

RECOGNIZING THE FINALISTS OF  
THE UP2US COACH OF THE YEAR  
AWARD

**HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Up2Us—a leader in sports-based youth development—on the occasion of its annual awards ceremony for its Coach of the Year contest to be held here in Washington, D.C. As America's youth continue to be hit hard by the bad economic climate, it is encouraging to see an organization like Up2Us rise to the challenge.

Up2Us is leading a national movement to advance sports as a tool for addressing the critical issues facing youth in this nation, including childhood obesity, academic failure and anti-social behavior. Up2Us supports a national network of nearly 500 member organizations in all 50 states, serving 25 million youths through a plethora of sports.

In order to help serve this vast network, Up2Us launched its "Coach Across America" initiative (CAA) which is an AmeriCorps program that is the first nationwide effort to mobilize a workforce to promote positive youth development through sports. In partnership with the Corporation for National and Community Service and Nike, CAA coaches use sports as a means to promote health and nutrition, education success, civic engagement and personal and social development among youth in some of the nation's poorest neighborhoods.

Last year, CAA directed 250 AmeriCorps members to serve as coaches in 105 youth programs across 20 states to work with more than 35,000 kids. In exchange for college tuition awards and a living stipend, coaches completed a total of 170,000 service hours, which is equivalent to \$3.5 million in national service. AmeriCorps recruited more than 1,000 program volunteers, connected roughly 500 new parents to their respective programs and conducted more than 250 service-learning projects totaling 35,000 hours of youth volunteer service effort.

The 35,000 kids served by CAA coaches have access to the programs they need for their full development. They are provided a safe place to acquire new knowledge and skills and gain a heightened sense of competency and self-respect through working to make a difference in their communities. They build relationships with caring adult role models, develop leadership skills on and off the field; and have a better understanding of healthy eating and the importance of physical activity and exercise. In recognition of the powerful role that coaches have on the lives of youth, Up2Us runs an annual "Coach of the Year" contest to honor the unsung heroes who devote their lives to the positive development of youth through sports.

Mr. Speaker, as Up2Us and its participating members honor the winners of this year's Coach of the Year contest here in Washington, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this year's finalists. They are among a distinguished group of individuals dedicated to improving the lives of our youth through sport. Two of the winners hail from San Diego, America's Finest City.

Lisa Hawk is the Exercise & Health Science Department Chair, Athletic Director and la-

crose coach at the Preuss School at UCSD. The Preuss School is a nationally recognized school that serves a diverse, low-income population. Lisa received her Master's degree from the University of Maryland, where she also served as a coach and administrator. Lisa is a proud advocate for sports as a tool for positive youth development and is changing lives through her work. Her athletes recognize how special Lisa is. "She sees the potential in each of her players and does not quit until that spark she sees within us is released for the public eye to see," one of the athletes said. "She has helped me through the turbulence of a teenage life to the hectic lifestyle at home and has given me a comfortable place to go as well as someone to turn to."

Renato Paiva is the Executive Director of Access Youth Academy, a program designed around three pillars: academics, the sport of squash and community service. He joined Access Youth Academy in May of 2007 from Harvard University where he was the Assistant Coach of the squash team. Originally from Brazil, Renato was a Brazilian Junior Champion and a top junior in South America. Renato graduated from Ruy Barbosa University with a business degree. Many of Renato's students submitted nominations with personal stories of how their lives have been changed. "Renato has completely transformed the lives of underprivileged inner city children in the San Diego area by teaching them the game of squash and getting them to excel in the sport, and in life," a grateful mentee said.

In light of all the struggles today's youth face, it is time we recognize quiet heroes like Lisa and Renato as they help better the lives of thousands of individuals across the country. By encouraging programs like Up2Us and their Coach Across America initiative, we can help make the lives of many young Americans healthier and brighter.

A TRIBUTE TO THE PARKINSON'S  
DISEASE AND RELATED DIS-  
ORDERS CENTER

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor the Parkinson's Disease and Related Disorders Center established at Kings County Medical Center and SUNY Downstate Medical Center. This center has been critical as a research, outreach and comprehensive care center for many constituents in Brooklyn and the New York region.

The Parkinson's Disease and Related Disorders Center was created with the intention of providing patients and medical personnel with the proper understanding of this disease with a focus on treatment. This center has two locations that are being recognized: Kings County Medical Center and SUNY Downstate Medical Center. At SUNY Medical the capabilities of this center include two attending physicians, a clinical trials coordinator, research fellows and assistants led by Dr. Ivan Bodis-Wollner, Dr. Marta San Luciano and the center coordinator Dr. S. Glazman. Patient Advocate, Mrs. Aida Torres, and Head Nurse, Mrs. Patricia Craig RN, provide invaluable support to the clinic as it provides tertiary care for Parkinson's Disease and Related Disorders.

Under the direction of Dr. Bodis-Wollner and Dr. San Luciano, SUNY Medical Center has been able to focus on the education and treatment options for this disease. Tests include CT scan, MRI, PET scan, EMG/Nerve conduction studies, EEG, laboratory tests, cardiovascular, pulmonary and gastrointestinal function tests, speech and swallow evaluation, and genetics testing.

Kings County Medical Center is undergoing similar work at its Parkinson's Disease Center of Excellence. Kings County Hospital Center was the first ever public hospital in the world to be designated as a Center of Excellence by the National Parkinson Foundation and selected by the National Institutes of Health for exploring neuroprotection, a form of therapy which aims to slow the progression of the disease. The main goal in mind is to provide tertiary care for all patients and help to adjust their lives so that living with the long-term effects of Parkinson's disease is easier.

The Kings County Medical Center support staff work tirelessly to offer quality specialty services for the health needs of Central Brooklyn's diverse communities and neighborhoods. The Center of Excellence is another example of this service that goes above and beyond the patient care that is needed.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the Parkinson's Disease and Related Disorders Center of Kings County and SUNY Downstate Medical Centers for their continued work in this field.

PLEDGE A DRUG-FREE LIFE DUR-  
ING NATIONAL RED RIBBON  
WEEK

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I hope schools, businesses, the faith community, families, and community organizations in our Manhattan Congressional District will join together this week in celebration of Red Ribbon Week, taking place October 22–30, 2011. By wearing red ribbons and participating in community anti-drug events, young people have the opportunity to make a pledge to a drug-free life. Red Ribbon Week also honors DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena who died on February 7, 1985, while fighting against drug trafficking and abuse, as well as all men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the pursuit.

Established in 1988, Red Ribbon Week is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention program in the nation reaching millions of Americans. The National Family Partnership estimates that more than 80 million people participate in Red Ribbon events each year. The campaign is a unified way for communities to take a stand against drugs and show intolerance for illicit drug use and the consequences to all Americans.

Nearly one million New Yorkers reported using illicit drugs in the past year (16%). The only way to change this trend is by educating our youth on the dangers and effects of illegal drugs with initiatives like Red Ribbon Week. I have seen firsthand how drug use can ruin a life, and the crippling effects it can have on families and neighborhoods. I ask our community to reach out to our children by helping them make a pledge to a drug-free life.

CELEBRATION OF THE FESTIVAL  
OF DIWALI

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the joyous Festival of Diwali. Diwali directly translates from Hindi, into "Row of Lights." From this translation, Diwali has come to be known as "The Festival of Lights." Celebrations of Diwali involve the lighting of lamps to symbolize hope and joy. Other common practices include lighting fireworks and distributing sweets and gifts. The lighting of lamps is meant to symbolize the victory of good and the removal of darkness, or evil. The spiritual darkness is said to be "vanquished" by the many lights, bringing happiness and bliss to the people of this Earth.

This cultural and religious festival is celebrated by nearly 1 billion Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists in more than 20 countries. In the United States, some 2 million people observe Diwali, including many in the multi-cultural congressional district that I am proud to represent.

Diwali is one of the most important holidays within Hinduism. In the Hindu faith, Diwali is linked to Rama's triumphant return following his victory over Ravana as told in the epic "The Ramayana." Following Rama's victory, his people lit clay lamps along the capital city as to celebrate the returning of their King. These clay lamps were called Deepavalis, which Diwali is a shortened version of. In many Hindu calendars, Diwali corresponds with the start of a new year, correlating with the ideas of rebirth and renewal.

In Jainism, Diwali marks the date upon which Lord Mahavira achieved the state of absolute bliss or Nirvana. It is said that King Chetaka, upon Lord Mahavira achieving Nirvana, lit a multitude of lamps in order to create a material light to replace the light of intelligence that had been lost.

In the Sikh tradition, the foundation of the Golden Temple is said to have been laid on Diwali. In this tradition, the 6th Sikh guru Hargobind was released from prison on the festival of Diwali. Hundreds of lamps were lit in honor of Hargobind's return.

Mr. Speaker, there is great diversity among the faiths that celebrate this joyful holiday. Across all of these traditions, Diwali holds significance in the South-Asian community as a time of hope, happiness and the renewal of life. For this reason, I am proud to be a co-sponsor of House Resolution 439, recognizing the historical and religious importance of Diwali. I would like to join with all those celebrating this joyous time and wish Shubh Diwali to all.

IN HONOR OF FILIPINO AMERICAN  
HISTORY MONTH

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the millions of Filipino Americans across America and to recognize October as Filipino American History Month.

Filipinos first arrived on America's shores in the 16th century and they are now the third largest Asian American community in the United States with nearly 4 million Americans of Filipino descent.

Filipino Americans have contributed to the United States in every field of endeavor, like science, medicine, education, business, politics, agriculture, and they have served with distinction in our armed forces.

They continue to enrich American life through their contributions to our arts and culture.

In my home district, the California 9th, there are over 68,000 Filipino Americans and I know that my district is stronger and more successful because of their presence.

I believe that it is important to acknowledge the important role that immigrants play in the fabric of American life and I would encourage the leadership to act quickly on S. Res. 287, to officially designate October 2011 as "Filipino American Awareness Month."

IN MEMORY OF THE LIFE OF  
MILDRED HEMMONS-CARTER

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the life of Mrs. Mildred Hemmons-Carter who passed away on Friday, October 21, 2011.

Mrs. Hemmons-Carter was born in Benson, Alabama, on September 12, 1921 and graduated from school in 1941 with a degree in Business from the Tuskegee Institute.

On February 1st of 1941, Mrs. Hemmons-Carter received her pilot's license making history as the first African-American woman to do so.

On February 1st of this year, a celebration was held to honor the 70th anniversary of her licensing.

Mrs. Hemmons-Carter is survived by her husband of 70 years, Ret. Col. Herbert E. Carter, an original Tuskegee Airman.

It is a sad day in Alabama as we lose one of our great women who proved the sky is the limit. We honor the memory of Mildred Hemmons-Carter today.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. IVAN BODIS-  
WOLLNER

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and honor Dr. Ivan Bodis-Wollner for his work on advancing the knowledge of Parkinson's Disease, towards finding a cure and establishing a PD Clinic that offers specialized, comprehensive care for all patients.

Dr. Bodis-Wollner has established and maintained a Parkinson Disease and Related Disorders Clinic, designated as a Center of Excellence (COE) by the National Parkinson Foundation since 1995. His work as a Professor of Neurology and Ophthalmology has

taught him the discipline needed to continue his outreach in this field. In this capacity Dr. Bodis-Wollner, popularized the concept of the "Pre-Cardinal stage" of Parkinson's disease both in the field of neurology and in the lay press. This concept helps to recruit patients in early phases for participating in NIH sponsored neuroprotective trials clinical research.

Dr. Bodis-Wollner has done extensive work in the Brooklyn area producing ongoing, renewable multicenter research for the potential neuroprotective effect of Creatine and of Co-Q10. Several of his works focus on the affluence of Parkinson's disease in inner city communities and among African Americans and other racial and ethnic groups. The significant strides Dr. Bodis-Wollner has made in his research will undoubtedly benefit countless numbers of constituents in my district and the New York region.

Dr. Bodis-Wollner was Chief Editor of Clinical Vision Sciences and after its merger, Section Editor of Vision Research in all for 14 years. He has lectured around the world, taught medical students, and trained scores of younger scientists who have worked with him and learned from him in his laboratory. Among his students are professors of neurology and clinical neurophysiology and faculty members in neurology. Dr. Bodis-Wollner is also the Chairman of the "Non-Motor" working group of the Parkinson Study Group, a nationwide think-tank for clinical Parkinson Disease Research. Further, he has published well over 100 research studies in peer reviewed journals including Nature, Science, Journal of Physiology, Brain, and Annals of Neurology.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Dr. Bodis-Wollner for his accomplishments in the area of health care and his service to Brooklyn and New York.

RECOGNIZING FIRE CHIEF JIM  
MILLER, A FORMER LOCKPORT  
TOWNSHIP FIRE CHIEF WHO  
PASSED AWAY AT THE AGE OF  
74

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 26, 2011*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a selfless public servant, former Lockport Township Fire Chief Jim Miller. On September 13, Chief Miller passed away at the age of 74. As a firefighter, he dedicated his life to protecting his neighbors. As Fire Chief, he helped steer the Lockport Township Fire Department through turbulent economic times.

Mr. Miller began his remarkable career as a firefighter in 1959. He became Fire Chief in 1979 and served in that capacity until 1987. As Fire Chief, he kept his station afloat despite scarcity of equipment and firefighters. When he became Fire Chief, instead of purchasing the traditional new white helmet, Mr. Miller simply spray painted his old helmet white because of the Department's tight budget. After the economy rebounded, he kept his old white helmet and elected to purchase better equipment for his firefighters instead. This small example of his willingness to do the best for his firefighters and share the hardship of a tight budget made him a model for what a Fire Chief and a great leader should be.