

staff. Her profound experience and encyclopedic knowledge of the workings of Congress have aided in my growth as a congressman. Much more importantly, her basis goodness, sound judgment, and wonderful sense of humor have allowed me to grow as a person. For that I am eternally grateful.

She is a trusted advisor, skillful tactician, and above all, a dear friend. The benefit of her tutelage has left an indelible impression on all those who have worked with her—and I would put myself at the top of that list. I do not hesitate to say that our country and this august body are much better because of her service.

After her many years of dedication and my many attempts to convince her otherwise, Marty has chosen to retire. She has heeded the higher calling as a devoted wife, a caring mother, and a doting grandmother. I never cease to be amazed by her *joie de vivre* and know that for Marty, this is just the beginning of another purposeful, celebratory stage of her wonderful life.

Marty, we love you dearly, and we wish you all the best.

RECOGNIZING RAY MARTINEZ

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Ray Martinez, Mayor of Fort Collins, Colorado. Ray has over 26 years of public service and has been instrumental in making Fort Collins a "City of Character."

Martinez started his public service career by serving three years in the United States Army in Thailand and stateside. Upon completion of his military service he began a career in law enforcement by joining the Fort Collins Police Department in 1974, becoming an expert witness in the "field of identification, recognition, and investigation of dangerous drugs." When he retired from the police department in 1996 after 25 years of service he was the first hispanic sergeant in the history of the Fort Collins Police Department.

His public service career far from over, Martinez was elected Mayor of Fort Collins in 1999 and once again in 2001. At this time, he began to focus his attention on one of his primary concerns, public safety. It was the subject of his first book and, as mayor, he continued the effort by serving on two public safety boards. Mr. Martinez was appointed by the United States Conference of Mayors as co-chair of the Mayors and Police Chiefs Task Force and he also sits on the National League of Cities Steering Committee for Public Safety and Crime Prevention.

Mr. Speaker, Ray Martinez has been instrumental in transforming Fort Collins, Colorado into a "City of Character." Through his commitment to public safety, eagerness to listen to members of the community, and ability to work with youth, Mr. Martinez has transformed the city into a place that anybody would love to call home. On behalf of the citizens of Colorado, I ask the House to join me in extending congratulations to Mayor Ray Martinez for a job well done.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Minisink National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and the 85th Anniversary of the Beaverkill National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) was founded on October 11, 1890. Objectives: Historical—to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence; Educational—to carry out the injunction of Washington in his farewell address to the American people, "to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge, thus developing an enlightened public opinion..." and Patriotic—to cherish, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism and love of country, and to aid in securing for mankind all the blessings of liberty.

Nearly 786,000 members have joined the NSDAR since it was founded. There are now over 170,000 members in chapters in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, Australia, Canada, United Kingdom, France, Mexico and Japan. Membership is open to any female applicant who is 18 years or older and who can prove a direct blood line from an ancestor who aided in the War for Independence either in military, civil or patriotic service between the dates of April 19, 1775 and November 26, 1783.

The Beaverkill Chapter was organized in 1917 and the Minisink Chapter was founded in 1902. Both chapters belong to the New York State Organization, which has approximately 7,300 women aged 18–100+ in 144 chapters across the State working to meet the DAR Objectives.

The New York State Organization is responsible for maintaining historic sites within New York State such as the Hervey Ely House and the Madam Brett Homestead, organizing a pilgrimage to Valley Forge and locating, transcribing and publishing previously unpublished genealogy source records. Moreover, each year, the State and local chapters award scholarships to college bound young women who exemplify the American Spirit and who are looking to attain a higher education with a view to their becoming better prepared for life and citizenship.

The work of the Daughters of the American Revolution is and will continue to be invaluable. Best known for their work in collecting and indexing unpublished genealogical material and source records and assisting prospective members in tracing their lineage, the Daughters of the American Revolution does so much more. Whether it is their work to preserve national landmarks and buildings of historical importance or their dedication to promoting education, patriotism and an appreciation for American history, the Daughters of the American Revolution are an American treasure.

Once again, congratulations to the Minisink and Beaverkill Chapters as they celebrate their momentous anniversaries.

IN HONOR OF SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK AND THE COMMITMENT OF THE GROUP TO THE PURSUIT OF FULL CONGRESSIONAL VOTING RIGHTS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND TO THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM AROUND THE WORLD

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 24, 2002

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the extraordinary talent and uniquely effective activism of Sweet Honey in the Rock, the Grammy Award-winning African American female a cappella ensemble with deep roots in gospel, jazz, blues, and the civil rights movement. I am particularly pleased to honor the outstanding contributions that this ensemble has made in increasing national awareness and support for the struggle of the residents of the District of Columbia against taxation without representation.

We are fortunate that Sweet Honey calls the District of Columbia home. What better home for a group that specializes in songs about democracy and freedom? What better home than the only city in the United States still without full civil and political rights? What better home than the home of taxation without representation?

Sweet Honey gave its 29th Anniversary Concert to a packed house at the Warner Theatre on October 18, 2002. They sang and the audience sang. Among the songs was one that particularly delighted the hometown audience—Give the People Their Right To Vote! It is a tour de force of lyrics and song that tell the entire history of the denial of democracy and representation in the District. Sweet Honey manages this virtuoso mission with a song that educates as it makes you tap your feet.

In response to Congressional insistence that D.C. residents fulfill 100 percent of their obligations while denying these American citizens the vote in Congress, Sweet Honey in the Rock composed and regularly sings two songs about the distinctive denial of congressional representation in the nation's capital: Give the People Their Right To Vote! and We Want the Vote! Like Sweet Honey's other music, these songs educate, inspire, enlighten, and entertain all at once. Both songs speak to the injustice and exploitation of D.C. residents, who are second per capita in federal income taxes and who have fought in every American war since the Revolutionary War, incurring disproportionate casualties.

Yet, the songs Sweet Honey has written and the songs they sing tell the story of the struggles of people everywhere for freedom. Sweet Honey's range of music and style is unique in the musical world and appreciated throughout the world.

Sweet Honey was born in the civil rights movement out of the original Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) Freedom Singers. Just as America's great African American jazz musicians and singers spring from the black church, Sweet Honey's roots are in African American church music, spirituals, movement songs, and folk music.

Sweet Honey is the brainchild of the group's founder, Bernice Johnson Reagon, who created Sweet Honey in the Rock in 1973. Ms.