

Interstate Commerce Commission issued new regulations mandating an end to segregation in bus and train stations. Their success inspired more people to participate in Freedom Rides elsewhere around the South during 1961. These Rides eventually led the movement to its landmark victories—the Civil Rights Act in 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. They continue to inspire a new generation of activists, such as the students of the New York State Youth Leadership Council, who invoked the memory of the Freedom Riders as they marched from places like Washington Heights in my hometown of New York City all the way to our nation's capital to demonstrate their support for the DREAM ACT.

Fifty years ago, Freedom Riders envisioned a country where everyone was given the equal opportunity to pursue their dreams. Thanks to their efforts, anyone in America can make his or her dream a reality by working hard with a can-do spirit. Today we honor the Freedom Riders by remembering their struggles and resolve, and by renewing our commitment to uphold their vision of promoting equal opportunity for all.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE HONORABLE MADRITH CHAMBERS FORMER CITY OF BECKLEY COMMON COUNCILWOMAN

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 4, 2011*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, being honored this Sunday, by her hometown church, the Heart of God Ministries in Beckley, West Virginia, Madrith Chambers remains a woman of distinguished character, who early on dedicated her life to the betterment of her community. She knew that to make such service her destiny, she needed proper tools.

She enrolled in school and became a successful model. Then she became an assistant buyer for a major department store. Mrs. Chambers developed the poetry of style, which she still exudes to this very day.

In Washington, D.C., she served our troops and their families from Bolling Air Force Base to Walter Reed Army Medical Center to become an Air Force liaison to military families.

She came home to West Virginia, and did work as a legal secretary and cared for her growing family. She also took a job as a taxi cab driver.

An active citizen, Mrs. Chambers was appointed to the Beckley Human Rights Commission, where she served as Chairwoman for 9 years.

While working for the Social Security Administration, and knowing the value of a good education, Mrs. Chambers again pursued her educational goals while attending night classes at Bluefield State College. She obtained her long desired Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Administration and Law Enforcement in 1985.

Upon Mrs. Chamber's retirement after 25 years at the Social Security Administration, she was elected in 1991, to the City of Beckley's Common Council, where she served for 12 years.

During Councilwoman Chambers' tenure on the Common Council, she was instrumental in

accomplishing major improvements for Ward 5, and in the Beckley Community. In her first two years as Councilwoman, she was instrumental in getting the City of Beckley to annex the Red Brush community of East Beckley, providing families with fire and police protection, water and sewage, and door to door mail delivery, by getting the City of Beckley to pave the "red dog" dirt roads, throughout the Red Brush community of East Beckley. This project is one that she is most proud of accomplishing.

She possesses "no fear" in her determination to overcome obstacles to make life better for others. Councilwoman Chambers was also the first African-American City Council member in West Virginia to request and receive funding for projects through the Budget Digest of the West Virginia Legislature and was recognized for her efforts by former West Virginia House of Delegates Speaker, Bob Kiss.

Being a mother, and seeing the need for children to have fun and educational activities during the summer months, she was first to organize the now annual "Kid's Classic" in the City of Beckley. The "Kid's Classic" is a weeklong celebration that allows all children who live throughout Beckley and Raleigh County, an opportunity to come together during the summer, in a safe environment for educational and fun activities in downtown Beckley.

Throughout Councilwoman Chambers' public service career she has been a driving force in the Beckley community. She was instrumental in the recruitment and training of minorities to serve as Beckley City police officers and increased the total number of African-Americans serving as police officers from two to seven officers during her tenure on the Common Council, a major accomplishment. Councilwoman Chambers brought Community Policing to the East Park, East Beckley, and the Maxwell Hill communities with satellite police stations.

Councilwoman Chambers, under the "Undoing Racism Project," facilitated training in the City of Beckley for various city personnel to develop sensitivity awareness in promoting fair housing and lending for minorities, health care, jobs and criminal justice. When entering the City of Beckley from the 1-77/64 interchange at Harper Road, travelers will be greeted with the words on an erected sign which states, "We Respect Diversity." The sign was posted by the City of Beckley at the request of Councilwoman Chambers.

While serving as Mayor Emmett Pugh's representative on the Mountain State Centers for Independent Living, she advised the Mayor on how to help bring the City of Beckley into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, in meeting the mobility needs for individuals with disabilities. A short time after her tenure as Councilwoman, she secured donated land for the City of Beckley for the establishment of the Family Dollar Store, a national chain store built on the site of the former Pack's Supermarket in East Beckley. The opening of the Family Dollar Store in East Beckley provided employment opportunities for many of East Beckley's residents and is a source of great pride in the community.

Councilwoman Chambers' accomplishments are many. She has served as 1st Vice President of the Beckley-Raleigh County NAACP and was the first to run an African-American Girl Scout Troop in Beckley, under the Black Diamond Girl Scouts of West Virginia.

There were many firsts for Mrs. Chambers, she was the first African-American woman to become President of the Beckley Business and Professional Women's Club, the first African-American President of the Board of Directors for the Raleigh County Hospice Association, first African-American member of the Beckley Kiwanis Club, first African-American Woman inducted into the Women of the Moose in Beckley and continues to be active in that organization.

Councilwoman Chambers has been recognized for her many civic achievements in life. She was recognized by former West Virginia Governor Bob Wise for her leadership in the City of Beckley. Councilwoman Chambers received the "Seat for Social Justice" award from the Citizens Conservation Corps of West Virginia. The "Seat for Justice Award," a uniquely designed artwork depicting a bus seat, is now on permanent display at the Beckley-Raleigh County Public Library.

Councilwoman Chambers is among two living employees who worked at the old Conley High School in Mullens, West Virginia, and was recognized for her professional achievements by the West Virginia Black Hall of Fame in 2010.

Councilwoman Chambers, a woman of deep abiding faith in God is a member of the Heart of God Ministries in Beckley, West Virginia. She is an accomplished pianist and over the years has served as pianist for several churches. Being the mother of three girls and two boys, she has a passion for life and endeavors to bring all brethren together for the good of the community.

In the old gospel hymn that she loves dearly, "Let My Works Speak for Me," Councilwoman Chambers desires that her life be a living testimony of what God has allowed her to do and achieve in her public service throughout Beckley and the State of West Virginia. Her favorite scripture is from Psalm 133:1 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." With God, all things are possible is her motto.

I hope all West Virginians will join me in recognizing the Honorable Madrith Chambers.

HONORING DOMINIC J. CIARAMITARO

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 4, 2011*

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Dominic J. Ciaramitaro, a courageous Marine and noble soldier, who died on April 23, 2011 at the age of 19. Lance Corporal Ciaramitaro laid down his life while bravely conducting combat operations in the Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

Lance Corporal Ciaramitaro was an antitank missileman assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force based in Camp Lejeune, N.C. He was a 2009 graduate of South Lyon High School who as a member of the football team. Lance Corporal Ciaramitaro enlisted in the Marines the day after his high school graduation and began his career as a Marine in November 2009. Lance Corporal Ciaramitaro deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in December 2010 and

was promoted to lance corporal on Jan. 1, 2011. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

A hard worker, a proud and brave American, and a loving son, Lance Corporal Dominic Ciaramitaro leaves behind his beloved mother, Debbie Beaupre and his treasured father and stepmother, John and Lynn Ciaramitaro. He is survived by his adored brother Salvatore and dearly loved sisters Holly, Lucy, Elizabeth and Grace. His grandparents, Marie and Sam Ciaramitaro, his grandmother Susan Boston and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends will long remember him.

Lance Corporal Dominic Ciaramitaro made the ultimate sacrifice for his country in Operation Enduring Freedom. To his fellow soldiers, his family and friends, and to everyone who knew and loved him, he was a dedicated member of his community who answered the higher calling to serve his country.

Mr. Speaker, during his lifetime, Dominic Ciaramitaro enriched the lives of everyone around him by employing energy, leadership, and courage in everything he set out to do. As we bid farewell to this exceptional individual, I am reminded that freedom does indeed exact a heavy price and I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering and honoring his contributions and years of devoted service to his community and our country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM  
"BILL" MUNSEY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 4, 2011*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of William "Bill" Munsey of Pompano Beach, Florida, who passed away on April 3, 2011 at age 86 after a valiant struggle against cancer. Bill had a long and celebrated career in athletics. As a young man at Fleming High School in Roanoke, Virginia, he played football, basketball, tennis and ran track. In 1942, Bill enrolled at Roanoke College on an athletic scholarship. Following football season, he entered the U.S. Navy as a member of the Amphibious Forces and served as a "frogman" in both the Atlantic and Pacific commands. After his military service, Bill returned to Roanoke College, where he played basketball.

Bill and his wife, Jane, moved to Florida in 1949, where he began teaching and coaching at Riverside Military Academy in Hollywood. During that time, he attended the University of Miami, graduating in 1950 with a degree in Physical Education. He loved Miami football and was always proud to be a "Hurricane."

Bill Munsey began his career in high school coaching in 1954 at Pine Crest School, where he was known as the "cornerstone" of the athletic program. He coached Pine Crest's first football team and served as its first Athletic Director. He built a legendary and very successful career, serving as coach and Athletic Director for 38 years. As head of the football program, Coach Munsey led his teams to nine conference titles, eight district titles and four regional titles. His football teams won 61 of 63

games during the 1987 to 1993 seasons. He compiled a career record of 216–92–2 that included four undefeated seasons.

Bill Munsey loved all sports, and during his 38 years at Pine Crest, he also coached basketball, baseball, golf and track. His excellence as a coach was recognized with numerous awards. He was voted Broward County Football Coach of the Year six times and won the 1988 Football Coach Gold Award, a scholastic award. Besides the prominence of his football teams, his basketball teams won four district titles and a trip to the state Final Four in 1961.

During his career, Coach Munsey was inducted into the Florida Coaches Association Hall of Fame, the FHSAA Hall of Fame and Pine Crest's own Athletic Hall of Fame. He was inducted into the Broward County Sports Hall of Fame and was named Athletic Director of the Year. Coach Munsey was also a football and basketball official and actually held the first Broward County officials' meetings in his home. Bill Munsey was known to say that he never recruited a player from another school and that a Pine Crest student-athlete had to be both smart and a good athlete to play for him.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Munsey's absence will be felt by the many players he coached, the people he coached with and against and all who knew and admired him for the honest, dedicated sports professional that he was. I am pleased to honor his memory.

REPEALING PREVENTION AND  
PUBLIC HEALTH FUND

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 13, 2011*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1217) to repeal the Prevention and Public Health Fund:

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 1217, a bill that would repeal the Prevention and Public Health Fund established by the Affordable Care Act. The Prevention and Public Health Fund makes smart investments in state and community efforts to help the American people live longer, healthier lives.

The Prevention and Public Health Fund represents a paradigm shift in the way we conceptualize health care in this country. Instead of focusing exclusively on treatment, the fund established by the Affordable Care Act recognizes the importance of prevention and encourages Americans to lead healthier lifestyles. All 50 states are already using these funds to target the obesity epidemic, HIV prevention, tobacco usage, and nutrition and physical activity.

Not only does the Prevention and Public Health Fund promote healthier lifestyles, it also contributes to long-term savings in health care expenditures. As health care costs continue to rise, preventative care can help to rein in the out of control costs. Preventing chronic diseases like heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and stroke does not only make sense from a public health perspective, it makes sense from an economic perspective as well.

The United States spends \$270 billion annually due to chronic illness. Chronic diseases are also responsible for 70 percent of deaths in America and 75 percent of health care expenditures. Working to curb unhealthy behaviors that lead to chronic disease such as tobacco and alcohol consumption, physical inactivity, and poor diet will save lives and money.

At a time when we are being forced to make tough decisions on government spending, targeting a program like the Prevention and Public Health Fund is misguided. Investing money into community-based preventative care initiatives that encourage people to engage in healthier behavior has the potential to save the country billions of dollars in costs associated with treatment of chronic disease.

In California alone, the Department of Health and Human Services has already used the Prevention and Public Health Fund to grant \$42.7 million to organizations throughout the state that are engaged in prevention and wellness initiatives. Of this \$42.7 million, \$8.9 million has been awarded to community and clinical prevention, \$7.2 million to public health infrastructure, and \$26.4 million to primary care training.

The cost of treating those with chronic illness totals billions of dollars annually and leads to billions of dollars in lost productivity. Preserving the overall health of the American people should be a priority of this body. The move by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to repeal this important aspect of the Affordable Care Act is not only fiscally irresponsible, but it is also morally reprehensible.

Developing programs that will encourage Americans of all ages to lead more active and healthy lifestyles will require significant investment at the community level. The Prevention and Public Health Fund does that by strengthening the capacity of state and local communities.

Repealing the Prevention and Public Health Fund will threaten the well being of millions of Americans and I urge my colleagues to vote against this measure to repeal it.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FREEDOM RIDERS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 4, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the 50th anniversary of the Freedom Riders and their incredibly courageous acts of resistance during the summer of 1961, when civil rights leaders launched the Freedom Rides to challenge the Jim Crow laws that upheld the segregated interstate bus systems.

Indeed, I am privileged to serve with two of my esteemed colleagues, Representative JOHN LEWIS and Representative BOB FILNER, Freedom Riders who blazed the trail in order that I might have the distinct honor to serve as the highest-ranking African American elected official in the state of Mississippi—an opportunity that would not have been possible without the personal sacrifices of the Freedom Riders in their quest for racial justice in this country.

The Freedom Rides, an organized effort initiated by the Congress of Racial Equality