

known as Bloody Sunday. We must not forget the courage of my esteemed colleague, Congressman JOHN LEWIS, and others during the march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in March 1965. Non-violent marchers led by LEWIS and Hosea Williams were brutally beaten, opening the eyes of the Nation to the struggle of African Americans to win the right to vote. Let us resolve to protect the voting rights for which participants of that march suffered such brutality, and honor them for their commitment to non-violence. They are an inspiration for all Americans.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2012*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, February 27, 2012, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 73 (on the motion to concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 347).

#### HONORING NORMAN L. HENRY

#### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2012*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Mr. Norman L. Henry, President and Executive Director of Builders of Hope CDC. Builders of Hope CDC is a Community Housing Development Corporation in Dallas that has demonstrated its commitment to revitalizing communities through the construction of energy-efficient, environmentally-friendly homes that are also accessible to low and moderate-income families.

Under Mr. Henry's leadership, Builders of Hope CDC has led the way in quality affordable housing in the Dallas area. Since accepting the position as President in 2000, Mr. Henry has overseen a fourfold increase in the output of affordable homes across several neighborhoods throughout West and South Dallas. Utilizing over 21 years of experience in the non-profit management and affordable housing field, Mr. Henry has built, remodeled, and sold over 224 affordable homes.

With the housing market collapse in 2008, countless Americans have either lost their homes entirely or now find the value of their homes to be less than the amounts they owe on a mortgage. Norman Henry, through the work that he has done with Builders of Hope CDC, has contributed to keeping the American Dream alive through the construction of these homes. Quality and affordable housing should not be out of reach for any American with the desire to purchase a home, and Mr. Henry has helped to bring the pride of home ownership to even more Americans.

Mr. Speaker, Norman Henry has helped to breathe new life into many West and South Dallas communities through his revitalization

efforts. His vision to revive otherwise decrepit areas across Dallas will benefit countless people through expanded access to housing and improved quality of life. It is with great pleasure that I honor the work of Mr. Norman Henry for his contributions.

#### COMMEMORATION OF MARIA D. FERNANDES

#### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2012*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and legacy of Maria D. Fernandes of Sea Bright, New Jersey. Mayor Fernandes served the constituents of Sea Bright for 16 years and retired in January 2012. She passed away on Sunday, February 26, 2012 at the age of 59. Throughout her illustrious career, the Mayor continued to preserve and enhance the quality of life for Sea Bright residents. Her service is truly worthy of this body's recognition.

Maria Fernandes served as Sea Bright Borough Mayor from 2008 until 2011. She was proud to be the first Portuguese-American female Mayor in the state of New Jersey and the third in the United States. Before becoming Mayor, Ms. Fernandes was elected to the Sea Bright Borough Council in 1997 and served in this capacity through 2007. She was appointed Sea Bright Council President from 2003 through 2005 and was an active participant and member of the Sea Bright Planning and Zoning Board from 1996 through 2011. As a member of the Borough Council, she implemented a program to add the North and South Beach areas to the monthly street cleaning schedule. Sea Bright now has regularly scheduled street cleaning services once a month as a result of Mayor Fernandes' initiatives. Her leadership abilities also led to her appointment as Chair of the Sea Bright Public Works Committee in which she assisted in consolidating services and improving the accessibility and cleanliness of the local beaches. As Public Works Committee Chair, she also managed the Sea Bright Downtown Infrastructure Improvement Project (DIIP), addressing the flooding in downtown Sea Bright. Other projects during Mayor Fernandes' tenure on the Borough Council have included the implementation of the free parking system and the negotiation of multiple shared services contracts with neighboring towns.

Mayor Fernandes is predeceased by her Father Ernest Fernandes and her Maternal Grandmother, Jesuina Diaz. Surviving is her Mother, Adelina Fernandes of Sea Bright.

Mr. Speaker, Mayor Maria Fernandes dedicated her life to serving the people and the town of Sea Bright New Jersey. Her actions touched the hearts and minds of countless men, women and children throughout Sea Bright and Monmouth County. Her legacy has served as an inspiration to us all and she will truly be missed.

HONORING LONG-TIME MONTEREY PARK RESIDENT AND COMMUNITY ACTIVIST: MRS. RUTH WILLNER

#### HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2012*

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great loss to our community, Mrs. Ruth Willner, who passed away on February 28, 2012, after a lengthy and valiant battle with cancer. My heart goes out to her two children, Paul and Julia; her granddaughter, Eryn; and her many friends and family members.

Ruth was an extraordinary citizen, an advocate for her community, and a good friend and loyal supporter. I first got to know Ruth's strength and passion in the 1980s, when she was the Chairperson of the Committee for Harmony in Monterey Park, which was formed to defeat a proposed English-only and anti-immigrant ordinance in our hometown. Thanks to Ruth's tireless efforts we succeeded in defeating that ordinance.

A native of East Los Angeles, Ruth attended Roosevelt High School and earned degrees from Los Angeles Community College and TIC Berkeley. A widower, she was married to her husband Irv for 56 years and lived in Monterey Park for 52 years.

Ruth truly loved her community. She was involved in too many community groups, commissions and organizations to name here, including the city's Blue Ribbon Budget Committee, the School District Formation Committee, Friends of the Library, Concerned Citizens, and the anti-casino and anti-billboard committees, to name a few.

As a 35-year member of the Pasadena League of Women Voters, Ruth played an integral role in educating and informing our local electorate. As program chair she shed light on issues as varied as NAFTA, Environmental Justice, Immigration and Welfare Reform, and as a member of the Speakers' Bureau for 25 years she presented pro and con forums on countless ballot issues and moderated scores of candidate forums.

A true believer in the political process, Ruth was a member of the Monterey Park Democratic Club since 1967, where she served as past president and ran the club's newsletter for 20 years. She also was an elected member of the L.A. County Democratic Party for 12 years and served as corresponding secretary for the party.

She was a tireless campaigner, walking precincts and phone banking for George Brown for Assembly, serving as the San Gabriel Valley Coordinator to End the War in Vietnam, and volunteering for Hubert Humphrey and George McGovern, among many others.

I urge my House colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Ruth Willner for her record of civic activism, her indomitable spirit and her remarkable service and contributions to her community and to our nation.

## HONORING CLARA SIMS

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, one hundred years ago a virtuous woman of God, Clara Bryant was born in Oxford, Georgia on March 1, 1912 to Charlie and Lula Bryant; and

Whereas, she was raised up in Rockdale County, Georgia and she married Mr. J.C. Sims and she has one daughter, Ms. Lula P. Goodson, three grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren and twelve great-great grandchildren; and

Whereas, this phenomenal Proverbs 31 woman has shared her time and talents as a Wife, Mother and Motivator, becoming a Georgia citizen of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all by always advancing the lives of others; and

Whereas, Ms. Sims has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; and

Whereas, Ms. Sims along with her family and friends are celebrating this day a remarkable milestone, her 100th Birthday, we pause to acknowledge a woman who is a cornerstone in Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Sims on her birthday and to wish her well and recognize her for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 1, 2012 as Ms. Clara Sims Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 1st day of March, 2012.

HONORING GENERAL CASIMIR  
PULASKI DAY**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2012*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, today, Chicago remembers the great Polish General Casimir Pulaski in annual celebrations surrounding General Casimir Pulaski Day.

Chicago is home to one of the largest populations of Poles in the world outside of Warsaw, so today marks a special day for many of my constituents who observe this holiday and remember General Pulaski's enduring and lasting contributions to our nation.

Born in Poland in 1745, Pulaski joined the fight for Polish liberation from Russian influences and later fought for American independence from Britain.

After meeting Pulaski in France, Benjamin Franklin wrote to George Washington that Pulaski was "an officer renowned throughout Europe for the courage and bravery he displayed in defense of his country's freedom."

Arriving in America in 1777, Pulaski assisted Washington's Continental Army in the Revolutionary War, at the behest of Franklin.

Pulaski distinguished himself as a gifted military tactician and became known as the

"Father of the American Cavalry," often using his own finances to provide his forces with the finest equipment when allocations from Congress were limited.

He valiantly gave his life in 1779, fighting for the freedom he so believed in, and has been remembered since that day by both Americans and Poles for his dedication to liberty and justice for all.

My recent trip to Poland reminded me how important it is for the United States and Poland to continue nurturing and celebrating our long-standing relationship as friends and allies.

To this end, I will continue pushing for Poland's inclusion in the Visa Waiver Program.

I hope that by making it easier for Polish citizens to visit their loved ones here in America, even more Polish families in my district will be able to celebrate next year's Casimir Pulaski Day together.

HONORING MARLENE  
GREENEBAUM**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2012*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Mrs. Marlene Greenebaum, who will be honored at the Centennial Celebration of Hadassah for her many contributions to medical, communal and Jewish causes in Baltimore and beyond American borders.

Mrs. Greenebaum is one of Baltimore's most well-known and well-respected philanthropic leaders. Her civic endeavors include serving as president of the Oheb Shalom Sisterhood as well as president of Miriam Lodge. In addition, since her diagnosis with breast cancer more than 20 years ago, Mrs. Greenebaum has dedicated each and every day to helping treat and research life-threatening disease so that others can enjoy the gift of good health.

In 1994, Mrs. Greenebaum and her husband, Stewart, created a scholarship program for University of Maryland School of Medicine students who are residents of Maryland. They are also the founding donors of the Children's House at Johns Hopkins, helping to build an 18-bedroom facility that provides lodging for families of children being treated for life-threatening illnesses. The couple was recently recognized for donating more than \$1 million to the American Cancer Society since 2007.

Mrs. Greenebaum has served on the University of Maryland Medical System's Cancer Center Board of Advisors since its inception in 1993. Along with her husband, she donated \$10 million to the School of Medicine, the largest private contribution in its history. In recognition, the couple is the namesake of the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center, where new life-saving drugs and groundbreaking clinical trials have attracted national and international recognition. In fact, its lab and clinical research facility are ranked among the Nation's top 25 cancer centers by U.S. News and World Report.

Mrs. Greenebaum was also the driving force behind the creation of the Multidisciplinary Breast Center at the Hadassah University

Medical Center in Jerusalem that bears her name. Her gift is ensuring that Israeli women can benefit from the best diagnostics, treatment and research possible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Mrs. Marlene Greenebaum. Her dedication to quality healthcare for all people is an inspiration. Her strength and courage now give hope to countless other women. It is with great admiration and appreciation that I congratulate Mrs. Greenebaum on her well-deserved recognition and wish her many more years of good health and happiness.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF RAUL  
SOLIS**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2012*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of a man who truly embodied the American Dream, who came here with nothing and built something, whose ethic of sacrifice and responsibility represents a life to be emulated.

Raul Solis of La Puente, California died last Wednesday at the age of 88. He was born on February 27, 1924 in Tucson, Arizona, but he spent most of his youth in Veracruz, Mexico. He returned to the United States as a teenager, as a part of the Bracero program to address labor shortages caused by World War II.

Mr. Solis worked in both the fields and the factory—as a farmworker, on the railroads, in a battery recycling plant and eventually as a Teamster shop steward. He was a proud union man. He eventually settled in southern California, where he met Juana in an American citizenship class. She survives him after 58 years of marriage. Together, they had seven children—Irma, Raul Jr., Hilda (our former House colleague and current U.S. Secretary of Labor), Victor, Beatriz, Anna and Leticia. Their family would grow to include 10 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

The Solises lived modestly but happily. Their riches came in the form of love, family and faith; humility, self-respect and hard work. Raul Solis cared about politics, the law and social justice. He was a Teamsters shop steward at a battery recycling plant. Secretary Solis tells of her father coming home from work and pulling scraps of paper with Spanish writing out of his pocket. He wanted her to translate these notes from his co-workers, outlining concerns about safety conditions at the plant. And now his firsthand experience informs the wisdom and the decision-making of his daughter, as she meets her mandate to improve the lives of workers around the country.

Mr. Solis was also an outdoorsman who passed along to his children important lessons about the beauty of the natural world and the imperative of environmental justice. Secretary Solis' career and priorities in public service have been driven by the experience of living around polluted landfills while nearby affluent communities experienced little environmental degradation.

It was my pleasure to meet this extraordinary man and to see the quiet strength of his character. Raul Solis, laid to rest today,