

of Richmond are graduates of VUU's Education program. In addition to excelling in academics, VUU boasts strong extracurricular activities and programs. In particular, VUU has won four NCAA Division II National Basketball Championships—three for the men's team in 1980, 1992, and 2005 and one for the women's team in 1983.

This month, VUU formally installed Dr. Perkins as its 12th president. Dr. Perkins is a veteran educator with ties to Richmond, and I am pleased that he has returned to Richmond to lead this excellent academic institution.

Dr. Perkins has spent over 35 years in education leadership roles at various levels of K–12 and higher education. In Richmond, Virginia, he held the positions of Deputy Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent in the Richmond Public School System for several years in the 1980s and early 1990s. Dr. Perkins also served as Superintendent of Schools in Kansas City, Missouri, and Clark County, Nevada. In 2005, the Clark County, Nevada, School Board approved the naming of the new Claude Grandford Perkins Elementary School in recognition of Dr. Perkins' service to the Clark County, Nevada, education community.

In 2009, Dr. Perkins retired from Albany State University, where he spent 10 years in several posts, including Professor of Educational Leadership, Graduate Dean and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. School officials credited him with expanding the graduate program and increasing the University's international partnerships. He also taught graduate education courses.

Dr. Perkins is the recipient of many awards, including: The Ohio University Medal of Merit Award (1982); City of Richmond (Virginia) Resolution in Recognition of Educational Leadership (1997); The James Herbert White Preeminence Award for Education and Academics (2002); and the Nevada Senate Resolution of Educational Achievement (2005).

VUU has already seen significant change in the few short months of Dr. Perkins' leadership. Dr. Perkins led VUU through a successful reaccreditation process, increased enrollment, and began a significant campaign to upgrade classrooms and campus housing.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased that Dr. Perkins is the newest president of VUU. I congratulate him on this outstanding achievement and wish him much success as he continues the efforts to take VUU into the next century as a leader in higher education.

RECOGNIZING HARRY COGHLAN

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Harry Coghlan, a New Yorker who has earned special recognition and praise from the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) for his steadfast commitment to advancing public safety.

On September 15, 2010, Mr. Coghlan was presented with the Director's Award for Excellence by FBI Director Robert S. Mueller. Citing Mr. Coghlan's continuing efforts to assist the mission of law enforcement officials through his donation of digital billboard space in Times Square, Director Mueller recognized Mr.

Coghlan in a special ceremony held in Washington, DC.

Times Square is known around the world for its energy, color, and signature advertising billboards. In January 2010, the FBI announced an agreement with Mr. Coghlan for his company, Spectacolor, to provide 40-foot by 40-foot digital billboard space at the corner of 47th Street and Broadway to display wanted fugitives, missing persons, and high-priority security alerts.

By entering into this agreement, the FBI hoped to follow the trend set by Newark, New Jersey, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by empowering the public in high traffic areas to help law enforcement by providing tips. Given the success of the digital billboard program in those cities, the immediate success of the program in Times Square was a surprise to no one.

On September 12, 2010, the FBI announced the arrest of an alleged mobster who had been displayed on a Times Square billboard in Yonkers, New York. Since the inception of the program in 2007, more than 35 arrests have been made by the FBI in connection with tips prompted by digital billboards.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the FBI for its effective partnerships, and I commend Mr. Harry Coghlan and Clear Channel Spectacolor for their pioneering work to use advanced technology to benefit law enforcement and public safety.

COMMEMORATING THE TRICENTENNIAL OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN WATERFORD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a very special occasion for the First Baptist Church of Waterford. Next month the Church will be celebrating its tricentennial—300 years in Connecticut and a rich history that predates our nation.

In 1710, the First Baptist Church of Waterford was founded by members who withdrew from the First Baptist Church of Groton to create a new church on the western side of the Thames River. They built a meeting house on Pepperbox Hill, which they shared with another congregation. Some services in these early years were held at the homes of the church's members. The third and current sanctuary, the Jordan Meetinghouse, was built on Rope Ferry Road in 1848. Today, the First Baptist Church of Waterford is the second oldest Baptist church in the State of Connecticut.

It shares a spectacular history with the town—having even served as the seat of its government. It was once a recruiting station for the Civil War. More than anything else, however, the church's 300 hundred years are defined by its deep involvement and generous contributions to the community around it. Today, the church serves people in the Waterford area by providing assistance from food to medicine to heating oil.

The First Baptist Church of Waterford is an historic and treasured institution that has persevered, survived attacks by English forces during the Revolutionary War, given our nation statesman, soldiers and helped those in need.

Three hundred years is a truly remarkable achievement. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the First Baptist Church of Waterford on this milestone and wishing the church well for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING MEGAN JOHNSON AS THE WINNER OF THE 2010 PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Megan Johnson of Federal Way, Washington for winning the 2010 Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

Every year, Prudential Financial, Inc. chooses two people from each State and the District of Columbia as winners of the Spirit of Community Award. Megan Johnson was chosen for her outstanding community service. As a state honoree, Megan will receive a \$1,000 cash award and a trip to Washington, DC. A senior at Highline CHOICE Academy in Burien, Megan was Washington State's top high school volunteer and one of ten national honorees. She initiated philanthropic programs for hospitalized children, the homeless, and substance-addicted babies. Her goal is to provide the underserved with the necessary resources to improve their situations.

At the age of 10, Megan Johnson established a non-profit organization named "Megan's Mission," making blankets for the homeless and soliciting donations to buy the homeless scarves, hats, and other warm clothing during the winter. In the following years, Megan joined ranks with community groups, schools, churches, and prisoners from Monroe Correctional Complex to make blankets for infants born of addicted mothers and collect DVDs for children's hospitals. Megan has aided four homeless families in finding a home; a remarkable feat for such a young woman. Currently, Megan raises money for Shriners Hospital for Children by writing and illustrating children's books, selling hot cider during Christmas, selling jewelry, and soliciting donations from corporations.

In addition to being invited to speak at the Prudential Spirit of Community Service Awards in South Korea, Megan has also been asked to be a National Patient Ambassador for Shriners Children Hospital.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Megan Johnson for her selfless commitment to others and her dedication to help her community.

CALLING ON TURKISH-OCCUPIED CYPRUS TO PROTECT RELIGIOUS ARTIFACTS

SPEECH OF

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I have serious concerns regarding H. Res. 1631 which was considered on the House Floor on Tuesday, September 28.

While the resolution proports to raise awareness regarding the smuggling of Cypriot religious and cultural artifacts, it only addresses cases related to Northern Cyprus and ignores the fact that it is a problem on both sides of the island, and should be addressed by both sides in addition to the international community.

H. Res. 1631 overlooks the destruction of over 100 mosques, shrines, mausoleums and other valuable Ottoman and other cultural treasures in the 103 towns and villages which the Turkish Cypriots were forced to abandon in the southern part of the island.

There is also no mention of the vast sums spent by Turkish Cypriots to restore 15 Orthodox Churches over the last three years—each of which has been completed.

In order to address this problem, Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders established a Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in May 2008 in conjunction with talks to settle the Cyprus issue. This Committee was given an important mandate for the protection of the rich cultural heritage of the island. It aims at preserving secular and religious cultural heritage monuments, which is an integral part of the ongoing process of improving relations between Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots.

Had Greek Cypriots accepted the UN peace plan in the simultaneous referenda in April 2004, these issues would have been well on the way to being resolved, rather than discussed in third country legislatures.

Despite the rejection of the so called Annan Plan in 2004, direct negotiations between the two leaders on the island have continued in pursuit of a comprehensive solution to the conflict. As the party that has supported the UN peace plan along with the international community in 2004, the Turkish Cypriots continue to demonstrate their commitment to a comprehensive settlement based on the political equality of the two sides. Both sides need the support and encouragement of the United States and other members of the international community in order to bridge their differences and reach a mutually agreed upon settlement. The Congress should engage in activities that aim to bring the two sides together, not inflame passions. That is why I believe it was ill advised for the Congress to adopt this resolution.

HONORING SERGIO MASSA

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, I rise to honor one of South Florida's finest community leaders, Sergio Massa.

Sergio was born in the historic Port of Callao, Peru and completed his studies at the Colegio Militar Leoncio Prado. At an early age, his family instilled in him the value and importance of service and activism, and it is one that he has carried with him throughout his life. He came to the United States when he was 18 years old and first lived in San Francisco. He later moved to New York and in 1979 received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration & Accounting from the

New York Institute of Technology. Sergio then began his community involvement as a board member of Club Peru New York, the oldest Peruvian organization in the United States. He later moved to Miami, became the president of Club Peru Miami, and established his own company, Business Authority Corporation, which provides accounting services and development for small and midsize businesses.

In 1994, Sergio established the Peruvian American Coalition (PAC), which has brought together Peruvians from across the country and serves as a venue for its members to engage in politics and the legislative process, while promoting issues important to the Peruvian American community. Today, PAC has chapters in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, West Palm Beach, Atlanta, Utah, Idaho and New York City.

For years, Sergio has also been involved in an issue critical to our nation and that is immigration reform. Through the establishment of the Latin American Foundation, he has helped and guided countless immigrants as they transition and settle in the United States, enter the workforce and tackle language and cultural barriers. Sergio continues to advocate for comprehensive immigration reform, coordinating with other community groups and elected officials at all levels of government and working for the passage of that legislation.

Aside from the PAC and the Latin American Foundation, Sergio is the founder of the Peruvian American Political Organization USA (PAPO USA), the Peruvian American Coalition Foundation, the Tumi USA Award, the Latin American Voters League, Inc., the Convention of Peruvian Institutions in the USA, and APEUC—the Association of Peruvian Institutions in the USA and Canada.

Throughout his impressive career as a successful businessman and a selfless leader in our community, he has counted on the unconditional support of his wife Flor and his children, who have understood the value and importance of his service and have joined him in putting the needs of their community first. Sergio has earned the respect and admiration of many in our community and has been honored and recognized by local governments and organizations. Today I join all of them in thanking my good friend Sergio Massa for his undying commitment to seeing the success of the Peruvian American community and all Hispanics in South Florida and across the United States. He values the principles of democracy and works each day to ensure that they are preserved for all to enjoy.

LOIS MAILLOU JONES—HONORING AN INNOVATIVE TRAILBLAZER FROM THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize the late Lois Mailou Jones, a renowned American artist and educator who died in 1993 at the age of 93. One of the longest living painters of the Harlem Renaissance, she influenced many emerging African-American artists during and since that historic period.

Her work will be on exhibit at the National Museum of Women in the Arts, in Washington, D.C., October 9, 2010 to January 9, 2011.

Lois Mailou Jones (1905–1998) explored multiple themes and styles, poetically portraying African-American struggles in her work which included paintings, drawings and textile designs. For over fifty years, she consistently experimented with new techniques and inspired others to innovate. This led to many collaborations with her Harlem Renaissance contemporaries, from drawing illustrations for Langston Hughes to working alongside Carter G. Woodson, her significance during this period has been acknowledged.

As a long-time professor at Howard University, she shaped generations of students and upcoming artists. She enhanced their learning experience with painting tours outside of the classroom, convinced the exposure would help them become better artists. This included travels as near as the local park to as far away as Paris and Africa.

Born in Boston, MA, but traveling frequently throughout her career, her artwork consistently captured what was relevant in her life. After marrying Haitian artist Louis Vergniaud Pierre-Noel in 1953, Jones traveled and lived in Haiti and in those pieces one can see the influence of the Haitian culture, with its African influences and more colorful creations.

Her race and gender contributed to a long and challenging path before receiving recognition for her work, but eventually the accolades came. President Jimmy Carter honored Jones for her outstanding achievements in the arts in 1980, and in the last ten years of her life both President Bill Clinton and French President Jacques Chirac met the artist and collected her work. Lois Mailou Jones continued to create her vibrant paintings until her death in 1998.

A unique synthesis of African, Haitian, Parisian, and American iconography, Jones' work remains a remarkable contribution to the world of art. Her paintings grace the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, National Museum of American Art, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, National Portrait Gallery, Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the National Palace in Haiti, the National Museum of Afro-American Artists and private collections around the world.

At this time, I would like to also honor the current Trustees of the Lois Mailou Jones Pierre Noel Trust: Robert W. Jones, Chris Chapman, MD, and Larry Frazier, Esq.

Madam Speaker, we recognize this distinguished artist and offer recognition of her contributions made to this genre.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE: THE LATE JASON EDWARD JUSTICE, JR.

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, George S. Patton, Jr. said "It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived." For that reason, on September 29, 2010 we did not mourn Jason Edward Justice Jr's death; rather we celebrated his life.

Jason was born on March 20, 1955, in Galveston, Texas. He was inspired to study hard