

After 6 years of war, suffering, and devastation, Nazi Germany was formally defeated on May 8, 1945.

It was a bittersweet victory. Over 400,000 American soldiers died in World War II; 350,000 British soldiers gave their lives; and a staggering 20 million Russian soldiers and civilians perished in the war fighting German aggression on their home soil.

The war also brought about the most horrendous systematic murder which humanity has ever known, the Holocaust.

In memory of all the victims of World War II, it is our duty to raise our voices as one and say to the present and future generations that no one has the right to remain indifferent to anti-Semitism, xenophobia and racial or religious intolerance.

This is an occasion to remember and commemorate. We must remember why the war was fought, remember the victims and heroes, and thank those who fought so hard and sacrificed so much.

V-E Day marked the promise of a peaceful future for a Europe ravaged by unspeakable horror and war. Although freedom did not come to every European nation following the defeat of Nazi Germany, today we stand at the threshold of a very hopeful future based on sovereignty, democracy, freedom and cooperation.

Madam Speaker, I take this opportunity to honor those individuals who gave their lives during the liberation of Europe, to thank the veterans of World War II, and to commemorate the defeat of Nazism and Fascism by freedom-loving people.

IN RECOGNITION OF MT. VERNON HIGH SCHOOL AND CIVILITY MONTH, 2010

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. CONNOLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the staff and students of Mt. Vernon High School for their participation in Civility Month, 2010.

Civil discourse is one of the bedrocks of American society. It is also one of the most difficult to truly achieve. We are a country of diversity; of different religions, ethnicities, and opinions. The rich tapestry created by this diversity is one of the things that make America great and unique in the world.

Perhaps one of the biggest challenges that each of us face as individuals is how we deal with this diversity. Dealing with someone who does not look like us, or speak like us, or has a different opinion can be difficult. But if we stop long enough to listen, we might learn something. And that is the purpose of conversation and discussion. None of us can understand another until we hear what he or she has to say. The underlying principles of Respect, Restraint and Responsibility are Golden Rules and if we do our best to live by them, we will all benefit.

The old phrase "Walk a Mile in His Shoes" is pertinent here. We must continue to strive to understand and accept one another. We must continue to encourage conversation and acceptance while discouraging bullying and tyranny.

I commend The Association of Image Consultants International for elevating this critical issue, as well as The Rotary Club and the Girls Scouts for joining in this effort. But most of all, I must commend and congratulate the staff and student body of Mt. Vernon High School, led by Principal Mrs. Nardos King, for embracing this issue.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commanding and congratulating the staff and student body of Mt. Vernon High School. Their commitment to civility, respect and responsibility are bright lights in this time of tense debate. We can learn much from these students. And perhaps again, the children shall lead the way.

HONORING MRS. MARY WILLIAMS WOODARD

**HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late Mrs. Mary Williams Woodard, a constituent in my Congressional District and a beloved and dedicated public servant who tirelessly devoted her efforts to the well-being of our nation's most important asset, our children, as a valued educator of the Miami-Dade County community and beyond.

Mrs. Woodard was born to the late Lewis Williams and Lettie Delegol Williams on August 11, 1926 in Jacksonville, Florida. She was the fourth of eight children. Her family settled in DeFuniak Springs in the Florida Panhandle near the Florida-Alabama border. After graduating from Tivoli High School, she furthered her education at Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University and obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education. In college, she was a cheerleader and a member of the Orchesis Dance Club. She also met her life partner, Dr. Arthur E. Woodward, to whom she would be married for more than 58 years.

She began her professional career once she returned to her hometown and taught at her alma mater, Tivoli High School, which was the only K-12 school in Walton County for African-Americans. Mrs. Woodard taught physical education and English, and was noted for exposing students to various cultural activities. Many of her students became physicians, lawyers, educators, and entrepreneurs. Several students maintained communication with her until her transition. Integration of Florida's public schools and the Florida Teacher Walkout of 1968 forced Mary and her husband to relocate their family to Miami-Dade County.

Once in Miami, she began to work for the Miami-Dade County Public School System at Allapattah Elementary School as a physical education teacher. She later served as a guidance counselor at several schools and retired while at Thomas Jefferson Middle School in 1994.

In an effort to compliment her professional achievements, Mrs. Woodard was involved with various organizations such as the Twin Lakes-North Shore Gardens Homeowners Association; the Gamma Zeta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated; the Florida A&M University National Alumni Association, as well as the Miami-Dade Chapter;

the Rattler "F" Club; and New Birth Baptist Church. She also frequently marched and protested for civil rights for African-Americans and equal treatment of Haitian immigrants.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and all the members of this esteemed legislative body to join me in recognizing the extraordinary life and accomplishments of Mrs. Mary Williams Woodard. I am honored to pay tribute to Mrs. Woodard for her invaluable services and tireless dedication to the South Florida educational community. Her life was a triumph and she was blessed with a loving family who took pleasure in every aspect of her life and her interests. She will be missed by all who knew her, and I appreciate this opportunity to pay tribute to her before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING WHITNEY GRAVES FOR HER SERVICE TO TENNESSEE'S SIXTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the contributions Whitney Graves has made while working in my Washington, DC, office. Whitney has been a helpful addition to the office and a great servant to the residents of Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

On Friday, Whitney will depart my office to pursue her graduate studies full-time in business and international relations. My staff and I are sad to see her leave, but we are proud of her for continuing her education.

I've known Whitney and her family for many years and was glad she joined my staff last year. She brought valuable knowledge about the district to my Washington office as a resident of Gallatin, Tennessee, and through her experience working for the Tennessee state government. During her time in Washington, she has played an integral role in assisting me with constituent service.

As my staff assistant, she managed the front office responsibilities, scheduled Capitol tours and welcomed visitors to my Washington office. After a promotion to legislative correspondent, she managed thousands of constituent inquiries on legislative matters while supervising my office's congressional intern program.

Madam Speaker, my staff and I have enjoyed having Whitney in the office. I have no doubt Whitney can be successful at whatever she chooses to do, and I wish her all the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 244 H. Res. 1213—Recognizing the need to improve the participation and performance of America's students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields,

supporting the ideals of National Lab Day, had I been present, I would have voted "Yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA URBAN LEAGUE 20TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AND SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. CONNOLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the efforts of the Northern Virginia Urban League, NOVAUL, and to congratulate the recipients of the 2010 Community Service and Scholarship Awards.

Founded in 1990, the NOVAUL is one of 100 affiliates of the National Urban League. Its mission is to enable African Americans and others to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power, and civil rights. Recognizing the relationship between education and economic empowerment, the NOVAUL established a scholarship fund to help ensure that financial barriers do not hinder our students from achieving success in college.

Over the course of the last two decades, the NOVAUL has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships to Northern Virginia students. This year, \$70,000 in funding will be awarded to 13 deserving high school seniors. I congratulate the following students on their academic achievements and being named recipients of the 2010 Community Service and Scholarship Awards: Afriyie Boakye, Eric Brent, Jr., Lauren Coleman, Alexander Edwards, Sara Hamid, Wavenly Hudlin, Tracy King, Thomas Nubong, Grace Omijie, Niles Parham, Brittany Sholes, Sherine Taylor, and Brian Via.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the outstanding efforts of the Northern Virginia Urban League and in congratulating the 2010 scholarship recipients.

**HONORING JEAN OKUYE**

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Jean Okuye upon being named as a 2010 Common Threads honoree. Mrs. Okuye will be honored by California State University, Fresno at the 2010 Common Threads Award luncheon to be held on Friday, April 16, 2010.

Mrs. Jean Okuye grew up in Kelseyville, a small town in northern California, where she learned to love the outdoors and the natural world. She attended the University of California Santa Barbara and upon graduating, she traveled in Europe and Iran. As a young woman she married her husband Paul.

In 1980, Mr. and Mrs. Okuye and their two children moved to Livingston, California to take over the family farm. After fifteen years of struggling to pay off the estate tax and other finances, they were able to make vast improvements to the farm and created a successful farming business. When Mr. Okuye passed away Mrs. Okuye took over the farm-

ing operation. Today, their daughter and her family have moved from France to live and work on the family farm. Mrs. Okuye's grandchildren are the fifth generation to be on their family farm.

Mrs. Okuye has held several leadership roles in Merced County, she has been involved with the Board of the Livingston Farmers Association, Valley Land Alliance, Merced County Farm Bureau, Merced County Farmlands and Open Space Trust Council, California Women for Agriculture and an Ag Tourism organization for Merced County. She was also appointed to serve on the Merced County General Plan Update Committee. Mrs. Okuye plays the piano for United Methodist Church and chairs the Trustee Committee for the church. She participates on the boards of Stanislaus Memorial Society, Livingston Medical Group, Merced County Academic Decathlon and the Citizens Advisory Committee for Livingston City. For her efforts, Mrs. Okuye was named the 2007 "Outstanding Individual" in the Trees and Vines category from the Merced County Agri-Business Committee.

Mrs. Okuye has a Bachelors Degree in organizational behavior and holds two teaching credentials, which she received at the age of fifty.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Jean Okuye upon her achievements. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mrs. Okuye many years of continued success.

**HONORING FRANK PUMILIA**

**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I am both honored and privileged to congratulate Frank Pumilia on his installation to another term as President of the Margate Association of Condominiums.

As a young boy growing up in Brooklyn, Frank attended local political events with his father and it was these early memories that inspired Frank to become an active member of numerous community organizations. A retired pretrial negotiator, investigator and paralegal expert, Frank served as Chairman and Chief Examiner of the Margate Civil Service Board from 1994 to 2002, and was a member of the Senior's Foundation of Broward and the Florida Business and Professional Board.

Frank currently serves as the President of the Margate Democratic Club and as a board member of the Broward County Democratic Executive Committee. In addition to his current political involvement, Frank has long dedicated his time to the Margate condominium community. As the current President of the Margate Association of Condominiums, Frank has been tirelessly working to bring relief to the many condominium owners who are facing the threat of foreclosure. Most recently, Frank's community activism was recognized by his induction into Senior Hall of Fame by the Aging and Disability Resource Center.

I am honored to have Frank's many years of friendship, and I wish him congratulations and continued success as he embarks on another term as President of the Margate Association of Condominiums. Frank's dedication to the

Margate community has truly earned him the title, "Mr. Margate."

**RECOGNIZING DAVE WAGGONER**

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of a constituent, Dave Waggoner, who embodies the "heart of a servant" ideal that we all should strive to follow. Just recently honored as "Man of the Year" in Issaquah, Washington—a city in the 8th District of Washington—for his years of public service and volunteerism, Dave is also a veteran, community leader and member of the Freedom Fighter's Honor Flight project of which I am the honorary chair.

Dave, a veteran of the Vietnam War, works hard to help raise the money necessary to send World War II veterans to Washington, DC, to see the memorial constructed in honor of their great service. Dave considers it his personal mission. The amount of respect and reverence Dave has for the veterans who served before him is truly awesome. His leadership on the board is wonderful to see and I thank him for his selfless service.

Apart from his time with the board of Honor Flight, Dave has been a longtime fixture in the 8th District. An article in the local newspaper recently highlighted his years of community work: Docent for the Issaquah Historical Society, Docent for Friends of Issaquah Salmon Hatchery, Chairman of the Issaquah Cemetery Board, and post commander and assistant quartermaster of the Issaquah Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3436. Recently, Dave led the local fundraising effort for the families affected by the tragic murders of four police officers in Lakewood, Washington—an event people across our State will never forget. No one had to ask Dave to give his time for the cause; he volunteered. Men like Dave help make our local communities special and welcoming. Men like Dave deserve our heartfelt thanks.

So, Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing a man who has spent a lifetime serving his country and his community.

**CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF HARLEM'S BELOVED TRAILBLAZING PIONEER J. BRUCE LLEWELLYN, ESQ.**

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to ask my colleagues to take some time out to remember one of Harlem's and this nation's greatest citizens, James Bruce Llewellyn, Esq., who passed away Friday, April 9, 2010 at the age of 82.

Just like Percy Ellis Sutton, Lt. Colonel Lee A. Archer and Jimmy E. Booker, Sr., Bruce was a giant among men, a trailblazer not just in the fields of business and broadcasting, but in combating the stereotypical image of African Americans as not prepared for or capable