

Mrs. Graves died at Howard University Hospital in Washington, DC after a three-year battle with gall bladder cancer at the age of 75.

As Black Enterprise itself acknowledges, "she played a vital role in the growth and development of the publication and media company, and its mission of economic empowerment and wealth building for African Americans."

"Since the launching of the Black Enterprise Magazine in 1970, Barbara Graves, an alumna of Brooklyn College and a former elementary school teacher, held every major position, including editorial director, circulation director and chief financial officer, during the 40-plus-year history of this company. Along the way, she is credited with grooming and developing several generations of executive leadership, including sons Earl Jr., Johnny and Michael, all of whom have worked as executives at Black Enterprise. Mrs. Graves also co-founded and guided the Black Enterprise Women of Power Summit, the premier networking event and conference for women executives of color."

Her son, Earl Graves, Jr., president and CEO of Black Enterprise, testified to how special his mother was: "My mother was a steadfast and loving partner and counselor to my father; his quiet source of strength and inspiration. She served as mentor and guide to several generations of employees, managers and professionals. Above all, she genuinely cared for every member of the Black Enterprise family, and held a special passion for children and young people in particular."

Mrs. Graves' funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., to be preceded by a public viewing from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., on Saturday, June 2, at Grace Missionary Baptist Church in Mount Vernon, NY.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF PARKER MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the 125th anniversary of Parker Memorial Baptist Church in Anniston, Alabama.

Parker Memorial Baptist Church was founded on July 3, 1887, in Anniston, Alabama, and has faithfully shared the love of God with the city of Anniston and Calhoun County.

The beautiful Worship Center that was constructed in 1891 is one of the best known landmarks in downtown Anniston. It stands majestically along one of the busiest streets in the city, proclaiming to both residents and visitors that faith in God is a hallmark of the city.

The beauty of the physical structure serves as a testimony to the love and ministry of the people of Parker Memorial who have given, and continue to give, of their time, talents and resources to touch lives in the Anniston area and across the world.

In three different centuries, the congregation at Parker allowed the teachings and love of their Lord to transform lives and give a message of hope to a needy world.

On July 1, the Parker Memorial Family will gather to commemorate their 125th year of

ministry. Former pastors, leaders and members will join the present Parker Family to express appreciation for the past and to affirm a new vision for the future.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Parker Memorial Baptist Church on this milestone and encourage them to continue their outstanding service to Anniston.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, on May 30, 2012, I was unavoidably delayed due to a mechanical problem during travel causing me to miss rollcall vote 294 on H.R. 5651, the Prescription Drug User Fee Amendments of 2012. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted "aye."

PRENATAL NONDISCRIMINATION ACT (PRENDA) OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and unable to be present for the vote on H.R. 3541, the Prenatal Non-Discrimination Act. Had I been present, I want to state for the record that my vote on this bill would have been a resounding no.

This bill is nothing more than a further attack on women and women's health from a majority party that claims to be focusing on job creation and economic growth. Yet, today they present us with the ninth opportunity in this Congress to restrict women's access to reproductive health care.

Passing this bill would mean someone would have to stand in the operating room and judge the motives of a woman seeking a Constitutionally protected medical procedure. A doctor could be sent to prison for five years if it can be shown that sex-selection was a factor in the decision to have an abortion. Of course, the doctor would have to either be a mind reader to know the reasons behind a woman's decision, or subject her to unreasonable scrutiny. If the doctor even suspects that sex-selection was involved, but does not report, she or he can be sent to prison for a year. The idea that threatening to incarcerate an obstetrician is somehow protecting women is ludicrous. It only serves to intimidate doctors and keep them from providing medically necessary and often life-saving services for their patients.

Furthermore, this bill allows for an injunction preventing an abortion to be granted by a court if a woman's husband or her parents allege that sex-selection was a factor in the decision to have an abortion. A simple allegation from a third party can therefore prevent a woman from making a private and legal decision in consultation with her doctor. That is absolutely unacceptable.

Sex-selective abortions are a legitimate concern. But this bill is a false solution to a very

real problem. If the supporters of this bill truly wanted to end gender discrimination, they would be working on policies that address the root causes of inequality that plague women in America. They would be working to truly empower women to make decisions about their health and reproductive care. They would be working with us across the aisle to support federal programs that benefit women and their families, such as the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid, and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. Instead they are on record voting to defund domestic and international family planning programs, dismantle health care reform, and in favor of proposals like the Ryan Budget that slash support for the most vulnerable women and families in this country.

I would welcome the opportunity to work with my colleagues across the aisle on actual solutions to the problems of gender discrimination and inequality in this country. The Prenatal Non-Discrimination Act simply does not address the real issues facing America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT L. TURNER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. TURNER of New York. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 296 I was away from the floor due to a memorial service for first responders at the World Trade Center Memorial in New York. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

THE LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to officially congratulate and formally recognize the future leaders of our armed forces—the graduates of the Class of 2016 at the nation's prestigious service academies. Each young adult listed will become a highly trained and exceptionally skilled commissioned officer in the most elite military in the world. As you know, each year I have the privilege of nominating a limited number of people to four of the five service academies. The honor of attending a service academy comes with an obligation and commitment to serve in the military for a minimum of five years upon graduation.

As a 29-year Air Force veteran and a former Prisoner of War in Vietnam for nearly seven years, more than half of that time in solitary confinement, it gives me great joy to help you serve our blessed nation. Best wishes to you as you pursue your goal of attending one of the U.S. Service Academies and serving our country. It is because of selfless people like you that we humbly remain "the land of the free and the home of the brave." The names of the appointees, their hometowns and high schools follow.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

Cody Christopher Guerry—Garland, Texas—Naaman Forest High School

Austin Yupyo Kong—Allen, Texas—Allen High School

Shannon Elizabeth Rogers—Plano, Texas—Plano Senior High School

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

William Benac Allred—Richardson, Texas—Plano East Senior High School

Travis Ross Beach—Garland, Texas—Trinity Christian Academy

Nicholas Gregory Cerf—McKinney, Texas—Liberty High School

Mitchell Martin Larios—Frisco, Texas—Frisco High School

Kamron Alexander Murrell—Allen, Texas—Allen High School

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Allie Nicole Baumgarten—Plano, Texas—Plano Senior High School

Constance Ruth Gabel—Plano, Texas—Canyon Creek Christian Academy

Cameron Kistler—Plano, Texas—Plano Senior High School

Joseph Paul Lamb—Plano, Texas—Plano East Senior High School

Melissa Lynn Leonhardt—Plano, Texas—Plano Senior High School

*Adam Ayelle Melaku—Garland, Texas—Garland High School

Andrew Stephen Parks—McKinney, Texas—Austin Tennis Academy College Preparatory School

Adam Joseph Wilkins—McKinney, Texas—McKinney North High School

UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

Colin Spencer Can—Plano, Texas—Plano West Senior High School

Kinser Dean Newkirk—Plano, Texas—Prince of Peace Christian School

Jack Andrew Westrich—McKinney, Texas—McKinney Boyd High School

*Adam Melaku will attend the U.S. Air Force Academy Preparatory School.

Congratulations are in order for these 18 appointees and 1 U.S. Air Force Preparatory School student. God bless you, God bless Texas, God bless America, and I salute you.

RECOGNIZING THE MANY FINE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MR. JIM BRUBAKER OF THE CARLSBAD HI-NOON ROTARY CLUB

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the many outstanding achievements of Jim Brubaker, the outgoing president of the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary Club. Mr. Brubaker's leadership during the 2011–2012 Rotary year has contributed significantly to the Hi-Noon Rotary Club, the community of Carlsbad and the mission of Rotary. During his tenure, the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary Club sponsored; RYLA, a youth awareness leadership conference; provided a Christmas party and provided meals and gifts to needy elementary school children; co-sponsored the Oktoberfest fundraiser that benefited the Carlsbad Women's Resource Center, Carlsbad Boys and Girls Club and other charitable community organizations; sponsored a golf tournament which funded scholarships for Carlsbad high school students and Marines returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, and provided support to other needy military personnel and their families; promoted literacy by providing dictionaries for English and Spanish speaking elementary

school children; conducted a Business and Ethics conference for AVID high school students; provided support to La Posada, a facility for the homeless and sponsored the Four-Way Speech Contest, a program to help develop public speaking skills of our community high school students. We assisted in the distribution of food, clothing and toys to over 400 needy Carlsbad families in conjunction with the Carlsbad Christmas Bureau. Under President Brubaker's leadership the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary and its membership completed a number of other projects and provided over 9,400 volunteer hours of community service.

In the international arena, under Mr. Brubaker's leadership, a team of Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotarians joined with others to build a house in Mexico for a needy family. Through our support of the Paul Harris Foundation, the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary co-sponsored numerous other humanitarian projects all over the world including the effort to eradicate polio worldwide. We partnered with the Golden Triangle Rotary club in a program to build a school for girls in Afghanistan. Foreign exchange students were hosted as part of a program to promote better understanding of other cultures, and participated in developing a source of safe drinking water for Belize and the Ivory Coast. During Mr. Brubaker's tenure we also participated in "Heart to Heart in Africa," a program to provide much needed medical help to children with heart problems in third world countries, and computers were provided for school children at the Los Tambos School in Mexico.

I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing the many fine achievements of Jim Brubaker. Without question, his leadership and the fine work of the Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary Club are worthy of recognition by the House today.

HONORING MONSANTO EMPLOYEES

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the employees of Monsanto who have played a major role in great agricultural advancements, and have positively impacted the lives of Americans and people around the world. I rise today to congratulate the employees of Monsanto who have gone above and beyond their normal duties and have been honored by the company's most prestigious award—the Sustainable Yield Pledge Award.

These outstanding workers stand out in the overall mission of the company. Monsanto has risen to the challenge of providing sustenance for an ever-increasing world population and has become a world-leader in advancing sustainable global agriculture. They have a vision to work with farmers to produce more, conserve more and improve lives on a global scale. This is all made possible by researching and advancing biotechnology to help corn, cotton, soybean and other specialty crop farmers overcome challenges and hardship. Monsanto is going the extra mile to produce enough food, fuel and fiber for a booming world population, which is expected to reach 9 billion by 2050.

The 61 Monsanto employees are prime examples of individuals who combined the vision

and values of their company. These award winners display the integrity, dialogue, transparency, sharing, benefits, and respect—all values promoted by Monsanto—and have paid it forward by acting as owners and creating a high-quality work environment. Through their efforts, lives have been improved in the U.S., Mexico, Brazil, India and Africa.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to have the opportunity to congratulate the following employees receiving a 2012 Monsanto Sustainable Yield Pledge Award for their positive impacts in science, agriculture and their communities.

Zellipah N. Githui, Nikki F. Davis, Elizabeth A. Vancil, Jeff Woessner, Agnes Adel Bolwell, Anne W. Troupis, Ken Rinkenberger, Jose M. Madero, Jose Jaime Mijares, Nery N. Echeverria, Jorge Christlieb, Gerardo F. Vaquero, Angela Maria Bastidas, Enrique Wehlen, Manuel J. Bravo, Andres Felix, Manuel Oyervides, Aurelia Skipwith, Kinyua Mbijewe, Natalie DiNicola, Glynn Young, Kathleen Manning, Kate Humphrey, Darren Wallis, Raegan Johnson, Mark I. Sutherland, Lisa Bannon-Bergmann, Chris Paton, Juan Ferreira, Kobus Lindeque, Deborah Patterson, B. Yogesh, Hitendra Singh Rana, Shrikant Mallinath Patil, Sandeep Bansal, Datta Ithape, Nilesh Bobade, Rahul Haribhau Kapse, Shrijan Gupta, Nick Lammers, Steve Pike, Wendy Martin, Ron Gardner, Tom Good, Krystal Einspahr, Tanner Oliphant, Julie Edmonds, Steve Schaefer, Greg Erler, Marcia Rhodus, Patrick Siler, Jenny Backhaus, Jennifer Tarr, Debra Vohs, Theresa Fitzsimmons, Scott Middelkamp, Andrew Jeremiah, Jason Huelsing, Jeff Hughes, Greg High, and Oseyi Ikenobe.

Accordingly, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these exceptional Monsanto employees for their extraordinary work and thank them for the impact they have had, and will continue to have, worldwide.

PRENATAL NONDISCRIMINATION ACT (PRENDA) OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 3541, which should be called the Straw Man Act of 2012.

Our first priorities in the House of Representatives must be helping to foster job creation and supporting middle class families.

Instead, the Republicans once again have chosen to continue their radical assault on women's health care in the guise of preventing gender discrimination in abortion.

I am concerned about gender discrimination. That is why I support legislation that will address gender bias like the Paycheck Fairness Act, the Violence Against Women Act, and the health reform law that will give women access to preventive health care.

Unlike those bills, H.R. 3541 does nothing to address sex discrimination or gender bias in society, but instead would punish health care providers for performing a legal medical procedure.

Offensively, this bill would create a right for a woman's husband or family member to sue to stop her from obtaining abortion care, which is a constitutionally protected right.