

IN REMEMBRANCE OF LEON EARL WYNTER IN HONOR OF NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of writer, journalist, former commentator and dear friend Leon Earl Wynter who passed away on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at the age of fifty-seven. Born in 1953, Leon grew up in the Bronx, New York and was fond of saying that he arrived "just in time for most of the things that mattered; the space race, the triumph of the civil rights movement, disco, cable and the Macintosh computer".

He described himself as "first a Christian, then American and black by way of his Jamaican heritage". He is survived by his daughter Grace Alexandra, his mother Sylvia, and his brother Stephen. Leon left behind an abundance of those who knew him personally and loved him, as well as those who knew him professionally and respected him. Leon created a legacy of friendship, a body of work to be proud of, and a life time of vivid memories of those of us who have been privileged, like me.

Leon had an extraordinary career, which began in commercial banking, and continued in journalism as a Washington Post staff reporter in 1980. At the Washington Post, he covered education and racial change in suburban Prince George's County, Maryland. He later joined the Wall Street Journal's bureau in 1984, and covered the federal banking beat on Capitol Hill, as well as federal telecommunications and technology policy. He then created and wrote a monthly column for the Wall Street Journal called "Business & Race". He considered the title alone as a victory, and he wrote it for ten years, from 1989–1999. In his twenty-years as a journalist, essayist, commentator, speaker and an author, Leon develop into an acclaimed voice on the racial and ethnic transformation of American identity.

As a sought-after public speaker in business, Leon shared his expertise and perspectives with strategic marketers at Time Warner, Pepsico, GlaxoSmithKline, Cox Cable and the Strategic Research Institute. His commentaries on race, pop culture and life were frequently heard on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered". Leon published dozens of essays in newspapers and magazines, including the Wall Street Journal, Savoy, Washington Post, and New York Newsday, among a few.

In August 2002, Leon realized his goal in life after publishing his first book, "America Skin: Big Business, Pop Culture and the End of White America". In 2007, Leon helped co-write my memoirs, "And I Haven't Had a Bad Day Since." Later, Leon would begin a new career with the Harlem Community Development Corporation where he served as Director of Communications.

Leon was known by many as one of the Valley elite, a committed Christian, professor of journalism, an Elder of the Presbyterian Church, an enthusiastic blogger, an evolving musician, a lover of Public Radio, a tireless debater, and someone capable of great passions. He once wrote, "I'm just in time to dis-

cover that life is not about being current it's about being present with God for my child and my loved ones".

Mr. Speaker, in celebration of National Black History Month, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembrance of my dear friend, Leon Earl Wynter. If you knew him, these are the facts and the celebration of his life. If you did not know him . . . you missed something very special.

HONORING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the outstanding achievements of the American Physiological Society as it celebrates its 125th anniversary. The APS is a scholarly association dedicated to fostering scientific research, education, and the dissemination of information about human and animal physiology. Its headquarters are in Bethesda in Maryland's Eighth Congressional District.

Physiology is the study of how living systems function and plays a pivotal role in advancing medical discovery. The APS is an outstanding example of a not-for-profit organization that supports the advancement of science in the public interest.

APS publishes research findings on physiology in its 13 peer-reviewed journals. These journals—the oldest of which has been publishing since 1898—collectively publish about 3,000 research articles each year. All of this scientific content is made freely available on the web 12 months after initial publication.

The APS also sponsors scientific meetings and conferences throughout the year where physiologists can share their latest findings with their colleagues.

The APS offers educational outreach programs for students beginning at the elementary school level and provides support to students of physiology in graduate school and beyond. The APS has been recognized with a Presidential Award for Excellence in Scientific, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring, PESMEM, for its long standing effort to increase diversity in physiology and to encourage the progress of underrepresented minority students and professionals.

Over the course of 125 years, the APS has grown from 28 founding members to more than 11,000 members. These physiologists teach and conduct research in medical schools, hospitals, colleges, universities, industry, and government throughout the U.S. and 66 other countries.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the APS on its 125th anniversary and honoring this organization for its many accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CHARLES EDWARD GUNNOE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a good friend of mine, Dr. Charles "Chuck" Gunnoe. Dr. Gunnoe passed away March 10, 2012, in Corona, California, with his wife Becky and his family at his side. Chuck was a pillar of the community in Corona, California, and he will be deeply missed.

Chuck was born September 25, 1928, in Chicago, Illinois, the son of Andrew Benton and Anna Gunnoe. After honorably serving in the United States Air Force, Chuck earned his medical degree from Indiana University. Chuck worked as a family physician for 54 years. Chuck, and his wife Becky, were known throughout the community and Dr. Gunnoe was the longest practicing physician in Corona. Chuck considered himself a country doctor and was inspired by his hometown doctor in Indiana who would make house calls. Dr. Gunnoe moved to Corona in 1956 after completing his residency at Riverside General Hospital and took over the practice of a local doctor.

Chuck was a visionary in Corona; he immediately saw the need for more medical services in the community and purchased land that would become the site for the second hospital in Corona. After many years of work, that hospital would become part of the Corona Regional Medical Center. As a physician, Dr. Gunnoe never rushed with his patients, would visit some at home if they were unable to come to the office, and gave many his home telephone number. That kind of service and commitment to the health of his patients is rare today. Dr. Gunnoe retired in 2010, having been a doctor to three generations of Corona residents. He would still see some patients in his home after he retired; his dedication to his patients as steadfast as ever.

It is hard to imagine that Chuck would have any free time on his hands yet he always found time for his community. He was past president of the Corona Chamber of Commerce, its Citizen of the Year in 1996, founder of the local Jaycees, and owner of Deerfield Station, a gourmet restaurant. In his free time, Chuck enjoyed spending time with his family, traveling in his motor home, playing tennis, golf and bowling.

Chuck is survived by his wife, Becky Gunnoe of 35 years; daughters, Dawne (David) Malone, Janis Tedesco, Laura Leigh (Michael) Gunnoe-Pass; sons, Bryan A. Gunnoe, Charles E. (Susan) Gunnoe, Jr.; sister, Mabel Pugh; seven grandchildren, Dylan and Nicolas Tedesco, Jessica, Danielle and Jake Gunnoe, Michael Benton and Sean Christian Pass, and three great-grandchildren, Sienna, Jonah and Sebastian.

On Friday, March 16, 2012, a memorial service was held celebrating Chuck's extraordinary life. Chuck will always be remembered for his unwavering care for his patients, incredible work ethic, generosity, contributions to the community and love of family. His dedication to his work, family and community are a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to

Chuck's family and friends; although Chuck may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

PROTECTING ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5) to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system:

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Chair, over the course of the last two years since the President signed the Affordable Care Act into law, bipartisan opposition to many portions of this legislation has steadily grown in this chamber.

Today, the House of Representatives passed the Protecting Access to Healthcare Act as part of a deliberate, transparent, and comprehensive plan to fix America's broken and expensive health insurance system.

While I favor a full repeal of the Affordable Care Act, this effort represents removal of the most harmful provisions of President Obama's flawed law. The PATH Act does this by enacting much needed medical malpractice tort reform to reduce healthcare costs and it repeals President Obama's unaccountable Independent Payment Advisory Board, IPAB, which would limit Medicare patient access to health care services.

As the House puts forward ideas to protect and save Medicare, the Administration has decided it can better serve seniors by cutting benefits for seniors by more than \$575 billion, and creating a panel of unelected, unaccountable Washington bureaucrats tasked with cutting Medicare even further.

More than 230 of my colleagues in the House from both parties and over 380 groups representing doctors, patients and employers have joined us in opposition to the IPAB.

I urge the Senate and President to stand with us against this overreach of government power and make the Protecting Access to Healthcare Act law. Congress must work to reform health care in a way that reduces costs for both patients and providers while preserving the quality of care that Americans deserve.

SUPPORTING JOBS WITH THE JONAS SALK ELEMENTARY CAP UNDO REGULATORY ENVIRON- MENTAL DELAY (CURED ACT)

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will place a 90-day deadline on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to issue a final decision for a permit to build an elementary school in my district. After near-

ly 10 years of delays, it is time to move forward on this critical school for the children in my congressional district. The bill does not sidestep environmental review. Endangered species and habitat will be protected. It is time to recognize and place the impact of delay to the community on equal footing.

Jonas Salk Elementary is a proposed school site within the community of Mira Mesa in San Diego, California. With nearly one in 10 San Diego residents out of work, this is a "shovel-ready" project that has been the victim of nearly a decade of bureaucratic regulatory delays. This has hurt students, deprived the community of park amenities and much needed jobs.

This school is needed to ease existing overcrowding at Mason Elementary, Hage Elementary and other San Diego-area schools. The proposed project is located within an existing community, on a lot that has been vacant and graded since 1978. Along with the school, the project envisions a park and joint-use facilities to benefit the region.

The San Diego Unified School District Board approved the plans to build Jonas Salk Elementary in 2003, with the intent of serving students in 2006. Unfortunately, the elementary school has been indirectly delayed by an environmental lawsuit and various agency delays for nearly a decade. If enacted, my legislation will help ensure that students will be able to attend this long delayed school in 2014.

At a time when schools are overcrowded and the resources to build schools are scarce, to delay a project with both the need and the resources to construct with no real impact to the environment is unacceptable. The intent of this bill is to not allow the opening of the school to slip any further. The San Diego Unified School District has done its due diligence to protect the environment and provide for students. My bill recognizes the school district's efforts and ensures that the final determination is issued in a timely manner so that the school can finally be built and begin servicing the community. Projects that provide an obvious community benefit and produce much needed jobs should be encouraged, not punished with costly and pointless delays.

NATIONAL SAFE PLACE AWARENESS WEEK

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Safe Place Awareness Week. Every year in America, as many as 2.8 million young people run away from or are pushed out of their homes. Almost half of them do so because of a family conflict.

A young person in crisis is often scared and confused. The distinctive yellow-and-black sign that marks a Safe Place location is a universal symbol of safety and assistance. It signifies a place—a business, school, fire station, library, or many others—where a young person in crisis can get help.

There are almost 20,000 Safe Place locations throughout the country, in 40 states and 1,562 communities. During the past 12 years, National Safe Place agencies have counseled nearly 90,000 young people in person and more than 110,000 via telephone.

Sadly, the need for Safe Place services continues to grow. In response, National Safe Place is seeking to give more young people a place to turn for help—regardless of their circumstance.

[Mr.] Speaker, I have introduced a resolution recognizing March 18–24 as "National Safe Place Awareness Week." The goal is not only to have more signs hanging across the country, it is to raise awareness and support of the vital programs National Safe Place provides for young people in the most vulnerable of situations.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO THE VICTIMS OF THE RECENT TORNADOES IN THE MIDWEST AND SOUTH

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my heartfelt sympathy for the people who have been struck by the recent tornadoes in the Midwest and South. These disasters have caused the deaths of more than 30 people in five States and left several communities in need of support, including volunteers, food, clothing, and monetary contributions. Although we will be able to rebuild these communities, we can never replace the lives lost, and my thoughts and prayers are with those families today.

These disasters are a reminder that the needs of relief and recovery efforts are constant. When disasters—be they hurricanes, earthquakes, fires, floods, or tornadoes—wreck entire communities and drive whole families from their homes, rapid and generous outside assistance is essential to preserving lives and property. I hope that we can learn from this disaster—and other recent natural disasters around the country—that we need to better coordinate and find Federal disaster relief efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I once again extend my deepest sympathies to the people who have been affected by these tornadoes. I urge all the appropriate Federal agencies to ensure that these communities receive the help they need.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVER- SARY OF THE ARC OF CHESTER COUNTY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The ARC of Chester County, Pennsylvania on its 60th anniversary of improving the quality of life for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

The history of The ARC of Chester County is a long and storied one, extending back to 1952 when local Chester County parents founded the organization as an affiliate of The ARC U.S., which was founded in Philadelphia and counted this group among its first local