

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO YVETTE HERRERA

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Yvette Herrera of Burbank, California. Each year in March, in recognition of Women's History Month, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women.

Yvette currently works in the non-profit sector as a planning director for United Way of Greater Los Angeles. During her tenure at United Way, she developed outreach to the growing Asian Pacific Islander communities in both the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys and raised funds coordinating United Way workplace campaigns.

Yvette has served as board president of the Burbank Community YMCA since 2008. During her term, the YMCA built and opened a much needed parking lot and conducted its most successful annual campaign, meeting the challenge of raising \$100,000 in donations during difficult economic times. In 2009 she co-chaired a first-time event for the Asian Pacific Women's Center, which exceeded its fundraising goal, netting over \$25,000 for victims of domestic violence.

In 1993, Yvette was honored at the White House as National Big Sister of the Year for her volunteer efforts to help develop multi-cultural programming as well as fundraising for Big Sisters of Los Angeles and modeling the agency's first Asian Big-Little Sister match. Yvette mentored Jessica over the course of 16 years, beginning when her Little Sister was in kindergarten and continuing through Jessica's graduation from Cal State Northridge in 2005. No longer officially matched, they remain good friends today.

Yvette actively supports her alma mater and was recognized as the Scripps College Outstanding Recent Alumna in 2000. She is a graduate of the statewide leadership development program for women, Leadership California, and currently serves on their board of directors. Her previous community service includes serving as president of the Asian Pacific Women's Network and co-chairing the City of Los Angeles Asian Pacific Heritage Month Celebration.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring a remarkable woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Yvette Herrera. The entire community joins me in thanking Yvette for the meaningful impact she has had on the 29th Congressional District.

A TRIBUTE TO SOMSRI SUWANNAPREECHA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Somsri Suwannapreecha for her contributions to the care of the Brooklyn community.

Somsri Suwannapreecha was born in Chiangmai in northern Thailand. She graduated high school valedictorian at a very young age and beat out her school peers with a top score for admittance to medical school.

After earning a medical degree from Chiangmai Medical University (CMU) in 1969 at the age of 22, Somsri went on to train in a pediatric residency program at CMU. While there, Somsri did research for the Illinois Project of Malnutrition and Vitamin A deficiency, collecting blood and delivering medical care and immunizations in rural Chiangmai.

After moving to Bangkok, Somsri became the first senior resident of Institute of Dermatology. She helped found the dermatology clinic and pediatric ward at Paolo Memorial Hospital, the first and best private hospital in Bangkok. Here Somsri met Dr. Siew Ratanaprasatporn, the director of the otolaryngology department and they were married.

In 1978, fearful of communism, the Ratanaprasatporns immigrated to the United States and settled in Staten Island, New York. At Staten Island University, Somsri repeated residency training in pediatrics to meet the requirement for United States medical licensure.

After owning and operating several clinics which broadened her clinical experience caring for patients of any age and sickness, Dr. Ratanaprasatporn opened a walk-in clinic, operating six days a week, for the past 30 years at 2108 Linden Boulevard. Her late husband worked beside her as an otolaryngologist as did many doctors of different specialties, including dentistry. In spite of the loss of her husband and the Federal economic recession in 2007, Dr. Ratanaprasatporn still aspires to keep the clinic up and running to continue serving generations ahead.

Dr. Ratanaprasatporn has been involved in Thai associations and served on a committee of CMU alumni association to fundraise scholarships for exchange of CMU and Columbia University. Some of the fundraising has gone toward building a Thai temple on Long Island.

Dr. Ratanaprasatporn enjoys shopping, dining and cooking and is known for her charm, calm manner and friendly smile. She is also blessed with four children, two sons and identical twin daughters. Eldest son Richard, 29, is an attending physician at Downstate Medical Center of Brooklyn and John, 25 holds a doctorate degree in Mathematics at Temple University, Philadelphia. Twin daughters, Linda and Lisa, 21, are top students in Program in Liberal Medical Education at Brown University, Rhode Island. Dr. Ratanaprasatporn's hope is

that her children will continue her legacy of service to the East New York community in years to come.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the service of Dr. Somsri Suwannapreecha.

UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3671, the Upper Mississippi River Basin Protection Act. This is an important piece of legislation, which would provide us with a scientific basis for the management of sediment and nutrient loss in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. I am proud to represent an area of Illinois which is bordered by the Mississippi River and believe we must do more to protect this important waterway.

Soil erosion and ecological changes being made by nutrient displacement endanger the long-term viability of the midwest's farming community. The loss of sediments and nutrients upstream endanger the wetland environments downstream. The sediments that flow into the shipping channel of the Mississippi River cost more than \$150 million in dredging annually. The Department of the Interior does not have the resources or the scientific data to work effectively at protecting the Mississippi and this bill will change that.

This bill requires that the U.S. Geological Survey and Department of Interior collect data and study sediment loss and soil erosion. I believe this is a good first step towards solving this problem. I also agree that the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences should conduct a comprehensive water resources assessment so that we can be sure that data obtained from both public and private monitoring stations come from a nonpartisan, unbiased source.

H.R. 3671 is beneficial to not just my constituents, but the knowledge we gain from the measuring and monitoring of sediment and nutrients could be used by several entities including the Army Corps of Engineers, who spend a significant amount of time dredging, scientists and academic researchers, environmentalists working to protect the biological integrity of areas in and around the Mississippi River, businesses who conduct barge commerce, the agriculture industry which uses the River's waterways on a daily basis, among many others. It is clear that the best way forward on addressing this issue is to enact a long-term, coordinated, basin-wide monitoring of the waterway. H.R. 3671 has my support because it is one part of this strategy.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman from Wisconsin, Representative KIND, for introducing this bill and being persistent in once

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

again gaining passage. Today, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I call upon the Senate to swiftly pass this important, bipartisan, legislation and stand with the House in protecting the Upper Mississippi River Basin.

A TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY HWONG

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Shirley Hwong of Monterey Park, California. Each year in March, in recognition of Women's History Month, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our Nation's most distinguished women.

Shirley has lived in Monterey Park with her husband Leo for over 35 years. Shirley served on the Monterey Highlands School Parent-Teacher Association, PTA, for more than 10 years. She held the roles of PTA president and treasurer and did significant fundraising to help teachers and students. She was also involved in the Mark Keppel Alliance at Mark Keppel High School for 4 years and successfully fundraised for the Mark Keppel Band.

Shirley has proven to be invaluable in her ability to raise money for charitable causes. In 2005, she was a chairperson of "City with a Heart" fundraising for Hurricane Katrina relief. They raised more than \$55,000 to help the victims in New Orleans. She has also been quite active in raising money for the Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library.

She was on the Monterey Park Community Relations Commission for 8 years. For all 8 years on the commission, she was the chair of the Harmony Festival Ball.

Shirley is currently a commissioner of the Sister Cities Commission and has been a chairperson for the past 2 years. She helped raise money at last year's Sister Cities International Mardi Gras Ball, of which over \$7,000 was donated to the Monterey Park Fire Department for emergency laptops that were much needed. In 2008, she went to the South Korean sister city Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul, Korea with 4 other people from Monterey Park.

Shirley has served 3 terms as vice president of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance of Greater San Gabriel Valley and is currently serving as a board member. Shirley was also active with the Monterey Park Rotary Club for 5 years.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring a remarkable woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Shirley Hwong. The entire community joins me in thanking Shirley for the meaningful impact she has had on the 29th Congressional District.

A TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY MCINTOSH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Shirley McIntosh for her years of service in education and to her community.

Shirley McIntosh retired from Catholic Charities in 2008 and looks forward to retiring from the New York City Department of Education in 2010. Shirley was born and raised in New York City in the Sugar Hill area of Manhattan. She is the mother of two daughters, Omoyele and Dara. Shirley's educational preparation includes B.A. in Psychology from Hunter College, and Masters in Reading Instruction from Brooklyn College.

Shirley worked in different capacities in the Builders for Family and Youth Division of Catholic Charities. She received recognition for her service to the developmentally disabled adults that lived in the group homes where she worked for twenty-two years. It was very rewarding to her to be instrumental in providing individuals with opportunities that improved the quality of their lives.

Shirley will retire in June 2010 after 21 years of service with the New York City Department of Education. It has been important to her to not only prepare her students academically, but also encourage them to embrace their culture. A constant in her teaching career has been to make children aware of the contributions of their ancestors and recognize the fortitude demonstrated by them to overcome the many obstacles they encountered. She believes strongly in the importance of children knowing about how their world came to be. During her career she worked in the "Parent Involvement Program" at P.S. 181 and has conducted parent orientations and workshops that provided parents with ideas of activities to engage their child.

Shirley has been an active participant and supporter of school-wide events. She enjoys the creative thought and excitement that is generated through themes. It is an opportunity to express her creativity, strengths and talents. She has voluntarily involved herself in the School Leadership team and Curriculum Committee at P.S. 181.

After retirement, Shirley will continue in the business she and her daughter, Omoyele, have established—a company that provides educational and career workshops for high school students.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Shirley McIntosh.

ON THE OCCASION OF CELEBRATING HELEN PARKER GAY'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, March 20, 2010, friends and family will gather to honor Helen Parker Gay, a retired public servant who has had a tremendous impact on North Carolina's First Congressional District. I have great respect and admiration for Helen Gay, and I wish I could be there to pay tribute to this extraordinary woman.

A lifetime resident of Rocky Mount, North Carolina, Helen Gay will be celebrating her 90th birthday. She has tirelessly dedicated herself to the community. She worked at the North Carolina Employment Security Commission for 37 years, and served as mayor pro term three times during her 20 years as a member of Rocky Mount's City Council.

In 1962, she was among the people who gathered at Rocky Mount's Booker T. Washington High School to hear Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., speak. That day Dr. King delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech for the first time. As many people know, she not only met Dr. King that day but also cooked his dinner.

She was a board member of the Carolinas Gateway Partnership, a member of the N.C. Energy Policy Council, past president of the N.C. Black Elected Municipal Officials and a former board member of the N.C. League of Municipalities.

She also has served as elder of Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church, and has received numerous awards for her efforts, including the State's highest honor, the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

As one of the most respected elected officials this region has ever known, she was well known for her honest nature and a strong desire to provide a voice for the people she represented so well.

While the pending historic vote to ensure that all Americans have access to affordable health insurance will keep me from attending the birthday celebration, my thoughts and prayers will be with Helen Parker Gay.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Helen Parker Gay. She is truly a remarkable person deserving of our deepest well wishes for the enormous contributions that she made in the lives of so many people living in eastern North Carolina.

HONORING THE BO-DYN BOBSLED PROJECT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Bo-Dyn Bobsled Project of Oxford, Connecticut for the performance of its sleds in the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. The Bo-Dyn Bobsled Project designed and built the Night Train sled that led the United States Four-Man Bobsled Team to win the Gold Medal for the first time in 62 years.

Even more incredible than helping the U.S. team claim victory is the mission of this remarkable company. The Bo-Dyn Bobsled Project is one of the great Made in America stories of our time. NASCAR veteran Geoff Bodine had a vision of providing the highest quality, American-made bobsleds to our athletes. He wanted to make sure that they were using not only a domestic product, but one that was able to compete internationally and win.

At the time Bo-Dyn was founded, the United States bobsled team purchased and raced used European-made sleds. The members of the team would famously spend much of their time raising money for the sleds and get into physical condition when they weren't doing that. BoDyn changed this by creating an enterprise that funds the research, development, and manufacturing of the sleds. Generous companies like Whelen Manufacturing of Chester make donations that allow the athletes to use the sleds at no charge. Phil Kurze, vice president at Whelen Engineering and president of the Bo-Dyn Bobsled Project,