

Martin Joseph is the President of Health Vision Partners LLC. He has a successful health care management and consulting practice and also manages a real estate portfolio of commercial properties.

Martin Joseph is a global visionary leader with more than 20 years in investment banking and the financial services arena. He worked for Citigroup as Vice President of Global Marketing, Merrill Lynch, Prudential U.S. and Prudential U.K.

Over the years, Mr. Joseph's investment banking and wealth management background has enabled him to restructure and increase revenue for health care practices, hospitals, and private doctors' practices in the metropolitan area.

Mr. Joseph enjoys reading in his spare time. He is active in local charities, politics and is a Gallon Club blood donor.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Martin Joseph.

HONORING MS. ESSIE "BIG MAMA" REED AS A TRUE AMERICAN HERO

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Essie "Big Mama" Reed for her outstanding contributions to the Ft. Lauderdale community. Big Mama stands apart as an exemplary citizen and living testimony to compassion and generosity.

Big Mama's impact on Ft. Lauderdale began in 1988. When her youngest son was just a month old, Big Mama's husband abandoned the family, leaving them homeless. For the next three years, Big Mama and her three sons slept on the concrete floor of the fish market she owned. Despite being destitute and unable to provide her sons with such basic things as school supplies, Big Mama and her boys regularly prayed after school at the Royal Assembly Church.

It is her triumph over personal adversity that inspired Big Mama to begin a crusade of personal outreach. Realizing how fortunate she was to have caring neighbors who provided her and her sons with basic needs, Big Mama decided to give back by helping at-risk youth avoid the common street predators of drugs, gangs, and prostitution.

In the early 1990s, Big Mama solidified a values-based approach that, when coupled with her uncommon bravery in the face of long odds, has helped keep over 1,300 area youth on a promising path.

Big Mama's contribution has been particularly meaningful to the Ft. Lauderdale School System. With scores of students who come from disadvantaged backgrounds, Big Mama provides personal afterschool care and guidance for students who might not get the attention they need at home. Big Mama also holds popular "shut-ins" four times a year at her church, where local school children are exposed to a "selfless passion for excellence in education and social advancement" through self-reliance. All this prompted Rhoda Gawlowski, assistant principal at New River Middle School, to say of Big Mama: "I have never, ever met a person like her. She helps

everyone in our school: the children, the parents, members of the community. I don't know how she does it, but she manages to find time to spend with every student who seeks her out."

Big Mama's commitment to service, however, is not limited to Ft. Lauderdale Schools. After Hurricane Wilma devastated Florida in 2005, leaving residents without power and food, Big Mama made sure everybody had something to eat. And I mean everybody. Working together with local leaders, Big Mama was able to secure enough donations to personally cook for 1,000 low-income residents in a week. All of this from a woman who recently faced her second bout with homelessness because her house—what people in Ft. Lauderdale refer to as a sanctuary—did not meet local code with its leaky roof covered, in some parts, with a plastic tarp.

Big Mama also founded the Team of Life, a Ft. Lauderdale nonprofit, to allow her personal outreach efforts to reach even more people in her community. The organization regularly organizes charitable drives during the holiday and back-to-school seasons with great success. In addition to an annual turkey drive that collects turkeys for needy families—20,000 in 2009 alone—so that they may enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday, Big Mama organizes an annual health drive to immunize local children whose families otherwise could not afford such vital care.

Through it all, Big Mama has never asked for recognition. All she wants is for Ft. Lauderdale children to experience the reality of a better tomorrow. Because of such uncommon grace, compassion, and generosity, I stand before you, Madam Speaker, to recognize Ms. Essie "Big Mama" Reed as a true American hero.

HONORING THE 99TH NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a special day in history. Many people around the world recognize that October 10, 2010 will be remembered as 10/10/10. In the Republic of China (Taiwan), however, 23 million people in Taiwan will be celebrating National Day. They remember October 10, 1911 as the birth of their country, and this year Taiwan will be celebrating the 99th anniversary of the Republic of China's National Day.

Taiwan has developed into a strong democracy that continues to promote the freedom of its people. The ingenuity and hard work of the Taiwanese helps to establish Taiwan as a leader on the yearly Index of Economic Freedom. They serve as a model for those across the world who aspire for the freedom and individualism that Taiwan protects for its citizens. As a leader of free people, I commend the Taiwanese government for serving as a beacon of light to people around the world.

The United States and Taiwan have a long history of mutual trade, leadership and friendship. I am proud that Taiwan remains a close friend of the United States. I am also pleased

to call many of my counterparts in the Legislative Yuan my friends. As they celebrate their 99th National Day on October 10, 2010, my friends and the Taiwanese people have my warmest wishes.

HONORING PETE KENNEMER'S SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exceptional career and legacy of B.R. "Pete" Kennemer.

Kennemer served as CEO and president of the Western Arkansas Counseling and Guidance Center for more than 37 years. Under his leadership which began at the infancy of Community Behavioral Health Centers, he opened the old Sparks Nursing School with the help of a Federal Staffing Grant. Since that time the center has expanded to include clinics in Fort Smith, Van Buren, Ozark, Paris, Boonville, Waldron and Mena along with a number of programs and facilities in Western Arkansas.

Pete served twice as a member of the Mental Health Council (MHCA) of Arkansas where he was dedicated to improving mental health treatment not only in western Arkansas but throughout the state. Additionally he served as a member of The National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare (NCCBH) and made frequent trips to Washington for the Council National Hill day in order to advocate for people with mental illness and addictive disorders.

I am honored to recognize Pete who leaves an important legacy that has helped countless Arkansans and has greatly improved their quality of life through his tireless dedication to improved mental health care. Pete was beloved by his staff. His leadership and dedication will be thoroughly missed. We wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. DIVINE PRYOR

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements and contributions of Dr. Divine Pryor.

Dr. Pryor is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Center for Nu Leadership on Urban Solutions, the world's first and only academic center and problem solving public policy think tank created, developed, and administered by formerly incarcerated professionals, representing every discipline from law to medicine. One of the many goals of the Center, located at the City University of New York's historic Medgar Evers College, is to offer an alternative voice in the analysis of criminal and social justice issues by including the combined lived and academic experiences and expertise of people who have had firsthand knowledge of the social, judicial, and economic systems that scar so many communities.

Before ever attending a formal institution, Dr. Pryor acquired his very first degree from