

Arianna and Janai will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, they wrote their own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Arianna and Janai for their academic and personal achievements and congratulate them upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MICHAEL
RICHARD CODEL

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Michael Richard Codel, longtime journalist, Democratic activist and former member of the Peace Corps, who passed away January 13, 2010. Mr. Codel was a resident of Arlington and neighbor and dear friend of my colleague, Representative MIKE PENCE. He was born in Baltimore on April 20, 1939. Prior to graduating from Oberlin with a degree in political science in 1960, he spent many hours at the campus radio station, WOBC Radio. Unbeknownst to him at the time, his hours spent at the WOBC would become a launching pad for the endeavors he would delve into for the duration of his life.

Mr. Codel lived a life that was nothing short of exciting. Following graduation, he worked as a copy boy at the Democratic National Presidential Convention, and shortly thereafter found a post at the Cincinnati Post for a year and a half as a desk reporter. In December of 1962 he traveled to Nigeria to teach English for his Peace Corps assignment. In June of 1963, he transferred to Radio Kaduna TV, where he produced educational TV programs, driving around on a moped with a cameraman and interviewing government officials. Mr. Codel returned to the States in 1964, and took a job as a desk assistant to Howard Cosell. Longing to return to Nigeria, he landed a job with the AP London office to return to Nigeria, where he was posted in the Congo, instead. For the next few years, Mr. Codel covered a number of coup d'etats in Africa up until 1967. In 1965, on a trip to Congo, Mr. Codel took a picture of a Congolese man rolling up his sleeves. Soon thereafter, this picture was used on all Congolese paper money. After he wrote an article that President Mobutu found displeasing, he was asked to leave the country. But, it was also in the Congo where he met his future wife Birte Nielsen, who was working for the Danish Red Cross at a teaching hospital. Mr. Codel returned to London to work for the AP until 1969. There, his son, Edward Kai Codel was born.

In 1969, he moved his family to Geneva to work for Business International as an associate editor for the Magazine Business Europe covering Africa and Scandinavia. While working for Business International he wrote Sweden: Toward a Post-Industrial Society and Prospects for Business in Developing Africa, and his daughter, Kirsten Roslyn Trego was born. Mr. Codel and his family returned to the United States in 1974, where he worked as a

Public Relations specialist for the American Health Care Association. During his time at the AHCA, he wrote the Patients Bill of Rights for nursing home residents. In 1982, Mr. Codel suffered a brain tumor, which left him unable to perform his duties at AHCA, and he became a free-lance writer.

Along with his passion for family, travel, and work, he also had a great love for politics and the political process. He was involved with the Arlington Democratic Committee for many years, campaigning for several County Board members, several Governors of Virginia, and also volunteered under the Carter administration in the White House press section. Michael Codel led a good life and left behind a legacy which will keep him in our hearts forever. He will be greatly missed by many.

HONORING SGT. ALAN HAYMAKER

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a fallen hero of Chicago, police Sgt. Alan Haymaker. Alan was killed in the line of duty Sunday night in a tragic car accident while responding to a burglary call. A husband and father of three, Alan was just 56 years old.

Alan was a third generation police officer, but before he was an officer he was a man of the cloth. A graduate of both the Moody Bible Institute and Trinity Evangelical University, he spent the early part of his life as an associate pastor at an evangelical church on the Northwest Side. In 1988, he traded in his robe for a badge, but his faith made him a different kind of police officer.

Alan's commitment to his community never wavered for an instant after he changed career paths. He stood out for letting neighborhood meetings run sometimes hours long just so he could hear from everyone in the room. Twelve years ago he was promoted to Sergeant, where he mentored countless young officers ensuring that Chicagoans will benefit from his counsel, service and wisdom for years to come.

Today, I offer my deepest sympathy and most profound condolences to the Haymaker family and anyone who ever knew or worked with Alan and grieves his passing. Portage Park and all of us in the 5th district have lost one of our finest. May Sgt. Alan Haymaker rest in peace.

HONORING ASHLEY MORENO AND
JAMILAH LINDO FOR WINNING
THE HONORING OUR FUTURE
LEADERS COMPETITION

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge two students in my district, Ashley Moreno and Jamilah Lindo, from Amityville High School.

These students will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, they wrote their own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Ashley and Jamilah for their academic and personal achievements and congratulate them upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. NADLER of New York. Madam Speaker, I missed one vote on February 23, 2010. I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 55, final passage of H. Res. 1046.

BILLY'S LAW

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise to voice my support of H.R. 3965, the Help Find the Missing Act, a.k.a. "Billy's Law."

Named after Billy Smolinski, a 31-year-old Connecticut man who went missing in 2004, this Act revamps our national systems for finding and identifying missing persons for the 21st century, and provides families with the updated tools and technology they need to find loved ones who have disappeared.

Right now, we have two databases for missing persons and unidentified remains in America—the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUS) and the FBI's National Crime Information Center, NCIC. And yet, neither share data with the other, and thus too much information slips through the bureaucratic cracks.

"Billy's Law" rectifies this glaring error by combining these two systems into one comprehensive database and funding it appropriately, one that families can use and even update with additional information on loved ones who have disappeared. This bill is an outgrowth of recommendations made in the wake of Connecticut's 2007 Law Enforcement and Missing Persons Act, and it is an easy fix that will redound to the benefit of families all across America in search of a missing loved one.

No one should have to deal with all the bureaucratic frustrations and red tape experienced by Billy's family as they searched for him. Put simply, "Billy's Law" removes a needless barrier between two stovepiped databases and brings our missing persons systems up-to-date with 21st century technology. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and to give thousands of American families the tools and the peace of mind they deserve.

HONORING ALFRED MULLER,
AROSA ARSHAD, DIMITRI JONES,
EBONEE PADILLA, AND
ESTEFONIA YACTAYO FOR WIN-
NING THE HONORING OUR FU-
TURE LEADERS COMPETITION

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge five students in my district, Alfred Muller, Arosa Arshad, Dimitri Jones, Ebonee Padilla, and Estefonia Yactayo, from Brentwood High School.

These students will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, they wrote their own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Alfred, Arosa, Dimitri, Ebonee and Estefonia for their academic and personal achievements and congratulate them upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

REGARDING: MR. AMIGO 2009,
VINCENTE FERNANDEZ, JR.

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Vicente Fernandez, Jr., a Mexican Charro, actor and singer, who has been named Mr. Amigo 2009 in Brownsville, Texas, for the Charro Days Fiesta celebration.

Mr. Fernandez has been a lifelong supporter of the Mexican arts and culture through his love for mariachi music as well as being a traditional Charro. These important attributes make him the appropriate Mexican representative for our festivities.

Brownsville, Texas, located in Deep South Texas on the U.S.-Mexico border, is a unique subtropical area of this country—rich in its history and culture. For more than 70 years, this unique celebration, which brings the United States and Mexico together during the week-long events, has continued to attract thousands of people to the Rio Grande Valley.

Mr. Amigo, who has to be a Mexican citizen who has done extensive work in the arts and culture while promoting the bi-cultural, bi-literate, and bi-national efforts of the United States and Mexico, is the attraction of the week-long festivities.

Mr. Vicente Fernandez, Jr., son of the renowned Mr. Vicente Fernandez, an iconic Mexican singer, grew up close to the spotlight seeing his father sing and perform. At a young age, Mr. Vicente Fernandez, Jr. appeared on-stage as a performer at the Teatro Blanquita in Mexico City. He went on to later appear and perform at the El Million Dollar Show in Los Angeles, California.

He has appeared in numerous Mexican films with his father, and together they have recorded several albums, including "El Mayor de los Potrillos" in 2001 and "Vicente Fernandez hijo con Mariachi" in 2002.

In 2006, Mr. Vincent Fernandez, Jr., debuted in Mexico with his show of horses that are trained to gallop while he sings and the mariachi band plays.

In 2009, he fulfilled one of his dreams, showcasing his music at a sold out Palacio de los Deportes, an indoor sports complex in Mexico City, where he sang and performed.

I am humbled that Mr. Vicente Fernandez, Jr., a proven Mexican ambassador of the arts and culture, was able to join our community of Brownsville to celebrate the Charro Days Fiesta.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the work, leadership, vision and efforts of Mr. Vicente Fernandez, Jr., to promote the arts and culture, which make him an extraordinary Mr. Amigo 2009.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the United States Parole Commission Authorization Act of 2010 to permanently authorize the United States Parole Commission (USPC). This bill is intended to prevent a replay of a narrowly averted catastrophe in 2008, when Congress nearly failed to temporarily reauthorize the USPC before its authorization expired. Since 1992, Congress has temporarily reauthorized the USPC five times. Now that the USPC has continuing responsibilities for Federal and District of Columbia Code Offenders, it is important to stabilize this important public safety agency with the same kind of authorization as other Federal law enforcement agencies.

The first three-year reauthorization of the USPC began when the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 (SRA) abolished Federal parole and replaced it with determinate sentencing, requiring a sentencing judge to impose a fixed term of supervised release that is served by offenders after completing their prison terms. In order to accommodate Federal offenders convicted of crimes while parole was still in effect, the SRA called for the USPC to remain in existence until November 1, 1992, and the USPC has been temporarily reauthorized five times since then. Today, the agency grants, denies or revokes parole from Federal offenders who are not otherwise ineligible for parole, and makes determinations regarding supervised release for others.

The USPC, however, has had important new responsibilities for more than 10 years. To help alleviate a serious financial crisis in the District of Columbia, and at the city's request, the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act (Revitalization Act) transferred the responsibility for, and the costs of, certain state functions from the District to the Federal Government, including the transfer of responsibility for D.C. Code Offenders from the D.C. Board of Parole to the USPC. The Revitalization Act also eliminated parole in the District, and instituted the District's version of determinate sentencing, similar to the Federal system. The USPC's duties with respect to D.C. Code Offenders vary according to the date on which the crime at issue was committed. For D.C. Code Offenders who committed crimes before August 5, 2000, and are not otherwise eligible for parole,

the USPC is currently responsible for granting, denying or revoking parole, and making determinations regarding supervised release. For D.C. Code Offenders who committed crimes after August 4, 2000, and who are sentenced to a determinate sentence of imprisonment followed by a term of supervised release, the USPC is responsible for making determinations regarding supervised release.

The USPC also has other ongoing duties. These responsibilities include granting or denying parole for United States citizens convicted of crimes in a foreign country who elect to return to the United States to complete their sentences, parole-related functions for certain military and state offenders, and decision-making authority over state offenders who are on state probation or parole and are transferred to Federal authorities under the witness security program.

Today, however, most of the USPC's day-to-day work involves District of Columbia Code Offenders. As of September 2009, the USPC had or will have responsibility for approximately 2,500 Federal offenders and approximately 9,500 D.C. Code Offenders. Eventually, the USPC will have jurisdiction over almost no Federal offenders, but will continue to have jurisdiction over D.C. Code Offenders.

There are two primary reasons for permanently extending the life of the USPC. First, as then-Attorney General Ashcroft reported to Congress in 2002, "there is no District of Columbia or federal agency, other than the USPC, with the staff, procedures, and infrastructure in place to effectively assume the functions of the USPC." And, as Edward F. Reilly Jr., then-Commissioner of the USPC similarly pointed out in his 2008 statement before the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, there is no other entity with the statutory authority to do so.

Second, and most important, the failure to extend the life of the USPC raises serious due process and ex post facto issues for offenders. In addition to its other provisions, the SRA requires the USPC, before its expiration, to schedule a release date for all parole-eligible offenders. Thus, without an extension, the USPC would be required under federal law to set release dates for all parole-eligible Federal prisoners, within 3 to 6 months before its expiration, or face due process challenges for a failure to set such release dates. This requirement could mean an arbitrary adjustment of prisoners' release dates, as well as the stripping of inmates of their right to contest their release dates, to periodic review and modification of those release dates, and to an earlier release date, after the USPC went out of existence.

This issue has already arisen. In a case before the Federal Third Circuit Court of Appeals in 2008, the petitioner argued that with the expiration of the USPC at the end of that year, and the "winding up" provision in the SRA requiring the USPC to set a release date for offenders within 3 to 6 months before the USPC's expiration, the USPC's decision to set a reconsideration hearing date instead of a release date violated the SRA. In response, the U.S. Attorney did not refute this claim but argued that Congress would likely extend the USPC, rendering moot the petitioner's claim that his right to the setting of a firm parole release date before the USPC's expiration had been violated. The Third Circuit then directed the U.S. Attorney to provide information regarding the pending expiration of the USPC