

Among his accomplishments: UDW is now financially secure. Thanks to a volunteer member organizing effort, nearly 25,000 new members have joined UDW since 2005. For the first time in history, all of the top elected leaders in UDW are working homecare providers. Doug has helped win the highest wages in the history of the UDW statewide and has led the effort to win affordable health insurance in San Diego.

Due to his efforts, the newly installed UDW Executive Board appointed Doug Moore in February 2008 as executive director with full responsibility for managing UDW activities and staff on a day-to-day basis.

In his acceptance speech to the UDW Executive Board, Doug said:

From county board to county board, we will send a clear message that homecare providers matter. We demand to be treated with dignity and respect! We are not second-class citizens and we will fight to end the classism, sexism and racism that we see everyday from those elected boards in our counties. . . . We will do this the old-fashioned way: Organize, organize, organize! Because when we fight, we win!

TEXAS TEACHER OF THE YEAR
FOR 1970

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, El Paso, Texas has a history of producing strong, passionate, and caring educators who motivate and engage our children to become lifelong learners. As a parent and grandparent, I am grateful for the contributions of our teachers in the El Paso area, and today I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Clarence K. Stark, a teacher at Irvin High School in the El Paso Independent School District, for being selected as the 1970 Texas Teacher of the Year. The Texas Teacher of the Year is the highest honor that the State of Texas can award to a teacher. Facilitated by the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Teacher of the Year Program annually recognizes and rewards teachers who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and excellence in teaching. Mr. Clarence K. Stark represents the best of the best in the teaching profession, and we salute his energy, efforts, and dedication.

Mr. Stark taught government at Irvin High School in the El Paso Independent School District. In 1968 Mr. Stark impressed his colleagues with his work. Both that year and in 1969, Mr. Stark was voted as outstanding teacher of the year for Irvin High School and he was noted as saying: "I feel very honored, grateful, and humble that my fellow teachers selected me as outstanding teacher." Mr. Stark's social sciences department aimed to prepare young people to be tomorrow's leaders and his devotion to his students is greatly admired by teachers at his school. Mr. Stark embodies the qualities of great leaders and his passion to reach every student at Irvin High School is a testament to his character.

Mr. Clarence K. Stark is part of a larger history of educational excellence in El Paso. I am proud to note that to date El Paso area educators have been chosen as Texas Teachers of the Year 9 times. The National Teacher of

the Year Program began in 1952 and continues as the oldest, most prestigious national honors program that focuses public attention on excellence in teaching.

I am proud of the work of our teachers, and I am committed to ensuring that education remains a top priority in this Congress.

"CHILDREN IN THE FIELD," BY
DAVID ROGERS

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following article written by Capitol Hill correspondent David Rogers. Although a conscientious objector, he is a decorated veteran who was wounded while serving as an Army medic in Vietnam.

In his article, Rogers vividly describes the devastating impact of war on children and how American service members create bonds of mutual friendship and curiosity with the children who become victims of conflict and war.

"CHILDREN IN THE FIELD"

(By David Rogers)

"The old French fort was nothing more than an open area encircled by a berm, dirt piled into a wall. There was gaping holes where the fortification had eroded, and when the ground attack came, the enemy rocket grenades and automatic fire were able to hit the sleeping positions. Some AK rounds came from an outlying hamlet and Jose opened up with the machine gun. In the morning there was crying from one home, for a child had been killed.

"The women and old men would only stare sorrowfully at the patrols, but the children, looking for food or being curious, would come up to the soldiers. It was an uneasy truce between them: the infantry sweating under their packs and still wary after coming from the jungle; and the children, pulling on the men's gear, begging for food, but resisting even a gentle hand wanting to touch them. For the platoon medic, breaking through this distance was easier, and the children would finally come to him. He was the only one without a weapon and just the name "Doc" was simpler to remember. They—the medic and children—never knew each other's real names. It didn't matter. After all the months in the field and in and out of the villages, many would know him on sight and call "Doc." One would start and then the others would join in. He would want to go back and stay with them.

"The platoon was securing the road when the enemy hit the third squad's position. AK fire caught Wesley in the stomach, and a rocket grenade wounded two other men. The medic had to go back for them and, afterwards, blood was all over his fatigues and hands. The children were again on the road, looking where the firing had been. They also looked at him, standing there in the stink of the heat and burned powder and blood. He wanted them to go away, but they had seen it all before. It was he who was new. Later, the Vietnamese soldiers would bring their kills out to the road. The children on the way to market would have to pass the bodies.

"She was twelve years old but had a wiser, more reserved way about her than the other children living in the villages or selling sodas along the red clay road. When candy

was thrown from the convoys, she never ran, but only watched out for her younger sister and brother. The medic always looked for her but never brought the Cokes she teased him with. When the infantry closed the road and no more sodas could be sold, he saw her fishing occasionally or carrying firewood from where the American bulldozers had cleared the jungle. They seemed better friends then. He brought her presents at Tet, and she gave him paper flowers when he came the next time. After the battalion moved out, they never saw one another again. Before returning to the United States, he went back to the village, but she was away for the day. Instead, he sat with her brother and sister, who invited him into their thatched home. The village had a solemn quiet and they talked in near whispers. He stayed an hour with them.

"The children were so light compared to the weight of the Americans that the medics had to be careful not to turn too quickly when they carried the stretchers from the helicopters. The thin bodies, smaller still on the green hard canvas, rocked back and forth with each jolt and appeared in danger of sliding off. One night, two girls brought in with shrapnel wounds. The youngest lay without a sound, her stomach hard but only slightly torn. He stayed with her until she went into the operating room, but she did not cry during the long wait. Just the staring eyes, stunned by the pain and unable to close in the glare of the overhead light. She had been asleep when the shells came. In the morning she was dead.

"The children, so young and constant, would have the effect of confronting the soldiers with themselves. Coming back from an operation and seeing them running out to the road, the platoon was faced with something more alive than itself, against which each man would account himself. The dead in the jungle, those the platoon had lost or those it had killed, would come back for that moment. It was an anxious time, waiting for the smile or shout to pull them through the memories.

"After a contact the soldiers would search the bodies looking for souvenirs or materials which might be turned over to some distant information officer. Equipment such as hammocks or shell pouches were distributed according to who had been most involved in the fighting. Once there was a picture of the dead man's child and the medic took that himself. It was a little girl holding a flower and on the back was a delicate sketch of a dove."

HONORING AUNG SAN SUU KYI

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Aung San Suu Kyi, prisoner of conscience, peaceful pro-democracy activist, and leader of Burma's National League for Democracy.

In 1989 during a pro-democracy uprising, Aung San Suu Kyi was placed under house arrest. Despite the fact that her party won the election of 1990, the Burmese junta neglected to acknowledge their victory. Aung San Suu Kyi has spent 13 of the last 19 years under house arrest and the junta continues to extend her sentence on a yearly basis. There have been several undertakings to urge her release and just last week, the United Nations condemned her detention, calling it a violation of Burma's own laws.

Aside from being the recognized leader of her party and a worldwide symbol for peace, freedom and democracy, Aung San Suu Kyi was the recipient of the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought in 1990, given by the European Union, and the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask that you to join me in calling for the unconditional release of Aung San Suu Kyi and honoring the courage and conviction with which she lives her life.

MRS. RITA HARLIEN—TEXAS
TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR 1982

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, El Paso, Texas is extremely fortunate to have some of the best teachers in the state and the country. As a parent and grandparent, I am appreciative of the work and dedication of our teachers and I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the life and work of the late Mrs. Rita Harlien, a former teacher at Eastwood High School in the Ysleta Independent School District, for her dedication to her students and her designation as the 1982 Texas Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Rita Harlien received the highest honor that the State of Texas can award and her work with children is long lasting and enduring. Her children and the legacy she left behind remain alive in the community of El Paso, Texas.

While teaching at Eastwood High School, her students competed in many University Interscholastic League State competitions and won a state championship in debate. In 1978 she was selected as Speech Teacher of the Year. In 1981 she served as President of the Texas Speech Communication Association. While working for the El Paso Independent School District, she completed her administration certification and coauthored two speech textbooks. After serving six years in administration, as a Facilitator of Academic Competition, in the El Paso District, Mrs. Harlien's love for teaching beckoned her back to Eastwood High School where she taught drama until she retired from teaching in 1998, after 34 years of service.

Mrs. Rita Harlien is part of a larger history of educational excellence in El Paso. I am proud to note that to date El Paso area educators have been chosen as Texas Teachers of the Year nine times. The National Teacher of the Year Program began in 1952 and continues as the oldest, most prestigious national honors program that focuses public attention on excellence in teaching.

I am proud of the work of our teachers, and I am committed to ensuring that education remains a top priority in this Congress.

HONORING LT. CLIFFORD SAUCIER

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Lt. Clifford Saucier for

his 39 years of dedicated service with the Southington Police Department. Lt. Saucier began his career with the Southington Police Department in March 1969 as a supernumerary officer. In February of 1970 he joined the department as a full time patrolman and was a member of the first class to graduate from the Connecticut Police Academy (POST). Throughout his 39 years of full time service, Lt. Saucier demonstrated his commitment to the badge, the department and the community he serves.

During his tenure, Lt. Saucier held diverse positions while attaining the ranks of detective, sergeant and lieutenant. He served as the Crisis Incident Commander, chief hostage negotiator, police union president and interned with the State's Attorney's Office as a criminal investigator.

Throughout his career Lt. Saucier has continuously displayed his commitment to improving himself and his peers by receiving training in over twenty disciplines, giving lectures and collaborating with other agencies. His service has been recognized by civic and professional organizations, receiving the "Honorable and Exceptional Merit Award" from the Southington Police Department, the "Distinguish Service Award, Man of the Year" from the Southington Jaycees and the "Public Safety Citation" awarded by the B.P.O.E. Southington Lodge No. 1669.

I thank Lt. Saucier for his 39 years of dedicated public service to the First District of Connecticut, and I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating him on his retirement.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE HONORABLE U.W. CLEMON

HON. ARTUR DAVIS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of an outstanding lawyer who has recently retired from the federal bench, the Honorable U.W. Clemon.

U.W. Clemon's ascension from racial apartheid in Alabama to the federal bench is a testament to the quickening pace of justice in the late twentieth century. His path is also evidence of how much that rising arc of justice depended on the stamina and the will of individual black Americans who resisted the permanence of segregation.

When I trace U.W. Clemon's life, I am struck by how undeterred he was by the cruelty of his times. He was not yet a legal adult when he dared to testify to Birmingham's City Council that segregation ordinances had no valid legal authority. He was ejected from the council chambers and labeled an "agitator" and a "militant" for his efforts. Young Clemon was assigned by movement leaders to risk arrest by entering the Birmingham Public Library's segregated chambers. Through all of this, he knew that Birmingham's police had been vicious enough to brutalize children much younger than him.

Clemon emphatically rejected the premise that even smart and brave young black men had no professional future in Alabama. He

saw no reason why the valedictorian at a fine black college, Miles University, shouldn't also be a Columbia man with an Ivy League law degree.

It would have been forgivable if Clemon had used his Ivy League ticket to escape the South—frankly, I would have if I had been his contemporary and numerous others did. The "agitator" in him won out, and the former student activist was soon camped out in Alabama's courts litigating to enforce school desegregation orders that had been withering on the vine. False memory says that a black U.S.C. running back's exemplary performance against the University's football team moved the legendary "Bear" Bryant to recruit black athletes; in reality, it was a lawsuit filed by young attorney Clemon.

This initial pioneering phase of his life is the first reason U.W. Clemon will be honored on May 7, 2009 by the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation. The second reason is the character of the public service he has provided the citizens of my state. State Senator U.W. Clemon distinguished himself by the battles he waged to obtain representation for blacks on the governing board of state agencies and universities. Part of the reason for progress was undoubtedly Governor George Wallace's softening stance on race. Much another, major part of the reason state boards came to resemble the state's population was Senator Clemon's persistence and his effectiveness.

When Clemon was nominated for the federal bench, the history making nature of the appointment guaranteed opposition and some of it was personal and ferocious. His stance against the constitutionality of the death penalty was used against him; his role in the political process was described as the wrong preparation for a judicial temperament—a curious claim to make to a Senate that had confirmed Governor Earl Warren and Republican activist William Rehnquist to the Supreme Court. It was even intimated that a civil rights litigator might have an untoward bias toward black plaintiffs.

Clemon won the fight, and the prize of being the first black federal judge in my state's history. The subsequent twenty nine years are a model of judicial courage. Clemon's rulings have made my state's mental hospitals and its county jails more hospitable to human beings. His decisions have undone some of the environmental ravages that were becoming routine costs of doing business in some counties. His single-handed implementation of a more inclusive jury selection wheel means that the administration of justice is more diverse than it is in any other federal district in my state, and that is a good thing if you conclude that the appearance of equal justice is an institutional value in its own right.

This record of robust interpretation of the ideal of equal justice is the legacy Judge Clemon leaves. I have never understood the notion that the law is unreservedly neutral or that its interpretation is unconnected to a judge's deeply held sentiments of what kind of America we should aspire to be. Plessy v. Ferguson arose out of a value scheme, one that disfavored people of my kind and was inherently skeptical of our capacity for common ground. Brown v. Board is a variant of yet another value, one that trusts the capacity for collective gain if we are freed from bigotry and its stigmas. Both decisions arose out of the reading of the same constitutional clauses.