

the Palestinian Authority \$495 million. In the same timeframe, President Abbas' office budget was \$72 million yet he refuses to tell us or anyone else how he spends it. There are even press reports that his own salary is \$1 million a month. According to their own documents, the Palestinian Authority spent \$194 million last year alone on offices that helped promote the Palestinians' push for recognition at the U.N. The U.S. should immediately cut funding to the PLO by at least \$72 million next year and require President Abbas to open up his budget for all to see. The days of giving money away to other nations with no transparency and no consequences for irresponsible behavior should be over.

The United Nations has no business getting involved in the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Dore Gold, a former Israeli ambassador to the U.N. said: "If there was a U.N. resolution whose first clause was anti-Israel and whose second clause was the earth is flat, the U.N. would pass it." Peace will not come from decisions made by a corrupt international body. If the Palestinians were committed to peace they would be working with Israel, not hiding behind the U.N. And that's just the way it is.

GREG POULOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Greg Poulos for his service to our community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

As founder and chairman of the Golden Schools Foundation, Greg continues to drive the organization to excellence through high performance rates and accountability in the Golden articulation area.

Greg portrays his commitment to the people of Golden through his surveys of the residents on their expectations and reviews of Golden schools, then employs these testimonials in strategic goals for the community. Greg aims to have 95% of Golden students enrolled in their neighborhood schools. With Greg's determination and diligence, this goal will undoubtedly be achieved in the near future.

Mr. Poulos is a champion in the community and I am honored to congratulate him on receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence. I am sure he will have the same dedication and commitment in all his future endeavors.

RUSSIA AND MOLDOVA JACKSON-VANIK REPEAL AND SERGEI MAGNITSKY RULE OF LAW ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2012

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 6156, the Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik Repeal Act of

2012. This legislation sends the wrong message, rewarding President Putin with trade privileges at a time when he is crushing pro-democracy voices at home and arming the murderous Assad regime in Syria.

Russia has repeatedly and deliberately blocked international efforts to bring an end to the violence in Syria. The Russian government continues to arm President Bashar al-Assad as he murders his own people. Just last month, the Turkish government seized munitions from a Russian flight intended for the Syrian Army. The violence has had a devastating impact on Syrian civilians, with 2.5 million internally displaced and over 400,000 registered refugees living in neighboring countries. By early next year, 4 million Syrians will need humanitarian assistance. Russia's support of the Syrian Army is extending the conflict, which increases the risks of destabilization within the region. The conflict has already spilled over Syria's borders into Turkey and Lebanon. Before I support any legislation favorable to Russia, that country's leaders must stop arming the Syrian regime and allow the international community to take action to end the violence.

Proponents of this legislation argue it is time for Russia to graduate from Jackson-Vanik. This graduation, however, would take place in the middle of a serious crackdown on human rights in Russia. In the past year, the Russian government has forced international non-governmental organizations out of the country and imposed harsh sentences on individuals for peaceful protest. Just three days ago, President Putin signed a law that expands the definition of treason so broadly that any individual working with an international organization is at risk of being jailed for treason. These repressive tactics signal a serious step backward for Russia's human rights record.

H.R. 6156 contains the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act, which would require President Obama to publically name those responsible for Mr. Magnitsky's torture and murder. The President would then be able to address those persons and other human rights abusers with individual sanctions, including prohibitions on travel to the United States and the use of American banking facilities. Those responsible for Mr. Magnitsky's murder should be brought to justice. While I support this provision, it is not enough to justify voting for the bill, which ignores the continued suffering of millions in Russia and Syria.

I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 6156.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF HARLEM'S GENERAL COUNSEL JOSEPH FLEMING, ESQ.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the life and legacy of Joseph Fleming, fondly known to many as Papa Joe, Joe Cool, The People's Lawyer, The Master Negotiator and Harlem's General Counsel. On Monday, September 10, 2012, Harlem's honorary elite gathered at the Sanctuary of the historic Abyssinian Baptist Church to celebrate the life of our dear beloved attorney and friend, Joseph Fleming, Esq.

It was a special gathering of people that knew Joseph as clients, as activists, as educators, as business partners, as media personalities, as religious leaders, as entertainers and promoters, as elected officials and as family members and friends. In his very short time here on this earth, my dear friend Joe Fleming lived a complete and compact life of excellence and accomplishment, which included being the best husband in the world, a wonderful loving and complete father, a devoted son, a trusted friend and confidant, an author, inventor, entrepreneur, role model, track runner, singer, a man who loved to party and dance with the ladies, but a man who gave all of his unyielding heart to his only true love and partner Temple-Jene.

Great men like Joseph Fleming, Esq. are precious gifts we temporarily have in this world, but their assistance and contributions are far remembered and everlasting. Although Joe will be missed, his legacy now lives through his wife, Temple-Jene, his son, Joseph Harris, his three daughters, Lavon Robin, Lateefah Shariene and Terilyn Marshelle, his grandson, Nathaniel Joseph Williams, his God-daughter, Nyah Cha' Ron Uhuru and through Maschil Entertainment, whose mission is to create, produce, and promote music and artists who "make music with a conscious message". That is indeed a great comfort to all who knew this amazing, articulate, soft spoken, serene and outspoken man, who lived life positive despite pain and discomfort as an example to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, on a very personal note, when I remember Joe Fleming, I think about myself as D'Artagnan who joined Athos (Joe Fleming), Porthos (Leon Ellis) and Aramis (Reggie Williams), the Black Musketeers, inseparable friends who live by the motto "all for one, one for all" ("tous pour un, un pour tous"). The friendship and kinship of these amazing three Amigos, The Black Musketeers is a story that bears and dares to be written in the mortals of Harlem's history, which will tell a story of three very best friends who were always there for me and the community we love so deeply.

I am honored to include the Obituary of our dear beloved Musketeer, Joseph Fleming, Esq.

Joseph Fleming was born January 4, 1951 in Richmond, Virginia to Mary Terry Fleming and the late Rev. Leroy Fleming, Sr. His family moved to Mt. Vernon, New York in 1953, and later to the Bronx in 1957. Joseph is a product of the New York City School System, P.S. 103, Olinville Jr. High School, and Evander Childs High School. He graduated from New York University School of Liberal Arts at its Uptown Bronx Campus in 1973, where he received his B.S. Degree in Economics and Political Science. While attending NYU, Joseph was the Founder and one of the Directors of the Educational Development and Community Enrollment Program, a program designed to enroll and mentor students with promise, but without the grades. He was also President of the Black Students Organization.

Joseph loved the law. At an early age, after watching Perry Mason, he decided he was going to be a lawyer. Upon receiving his Juris Doctor from New York University in 1976, Joseph began working as an Associate in the Law Offices of Reginald F. Lewis. It was an opportunity of a lifetime to be able to gain firsthand experience with one of the top African American attorneys on Wall Street. Within a couple of years, Joseph knew that his passion for the law would only be truly

satisfied by having his own firm. In January of 1978, Joseph started his private practice, Joseph Fleming, Esq., which was located in his home on Central Park West. In the beginning he only had a handful of clients, but word began to spread about this young attorney who could get the job done. In 1986, he moved his home office downtown nearer the Court Houses, first to Hudson Street, and then in subsequent years, as his practice grew, he maintained offices in the Wall Street area on John Street. The Law Offices of Joseph Fleming was a general practice law firm committed to providing superior legal representation in a personalized and cost effective manner. Many who sought professional advice and counsel from Joseph were also fortunate to have a personal relationship with him. He often gave out his cell phone number so that he could be reached directly by his "client/friend" anytime of the day or night. During his 34 years of having fun practicing law, Joseph never advertised his practice. You had to be his client by referral only.

Attorney Fleming's practice concentrated in the following areas of expertise: Federal Civil Litigation, General Civil Litigation in all courts including Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury, and Medical Malpractice; Corporate, Commercial, and General Business matters; Real Estate transactions on all levels from the sale and purchase of property to major corporate mergers, acquisitions, and development; Entertainment, Media and the Arts; Estates, Wills and Trusts, Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, and Trademark and Copyright. Joseph served as legal counsel to a wide range of professionals, corporations, not-for-profit corporations, and individuals. Although his practice was spread worldwide, the majority of his clients were from the Village of Harlem. Joseph also provided opportunities to many law students and young attorneys. Whatever he could do, he expected them to do the same, from making photocopies, interacting with clients and other attorneys, to standing before Judges and Clerks. He gave young men and women a full and true experience of what it was to be an attorney in all facets.

Joseph was admitted to practice in the United States Supreme Court; the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit; the Second Circuit Court of Appeals; United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York; United States District Court for the Southern District of New York; United States Tax Court; and the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division First Judicial Department. He was a member of the New York State Bar Association and a founding member of the Society of African American Law Firms. Joseph was also one of the founding members and Chairman of the Board for the Education of People of African Ancestry. He had been an adjunct Professor at John Jay College for Criminal Justice.

Joseph was most proud of his victory in the case of Professor Leonard Jeffries v. the City University of New York, where he successfully defended Dr. Jeffries in his First Amendment suit against the College. He was also proud of his skillful legal prowess in successfully recovering the property of Malcolm X, from an eBay auction and a near storage facility sale, and returning the property to the Shabazz Family.

Joseph was so much more than an attorney and counselor. He was one of the best husbands in the world, a wonderful loving father, devoted son, trusted friend and confident, an author, inventor, entrepreneur, role model, track runner, singer, a man who loved to party and dance with the ladies, and Temple-Jene's handyman. Among his many entrepreneurial activities, in 1974 he served as the publisher of one of the first African

American fashion magazines. "Black In Vogue", which was the first fashion publication to give credit to models and photographers directly on the page of the photo magazine. Attorney Fleming was named to Who's Who in Black New York City in 2009. He was an Officer in his son's company, Maschil Entertainment, Inc., and was Executive Producer and co-host of Maschil's critically acclaimed live art, music show "LoveJonesNYC". He worked with other giants in the entertainment industry including Dr. Benjamin Chavis and Russell Simmon's Hip Hop Summit, Doug E. Fresh, Lion King's Sophia Nicole, and his son, J-Harris; as well as a number of other celebrities and up and coming artists.

Joseph was amazing! He had been battling several cancers over the years, starting in 1999, culminating with his transition in 2012. Joseph's faith in God was so strong! Without God, none of the above could have happened!

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Harlem's General Counsel, Joseph Fleming, Esq. It is my hope that his example will serve as a testament that, with hard work and genuine character, we can achieve our greatest dreams.

HONORING PATRICIA COLEMAN BRACEY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Librarian, Patricia Coleman Bracey, who has possessed a passion for reading since she was a child. Any type of literature or new book that she could put her hands on was, in her words, "like icing on the cake".

Patricia, or Pat as a lot of people call her, is the oldest of four children born to George and Marie White Coleman of Raymond, Mississippi. She was educated in the Hinds County Public School System and graduated in 1966. She received a B.S. and a Master Degree from Jackson State University in Education with a concentration in Library Science. She is a member of the Pine Grove M. B. Church and an associate member of Seven Springs United Methodist Church, both in Raymond.

As a child, Mrs. Bracey's passion was always reading and finding new books to discover the world. Reading a book can take you anywhere you want to go. She realized this at a young age; therefore, she wanted to help children realize it too. With this passion and drive, Mrs. Bracey felt that she could serve children best as a librarian—and that is exactly what she did. Patricia worked to instill in boys and girls the love of reading and how to correctly use the library and its resources effectively for 32 years at Woodville Heights Elementary School in Jackson, Mississippi.

After retiring from the Jackson Public School District, Patricia continued her service as a librarian with the Jackson-Hinds Library System.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Patricia Coleman Bracey, a dedicated public servant who has touched the lives of thousands of children.

JULIE KERWIN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Julie Kerwin for her service to our community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

Julie transformed an unhealthy form of fundraising at Shelton Elementary, a local grade school, into a beneficial athletic and healthy fundraiser for the children. Rather than the yearly sale of candy and cookie dough, she created a 5K race to aid the school.

In preparation for the event, Julie founded a running club, in which 60 children eagerly joined to run for the event. The successful event has blossomed into a sustainable community event.

It is members of the community like Julie who show us through innovation we can create healthy lifestyles in our neighborhoods, while promoting education and enriching the community. Her unprecedented ideas shine as a beacon for all other community members in our Nation and Colorado.

Ms. Kerwin is a champion in the community and I am honored to congratulate her on receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence. I am sure she will have the same dedication and commitment in all her future endeavors.

MEDICAL PREPAREDNESS ALLOWABLE USE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to debate H.R. 5997, the "Medical Preparedness Allowable Use Act," which amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the use of Urban Area Security Initiative and State Homeland Security Grant Program funding for enhancing medical preparedness, medical surge capacity, and mass prophylaxis capabilities.

Moreover, this would involve the development and maintenance of an initial pharmaceutical stockpile, including medical kits, and diagnostics sufficient to protect first responders, their families, and immediate victims from a chemical or biological event.

As a proud Member of this body and as the Ranking Member on Homeland Security Transportation Subcommittee on Transportation, I understand the importance of maintaining an unyielding commitment to keeping the American homeland safe from weapons of mass destruction by increasing our preparedness for dealing with chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threats, whether they originate from individuals, terrorist organizations, and state sponsors of terror, or horrible accidents.

While much has been done to prepare our first responders for a nuclear, chemical or biological incident in the United States, the healthcare system in this country is not fully