

of Christ have been diligent in care of their sanctuary.

While the congregation takes pride in their sanctuary and other buildings, it is not the property, but the worship and all the activities of the congregation that are the heart of the church. This anniversary is the celebration of 150 years of steadfast worship where there have been 2,189 Baptisms, 1,640 Confirmations, 690 Marriages and 1,514 Funerals recorded since 1860.

Descendents of families who first organized the church are among those who continue to welcome new members to worship. Together all the members of the Salem United Church of Christ honor the past as well as look to the future of their church.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. ARMY SPC. 1ST  
CLASS DAMON SHONTELL

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 30, 2010*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise in solemn tribute to the memory of a patriotic young man from South Alabama who recently passed away while honorably serving our Nation.

On July 5, 2010, U.S. Army Spc. 1st Class Damon Shontell, age 22 of Grand Bay, Alabama, died at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

A graduate of Alma Bryant High School in Irvington, Alabama, Spc. Shontell joined the Army after receiving his diploma. He was known for his deep and abiding patriotism and his determination to serve his country. He planned to pursue a degree in engineering upon completion of his military service.

After entering the Army, Damon attended Military Police Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri in June 2006. After completion of his training, he was transferred to Fort Hood, Texas, where he was stationed with the 64th Military Police Company. In May 2007, Spc. Shontell deployed with the 64th MP Company to Iraq where he bravely defended his comrades in gun battles with the enemy. In July 2008, he returned to Fort Hood for another 12 months before transferring to the 17th Military Police Detachment at Fort Jackson in July 2009. He continued to serve at Fort Jackson as a Military Policeman, and was awarded the Army Commendation Medal (1 OLC), Army Achievement Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Global War on Terrorism Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and the Iraq Campaign Medal.

He was a devoted soldier who witnessed the hardship and sacrifice of war, but he never faltered in his dedication to duty.

Madam Speaker, we owe so much to those who wear the uniform of our country and put themselves in harm's way to ensure our safety and security.

Even more than the loss of a hero, there is no greater loss than the loss of a child. Spc. Damon Shontell's father, David, personally wrote me a touching letter about the tremendous void that has been created in his life through the passing of his only child, who was also his best friend.

Mr. Shontell also asked me to express his gratitude to those personnel at Fort Jackson who treated him with "love, respect, trust and

brotherhood" and who so honored his son. In keeping with his request, I bring to the attention of the U.S. House those officers who deserve special recognition for their compassion: Sgt. Terry Horn, Sgt. Kevin Lasonde, Sgt. William Crews, Sgt. David Beaton, Sgt. Stacy Case, Cpt. Tara Mahoney, Col. James Love, Sgt. Ken Lucas; and, at Fort Rucker, Alabama, Sgt. Michelle Flores.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of Alabama, I wish to extend my heartfelt condolences to Spc. 1st Class Shontell's father, David, and his family and friends for their profound personal loss. We all mourn the passing of this very special young man who was taken away from all of us in the prime of his youth. Damon Shontell loved his father, his country, and his God. He will never be forgotten. May he rest in peace.

FAIR SENTENCING ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 28, 2010*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1789, the Fair Sentencing Act of 2010. For too long, crack cocaine users, predominantly minorities, have been subject to excessive penalties when compared to users of powder cocaine even though both drugs are chemically identical. While this bill does not go far enough towards righting this injustice, it is a tremendous step in the right direction, and I commend Senator DURBIN and the rest of the Senate for passing this long overdue piece of legislation and urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, for too long users of crack cocaine were sentenced to prison terms that were much longer than prison terms for users of cocaine, a chemically identical drug. We all know why this is the case. In the 1980's, the United States was in the midst of a crack cocaine epidemic. While cocaine was often considered a harmless, even glamorous, "recreational" drug of privilege, crack cocaine was considered a more harmful drug and was associated with crime and destitution. The reality is that crack cocaine, though chemically identical to cocaine, is less pure and therefore sells for less on the street. As a result, this drug rapidly spread across already impoverished and crime-ridden areas of the country, in many cases making a bad situation worse. As we all know, low income Americans are disproportionately minority. Crack cocaine quickly became associated with minorities, particularly African Americans. It would be more accurate, however, to associate crack cocaine use with poverty than with African Americans. It is important to let the American people know that, at the height of the crack cocaine epidemic in this country, a 1982 the National Survey on Drug Abuse found that 22 million Americans had used cocaine at one time or another. I say this to make it clear that cocaine was as much of an epidemic as crack cocaine during the 1980s. The only difference between crack and cocaine is the user.

In response to the crack cocaine epidemic, Congress passed the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 in a reactionary effort to try and put a stop to the use of crack cocaine. The law was

a part of the so called "war on drugs," a popular political catch phrase at the time. This "war" was launched by stressing the serious social harms of violent crime, theft, social exclusion; with which crack cocaine use was associated.

Current law provides that a person convicted of crack cocaine possession receives the same mandatory prison term as someone who possesses 100 times the same amount of powder cocaine and the law has mandatory minimums for simple possession. Mr. Speaker, let me repeat that. The Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 sets the penalty for possession of crack cocaine at 100 times the penalty for a chemically identical drug, cocaine and sets mandatory minimum sentences for crack cocaine users while setting a mandatory minimum sentence for cocaine users. As a result of this law, wealthy users of cocaine have received more lenient penalties than poor minority users of crack, a chemically identical drug. According to U.S. government statistics, 82 percent of Federal crack cocaine offenders are African American and only 9 percent are white. African-Americans and Latinos were incarcerated at a higher rate because of their drug use preference. In this country, where everyone is born equal, it is absolutely outrageous that the law could be so slanted. It simply makes no sense. As a former Magistrate Judge and defense attorney, I firmly believe that there should be no difference in the ratio of sentencing for crack cocaine and powder cocaine possession.

Over the years, there have been numerous efforts to lower this ratio to a more reasonable difference in sentencing for crack cocaine and powder cocaine. In 2007, The United States Sentencing Commission voted to recommend that this disparity be rectified and existing sentences reduced. Also in 2007, The Supreme Court ruled in *Kimbrough v. United States* that the guidelines for cocaine are advisory only, and that a judge may consider the disparity between the guidelines' treatment of crack and powder cocaine offenses when sentencing a defendant. Finally, today, the United States House of Representatives will consider and hopefully pass a bill that will lower the ratio of sentencing from 100 to 1, to a new ratio of 18 to 1. Mr. Speaker, I support this bill but 18 to 1 is still unnecessary and discriminatory. An 18 to 1 ratio still preserves and institutional disparity between drug sentences of wealthy cocaine users and predominantly poor and African American crack cocaine users.

I support the direction that this bill takes the country however I am disappointed that, after all these years, an institutional disparity will be preserved. I firmly believe that there should be no disparity in the ratio of sentencing between users of crack cocaine and powder cocaine. The ratio should be one to one. This view is shared by both Republicans and Democrats alike. Former D.C. prosecutor, later D.C. Superior Court judge, and present D.C. Federal judge, Judge Reggie B. Walton, a Republican nominated by former President George W. Bush, supports an equalization of the sentencing disparity. Even President Obama stated in 2008 that the sentencing disparity "has disproportionately filled our prisons with young black and Latino drug users." He cited figures that African Americans serve almost as much time for drug offenses, at 58.7 months, as whites do for violent offenses, at 61.7 months. Finally, in early 2009, Attorney General Holder

made it clear where the Administration stands when he said, "One thing is very clear. We must review our Federal cocaine sentencing policy. This administration firmly believes that the disparity in crack and powdered cocaine sentencing is unwarranted. It must be eliminated."

There is absolutely no justification for this racial disparity in federal cocaine sentencing policy. The playing field must be leveled to bring total equality for all races in sentencing for drug use for all variations of the same drug.

I urge my colleagues to take an enormous step in the right direction by supporting this bill to greatly improve this outdated and discriminatory law. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

#### WOMEN OF THE MUSIC CITY

### HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the accomplishments of the women of Music City. "Let's Hear It For The Girls," the 2010 Source Awards, celebrates the women who helped found the Nashville music industry. Celia Froehlig, Carol Phillips, Sherrytha Scaife, Elizabeth Thiels, Ruth Bland White and Jo Walker Meador Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Frances Williams Preston will be honored at the 8th annual event. "In the long run, you make your own luck—good, bad, or indifferent." Loretta Lynn's words many triumphs ago speak still for the women of today's victories who blaze the musical trail of their own luck.

Nashville's music industry has a dazzled history of women pioneers. Mother Maybelle Carter created the Carter scratch. Kitty Wells was the first female artist to have her own LP. Patsy Cline paved the way for women to sell records as well as men. And Loretta Lynn was the first woman in country music to have 50 Top 10 hits. Paving the way for Dolly Parton's songwriting strengths, Tammy Wynette's sultry vocals, and Reba McEntire's awarded success, the women on whose shoulders today's stars stand are a present part of Nashville's legacy.

The call of women to the varying notes of the music industry is just as strong today as when Sarah "Minnie Pearl" Cannon first graced the Grand Old Opry in 1942. Women have come a long way in the music business, and Nashville continues to celebrate their success in paving the way for tomorrow's high notes. Founded in 1991, Source began the work to unify women executives and professionals that work and succeed in all facets of Nashville's music industry.

With backgrounds as singers, songwriters, pianists, producers, publishers, mothers, wives, sisters, and performers, the honored at the 2010 Source Awards are tied together by the love of music and the stories Nashville tells in the notes she plays. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments, vision, and success of the women of Nashville's music industry.

#### HONORING THE CITY OF FEDERAL WAY, WASHINGTON FOR HOSTING THE 2012 U.S. OLYMPIC DIVING TRIALS

### HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Federal Way, Washington for being selected to host the 2012 U.S. Olympic Diving Trials.

It was recently announced that the USA Diving and the United States Olympic Committee selected Federal Way to hold the 2012 U.S. Olympic Diving Trials. This prestigious event will be made possible through the partnership with the Seattle Sports Commission, the City of Federal Way, and King County Parks and Recreation with USA Diving and the United States Olympic Committee. Federal Way also hosted the diving trials in 2000, in advance of the Summer Olympic Games held in Sydney, Australia.

The 2012 U.S. Olympic Diving Trials will highlight our country's 100 best divers as they compete to advance to the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London, England. Taking place from June 18 to 24, 2012, the trials will be broadcast by NBC from the Weyerhaeuser King County Athletic Center, a world-class facility that was first constructed for the swimming and diving events of the 1990 Goodwill Games and hosts more than 50 competitions annually.

In addition to bringing many of our nation's top athletes together in preparation for the 2012 Summer Games, the Diving Trials are also expected to bring increased tourism to the region and will spotlight the City of Federal Way and the greater Puget Sound Region. In total, USA Diving expects the U.S. Olympic Diving Trials to have an economic impact of \$3.5 million on the Federal Way area.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the City of Federal Way, Washington on this impressive opportunity, and to wish our athletes the best as they prepare for this competition.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO THE BREEZY POINT COOPERATIVE CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Breezy Point Cooperative for 50 years of service to the Breezy Point, Roxbury and Rockaway Point communities, which are located on the Rockaway peninsula in Queens, New York, the most populous barrier island in the country.

Though these beachside communities were founded in the late 19th century, it wasn't until 1960 that residents banded together to save the peninsula from being sold out to developers. On November 17 of that year, the Breezy Point Cooperative was organized and a few months later purchased the land that currently comprises Breezy Point. Members of

the community sometimes refer to it as "Cois Farraige", Gaelic for "By the Sea."

The Cooperative fought tirelessly with and alongside the federal government and the National Park Service to preserve the breathtaking and resplendent scenes of nature that surrounded the area, and the Gateway National Recreation area was developed around Breezy Point, where Gateway continues to be one of the greatest treasures Queens County has to offer.

There are several civic groups in Breezy that also deserve recognition at the time of this anniversary. The Roxbury People's Association, headed by Katherine Sebale, the Point Breeze Association, headed by Christopher Stokes, and the Rockaway Point Association, headed by Tom MacLellan, are all organizations that work tirelessly to better their community and strengthen the heart and soul of Breezy Point.

The story of the Breezy Point Cooperative is a story of a community that relies on the strength of its leaders and citizens, and I would like to memorialize this great milestone of 50 years of service and dedication to bettering the community and its neighbors. I wish the residents of Breezy, as well as the General Manager of the cooperative, Arthur Lighthall, the other members of the cooperative's management Denise Neibel, Patricia Kirby, Dennis Dier, Edward Ammirati, and the Board of Directors of the cooperative, Joseph Lynch, Kerry Schreiner-Cardaio, Barney Cassidy, George Donley, Brendan Gallagher, Martin Ingram, Joseph Kerrigan, Robert Pier-son, Matthew Regan, Arthur J. Smith, Thomas Sullivan, Donatina Trotter, John Tully, Thomas Wipf and Robert Lee, congratulations on this important milestone and wish them many happy returns on this happy occasion.

#### TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS

SPEECH OF

### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express strong support for House Resolution 5849, which extends temporary programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958.

It is a well known fact that small businesses drive our economy in a significant way and serve as a stimulator for job creation and economic development. In my congressional district, there are thousands of small businesses which provide work opportunities and facilitate the continuous flow of goods and services which help to keep the economy moving.

Again, I express my strong support for House Resolution 5849 and look forward to its implementation.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARION STRICKLER ADAMS

### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of a much beloved Mobile