

We truly can never repay the debt we owe these soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who put themselves in harm's way to protect us and our liberty and freedom. The sacrifices made by these outstanding citizens—and the families they left behind—are truly incredible. Without their honor, courage, commitment, and sacrifice, we would not enjoy the freedoms we cherish today.

Please join me in thanking these Oregon veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their dedication, commitment, and service to our great nation. May God bless them and may God Bless America.

A TRIBUTE TO MARY ELIZABETH  
WHITEHEAD CLARK

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS—**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mary Elizabeth Whitehead Clark for her dedication to service and work as a community activist.

Mary Elizabeth Catten, the oldest of six children, was born on October 8, 1938 in Franklin, Virginia where her family owned and worked their land and grew fruits, and vegetables. After having her first child, Arlinda, saving her money and getting married to Jesse Whitehead, she moved her family to the East New York section of Brooklyn, New York. She and her husband have five other children: Jesse Jr., Jacqueline, Johnette, John and Juanita, and raised five of her husband's nieces and nephews.

Mary became Director of a daycare in East New York that employed 10 adults as well as 15 neighborhood youth during the summer. Through her strong leadership in the community of East New York, Mary played a key role in working with Community Board 5, and former Mayor of New York City, the Honorable Abraham "Abe" Beame, in mapping out the new housing developments that were built in East New York, currently known as the Nehemiah homes. Mary started a block association on Sutter Avenue to improve the conditions in the neighborhood of Community Board 5.

Mary's family outgrew their Sutter avenue apartment and later moved into a house in the Bedford Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn. She gave birth to a second set of twins (Mary and Marty) that gave her and Jesse 13 children to raise.

Mary started another block association in her new neighborhood on Halsey Street. She was always involved in the schools that her children attended. Sadly, her beloved husband passed away in 1974. Shortly thereafter, Mary began attending the Macedonia Disciples of Church of God in Christ. She served as the pastor's aide and became a member of the usher's board. She also became involved with the church food pantry, which distributes food to individuals and families in the Bedford Stuyvesant community. The church was an integral part of Mary's life and helped to make sure that her entire family knew God. Mary is still an active member of the church to this day and continues to tirelessly run the food pantry. Mary continues to maintain a presence in the schools that her children attended and

served as President of the P.T.A. of P.S. 93, J.H.S. 258, and Boys and Girls High School. Mary inspires everyone she meets to make a better life for their families and communities.

As her children grew old enough to care for themselves, Mary went back to school and trained to become a home health aide. After successfully completing school and working for a while as a home health aide, she began teaching home health aide courses at the request of the directors of her school. Mary retired after many years of teaching, but her teaching days were far from over. Mary raised two of her many grandchildren, ran the food pantry and served as President of the Nurses Unite organization at her church. Mary was remarried to Mr. James Clark and moved to the Bushwick section of Brooklyn where she continues to be an active member of her block association. The Mary Elizabeth Whitehead Clark legacy of community activism is continued by her children who are all in some aspects involved in politics, and community activism.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Mary Elizabeth Whitehead Clark.

TRIBUTE TO LES RICHTER

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Leslie Alan Richter, an accomplished athlete, successful businessman, outstanding community member and close personal friend of mine. On June 12, 2010, Les passed away at the age of 79. Though Les has passed on from this life, he leaves a lasting legacy of generosity and accomplishment that will never be forgotten.

Born in Fresno, California, on October 6, 1930, Les attended the University of California, Berkeley, where he played football and graduated as valedictorian of his class in 1952. Before starting a career in professional football, Les served 2 years in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. In 1954, he started with the Los Angeles Rams, who traded a record 11 players in order to get Les. He played linebacker and place kicker for the Rams for nine seasons—eight of those being All-Pro. In 1982 he entered the College Football Hall of Fame, and he is still considered one of the greatest linebackers in professional football.

After retiring from football, Les' interests turned to auto racing, and from 1963 to 1984 he ran the Riverside Raceway in Riverside, California. He then moved to Daytona Beach, Florida, where he worked for NASCAR for 10 years, and was named executive vice president of competition in 1986, and the senior vice president of operations in 1992. He is largely recognized as one of three key race track executives that helped guide and advise NASCAR founder "Big Bill" France, who made NASCAR the success it is today. Les built various tracks around the NASCAR circuit and was influential in helping expand the sport's national appeal. After leaving NASCAR, Les returned to Riverside, where he oversaw the development of the Auto Club Speedway.

Aside from his professional endeavors, Les was known for contributing to the community

of Riverside. In fact, Les was an original member of the Monday Morning Group, a group of civic and business leaders who come to Washington every year to meet with legislators from southern California to further the goals of the Inland Empire region. Additionally, Les chaired the board of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce and also served on the Riverside Community College District board of trustees.

Les is survived by his wife, Marilyn; daughter, Anne Guerrucci; and three grandchildren.

Although Les was known for his great success in his profession, he will be remembered for his gentle manner, humility and great sense of humor. I have personally been influenced by Les, and consider him one of my most valued mentors.

On behalf of all those who knew him, it is an honor to offer these remarks as a tribute to the life and legacy of my friend Les Richter. His life and presence will be sorely missed and I extend my condolences to his dear family and friends.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. JEFFREY A.  
MCKOY

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS—**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Jeffrey A. Mckoy for his dedication to educational pursuits and his work in the field of psychotherapy.

Dr. Jeffrey A. Mckoy was born in Kingston, Jamaica. He migrated to the United States and later moved to Brooklyn, New York to join his family. He attended several universities and obtained a Bachelor's degree and Master's degree and a Doctor of Science in Clinical Psychology.

At the age of 15, Dr. Mckoy began to realize the importance of education and by the time he was 17, he migrated to the United States. He enrolled in an alternative program night school and worked part-time. He found out quickly that a minimum wage job was not going to get him through college. This created a need to fund his educational pursuits. In 1980, he joined the Board of Education as a Family Paraprofessional, where he was able to gain valuable experience and support for his education. In the years in the Department of Education, he was able to attend college and graduated in 1989. He did not stop there; he later enrolled in Brooklyn College.

In 1989, he joined the family District Council 37, Local 372 and served as Released Time Representative for approximately 8 years. It was there that he met and fell in love with his wife Gloria. He later reentered the Board of Education in 1996 as a teacher. He taught Social Studies and various subjects in middle school and High School. His wife has been supportive of his efforts through the years.

Dr. Mckoy is a psychotherapist; he currently owns and operates the mental health clinic Visionary Mental Health Counseling Service, P.C. in Brooklyn. The clinic offers counseling and psychotherapy treatments, evaluations, treatments for ADHD, ADD, ODD, anxiety, grief and loss, work and career issues, stress, and autism and Aspergers disorders.

Dr. Mckoy is a Diplomat and Board Certified member of the American Psychotherapy Association. He is also a member of American Psychological Association and a clinical member of American College of Counselors. He is a Lion and a member of the F & A.M., New York, and served as a worshipful Master of Publicity Lodge 1000.

His youngest daughter, Sheria, is 30 years old. She is a graduate of Rutgers University and the Naval Academy. She is now pursuing a medical degree. The oldest, Melissa, is 32 years old. She is a graduate of New Jersey Technical Institute. She is an Army Reservist, with a degree in finance and marketing. She is currently pursuing her dreams.

Dr. Mckoy has always placed a great importance on education. He would like to see his children continue their educational interests. He has lived a life based on hard work, education, and responsibility. It is these principles that he believes can have the greatest impact on anyone's success.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Dr. Jeffrey A. Mckoy.

HONORING JULIA J. NOBLE, RECIPIENT OF THE DEPARTMENTAL CITATION AWARD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-BERKELEY

### HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a young woman who has risen above very challenging circumstances, has attained an outstanding achievement, and serves as an example for other young people to follow.

I want to recognize Ms. Julia J. Noble, a 19-year-old Chinese-American, who recently graduated from the University of California-Berkeley this past May. Julia remarkably completed her prestigious English honors program in less than 2 years and was presented the Departmental Citation Award, or the Mark Schorer Prize, as the most outstanding English major to graduate from the University in 2010. As an Asian Pacific Islander and an alumnus, I am proud of her accomplishment which is eminently remarkable and considered impossible given her young age. The Departmental Citation Award was conferred by Dr. Samuel Otter, Chair of the English Department at University of California-Berkeley.

As an infant, born in California, Julia moved with her family to many countries in the Pacific, including Taiwan, Australia, and Japan. Through her diverse upbringing, she has always displayed a generous and noble compassion towards others. At age 13, a deep love for her homeland brought Julia back to the United States to pursue her education. Having spent the majority of her life attending Chinese- and Japanese-speaking schools, Julia had to be tutored by family friends for even the most basic reading skills. Thus her aspiration during high school to study English literature at a premier university was always met with derision and doubts. Yet Julia was undeterred, and through her determination and hard work she excelled at her high school and

gained admission to the University of California-Berkeley, where she pursued a rigorous course of study in English Literature.

Julia continues to believe that one can do anything as long as one is determined and motivated by a heartfelt cause; her phenomenal success is a model for every aspiring young person. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Julia for this singular superior academic accomplishment; and I personally hope this tribute may reach other young people and serve as inspiration for their future achievement as well.

### A TRIBUTE TO JOSE ANTONIO ZAPATA

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jose Antonio Zapata for his dedication to his community and excellence in his field.

A personable and dedicated retail bank professional, Jose Antonio Zapata is the oldest of three sons raised in Bronx, New York by proud parents Honoria Guaba and Antonio Zapata. Jose's parents left their native country of the Dominican Republic and migrated to the United States with the hope of giving their children a better life. His parents instilled in him that dedication, hard work, higher education and motivation will lead to success in life.

Graduating from the prestigious Bronx High School of Science, Jose immersed himself in becoming a noteworthy athlete in Track and Field. He also volunteered throughout the Bronx, through such deeds as helping in the clean up project at Van Cortland Park.

With his mother's relentless support for academic advancement, Jose earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Baruch College in Real Estate and Metropolitan Development. He chose this field in hopes of filling the need of affordable housing in underserved communities. However, he soon realized that having a solid understanding of financial services would enable an individual to go much further than being provided affordable shelter. Ever since then he has focused his efforts on the financial industry.

Mr. Zapata is now a highly accomplished bilingual management professional with expertise in retail banking and an interest in micro-finance. Jose joined Citibank, a leading global financial services company, in 2004 and quickly became an award-winning employee, earning the 2005 CitiStars Top Sales Producer Award. He also became Chair of the Community Outreach and Professional Development Committee for the Citigroup Hispanic Network and Editor of the Citibank Management Association newsletter. His hard work continued to pay off as he was selected to work on high-profile initiatives for the previous chairman and C.E.O. of Citibank North America.

Jose quickly moved on to becoming Branch Manager of Citibank's Liberty Avenue branch where he has had great success. Through his management, Citibank's Liberty Avenue Branch is intensely focused on serving its clients, customers, and community through branch involvement in events such as the Bangladesh Festival, the Mobile Mexican Con-

sulate, Community Board Meetings, and various customer appreciation initiatives.

Prior to joining Citibank, Jose provided marketing support for Gala Resources LLC and Powerhouse Mortgage and Funding and sale support for the Unicasa Realty. When he is not working, he loves playing basketball, and nurturing his younger brothers' affinity for the sport. He is also a boxing aficionado. Jose now hopes to continue his educational endeavors and entering a graduate program of study in the near future.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Jose Antonio Zapata.

CONGRATULATING BERNARD "BERNIE" BEHREND'S ON HIS 89TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. AARON SCHOCK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. SCHOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Bernard "Bernie" Behrends, an exceptional philanthropist with a passion for education. He will be celebrating his 89th birthday on July 27, 2010. His passion and dedication for providing charity to others is inspiring and commendable. Bernie's mother was widowed and raised Bernie and his sister Anna with the help of their grandfather. At an early age, they were inspired by a philosophy of charity. They were taught to help others whenever possible and to view their successes as opportunities to help others in the future. These values were the foundation on which Bernie started his volunteer and charity work and why he continues to do so to this day.

Bernie was born in Lincoln, Illinois on July 27, 1921. He completed his primary and secondary education in Lincoln, through the Lincoln public school system. In 1946, after three years of service during World War II, Bernie was honorably discharged from the United States Navy.

Bernie attended Lincoln College from 1946 to 1948 and Bradley University from 1948 to 1950, receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in general engineering from Bradley University. After completing his post-secondary education with assistance from the GI Bill of Rights, Bernie began his successful career working as a civil engineer with the Illinois Department of Transportation. After thirty two years of service, he retired in 1982.

Throughout the years, Bernie Behrends has been an invaluable asset to our community in central Illinois by volunteering countless hours of his time and expertise. Between 1958 and 1963, Bernie served as Vice President of Immanuel Lutheran Church, and during the Vietnam War, he was a member of the Logan County Selective Service Board. Through this position, he was assigned to the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees from 1967 to 1973. This experience was followed by membership on the Logan County Election Board for eight years. Eventually in 1992, Bernie was elected to the coveted Board of Trustees at Lincoln College, a position he has now held for eighteen years.

Through his position on the Board of Trustees, he has worked to provide financial assistance to high school students seeking to attend