

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
VALERIE POPE-LUDLAM

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2011

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask Congress to pay tribute to a respected member of the Westside community and civil rights activist, Valerie Pope-Ludlam. Valerie passed away on Sunday, April 24, 2011.

Valerie moved to California from Michigan in 1962. For the following decades Valerie Pope-Ludlam served the community as an outspoken leader and advocate. She began working at Patton State Hospital and continued until 1964 when she started Welfare Rights. The organization advocated for both the rights and educational opportunities for women on welfare.

The following year she started the League of Mothers with Frances Grice and Bonnie Johnson. The three women fought for the rights of African Americans in the educational system and the workplace. They spearheaded a legal battle against the San Bernardino Unified School District to end the de facto segregation in the Westside.

In 1969 Valerie founded the Westside Community Development Corporation (CDC). The CDC trained hundreds of young adults in construction, allowing the organization to rehabilitate houses and sell them to families who would otherwise not be able to afford the down payment. Close friend and niece, Frances Grice, reflects, "She has done so many wonderful things. . . The Governor used to call her 'the Sun Lady.'" Long before green jobs became popular, Valerie built the first Westside solar energy conservation project. The project cost \$2 million and gained national recognition from *Ebony Magazine* for its success in providing green energy to low income homes.

Valerie will always hold the honor of becoming the first African American female 6th ward council person. Other council members describe her as a sounding board and a valued mentor. She will leave a lasting impact on both the individuals she touched and the community at large. Professionally, Valerie was known for confidence and tenacity. On a more personal note, she was a loving mother and grandmother. She always put her family at the forefront throughout her public service.

Valerie leaves with cherished memories three children: Marshall Griffin, Michelle Beauregard, and George Beauregard as well as nine grandchildren, seventeen great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. My thoughts and prayers, along with those of my wife, Barbara, and my children, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Baca Jr., Jeremy, Natalie, Jennifer are with Valerie's family at this time. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring and remembering a tireless advocate Valerie Pope-Ludlam.

IN HONOR OF DAVID YOST, THE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF
AMERISOURCEBERGEN

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2011

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the career and many contributions of David Yost, the Chief Executive Officer of AmerisourceBergen, one of the world's largest pharmaceutical distribution and services companies headquartered in my district in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Yost will retire this July. Following his graduation from the U.S. Air Force Academy and military service, Dave spent most of his professional career with Amerisource Health Corporation and, after the 2001 merger with Bergen Brunswick Corporation in 2001, AmerisourceBergen Corporation. In a career spanning 37 years, he has served as CEO for 14 years and has guided the company successfully through a rapidly changing business environment. The company has experienced astonishing growth from \$40 billion in revenues in 2002 to nearly \$80 billion this year and it continues to handle many challenges presented by our evolving health care system.

David Yost is an exceptional leader with impeccable commitment to the highest ethical standards. He has led a company that is a shining example of how our health care marketplace should operate today—a company that delivers savings, efficiency, security and integrity of product for patients who need these medicines. In addition, he has a history of giving, including as a Founding Director of the U.S. Air Force Academy Endowment Fund which provides cadets with facilities and programs for their professional development. He has generously initiated employee-company match contributions for those affected by disasters such as Hurricane Katrina and the recent Japanese earthquake disaster.

David Yost has provided a long-term vision for the industry, reforming the entire enterprise by reducing inventory size and its associated costs, and stressing the importance of technology and strategic partnerships in moving the company forward. AmerisourceBergen was the first national distributor to announce that it would only purchase pharmaceuticals directly from the manufacturer to ensure the integrity of products to patients. He also instilled pride in the company's workforce for the important work they do. There is a sign over the door of every AmerisourceBergen distribution center that reads "Thank you for what you do. People's lives depend on it."

Through it all, David Yost has been a devoted husband and father and active in his community. He now prepares for a well-deserved retirement to spend more time with family and pursue other interests.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to represent many of the fine employees of

AmerisourceBergen and I join them in saluting David Yost for his vision, leadership and outstanding service during a long and exemplary career.

IN HONOR OF POLISH
CONSTITUTION DAY, 2011

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Poles, Polish-Americans and the Honorable Ambassador from Poland, Robert Kupiecki, and his wife, Malgorzata Kupiecki, on the occasion of Polish Constitution Day, celebrated on May 3, 2011.

Polish Constitution Day is a day when people of all cultures join with the people of Poland to celebrate the rich culture, traditions and history of Poland. After almost five centuries of struggle and perseverance, the Governmental Statute of Poland became the first written constitution in Europe on May 3, 1791. The Polish Constitution established the separation of government powers, freedom of religion, and abolished elements of serfdom, all of these are key elements of freedom and democracy.

The Polish American Congress strives to make Americans of Polish heritage more successful and involved U.S. citizens by encouraging them to assume the responsibilities of leadership. Since its foundation over sixty years ago, the group has created programs to successfully integrate people of Polish decent in the U.S. and enrich Cleveland's social fabric. These programs include the Displaced Persons Program, which allowed almost 150,000 Polish immigrants to enter the U.S. after World War Two. The group also won American veterans benefits for Polish Veterans of both World War One and World War Two. The Polish American Congress has played a crucial role in the Polish Community, and in its many years of support and service has been an invaluable contribution to the City of Cleveland and this nation. This year, the Greater Cleveland Community can celebrate Poland's rich history and culture by joining Cleveland's Polish community in attending events such as the Polonia Ball, the Grand Parade and the Photographic Exhibition.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me today, Polish Constitution Day, in honoring the struggles, courage and triumphs of the people of Poland and honoring all people of Polish descent. Through their successive struggles for freedom, the people of Poland have given the world hope.

• 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.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2012

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H. Con. Res. 34) establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2012 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2021:

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Chair, the good people of Indiana want jobs. And you know what? We know how to create them. In Indiana, under Gov. Mitch Daniels, we've seen a government that spends less and taxes modestly. And we've seen that lead to job growth. That's why Indiana, during these tough economic times, is a national leader in private sector job growth. The Budget Committee crafted a budget for our Federal Government that, like Indiana, spends less and taxes less. The result is a plan that will help create 2.5 million jobs by the end of this decade. Recent economic history isn't good to the big spenders. It shows that borrowing and spending trillions of taxpayer dollars we don't have doesn't create jobs. And jobs won't be created if we go along with the President's plan, or the plan from the other side of the aisle, to increase taxes. It's no great secret that the job creators in this country aren't hiring because unchecked spending, of course, leads to fears. It leads to fears that we're going to have to raise taxes in the future. It leads to fears of future inflation. And it leads to fears that interest rates are going to go up. By calling for a measure of spending discipline, as we do, we replace fear with hope—hope that we can restore conditions where job creators can go out and put Americans back to work. That's what the people of southern Indiana want. Now, I mentioned Indiana a minute ago and the success we've had there in creating private sector jobs. We didn't do it all with respect to our policies on spending. Instead, we also looked at tax policy. We understood that it just didn't make sense to jack up taxes during a down economy. Instead, we kept them steady, and we made our tax code more efficient—just as some of our neighboring States were doing the opposite. As a result, many businesses chose to move back to Indiana, or to move to Indiana for the first time. We see the reverse trend nationally, unfortunately. Many businesses are leaving this great country, or are not getting off the ground because of our job-destroying tax code and our punitive corporate tax rates. Mr. Chair, we improve upon those previous policies, we learn from the errors of the past. I urge my colleagues to help us create those jobs by voting yes on this House Republican budget.

IN RECOGNITION AND HONOR OF
GREG BUNKER

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Greg Bunker and his remarkable leadership as Executive Director of the Francis House, a Sacramento-based homeless services agency. Greg passed away in December, and his contributions to Sacramento are being recognized at this year's Feast for the Streets fundraiser. For 21 years, he was a tireless advocate for Sacramento's homeless population.

Greg was a remarkable leader who inspired an entire community with his unrelenting optimism. He cared deeply about his work and the people around him. He will be sorely missed.

Born in Ohio, Greg moved to California after serving in the Vietnam War. He intended to make a change in the world, and his unrelenting support for the needy allowed him to do so. He soon joined the Francis House and led it as it grew and prospered.

Through the years, the Francis House has offered a wide range of services and resources for Sacramento's homeless population, and, because of Greg, it has become well-known in the Sacramento area and beyond as a non-profit that passionately fights for the needs of the homeless.

Greg initiated a campaign for a safe place for the city's homeless, and he brought the issue of poverty to the forefront of the public's attention. For over two decades, he made sure that the thousands of people who needed help were not overlooked, and Sacramento is a better place because of him.

Around 30,000 people come to the Francis House each year for assistance, and Greg's daily vigor and hunger for change was a blessing for them. Whether it was through transportation vouchers, emergency housing, or simply emotional support, Greg was always there to help.

His sincere and long-term dedication to the homeless cause truly made a difference to many people. He never turned anyone away from the Francis House, and his kindness was a light for people who rarely encountered true compassion.

Sadly, Greg passed away much too early in December. The outpouring of support has been inspiring, as the tens of thousands of people that he helped through the Francis House, as well as the countless others who have been touched by Greg's selflessness, have shown their gratitude to his family.

In addition to Greg's achievements helping the homeless, he was a loving husband and father. I would like to recognize Greg's wife Stephanie and his two sons, Jesse and Simon, and express my sincere condolences for their loss.

Mr. Speaker, I feel honored to join the many Sacramentans who are paying tribute to this incredible man. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in remembering Greg Bunker, and to continue his work by being passionate about helping those less fortunate.

IN HONOR OF BRENT LARKIN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Brent Larkin, a lifelong resident of Cleveland who is being recognized as Voices of Ohio's Children's 2011 Champion for Children.

Mr. Larkin was born and raised in the greater Cleveland area. He graduated from Brush High School and went on to Ohio University, where he received a degree in journalism in 1969. Soon after graduating, he became a reporter for the Cleveland Press, thus beginning an illustrious career. In 1981, Larkin began working for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, and in 1991, he was named head of the Plain Dealer's opinion page. As head of the opinion page, he wrote many thoughtful editorials addressing the concerns of children within the social welfare and juvenile justice system. He was inducted into the Cleveland Press Club Hall of Fame in 2002.

In addition to his newspaper career, Brent Larkin has long been an advocate for young people. He has worked to raise awareness of the importance of early childhood programs and services. He has also served as a volunteer with Invest in Children, Cuyahoga County's initiative to promote investment in and support of children through programs such as Home Visiting, Early Literacy, Healthy Start Outreach, Universal Pre-Kindergarten, and Special Needs Child Care. It is this dedication to the young people of his community that has prompted Voices for Ohio's Children to name him 2011 Champion for Children.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Mr. Brent Larkin, a distinguished journalist dedicated to improving the lives of children within his community.

HONORING THE AFRICAN AMERICAN
EDUCATION TASK FORCE

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2011

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the African American Education Task Force, co-chaired by Mr. Oscar Wright and Mrs. Wandra Boyd, for its record of success in encouraging and acknowledging academic achievement by African American youth in California's Oakland Unified School District.

Today, the African American Education Task Force and the Oakland Unified School District will celebrate a successful decade of recognizing our local African American students' Honor Roll status. The African American Education Task Force Academic Achievement Celebration takes place at the ACTS Full Gospel Church, pastored by Bishop Bob Jackson in Oakland, California.

During this year's event, 1,150 African American students from the 8th through 12th grades will be honored for attaining grade point averages of 3.00 or above for the 2010–2011 school year. This outstanding group of young people has accomplished a great deal, and we are pleased to commend them for