

member and past president of the Kiwanis Club of Delano, where he was a supporter of the Key Club and started the Builders' Club for 7th and 8th grade students at Cecil Avenue Junior High. Jim also served as Secretary of Our Saviour Lutheran Church and Director of the Valley Production Credit Association. He was honored as Delano's Man of the Year in 1987, received the UC Davis Award of Distinction in 1995 for his service to California Agriculture, and was selected as the Grand Marshal of the 2003 Delano Harvest Holidays Festival.

Jim's legacy will live on through his service to our nation, his work in our Valley, and through his children, LCDR Mark J. Andreas, USN Ret and Dr. Jennifer Andreas, and his four grandchildren, Mark J. Andreas, Jr., Austin Williamson, John W. Andreas, and Ashley Williamson. Perhaps what was most telling of Jim's character was the importance he placed on family and friendship. Jim leaves his many family members with many warm and cherished memories.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life of James Wesley Andreas, an honorable and respected man with an unwavering commitment to his loving family and our nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER BILLIE DIXON, U.S. NAVY (RETIRED)

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Lieutenant Commander Billy Dixon, U.S. Navy (Retired), for his long life of public service. LCDR Dixon proudly served his country for 26 years as a Navy pilot, and later worked 30 years for the Federal Aviation Administration, FAA.

CDR Dixon was the epitome of a patriot, selflessly serving his country for over two decades as a fighter pilot and dive bomber. He fought in World War II, Korea and Vietnam, and later flew thousands of hours during the Cold War. In addition to his hours spent flying in combat, LCDR Dixon flew as a test pilot, global transport pilot and an instructor and inspector pilot in large jet aircraft.

After retiring from the Navy, LCDR Dixon began working for the Federal Aviation Administration. His 30 year tenure at the FAA included working as a check pilot where he participated in the certification of thousands of civilian and military pilots and flight engineers.

When LCDR Dixon's life-long career as a pilot finally came to a close, he would leave having flown over 19,000 hours in 26 different aircraft. With his passing on March 30, 2012, the Coppell community loses an incredible man who, throughout his life, worked tirelessly to better his country. I cannot thank LCDR Dixon enough.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Lieutenant Commander Billie Dixon, U.S. Navy (Retired). We must always remember those who devoted their lives to protecting our freedom. Old pilots never die, they just fly away.

TRIBUTE TO ANGELA PIERCE

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me paying tribute to the courageous actions of Ms. Angela from my hometown of Dayton, Ohio.

On the night of December 11, 2010, Jonathan Seiter, a police officer, stopped a male motorist and was attempting to pat him down on the highway shoulder. The man resisted, and during the intense scuffle that followed, he attempted to remove Officer Seiter's weapon from its holster. At one point, he pinned the officer against the trunk of his car.

Angela was a passenger in a vehicle that drove upon the scene. Seeing the assault, she left the vehicle and ran to where the two men were struggling. Over the course of several seconds, she repeatedly struck the attacker over the head, giving Officer Seiter the opportunity to gain control of him. Another officer then arrived on the scene and took the assailant to the pavement and secured him.

For her actions, Angela Pierce was awarded the Carnegie Medal by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission, given to those who put their own life at risk while saving, or attempting to save, the lives of others.

Mr. Speaker, this young woman put herself in harm's way to come to the aid of another, and without her quick response, this story could have easily had a tragic ending. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Angela Pierce on receiving this prestigious award.

A TRIBUTE TO THE WALTER D. PALMER LEADERSHIP PREPARATORY ACADEMY CLASS OF 2013

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Walter D. Palmer Leadership Preparatory Academy Foundations of Leadership Class of 2013.

These young men and women are completing a rigorous curriculum that ensures the highest level of student performance while fostering lifelong learning and growth. In addition to their academic curriculum, these students also mentor elementary and middle school students and participate in several peer activities. This unique combination of academics and community service puts them in a great position to not only be productive members of the Philadelphia community, but also be community leaders.

On behalf of the first district, I would like to congratulate these young adults for their academic and civic progress, and anxiously await the contributions these young Philadelphians will make to our city and country in the future.

TRIBUTE TO ED VULEVICH, FORMER FEDERAL PROSECUTOR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant and good friend to many in the Alabama legal community, former Mobile federal prosecutor Edward J. Vulevich, Jr., who recently passed away at the age of 78.

A native of South Alabama, Ed Vulevich spent four decades guiding—and, at one time leading—the U.S. Attorney's office in Mobile. Throughout, he was a trusted advocate for justice and a steady force in the U.S. Attorney's office.

A graduate of McGill Institute, Ed Vulevich earned his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Alabama. After law school, he joined the Air Force where he served in the Judge Advocate General's Corps in Japan during the late 1950s.

After serving his country, Ed Vulevich returned to Mobile to clerk for U.S. District Judge Daniel Thomas before joining the Tonsmeire, McFadden law firm. In 1969, he left private practice to become a federal prosecutor in the Mobile U.S. Attorney's office.

At the Mobile office, Ed Vulevich served as Chief of the Civil Division for 25 years and held the post of First Assistant U.S. Attorney. From 1993 to 1995, he rose to the position of interim U.S. Attorney in Mobile during the transition between the administrations of President George H.W. Bush and President Bill Clinton.

According to the Mobile Press-Register, Ed Vulevich was among the first group of federal prosecutors in the late 1960s who held career posts that carried over from one presidential administration to the next.

He was an able administrator helping guide the U.S. Attorney's office during his four decades of service. Over the same period, the office saw growth in the number of prosecutors from less than ten to more than 50 and witnessed a marked caseload increase.

A devoted legal scholar and defender of the people, Ed Vulevich was well-liked and respected by his colleagues and many others in the legal profession. He retired from federal service in 2006.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of South Alabama, I join this House in extending heartfelt condolences to Ed's wife of forty years, Diane; their daughters, Erin and Jan; their son, Edward; their three grandchildren; as well as his sisters Ann, Jane and Helen. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

LRA, BOKO HARAM, AL-SHABAAB, AQIM AND OTHER SOURCES OF INSTABILITY IN AFRICA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, conflict in Africa had been winding down in recent years, except in Libya, Mali, Somalia, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. These conflicts, as well as simmering

tensions and sporadic violence in countries like Algeria and Nigeria, offered opportunities for al-Qaeda, still the world's leading organizer of global terrorist attacks. This jihadist organization has repeatedly found allies involved in what started out as local quarrels and is attempting to internationalize them.

Africa, like the rest of the developing world, has been a successful recruiting area for al-Qaeda. The so-called "underwear bomber," Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab of Nigeria, was recruited by al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) to detonate a bomb on a Northwest Airlines flight as it approached Detroit on December 25, 2009. In its effort to become the leading al-Qaeda affiliate, AQAP has aligned itself with Islamic extremists beyond its native Yemen. Across the Gulf of Aden, the longstanding chaos in Somalia created a likely ally in al-Shabaab.

This designated Foreign Terrorist Organization was created by young Islamic jihadists who sought to establish a "Greater Somalia" under sharia law as a reaction to a transitional government run by former warlords, who to this day are believed to be engaged in corrupt activity. Despite its alliance with al-Qaeda, al-Shabaab still appears to be focused more on attacking the Transitional Federal Government, African Union peacekeepers and Somali citizens than foreigners not in their country.

Could that change? Of course it could. Some of the many young Somalis who left the United States to fight for what they believed was the sovereignty of their homeland are returning to this country, and one must wonder to what extent they have adopted a jihadist mentality. They could be merely disillusioned young men returning from an idealistic adventure, or they could be sleepers ready and willing to strike inside our homeland at some future point.

Boko Haram in Nigeria has gained significant attention recently for its well-publicized attacks on Christians. There was the Christmas Eve 2010 bombing in Jos; the February 15, 2011, shootings at a church in Maiduguri, and the April 8, 2012, suicide car bombing at a church in Kaduna. However, to say that Boko Haram is strictly an anti-Christian terrorist organization would be to mischaracterize this violent movement.

Boko Haram objects to moderate Muslims, as embodied for them by the Sultan of Sokoto. The Sultan's religious authority over Nigeria's Muslims was established by the British during colonialism, and he is now seen as a tool of the central government in Nigeria and by extension America and the West—both of which would be considered as being under Christian control. Boko Haram has killed Muslim leaders it considers insufficiently fundamentalist and still seems focused on opposing and embarrassing before the world a central government it considers to be worldly and neglectful of development in northern Nigeria. There are credible reports that Boko Haram is training with al-Qaeda in the Maghreb (AQIM) in northern Mali along with Tuareg rebel groups that have taken over that region.

Could they pose a threat to the American homeland? Perhaps at some future date.

AQIM itself is a homegrown African terrorist organization. This Foreign Terrorist Organization was established as the Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat in 1998 when other Islamic extremists laid down their arms in their fight against the Government of Algeria. That

fight stemmed from the 1992 nullification by the Algerian government of a second series of parliamentary elections that appeared to be poised to empower the Islamic Salvation Front political alliance. Since then, the group declared allegiance to al-Qaeda and in 2006 became Al-Qaeda in the Maghreb.

This group has repeatedly declared its intention to attack Algerian, Spanish, French and American targets. It has taken advantage of the revolt in Libya and the unrest in northern Mali to expand its affiliations among African internally-focused terrorists. As an active al-Qaeda affiliate, it definitely has international aims beyond its original Algeria targets. The Tuareg groups now concentrating on declaring a homeland in northern Mali (and perhaps other parts of the Sahel) and Boko Haram certainly offer allies who may provide recruits for more global attacks.

As for the Lord's Resistance Army, it is an outlier in this group of terrorist organizations. The LRA emerged in northern Uganda in 1987, the year after Yoweri Museveni, a rebel leader from southern Uganda, seized power and ended nearly a decade of rule by northerners. Following Museveni's victory, Alice Lakwena, a spiritual leader from the northern Acholi tribe, emerged as a key figure among northern rebel factions seeking to overthrow the government. Lakwena's Holy Spirit Movement was defeated by the Ugandan military in 1987, and Lakwena fled to Kenya. Joseph Kony, a reported relative of Lakwena, emerged and laid claim to Lakwena's legacy with the LRA.

Kony's LRA began to target civilians in northern Uganda and sought support and protection from the Government of Sudan. This Ugandan member of the State Department's Terrorist Exclusion List killed more than 2,400 people and kidnapped more than 3,400 others between 2008 and 2011 alone. This has included people from not only Uganda, but also South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic. However, the LRA is not known to be affiliated with any element of al-Qaeda, and their cross-border terrorist activities are more a function of being chased by regional militaries, and now a U.S. advisory group, than any effort to take over territory.

Whatever their motivations, these terrorist organizations pose a great challenge to governance, peace and security in Africa. We must be concerned about the possibility of future attacks on U.S. citizens and interests abroad and even the U.S. homeland. However, to end the threat these terrorist groups pose, we must understand their origins and determine what can be done to reduce their base of support in their home countries. In doing so, we not only help add to the stability of those countries, but also minimize the larger threat to peace and security globally.

TRIBUTE TO BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S 34TH ANNIVERSARY HALL OF FAME RACE

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Bronx Community College, which will

hold its 34th Anniversary Hall of Fame 10K–5K Run & 2 Mile Fitness Walk on Saturday, May 5, 2012.

The Hall of Fame Race was founded in 1978 by Bronx Community College's third President, Dr. Roscoe C. Brown, Jr., who was recently given the Congressional Medal of Honor as one of the famed Tuskegee Airmen. This important tradition continues under the leadership of Dr. Carole M. Berotte Joseph, the new President of Bronx Community College. The race's mission is to promote physical well-being and higher education, as well as highlight the Hall of Fame for Great Americans, a national institution on the BCC campus that is dedicated to those who have helped to make America great.

I have had the pleasure of running this race many times before, and I can attest to the excitement it generates throughout the Bronx. It is truly wonderful to see several hundred people run along the Grand Concourse, University Avenue, and West 181st Street. There is no better way to see our Bronx community and to underscore the importance of fitness.

The Annual Hall of Fame Race has three components: a 10K run, a 5K run, and a 2 Mile Fitness Walk. The 2 Mile Fitness Walk is dedicated to Professor Michael Steuerman, a committed and loyal faculty member at Bronx Community College for more than 30 years who passed away in 2006. This event also recognizes the contributions of David Hernandez, who was an avid runner and served Bronx Community College's grants officer.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the individuals and participants who are making the Bronx Community College's 34th Annual Hall of Fame 10K–5K Run & 2 Mile Fitness Walk possible.

JUSTICE IS SERVED

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark a historic occurrence—the first conviction of a head of state in an international war crimes court since World War II. Of course Adolph Hitler, convicted at the Nuremberg Trials, had committed suicide prior to the verdict.

Charles Taylor organized and ordered armed attacks throughout Sierra Leone to terrorize the civilian population and ultimately punish them for failing to provide sufficient support to the Revolutionary United Front (RUF), or for supporting the legitimate government. The attacks were brutal in nature and routinely included unlawful killings, abductions, forced labor, physical and sexual violence, the use of child soldiers, looting and Taylor's trademark—mass amputations.

I visited Sierra Leone in 1999 with my good friend, former Member of Congress Tony Hall. I heard the tales of horror with my own ears and witnessed with my own eyes the nightmare Taylor left in his wake. Taylor's interest in promoting and supporting the RUF insurgency was driven by greed—specifically Sierra Leone's vast diamond resources. Victims told us that when the RUF would arrive in a village, they would ask their victims if they wanted "a long sleeve" or "a short sleeve" and amputate accordingly.