

SUPPORTING GOLD STAR
MOTHERS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support in recognition of Gold Star Mothers Day, which is celebrated the last Sunday of September. These mothers have given the supreme sacrifice for their country: they have lost a son or daughter serving in the Armed Forces. But instead of mourning alone, these courageous women have taken their personal loss and used it to help others in the same situation.

Several weeks ago, I hosted the Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference, along with Rep. CORRINE BROWN of Florida and Rep. SANFORD BISHOP of Georgia. At that conference, we were honored to have here with us Ms. Aseneth Blackwell, a former President of the Gold Star Wives of America, a sister organization of the Gold Star Mothers. Both members of these organizations have lost loved ones in service for their country.

These honorable women provide support to those who may not know who to turn to. They provide a listening ear and sympathetic voice to the bereaved, because they have been there too. They assist veteran's families in understanding and obtaining the benefits provided by the government for veteran's families. And they make sure that the Nation never forgets those sacrifices made by the men and women of the Armed Forces.

My condolences go out to any family member that has lost a spouse, a child, or a parent in the service of their country. That is why I am proud to speak today on behalf of this bill that recognizes the sacrifice made by mothers of this country, by observing Gold Star Mothers Day. I also commend President Obama for his proclamation on September 24th, asking the public to observe this special day with them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unable to participate in a series of votes on the floor of the House of Representatives on Tuesday, November, 16, 2010.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 569, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 716, I would have voted "aye" on the question.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 570, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1475, I would have voted "aye" on the question.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 571, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1428, I would have voted "aye" on the question.

CONGRATULATING JEANNA
WALKER**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Portage Northern High School Library Media Center and Media Center Specialist Jeanna Walker for being selected by the American Association of School Libraries as the most outstanding library program in the State of Michigan and one of the top 35 programs in the nation.

The media center was remodeled last summer to fully envision the goal of delivering 21st century skills to both students and teachers. With a media classroom and three classroom areas all equipped with the technology-enhanced classroom model, the media center and learning commons are overflowing with teaching and learning on a daily basis. The media center is an active learning environment for the student population and is being used by approximately 4,000 students per week.

The media center's cutting-edge technology gives students the opportunity to work with and learn from off campus groups and experiences. With the help of social studies teacher Stacie Phillips, Jeanna Walker teamed with Western Michigan University's Haworth College of Business to bring online collaborative tools to Portage Northern American history classes. Also, access to live video conference capability gave students the ability to watch an autopsy through the Columbus Center for Science and Industry.

In honor of this national recognition, the media center will be featured on the American Association of School Libraries Vision Tour, an initiative by the association's President, Dr. Nancy Everhart, to visit school media centers across the United States in order to provide the public with examples of what exceptional school media centers offer students and communities.

On behalf of all residents of southwest Michigan, congratulations again to the Portage Northern High School Library Media Center, Media Specialist Jeanna Walker, and the entire Portage Community on this worthy achievement. Go Huskies!

HONORING DONNA C. NASH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Donna C. Nash. Donna has served as Platte County Collector since 1982 and will be retiring from office on February 28, 2011.

Since first being appointed to office by Governor Kit Bond in 1982, Donna has been elected as Platte County Collector seven times. During her time in this role, she has sought to provide Platte County the technology and leadership needed to become a top-tier county in Missouri. Her office was the first in Missouri to allow taxpayers to pay their taxes via credit card or online and print their receipt online. She has also provided leadership as the first

female President of the Missouri County Collectors Association as well as being involved with the Missouri Association of Counties, the National Association of Collectors, the Treasurers and Finance Officers, and the National Association of Counties. She has generously donated her time to such causes as the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Red Cross, among many other organizations she has supported through the years. I personally would like to thank Donna for her support and insight during my time in office and for being the first Platte County official to endorse me when I first ran for Congress in 2000.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me, her husband Karlton, their two children, and three grandchildren, in commending Donna C. Nash for her accomplishments and for her efforts put forth in serving Platte County, Missouri.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
ROBERT RICE AND GARY RICE
OF LAKEWOOD, OHIO**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Robert Rice and his son Gary of Lakewood, Ohio, for their longtime service on behalf of our community and our nation.

Robert Rice, a devoted family man, World War II veteran, dedicated teacher, composer, musician and civic activist has touched the lives of many throughout our community as a music teacher in the Lakewood Public Schools until his retirement in 1983. His wife, the late Betty Rice, was also musically gifted. Together they raised their son Gary with an abiding appreciation for the arts, music, and public service.

Gary Rice followed in his father's path and became a teacher and a musician. Despite being born with hearing and speech impediments, Gary became a talented vocalist and musician, performing numerous times on stage throughout Greater Cleveland. Both Robert and Gary made a profound impact upon the lives of countless students, colleagues and parents. To this day, Robert and Gary continue to share their passion for music by tutoring students, composing, and performing for various schools, senior organizations and veterans groups throughout the Greater Cleveland area. Robert and Gary recently completed an original composition, a march in honor of United States' veterans entitled "The American Veterans' Last Salute March." It has already been performed on several occasions.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Robert Rice and his son Gary for their service to our community and our country. Their strong father-son bond is reflected through their shared love of music and shared spirit of volunteerism. Their work and passion brings music, inspiration and joy into the lives of countless individuals—young and old—throughout our community.

RECOGNIZING RODNEY MORRIS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Rodney Morris. Mr. Morris is a Corrections Officer with the Monmouth County Sheriff's Department and an active member of the Long Branch, New Jersey community. On October 1, 2010, Mr. Morris retired after dedicating 26 years of service to the Sheriff's Department. I applaud Mr. Morris, as his achievements should serve as an inspiration to us all.

Today we recognize Mr. Morris for contributing 26 years of service to the Monmouth County Sheriff's Department. The 609 officers and employees of the Monmouth County Sheriff's Department are dedicated to serving the needs of the community. Located in Freehold, New Jersey, the Sheriff's Office is comprised of three divisions: Law Enforcement, Corrections, and Communications. Mr. Morris has demonstrated unwavering commitment to protecting and serving the constituents of Monmouth County and remains a tremendously valued member of my district and the County.

Mr. Morris is also a valued and dedicated member of the Long Branch, New Jersey community. Mr. Morris is actively involved in community sports activities and serves as a coach for the tee-ball and basketball teams for Long Branch Recreation Department. Mr. Morris has also served as Head Coach for the Pop Warner Football team. Mr. Morris has served as Chairperson of the Deacon's Ministry at the Second Baptist Church in Long Branch for ten years and continues to serve in this capacity today. He has been happily married to his wife Susie for seventeen years. Together, they have one son, Tyree Rodney Morris, who is 10 years old. Mr. Morris is a positive role model for his family and other members of the community.

Madam Speaker, please join me in leading this body in acknowledging Mr. Morris' 26 years of service with the Monmouth County Sheriff's Department. His dedication and commitment are positive examples of what steadfast determination and allegiance can accomplish.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF UPPER LOUDOUN YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE TO THE TREE OF LIFE FOOD BANK

HON. FRANK R. WOLF-

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important work of the Upper Loudoun Youth Football League (ULYFL) in collecting nonperishable food donations for the Tree of Life Food Pantry in Purcellville, Virginia.

This fall the Upper Loudoun Youth Football League partnered with Tree of Life Food Pantry to collect food for the individuals and families in the community and stock the food pantry's shelves for the upcoming winter season.

The league divided into 25 teams and worked to collect nonperishable food donations. Team Chargers led the pack and collected 3,532 pounds of food and 54 boxes of cereal, and Team Bucs followed close behind with 3,459 pounds of food and 142 boxes of cereal. The other teams included: The Titans/D Cowboys; Bulldogs/Huskies/Vikings; Team Mustangs; Team Oarsman; Team Packers; Team Bengals; Team Giants; The Gators/D Giants; The Tigers/D Ravens; Team Warriors; Team Trojan; The Raiders/D Redskins; The Eagles/Flag Bengals; Team Vikings; The Wildcats/Flag Panthers; Team Knights; Team Colts; Team Huskies; Team Aztecs; Team Seahawks; The Cougars/Flag Pacers; Team Cheerleaders; and The Bandits/D Eagles. All together the league collected 23,550 pounds of food and 614 boxes of cereal.

I commend all who volunteered for their tireless commitment and service to those in their community who are unable to make ends meet and put food on the table. I also commend the partnership that has grown between the Upper Loudoun Youth Football League and the Tree of Life Food Pantry in Purcellville to make available leftover food to stock the shelves of the food pantry.

In closing, I would like to thank the coaches, the league, the parents, and the players for their dedicated efforts and support for the community.

RECOGNIZING 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EDUCATION FOR ALL HANDICAPPED CHILDREN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 35th Anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), a landmark law that asserted the right of all students with disabilities to receive education services appropriate to their needs.

Before IDEA, many individuals with disabilities were relegated to state institutions or misdiagnosed and inappropriately educated. In the 1950s and 1960s, the Federal government began working with advocates to develop best practices for educating children with disabilities and train teachers and specialists to implement them.

In 1975, Congress passed the Education for All Handicapped Children Act, which would later become IDEA. Through early interventions, specialized supports, and placement in the least restrictive environment, the law revolutionized education for children with disabilities. Today, more than 6 million students receive IDEA services.

IDEA also included a promise to states and school districts—by 1982, for every child receiving special education services, the federal government would pay forty percent of the National Average per Pupil Expenditure. Yet Congress has never appropriated even half that amount in regular appropriations. I have introduced bipartisan legislation, the EDUCATE Act, which would put Congress on a fiscally-responsible path to fully fund IDEA within eight years. I urge my colleagues to join me to honor our promise to America's students.

Mr. Speaker, IDEA has made a tremendous difference in the lives of millions of students and their families. We must recommit ourselves to provide the resources necessary to ensure that all students have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

HONORING RUBY BRIDGES

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I join the House of Representatives in recognizing and honoring the 50th anniversary of Ruby Bridges.

In 1960, Ruby Bridges became the first African-American child to attend William Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans, Louisiana. As she took her first steps to school, Ruby created a path in education for many to follow.

Ruby's resilience in the face of discrimination was an important moment and contribution to the Civil Rights Movement.

In my congressional district, we are honored to have Ruby's historic journey on display at the Indianapolis Children's Museum for all Americans to witness and experience her honorable journey.

With Ruby's help, the Indianapolis Children's Museum has built a unique exhibit called the "Power of Children," which documents her courageous strides for equality in education.

Her bravery at such a young age paved the way for all African-American children to attend newly integrated schools, and has made her a symbol of tolerance and respect for all Americans.

As we continue to work on reforming our education laws, let us remember the great gift that Ruby Bridges gave to all American children—the gift of equal education for all.

HONORING DR. AARON R. GRAHAM ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my constituents, Dr. Aaron R. Graham, who is the Bergen Executive County Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Graham should be congratulated on his retirement for a job well done and celebrated for over 40 years of public service as an educator.

Dr. Graham received his Bachelor of Science in Biology from North Carolina Central University and received his Masters of Science in Education from the University of Akron. He earned his Doctorate of Education in Administration and Supervision from Fordham University. He has also completed postgraduate studies at Montclair State University and the State University of New York.

Dr. Graham began his educational career as a Science Teacher in the National Teachers Corps and Public Schools in Akron, Ohio. He has taught students on every level from pre-school through graduate school. In New Jersey, his career experience includes: Science