

3 million people were affected and 230,000 are estimated to have died. Those that survived are facing unimaginable conditions with a crumbling infrastructure that has hindered the delivery of humanitarian aid.

If there is a silver lining to this unimaginable tragedy, it is that out of this, the Haitian people have been given the incredible opportunity to right the wrongs of the past and rebuild their nation stronger than ever before. Millions of dollars in aid have flooded into the country and thousands of aid organizations are committed to building a sustainable recovery.

Immediately following the earthquake, we all witnessed countless foreign governments and aid organizations pledging to stand with Haiti, and I have been inspired by the countless individuals throughout the globe who have donated their talents and services to the recovery and the many more who are eager to help, but simply don't know how.

We cannot let this opportunity go to waste. However, with the possibility to do good comes the very real possibility of waste, duplication, and inefficiencies in the rebuilding and recovery process.

Under this bill, the major stakeholders in the rebuilding, along with other interested parties, will come together to share their knowledge and best practices and identify gaps in the recovery process. It is my hope that out of this Conference, opportunities for collaboration and coordination in projects big and small will emerge.

The Conference will also highlight innovative ideas for rebuilding and redevelopment in Haiti, from inexpensive hurricane- and earthquake-proof housing and green building techniques to sustainable economic practices and urban development. There are countless companies and individuals who have developed groundbreaking concepts in response to this tragedy, but they have yet to be connected with those who can put these ideas into practices or with others pursuing similar goals who may be able to improve upon their initiatives. Innovation does not happen in a bubble; great things can happen when great minds come together.

Further, Haitians living abroad are eager to help their brothers and sisters in Haiti, but many simply do not know where to begin. The White House Conference on Haiti will tap the immense resource that is the Haitian Diaspora by bringing their abilities together with those who are in a position to use them.

Most importantly however, the White House Conference on Haiti will help ensure that the challenges facing the Haitian people remain in the public eye and in the minds of all Americans.

While the United States has been instrumental in the recovery and rebuilding from countless natural and man-made disasters throughout the world, few international tragedies have had as deep an impact on the United States, and particularly the State of Florida, as this one.

Helping our Haitian neighbors is not only the right thing to do; it is also in our own Nation's best interests. Just a stone's throw from our shores, instability in Haiti impacts our own economy and immigration levels.

Our nation's rapid, comprehensive response, from our Government down to everyday Americans, has been commendable, but the President and this administration are in a position to do more. This legislation would not

be a costly endeavor, but could stand to save millions of dollars that could be used to improve the lives of the Haitian people for generations to come.

At a time of extreme instability and crisis, the United States must do all within its power to help ensure a long-term sustainable recovery for Haiti.

I ask my colleagues to support this legislation and urge the House leadership to bring it swiftly to the House floor for consideration.

HONORING MRS. FAYE CAIN SEARS

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Faye Cain Sears of Somerset, Kentucky on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Mrs. Sears has long been admired by her community. The mother of four children and blessed with many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews, she has been a wonderful Christian example to them and the numerous friends and acquaintances she has known over the years. Her devotion to God, her family, and her community have been the driving force of her long life.

While her husband, Goebel Sears, served our nation in the Navy during World War Two, Faye moved to New York City, where she worked at the Woolworth Company in Brooklyn. Upon returning to Kentucky, she worked tirelessly in the community as an election officer, precinct chairwoman, and attended the inauguration of several Kentucky governors. She has also been awarded the prestigious "Kentucky Colonel" award for her involvement. During her spare time she is active in the Senior Friends organization, enjoys gardening and, of course, University of Kentucky basketball.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring Mrs. Faye Cain Sears who throughout her life has continued to bless all those who know her and cherish her friendship and love. I am proud to have her in my home community and honored to serve her in the House of Representatives. Her 100th birthday is only the latest in a long list of milestones in her life, and I am sure there will be many more.

RECOGNIZING DR. MARTIN LUTHER LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BROOKLYN, OHIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Brooklyn, Ohio as they celebrate one hundred years of service to the community.

The legacy of Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church began in 1910 with the faith of several immigrant families who came to Cleveland from Czechoslovakia in search of a better life.

The original church was built on West 14th Street in the Tremont neighborhood of Cleveland. In the 1960s, the church was demolished to make way for interstate highway construction, including Interstate 71. Thanks to the dedication and generous contributions of church members, a new home was found in Brooklyn, Ohio, where the church has remained for more than forty years.

Today, the church provides social activities and events for all ages. Church members are brought together by the musical talents of the Praise Band, as well as programs such as the weekly Children's Sermon. Many members volunteer time at fish fries and other events, including fund raising projects to help people in need.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Brooklyn, Ohio as they celebrate their one hundred year anniversary. Although the church has evolved in many ways over the past century, its mission has remained the same: to provide a warm and friendly place for families and individuals of all backgrounds to worship; to support each other; and to reach out and help others in need.

A TRIBUTE TO MARY HATWOOD FUTRELL

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mary Hatwood Futrell on her remarkable career as the Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development at The George Washington University. Many in this body will remember Dr. Futrell from her decades of involvement and leadership at the National Education Association, where she was president from 1983 to 1989.

Throughout her entire distinguished career, Dr. Futrell has been a trailblazer in Virginia and the national education debate. Born and raised in Altavista, Virginia, she graduated from Dunbar High School in Lynchburg and received a Business Education Degree from Virginia State University. In 1965, she helped integrate the teaching staff at George Washington High School in Alexandria, where she would continue to teach until 1980—becoming chair of her department and an active participant in the Alexandria and Virginia Education Associations.

In 1968, Dr. Futrell became the first African American president of the Virginia Education Association. She fought hard for teachers' rights, and in that same year she led a march of 7,000 teachers and public school employees on Richmond to protest a Virginia Supreme Court ruling striking down collective bargaining rights for public employees. At the time, it was one of the largest marches ever to take place in the history of Virginia.

Dr. Futrell became president of the National Education Association in 1983. There she served an unprecedented three terms. She worked tirelessly to strengthen and grow the association, move it to take forceful positions on collective bargaining rights, and to bring a higher profile to important issues like drop-out rates and changing school curriculum needs.

After stepping down as president of the NEA, Dr. Futrell joined The George Washington University as a fellow, earned her PhD, and quickly became a faculty member and the Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development. In her role as Dean she contributed greatly to education both nationally and locally. Under her leadership the School's prominence has grown dramatically; its enrollments have increased 45 percent and it is now more selective than ever before. The Graduate School has raised more than \$200 million in funding for research and educational efforts during her tenure and has started 10 centers of excellence that help guide education policy on the national stage and in local school districts across the country.

Throughout that time, Dr. Futrell has always kept her close ties to the Commonwealth. She makes sure that her faculty teaches in all of GW's Virginia locations—Arlington, Alexandria, Ashburn and Hampton Roads. Indeed, Dr. Futrell herself drives to the university's Hampton Roads Center to teach classes each semester. She has built a strong following and has personally educated many of the great principals, superintendents and education leaders in Virginia today.

As she relinquishes her deanship, I want to wish Dr. Futrell many more successful years of teaching and thank her for her lifetime of dedication to her profession and to the students and teachers of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

HONORING THE HAJDAK-MOKAN CHAPTER OF THE 82ND AIR- BORNE ASSOCIATION

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hajdak-Mokan Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Association as an exemplary organization for its membership's history of commitment to service, to community, and to our Nation.

The 82nd Airborne Division, the division in which I am proud to have served, has had a long and distinguished history in the United States Army. Formed on August 25, 1917, at Camp Gordon, Georgia, the unit was given the nickname "All-Americans," since members of the Division called all 48 States home. This is showcased in its famous "AA" shoulder patch.

First deployed for combat in World War I, the 82nd Infantry Division fought for five grueling months in France. After the war ended, the Division was demobilized; when the dual threats of Fascist Germany and Imperial Japan threatened the very survival of the free world and democratic government, the 82nd was reactivated in 1942 to defend our Nation. That same year, the 82nd became the first airborne division in the U.S. Army, and was redesignated the 82nd Airborne Division. Over the course of the war, paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division saw action in North Africa, Italy, and as part of Operation Overlord. On the night of June 5th–6th, 1944, just before Allied transports landed on the beaches of Normandy, paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division began the largest airborne assault in history, and were among the first to

fight for the liberation of Europe. The 82nd Airborne would go on to fight in Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands, and would brave the German counteroffensive in the Ardennes forest in the frigid winter of 1944.

After the war, the 82nd Airborne Division assisted in the occupation of Berlin, and then upon its return to the United States made its permanent home at Ft. Bragg in North Carolina. Since then, the brave paratroopers of the 82nd have seen action in Korea, have helped keep order in the Dominican Republic, have fought in the dense jungles of Vietnam, and have defended American interests in Grenada. The paratroopers participated in interventions in Honduras and Panama, and in 1990 assisted in the liberation of Kuwait from Saddam Hussein's brutal dictatorship. After 9/11, the 82nd Airborne was one of the first American units to see action in Afghanistan. When the U.S. launched Operation Iraqi Freedom, the 82nd Airborne was there.

The Hajdak-Mokan Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Association honors veterans, raises money for wounded warriors, provides honor guards for funerals, marches in parades, and supports community events. The men and women of the Hajdak-Mokan Chapter embody the spirit of the 82nd Airborne. They prove that love of country, commitment to one another and to community, and a respect for duty are all still integral parts of American society. This spirit also manifests itself in the life and work of Mr. Dan Bosak. Mr. Bosak was a founding member of the Hajdak-Mokan Chapter. He served as its chairman for 13 years of its 15-year history.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Hajdak-Mokan Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Association for its outstanding dedication to service, and its longtime chairman and one of its founding members, Mr. Dan Bosak, for his years of steadfast commitment and loyalty to his fellow paratroopers, to his community, and to his Nation. I am extremely honored to serve as his Congressman.

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY LU'AU 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Pacific University's Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i Club for their 50 years of service and support for the student body and surrounding communities in Forest Grove, Oregon.

Pacific University, founded in 1849, is one of the oldest schools in the Pacific Northwest. It prides itself on its community of intellectually curious and highly motivated faculty, staff, and students who are committed to educational excellence and the maintenance and expansion of an open worldview. Pacific is a comprehensive liberal arts and health care university with more than 3,200 graduate and undergraduate students attending classes at campuses in Forest Grove, Eugene, Hillsboro, and Portland, Oregon.

Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i, which was founded in the fall of 1959, is an integral part of Pacific's vibrant and diverse community. It began as a group of sixteen students from Ha-

waii under the guidance of Dr. Fred Scheller and Dr. A.C. "Hap" Hingston and has now grown into a campus-wide organization with over 200 members.

Through social functions and community projects, active members of the club become a part of a family of students, or 'Ohana, and are integrated into a network that ensures a memorable college experience. For the group, family means more than blood relations; it means a collection of people who have strong community ties and are focused on building positive relationships.

One of Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i's most successful activities, the Big Brother–Big Sister program, pairs new students with upperclassmen from the same high school or hometown, allowing the new students to adjust to their surroundings using peers as a resource and further capitalizing the concept of 'Ohana. Club members are also given the opportunity to participate in intramural sports, which afford them the opportunity to engage in the competitive spirit while meeting new people and fostering a deeper sense of community and loyalty to one another.

In addition, the Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i club facilitates a variety of activities throughout the year to enrich the student body and wider community. The most well-known of these events, the annual spring lu'au, is a culmination of many hours of hard work and months of planning. The lu'au allows the community to share in a unique aspect of Hawaiian heritage, culture, and family, or 'Ohana. This event is the only completely student-run and student-directed lu'au in the Northwest and attracts over 2,000 attendees every year.

On April 10, 2010, Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i will celebrate its 50th annual lu'au at Pacific University. I wish to recognize Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i for its accomplishments, legacy, and importance in the university community. Congratulations to Pacific University's Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i club for having reached its 50th anniversary lu'au celebration. Mahalo and best wishes.

HONORING BOTH REGIONAL CONTRACTING SERVICES, LLC, IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AS THE 2010 SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR, AND ITS FOUNDER, BEVERLY THOMAS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Regional Contracting Services, LLC, in Washington, D.C., as the 2010 D.C. Small Business of the Year, and its founder, Beverly Thomas. Regional Contracting Services is a woman-owned, minority D.C. business that specializes in rough carpentry, fire-stopping, insulation, and building supplies. The company recently received a significant contract to do work at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) headquarters construction project underway in the United States today, where 100 percent of the pre-construction contracts were awarded to small, minority-owned, and disadvantaged businesses, and