

President of the Massachusetts Chapter. Today, Michael serves as Director of Solutions Engineering at Plant CML where he is responsible for leading the company's largest and most complex projects.

Other than the love of family, I don't think there is any greater honor in life than to receive the recognition of your peers in your chosen profession. Michael Mangini is not only a worthy recipient of this industry professional award, he is also owed a debt of gratitude for his service to his community, his Commonwealth and his country. I am very proud to be able to present him with this award.

TRIBUTE TO CÉSAR E. CHÁVEZ

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great man who stood up for justice and fair treatment for all Americans.

During his life, César E. Chávez was committed to providing fair wages, better working conditions, decent housing, and quality education for all. Mr. Chávez also served the United States proudly in the Navy during World War II. His spirit and his vision are still alive today and I am determined to celebrate what he stood for and his great accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, today, I introduce legislation to rename the post office located at 2777 Logan Avenue in the Barrio Logan section of San Diego as the "César E. Chávez Post Office." This is the least we can do to honor such a great but humble man dedicated to justice. Please join me in giving Mr. Chávez his rightful place in American history.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIANA CHILDREN'S WISH FUND

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Indiana Children's Wish Fund on its 25th anniversary and for its mission of fulfilling the dreams of children suffering from life-threatening illnesses.

Children forced to battle terminal diseases rarely get to experience a normal childhood and are forced to grow up quickly. By granting their wishes, this organization seeks to bring a smile to these children's faces by bringing laughter, joy and normalcy to their lives.

Since 1984, this organization has granted 2,000 wishes to Indiana children between the ages of 3–18. Each year, it assists approximately 140 children, many of whom are referred to the Wish Fund by hospitals, social workers and families from across the state. With the average cost of a wish being \$5500, the Wish Fund would not have been able to provide these services without the generous support of its community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Indiana Children's Wish Fund as it celebrates 25 years of service and for its com-

mitment to helping children realize their dreams.

BEST-IN-CLASS APPLIANCE BILL

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, Congressman MIKE ROGERS of Michigan and I have co-authored H.R. 1786, a bill that will help Americans transition from older, energy-wasting washing machines, refrigerators, and other household appliances to newer, super-efficient versions.

According to the Department of Energy, appliances currently account for about 20 percent of energy bills in a typical household. Many of these "clunkers" are the products of another era—manufactured years (sometimes decades) ago, when technology was antiquated and efficiency a low priority. Removing old, inefficient appliances from circulation will go a long way toward cutting energy consumption and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Our bill will task the DOE with creating a "Best-in-Class" appliance program to provide financial "bonuses" to retailers for every Best-in-Class product sold (defined as the top 10 percent of models in the product class, in terms of efficiency), and to manufacturers that mass produce Best-in-Class appliances.

Retailers who participate in the program must provide a government-funded "bounty" (a reduction in price for a new, more efficient appliance) to consumers who surrender old appliances. Experience shows that many consumers hoard old appliances—perhaps moving them from the kitchen to the basement—eliminating the potential energy savings resulting from the purchase of a newer appliance. This trade-in feature will help take these clunkers completely out of circulation, substantially accelerating our transition to an energy-efficient economy.

This bill is a consensus product, and is endorsed by the NRDC and leading industry groups. We urge its swift passage.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, on March 30, 2009, I was unable to cast my votes on the Motion to Table H. Res. 295, H.R. 20, and H.R. 479 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 163, on the Motion to Table H. Res. 295, Raising a question of the privileges of the House, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 164, on suspending the Rules and passing H.R. 20, the Melanie Blocker Stokes MOTHERS Act, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 165, on suspending the Rules and passing H.R. 479, the Wakefield Act, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO ALVIN SYKES

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, on April 24th, the Olathe, Kansas, Human Rights Commission will pay tribute to Alvin Sykes, a tireless crusader for civil rights within the Kansas City metropolitan region, who recently persuaded the U.S. Congress to approve, and President Bush to sign, legislation establishing a permanent "cold case" unit in the U.S. Department of Justice to review approximately 100 unsolved murders, including the notorious killing of 14 year old Emmett Till in Mississippi in 1955. Both as chairman of the Emmett Till Justice Campaign and as a leader of numerous other struggles for human rights and racial justice in the Kansas City area, Alvin Sykes has received much-deserved national attention for his efforts, as is detailed in two articles from USA Today and wolffmanproductions.com, which I am including with this tribute. I join with the Olathe Human Rights Commission in paying tribute to this important leader within the Kansas City community and I know that all members of the U.S. House of Representatives join with me in celebrating this tireless activist for social justice.

[From USA Today]

PERSEVERANCE PAYS OFF FOR CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

(By Laura Parker)

WASHINGTON.—Alvin Sykes holds none of the standard credentials to wield influence in the power corridors of this political city. He is a 51-year-old high school dropout with no steady job.

Yet senators listen to him. Prosecutors return his calls. As a self-made civil rights activist, Sykes persuaded the Justice Department to re-investigate the 1955 slaying of 14-year-old Emmett Till, and he deserves a fair share of the credit for the department's recent decision to review as many as 100 old murders in 14 states.

Attorney General Alberto Gonzales announced the investigation as Congress prepares to vote on a bill that would set up a permanent cold case unit in the Justice Department to probe those old crimes.

Last year, Sykes, as chairman of the Emmett Till Justice Campaign, persuaded his then-home-state senator, Jim Talent, R-Mo., to introduce the bill. Since then, Sykes and other civil rights leaders have helped sell it. Although Talent lost his seat in last fall's election, the bill—which authorizes \$11.5 million to fund the unit—has new sponsors and has gained momentum in both houses and parties.

"He reflects the spirit of the civil rights movement, where ordinary people found a way to make a difference," says Brenda Jones, spokeswoman for Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., whose beating during a protest march through Selma, Ala., in 1965 helped propel the Voting Rights Act through Congress. Lewis is sponsoring the House version of the Till bill.

Sykes is described by those who know him as tenacious and informed. "He's a very pragmatic man," says Donald Burger, a retired Justice Department mediator who met Sykes in the 1970s during battles to desegregate Kansas City, Mo., schools.

U.S. Attorney Jim Greenlee of Mississippi's northern district in Oxford had never heard of Sykes when Sykes asked him in 2004 to reopen the Till case.

The case was legendary. Most of the principals were dead or old and in poor health. The statute of limitations on applicable federal laws had expired. Only state charges related to murder or manslaughter remained possible.

Sykes arrived in Oxford armed with a legal argument that laid out why the FBI had jurisdiction to proceed with a new federal probe. "He was extremely informed and very logically presented why it should be looked into," Greenlee says.

Sykes grew up poor and sickly in Kansas City, the product of a 14-year-old mother and a father he never knew. "When I first met him, he was in his casket," Sykes says of his father. "I was 27."

Prone to schoolyard fights, Sykes dropped out of school in the ninth grade. Although he once dreamed of becoming a lawyer, he got most of his education from the public library. To support himself, Sykes found a job managing a local R&B band, Threatening Weather.

After campaigning to desegregate Kansas City schools, he helped persuade Missouri legislators to lower the age of jurors from 21 to 18, thus widening the pool of potential jurors.

He also persuaded the Justice Department to re-investigate the mysterious death of a black teenager in Kansas City in 1985.

Although the report was inconclusive, the federal involvement helped calm local residents, who had been skeptical of the local police investigation, Burger says.

He adds: "That would never have happened if it hadn't been for Alvin."

Sykes' major achievement involved the 1980 murder of a local jazz musician named Steve Harvey, who was beaten to death with a baseball bat. The man charged with the murder had been acquitted.

Sykes thumbed through library law books and found an obscure federal statute that essentially said a person couldn't be deprived of his use of a public facility because of race. Using contacts he had made at the Justice Department during the school desegregation struggle, Sykes contacted Richard Roberts, the attorney in the civil rights division who was looking into the Harvey case.

"He said, 'Send me everything you've got,'" Sykes says. In 1983, Roberts won the conviction of Raymond Bledsoe on federal civil rights violation charges. He is now serving a life sentence.

"He didn't just call once," says Roberts, now a federal district judge in Washington, D.C. "Ordinarily, people who want to know about a case will go to their local U.S. attorney. I was struck by the fact that Sykes did not rest with that. He pressed forward with more research on his own. His questions to me were pointed and showed someone who had done his homework."

The murder of young Emmett Till, who was killed in Mississippi after whistling at a white woman in a store, galvanized the civil rights movement.

Although Till's killers were known—Roy Bryant and J.W. Milam were acquitted a month after Till's death and later confessed in an interview with *Look* magazine—subsequent investigations centered on whether the men acted alone. Trial testimony suggested that Bryant's then-wife might have been with her husband and brother-in-law when Till was abducted.

Sykes pored over library law books and consulted with his Justice Department contacts. They steered him to a 1976 opinion by Antonin Scalia, then an assistant attorney general and now a Supreme Court justice, that gave the federal government jurisdiction to conduct further investigation into President Kennedy's assassination. The same opinion was used to investigate Martin Luther King Jr.'s murder.

"Even if the statute of limitations had run out, it meant that there could be an investigation for Till," Sykes says.

A Mississippi grand jury last month declined to indict Bryant's ex-wife, Carolyn Bryant Donham.

To Sykes, that doesn't mean the end of the Till case. He says he made that promise to Till's mother, Mamie Till Mobley, before she died in 2003.

The FBI has compiled 8,000 pages of notes and interviews. Now Sykes wants the Justice Department to publish a report of the investigation.

"I made that pledge to Mrs. Mobley before she died that we would get the truth out," he says.

[From wolfmanproductions.com]

ALVIN SYKES: SELF-MADE CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

Alvin Sykes holds none of the standard credentials to wield influence in the power corridors of Washington, D.C. He is not a lobbyist or an attorney, nor did he graduate from a prestigious college. In fact, he is a high school dropout.

Yet senators listen to him. Prosecutors return his calls. As a self-made civil rights activist, Sykes persuaded the Justice Department to re-investigate the 1955 slaying of 14-year-old Emmett Till, and he deserves a fair share of the credit for the department's recent decision to review as many as 100 old murders in 14 states.

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INTRODUCTION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AND SENSE OF CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, one of the primary responsibilities of each Member of Congress is to protect our nation and our citizens. Representing New Jersey, a "9-11 State," it is an important duty, whether the issue concerns funding for programs designed to protect areas which are prime terrorist targets, or ensuring that our military forces and intelligence agencies are fully supported, or securing our borders and reforming our broken immigration system.

In addition to restoring our economy with an effective stimulus that is targeted, timely and temporary, these are among the most important issues facing the nation today.

But on occasion, serious events develop in a Member's Congressional District that must be brought to the attention of this House and the nation. My District in northern New Jersey is witnessing developments that cry out for correction.

In April 2008, a 20-year old foreign national was arrested and charged with endangering the welfare of a child and aggravated sexual assault following an alleged attack on a 12-year-old girl. He was remanded to the Morris County, New Jersey jail where he remained until August when he was able to secure his release from Morris County custody by posting \$50,000 bail. Aware that the Department of Homeland Security's Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) had a "detainer" on the suspect, the Morris County Sheriffs Department transferred custody of the suspect to ICE.

In September of 2008, the suspect was transferred to an ICE detention center in Louisiana where he appeared before an immigration judge and was ordered deported. Appropriate officials in New Jersey were never informed that this potentially dangerous suspect was about to be or was subsequently deported.

Of course, the suspect failed to appear for his preliminary hearing in November 2008 in New Jersey, prompting a warrant to be issued for his arrest. He has subsequently been indicted on charges related to aggravated sexual assault on a minor.

Of course, the deportation of this suspect will delay, if not prevent, the suspect from ever answering these serious charges in an appropriate U.S. court. As a result, a young New Jersey victim and her family have been denied justice.

Clearly, the interaction between the state criminal code and federal immigration law is multi-layered and complex. In this incident, and another similar case where another foreign national charged with assaulting a nine-year-old girl is facing deportation,

Madam Speaker, today I introduce two measures designed to bring the glare of public attention onto these outrageous situations.

I am introducing legislation that provides an important new tool to states and local judicial officials as they work to bring to trial illegal immigrants charged with a serious crime. Our legislation would allow a state's chief execu-

tive or chief law enforcement officer, or that of a political subdivision, to request that the Department of Homeland Security stay the removal of an alien charged with an aggravated felony.

This solution is by no means perfect but it attempts to strike a balance between our national desire to deport as many illegal aliens as possible as quickly as possible and the ability of victims of serious crimes to have their rights protected. Simply put, the federal government needs to think twice before handling the alien suspect in an aggravated felony a "get out of jail free" card. These matters are too important to be put on auto-pilot!

I am also introducing a Sense of Congress resolution which directs DHS and ICE to develop an effective and efficient system of communication that allows state and local law enforcement and prosecutors to know, in a timely manner, when suspects charged in their jurisdictions with aggravated felonies are in the final stages of the deportation process.

My colleagues, these measures are not parochial in their nature. These are not issues confined to one county in one state. I suspect that if Morris County, New Jersey is grappling with the dueling conflict between state criminal law and federal immigration process, then so are counties in your Congressional District. I urge you to check with your law enforcement and prosecutors back home and then co-sponsor these two measures.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BISHOP
THOMAS J. WELSH

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Thomas J. Welsh, the founding bishop of the Catholic Dioceses of Arlington, Virginia. He passed away on February 19 at the age of 87, from pulmonary fibrosis.

Bishop Welsh served as Arlington's bishop from 1974 to 1983. He established six additional area parishes: St. Stephen the Martyr in Middleburg; St. Catherine of Siena in Great Falls; St. John Neumann in Reston; St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Lake Ridge; Our Lady of the Blue Ridge in Madison; and Holy Martyrs of Vietnam in Arlington County. Bishop Welsh dedicated 11 new churches during his years with the Catholic Dioceses of Arlington.

Other notable achievements in his career as Arlington's bishop include helping to establish Christendom College in Front Royal and Catholic Distance University in Hamilton, both of which are in Virginia's 10th District. He also approved the purchase of the building for Paul VI Catholic High School in Fairfax. Bishop Welsh believed in the importance of Catholic education, both at school and at home. He founded the Arlington Catholic Herald newspaper in 1975 and established the Family Life Bureau in 1977. The Family Life Bureau worked to organize various pro-life activities within the Arlington diocese.

After leaving Arlington in 1983, Bishop Welsh became the second bishop of the diocese of Allentown, Pennsylvania. He retired from Allentown in 1997.

His dedication and ministry will be missed by all who knew and worked with him. In the

homily given at his funeral Mass, Msgr. Anthony D. Muntone, pastor of St. Elizabeth Parish in Whitehall, Pennsylvania, quoted one of Bishop Welsh's favorite saints, St. Thomas More, who said: "Pray for me and I will pray for thee that one day we will meet merrily in heaven." I believe Bishop Welsh, as a dedicated believer and servant to the Catholic Church, will indeed be met merrily in heaven. His memory will live on through all the lives he touched and the legacy he left in both Arlington and Allentown.

HONORING RESURRECTION
CATHOLIC MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Resurrection Catholic Middle School in Lakeland, Florida, on winning the Polk County Middle School E-Team Academic Tournament. In addition to winning the overall award, Resurrection Catholic School won the eighth-grade competition. This victory is the first for Resurrection, after taking second place in the previous two years.

Teams of sixth, seventh and eighth graders represented their schools and tested their knowledge of economic terms, language arts, mathematics and social studies. Thirty one schools participated in the competition this year with only six schools advancing on to the final round.

Coleman Cavanah, Alanna Wehle, Andrew Noonan, Tanner Donahoo, Matthew Murphy, Keegan Rand, Zoe Holmquist, Matthew Patterson, Emily Collins, Courtney Krakowski, Justin Lucas, Gabe Tone, Gabby Dilullo, Jarrad Pazda, Andrew Goding, Jacob Murphy, Riley Perrow, and Andreana Paz were all a part of the Resurrection E-Team. These students spent countless hours after school, studying an array of subjects and taking many practice tests over a course of nine weeks. Their dedication truly exemplifies academic excellence.

I would like to recognize Principal Nancy Genzel and Coaches Maryellen Krakowski, Cindy Stanford, and Lisha Fletcher for the positive example they set and for the leadership they provide. Their diligent work properly prepared these students for the competition and led them to this amazing success.

I commend Resurrection Catholic School for leading the way in excellence and for their commitment to empowering young minds. Congratulations on your success!

HONORING THE WHITE FAMILY

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas B. White Sr. and his family, who have selflessly served our country by enforcing the law in Southeastern Pennsylvania for over 100 years.

Thomas B. White Sr. started his career with the Philadelphia Police Department on March