

first gospel solo, "The Harvest is Plentiful," at First Nazareth Baptist Church in Columbia. Recognizing his daughter's precocious ability, her father inspired his only child by taking her to gospel performances by the likes of the Singing Angels and the Gospel Keynotes.

While starring as a basketball player at C.A. Johnson High School, Stone spent much of her spare time nurturing her artistic talents by writing poetry. Upon graduation, she turned down college basketball scholarship offers to pursue her passion and embarked upon a career in the music industry.

Ms. Stone saved money to record her demo at a Columbia studio called PAW. Shortly thereafter, her self-taught keyboard skills along with her naturally melodious singing voice would quickly garner the attention of the music industry. Her professional career took off in the mid-80s when she joined the rap trio Sequence. After the group disbanded, she began collaborations with rap group Mantronix and rock singer Lenny Kravitz. She then formed the neo-soul trio Vertical Hold, who first reached the R&B charts in 1988 with "Summertime." The group's 1993 single, "Seems You're Much Too Busy" reached number 17 on the charts.

Ms. Stone signed a contract with Arista Records in 1997. While with Arista, she recorded her first album, Black Diamond, in 1999. The title of the album's first hit single was "No More Rain (In This Cloud)," was inspired by a phrase her father would use when Stone would ask for money: "There's no more rain in this cloud."

Several movie soundtracks feature Ms. Stone's talent. They include "Disappearing Acts," "Bamboozled" and "Love & Basketball." She released her second album, Mahogany Soul, in 2001. The album made Entertainment Weekly's Top 100 list of albums for that year. Ms. Stone was also a 2003 Grammy Nominee.

Ms. Stone made her "big screen" debut in the movie Hot Chicks. She has recently completed filming of her second movie, The Fighting Temptations starring Cuba Gooding, Jr. She can currently be seen in Coca-Cola and Gap television commercials, and is preparing for her first appearance on Broadway in the musical, Chicago.

Mr. Speaker, I plan to be present for Ms Stone's induction ceremony on Thursday April 17th, and ask you and my colleagues to join me in commending Angela L. Stone for her achievements in the entertainment industry. Her status and visibility in music and film is worthy of much praise and pride from her family, friends, and all in her native state of South Carolina.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF PHIL
BURTON

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, as the Dean of the California Delegation and someone who was honored to serve in Congress with Phil Burton, I wanted to join with my colleagues in celebrating the life of this remarkable man.

When I hear the name Phil Burton what comes to mind is the memory of an elemental

force of nature. The fact that we reflect today on this man of the House twenty years after his death reaffirms this sense. It reminds me of black holes as astronomers describe them. While they can't be seen, they exert an awesome attractive force.

Phil once yelled at me, "If I'm shouting at you, it means I love you!" To be on the receiving end of such tough love was not always pleasant, but it was effective. And, it explains, in part, why Phil was a legislator's legislator.

One of his biographers describes him as "one of the most effective and forceful congressmen ever to pass through [these congressional] halls." She adds that, "His force would be missed by those who shared his views after he was gone." That is very true. But what is also true is that his force is still felt by those of us who were lucky enough to know and serve with him.

I learned much from Phil Burton and continue to use those lessons today.

TRIBUTE TO KAREN ENGLE

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant, all around great Kentuckian, and someone I am proud to call a friend, Karen Engle. As Executive Director of the PRIDE program, Karen has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of people throughout southern and eastern Kentucky. I want to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude for her many contributions.

Born and raised in Pike County, Kentucky, Karen has spent much of her life working to make her region a better place. I first had the opportunity to get to know Karen when she joined my congressional staff in 1994. From the very beginning, it was clear that she was bright, motivated, and a natural born leader. For almost five years, she served as a Project Manager and Field Representative in my Pikeville District office. Her knowledge of the region and its people, along with her professionalism and commitment to service, made her a most valuable part of my team.

In 1999, I asked Karen to put her insight and leadership skills to work by taking the helm of the PRIDE program. Under Karen's leadership, this federal, state, and local partnership has made significant strides in cleaning up our region's rivers and streams, helping our counties address sewage and trash problems, and educating our children about the importance of a clean environment. Since the program's creation in 1997, more than 74,500 PRIDE volunteers have worked over 225,000 hours cleaning up 286 streams, 1,294 illegal dumps, and 3,000 roadways. Additionally, PRIDE has eliminated 20,560 straight pipes and failing septic systems that have long polluted our region's waterways. Thanks to Karen's unwavering commitment, the PRIDE program has soared to amazing heights and is going strong. There is no doubt that the people of Kentucky will continue to benefit from her contributions for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues and myself, I want to thank my friend Karen Engle for the time, energy, and devotion she

has put into the lives of others. I am especially grateful for her unwavering commitment to the PRIDE program and the people of southern and eastern Kentucky.

TRIBUTE TO AMERICA'S TROOPS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to bring to your attention a poem that was read at a "Support the Troops Rally" on March 22, 2003, in Jefferson City, Missouri. These words were given to the crowd by Rita Turley of Jefferson City, though they were written by an unknown author. Ms. Turley understands the words of the poem, as she has a son serving in Iraq, in the Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Brigade.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the members of the House should welcome these words of support and dedication.

I am a small and precious child, my mom's been sent to fight.

The only place I'll see her face is in my dreams at night.

She will be gone too many days for my young mind to track.

I may be sad, but I am proud. God, protect her in Iraq.

I am a strong and loving wife, with a husband soon to go.

There are times I'm terrified in a way most never know.

I bite my lip, and force a smile as I watch my husband pack.

My heart may break, but I am proud. God, protect him in Iraq.

I am a caring mother, my son has gone to war.

My mind is filled with worries that I have never known before.

Everyday I try to keep my thoughts from turning black.

I may be scared, but I am proud. God, protect him in Iraq.

I am a Soldier, Serving Proudly, Standing Tall.

I fight for freedom, yours and mine, by answering this call.

I do my job while knowing, the thanks it sometimes lacks.

Say a prayer that I'll come home. . . . God, protect me in Iraq.

HONORING WWLP-TV22

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the 50th anniversary of WWLP-TV22, which on March 17, 1953 became the first station to broadcast on the air in Western Massachusetts.

As an NBC affiliate, WWLP is a leader in broadcasting, news, and ratings in Western Massachusetts. In 2003, the station was recognized by the Massachusetts/Rhode Island Associated Press as having the Best TV Newscast, the Best Sportscaast, and the Best Public Affairs Program. Also, the station hosts