

question, and I'm glad I did—I asked him, 'What do the Jaycees do?' He said, 'Well, they help people.'"

That convinced Bales to attend a meeting, and he was soon taken under the wings of the older men. They watched over Bales and encouraged him.

"They gave me an application to fill out, and all of a sudden I was chairman of the Empty Pantry Fund," Bales said with a laugh. "That was in 1954. I think they found out they had a turkey to take over that project, and I was the one! Those were a bunch of good, nice businesspeople that I needed."

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Max Crotser, publisher of The Daily Times, said words can't explain Paul Bales.

He's probably the most wonderful person I've ever known," Crotser said, then related a story that happened several years ago in the dead of winter. "Paul and I were in the car going someplace and saw a man walking down the road with no coat. He was cold, and Paul stopped and bought him a warm coat. He went back and gave the man the coat, and the man went on his way. But that's Paul. He would do anything for a person in need."

Crotser attributes the wide community support for the Empty Pantry Fund to Bales.

"Because of the trust people have in Paul Bales, the Empty Pantry Fund is one of the most successful charities around," he said.

Daily Times Editor Dean Stone has known Bales for a long time: Stone has been with The Daily Times for 62 years and Bales for about 55, he said. Stone also mentioned how valuable Bales has been to the Empty Pantry Fund, which began as a project of the Maryville/Alcoa Jaycees and The Daily Times in 1952.

"We went from that first year having about 120 homes, and now we have over 1,400 a year," Stone said via telephone from his room at Blount Memorial Hospital, where he is recovering from surgery.

He said Bales' reputation is not limited to Blount County. A Louisiana couple has supported the project for several years, and this year, an anonymous donation from a visitor from California was made to the Empty Pantry Fund.

"He said he had been around town and asked everybody he saw what was the best, most worthwhile charity he could give to, and every answer he got was 'Empty Pantry Fund,'" Stone said.

#### 'PURE DETERMINATION'

Larry Aldridge, executive editor at The Daily Times, said he is most impressed with Bales' dedication to the community.

"Since I've been here he's probably been responsible for more community service projects in Blount County than anyone I know," Aldridge said. "I worked with him on several projects, including the new Blount County Library. I have always admired his pure determination to find a way whenever there's a need."

Evelyn Sandlin, advertising director, said she had heard of Bales throughout her career and was pleased to work with someone of his experience and dedication.

"It will be sad and exciting, and I will be calling him," she said of Bales' retirement. "We'll all miss him, not just for his work, but his fun."

Crotser described Bales as a great guy and a great employee.

"There are very few people in this world like Paul Bales," he said. "I have the utmost respect for him and wish him all the best in his retirement. We're going to miss him, but we won't let him go away."

Bales is planning to spend time traveling with his wife, Anita, and visiting his son and

daughter-in-law, Brian and Bridget Bales, who now live in Scottsdale, Ariz., with their daughters, Brooke and Brittany. Bales will continue to be involved in community projects, especially the Empty Pantry Fund.

"I've always been involved knee-deep and overhead in doing for others and I'll continue that forever," Bales said. "There are always people to be helped, and I want to be right in the middle of it."

#### JEWISH CEMETERY IN IOANNINA

#### HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 20, 2010*

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to some extraordinary news from Ioannina, Greece. Last month, a group of citizens called the Citizens Initiative for the Defense of the Jewish Cemetery of Ioannina held a public rally against anti-Semitism, bringing Jews and Christians together to combat racism and hatred.

The Jewish cemetery of Ioannina, which was vandalized four times in 2009, is a cultural monument of one of the oldest Jewish communities in the world—dating back almost 3,000 years to the time of the Babylonian exile. The Jewish community of Ioannina believes the cemetery vandals are members of a neo-Nazi group.

Therefore, the Citizens Initiative came together—Jews and Christians alike—to create "a human chain against racism" surrounding the cemetery, showing support for the Jewish community and demonstrating their outrage at the recent desecrations. Additionally, a public exhibition highlighted the historic Jewish community there and the cemetery's significance in that history.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the good citizens of Ioannina who organized and participated in this remarkable event. I hope their good will and unity will compel the political leaders of Ioannina to act against the vandals in their city. This kind of citizen action should also serve as a beacon to people everywhere who seek to put an end to racism and anti-Semitism: it proves Margaret Mead's theory yet again that "a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

#### HONORING THE REPUBLIC OF HAITI DURING ITS 206TH ANNI- VERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 20, 2010*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the first Black republic in the New World, as it celebrates its 206th anniversary as a nation, and for serving as an inspiration to all who support democracy.

On January 1, 1804, General Jean-Jacques Dessalines, leader of the Haitian Revolution and the first ruler of an independent Haiti (Ayiti), declared Haiti's independence after years of war against the French colonizers. This historical rebellion, in which an army of

former slaves defeated one of the world's greatest powers, was the only successful slave revolt in the New World and a clear example of the human race's universal thirst for freedom.

Haiti's legacy of courage and triumph over oppression led indirectly to America's western expansion. The defeat of the French Napoleon Army by the Haitians, albeit indirectly, helped America expand its territories towards the West with the Louisiana Purchase. The loss of its most profitable colony forced France to sell others, including what was then called Louisiana, which represents around 23 percent of United States territory today.

As we take this time to honor the second free nation in the history of the Western Hemisphere, second only to the United States, let us recommit our friendship and support to the people of Haiti as it moves toward economic and political stability. Although problems remain, Haiti is on target to recapture its legacy of resilience and valor. It is this same valor that was used when supporting the United States with additional troops during the American Revolution and we thank them for their support and sacrifice.

This past year, Haiti has received unprecedented diplomatic attention which has resulted in political stability, economic growth, greater access to education, and success in the fight against the AIDS/HIV epidemic in the country. These reports bring a sense of pride to all those who know Haiti's history and its significance to all freedom-loving people.

We call to the attention of my colleagues the outstanding direction of President René Préal and Haiti's diplomatic representatives, Ambassador Raymond Joseph and Consul General Felix Augustin. I thank them for their leadership and service to the country of Haiti, even during the most challenging of times. They are champions of democracy, and I salute them for their dedication to fulfilling Haiti's legacy. I would also like to recognize former President Bill Clinton in his capacity as United Nations special envoy to Haiti, for rallying new international and corporate support.

Madam Speaker, I invite you and our colleagues in joining me to celebrate Haiti's independence and committing ourselves to supporting them in the future.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 20, 2010*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, on January 19, 2010, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 6, 7, and 8.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes No. 6, congratulating the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine for its 150 years of commitment to advancing science and improving health, No. 7, congratulating the Penn State women's volleyball team on winning the 2009 NCAA Division I national championship, and No. 8, commending the University of Virginia men's soccer team for winning the 2009 Division I NCAA National Championship.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK  
OF REV. SAMUEL WESLEY  
DIXON, JR.

### HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 20, 2010*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rev. Samuel Wesley Dixon, Jr., who died tragically last week while on a humanitarian mission in Haiti. Reverend Dixon was deeply dedicated to improving the lives of the people in the greatest need of assistance, and I am proud to honor his lifetime of commitment and service.

Reverend Dixon grew up in North Carolina, the son of Samuel Wesley Dixon, Sr., and Mildred Dixon. He graduated from Statesville High and attended college at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He earned a doctoral degree in ministry from the Chicago Theological Seminary.

He began his ministry in 1975, serving as pastor of rural, urban, and small town congregations, including churches in Sneads Ferry, Durham, Swepsonville and Swansboro. In 1996, Rev. Dixon became pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Roanoke Rapids.

In 1998, he joined the staff of United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), a prominent disaster relief and assistance agency which assists people around the globe. He assumed leadership of the organization in 2007.

Writing in New World Outlook, Global Ministries' mission magazine, he described UMCOR as serving "God's creation on behalf of The United Methodist Church" and "providing help and hope to people in serious situations." The work, he said, "hearts and hands with others in building a sustainable future for an amazing multitude of people."

Reverend Dixon and two colleagues were at the Hotel Montana to work with other agencies in developing plans for improving health services in Haiti, the poorest country in the western hemisphere. The three were trapped in the rubble of the hotel following the earthquake. Reverend Clint Rabb and Reverend James Gulley were rescued, but Reverend Rabb later died from his injuries. Reverend Gulley survived and was able to return to his home in Denver.

Reverend Dixon and his wife, Cindy, are the parents of four grown children and grandparents of two children. His mother and three sisters also survive him.

Reverend Dixon was a gifted minister who was known for his selflessness and commitment to ensuring love and care for the sick, hungry and poor around the world. He died doing what he loved, and he will be greatly missed by many people.

Madam Speaker, Reverend Dixon was a tireless and inspirational servant of God, and I ask that you join me in offering our prayers and deepest condolences to the community and his wife and family during these difficult times.

HONORING MR. JAMES REGINALD  
LEWIS, JR.

### HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 20, 2010*

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. James Reginald Lewis, Jr., a U.S. Navy Veteran of World War II.

Born in Clifton Forge, VA, Mr. Lewis served on the U.S.S. *Canfield* in the Pacific theatre. During his service, Mr. Lewis suffered injuries as a result of a bombing on the U.S.S. *Canfield*.

After returning from war, he graduated from Benjamin Franklin University in Washington, DC where he worked for an accounting firm.

In 1949, Mr. Lewis suffered a brain hemorrhage related to his injuries from World War II and became paralyzed. Even with his handicap he lived a full life and raised seven children. He was active in Holy Family Parish in Washington, DC and the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Lewis moved to Morehead City with his family in 1981, where he continued an active life with St. Egbert's Parish and Knights of Columbus Operation Lamb.

In reading of Mr. Lewis' life, he was a truly inspirational man, who even during the last few years when he was confined to a wheelchair, was always cheerful and friendly. Mr. Lewis possessed courage and a strong character that inspired many in Eastern North Carolina.

He died on December 23, 2009 at the age of 84. He is survived by his loving wife, Mrs. Jean Davis Lewis, six children, twelve grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mr. Lewis will be missed every day; however, the bravery and strength he showed during his service to the U.S. Navy and afterwards will forever be remembered.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND  
ACHIEVEMENTS OF MAJOR WIL-  
LIAM W. MA, UNITED STATES  
MARINE CORPS

### HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 20, 2010*

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding officer who will shortly be leaving active duty. Major William W. Ma will be retiring from the United States Marine Corps on March 31, 2010, after more than 21 years of active military service, culminating as Director, Marine Corps Appropriations Matters in the Secretary of the Navy's Appropriations Matters office.

Major Ma enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1988 and in 1993 was accepted into the Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning and Education Program. In 1996 he graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Arizona and received his commission in the Marine Corps. Throughout his career Major Ma has held numerous high level financial management, leadership and staff positions, including tours with the Force Service Support Group at Camp Pendleton, California; Company Commander Headquarters Support Battalion at Camp Pendleton, California; Head of the Programs and

Resources Congressional Branch at Headquarters Marine Corps Washington, DC; Comptroller, Marine Corps University at Quantico, Virginia; Director, Marine Corps Appropriations Matters at Headquarters Marine Corps Washington, DC. Over his distinguished career he has been awarded two Meritorious Services Medals, two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, the Navy Unit Commendation, and various campaign and theatre specific awards. Major Ma's civilian education includes an undergraduate degree in finance and Master of Business Administration from the Naval Postgraduate School as a Conrad Scholar Awardee.

It was during his last assignment that I first came to know Major Ma. In this capacity, he has proved to be an invaluable link between the United States Marine Corps and the Appropriations Committee. Major Ma has escorted me, other Members of Congress, and staff on several occasions as the committee conducted inspection trips to review military operations and confirm the health and welfare of our troops.

On every occasion, Major Ma performed his duties in an exacting and precise manner. But far more important to me was his thorough knowledge of the Marine Corps and the appropriations and budget process. He could always be depended on to know the status of funds and the impact they were having on our Marines and their families.

Madam Speaker, I also want to recognize the Ma family: his wife Julie Kay, daughter Alysson, and his son Andrew. We can ill afford to forget that it is the strength of family, and indeed their love and support, that make it possible to honorably serve in uniform.

In closing, I want to express my thanks and appreciation for the special contribution Major Bill Ma has made to the Department of the Navy and the United States Marine Corps. I wish Major Ma and his family continued success. Semper Fidelis.

TRIBUTE TO OPERATION BLUE  
RIDGE THUNDER, SAFE SURFIN'  
FOUNDATION, AND MOOSE  
INTERNATIONAL

### HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 20, 2010*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, I am delighted today to recognize two organizations in Virginia's Sixth District and a major international organization for a cooperative effort that is protecting our most innocent citizens—our children. Founded in Bedford County, Virginia Operation Blue Ridge Thunder has been led from its inception by Sheriff Mike Brown. It is recognized around the United States and internationally as an Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. In 1998, Sheriff Brown started the Safe Surfin' Foundation to focus on Internet safety training for boys and girls through schools, law enforcement agencies, and civic groups. From day one, I have watched and supported their efforts closely. Today, I wish to extend thanks to Moose International for stepping forward through the Moose Lodge in Bedford to offer assistance in the ongoing battle to protect young people as they use the Internet. Moose International