyon, is a popular daytime stop-over site for rafters floating the Colorado River. At that time, sixteen boaters on a private rafting trip became stranded on a ledge above the raging floodwaters.

The rescue team, consisting of a Grand Canyon National Park ranger, five members of the heliack crew, and a pilot from the Papillon Grand Canyon Helicopters, using a special short-haul technique, transported the stranded boaters to the Colorado River bank where they could be airlifted to a rescue center.

The Igor I. Sikorsky Award for Humanitarian Service is sponsored each year by Sikorsky Aircraft in honor of its founder and is presented to those who best demonstrate the value of civil rotorcraft to society by saving lives, protecting property and aiding those in distress. The award can be made for a particular mission, or for a consistently outstanding manner for a period of time.

I commend the recipients of the award this year for their tremendous bravery in the face of an extremely dangerous situation. I know that those who were rescued that day, along with their families, will be grateful to them forever for their actions that day.

The recipients of the award were: Jay Lusher, John Yurcik, Sean Naylor, Nate Becker, Ali Ulwelling, Brandon Torres, and Bryce Barnett.

ANNOUNCING THE BID ON CUL-  
TURE BANNER PROJECT UNVEIL-  
ING IN CELEBRATION OF WOM-  
EN'S HISTORY MONTH

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 26, 2009*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Artists whose designs were selected through the BID on Culture banner design competition. The banner designs for BID on Culture will be displayed in March 2009 as part of Women's History Month, celebrating the contributions of women to Harlem and to communities of color, in the fields of