

and black culture in America. They introduced the spiritual as a musical genre, and demonstrated a truly unique commitment to their education. It is time that we in Congress honor their incredible achievements in such a manner that all of America will come to know of their commitment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to pass my resolution encouraging the Postal Service to issue a postage stamp commemorating the legacy and achievements of the Fisk Jubilee Singers.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSMAN
DONALD M. PAYNE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 30, 2003

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to one of our distinguished colleagues, Representative DONALD M. PAYNE from New Jersey's 10th District. Congressman PAYNE is this year's recipient of the Justice for Cypress Award presented by the Cypress Federation of America. This award is presented to an individual who has exhibited exemplary leadership and has advocated for the liberation of Cypress from the Turkish occupation forces and the restoration of the human rights of the Cypriot people. I can think of no one more deserved of this award than my friend, Congressman DONALD PAYNE.

Congressman PAYNE has represented his district in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1988, when he was elected as New Jersey's first African American Congressman. In 2002, he was re-elected to serve an eighth term to represent the people of New Jersey's 10th Congressional District in the 108th Congress.

Congressman PAYNE is a member of the International Relations Committee and its Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere and Subcommittee on Africa, where he holds the position of ranking member. Through these committee assignments, Congressman PAYNE has become a key player in the arena of International Relations. He has been one of the leading advocates of the restoration of democracy and human rights in many nations throughout the world. Congressman PAYNE lead an effort among pharmaceutical companies to donate over \$2 million worth of medicine to war-torn Somalia. Similarly, Mr. PAYNE also introduced the Sudan Peace Act, which facilitated famine relief efforts and a comprehensive solution to the war in Sudan.

In addition, Congressman PAYNE has proven himself to be an influential member of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. Congressman PAYNE is a leading advocate of education and has played an instrumental role in the passage of key legislation aimed at improving elementary and secondary schools.

Congressman PAYNE has also worked diligently on important issues like healthcare and the environment. Congressman PAYNE was a major influence in directing attention towards the AIDS epidemic and the rising incidence of tuberculosis in many nations. He has also devoted much time and energy to the elimination of poverty and was a key sponsor of the minimum wage increase and the Family and Med-

ical Leave Act. Furthermore, Congressman PAYNE's record on environmental conservation issues has been rated one of the best in Congress.

Before being elected to serve in the House of Representatives, Mr. PAYNE had a distinguished career that included service on the Newark Municipal Council and the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Mr. PAYNE was also an executive of the Prudential Insurance Company, Vice President of Urban Data Systems, and an educator in the Newark public school system.

Congressman PAYNE, a native of New Jersey, graduated from Seton Hall University and pursued graduate studies at Springfield College in Massachusetts. He holds honorary degrees from Chicago State University, Drew University, Essex County College and William Paterson University. Congressman PAYNE is a widower, father of three and grandfather of four.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman PAYNE's contributions to his community, our nation and the world have been numerous and successful. He is a man of great character and a true asset to the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues rise and join me in honoring my dear friend and colleague, the Honorable DONALD M. PAYNE.

TRIBUTE TO THE FIREFIGHTERS
OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 30, 2003

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2003 communities all across America held observances to remember those who fell in the events two years before. In my own hometown of Toledo, part of our observance included a reading of the names of those who died on that fateful day, and inspirational readings and poems. I would like to quote one of these poems for the record. It is a special tribute to firefighters, written by Toledoan Ernest Fodor and entitled "Just Because You Call."

There is a well-known fact in heaven
All the firefighters tell
When they put out their last fire on earth
They did their job so well
Some how they had the strength
To do what they could do
Sometimes they even gave their life
For the likes of me and you
But now that they're in heaven
If they hear a fire call
They would try so hard to come back
And bravely save us all
There are so many people
With lives that are much brighter
Just because a call was answered
By a firefighter

Thank you Ernest Fodor for remembering, and for your inspired words.

RECOGNIZING THE DESIGNATION
OF THE CAPITAL CHILDREN'S
MUSEUM AS THE NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 30, 2003

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to support enactment of H.R. 13, the Museum and Library Services Act of 2003. In addition to authorizing Federal funding support for our Nation's museums and libraries, the bill contains a small provision with great importance to the District of Columbia. It designates the Capital Children's Museum as the National Children's Museum which will be a new state-of-the-art, interactive museum offering a national model for exhibits oriented and dedicated to children. The purpose of the museum will be to explain the Nation's institutions and ideas to American children, providing a gateway of understanding not only for children in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, but also for the millions of school children and families who visit the Nation's capital from across the Nation and the world.

The National Children's Museum designation is critical for several reasons. The designation enables the museum to highlight its activities and exhibits, and expand the reach of its educational experiences to children both in the United States and abroad. The museum serves as a flagship for the Nation's children's museums, and the Association of Children's Museums supports the designation because it increases public understanding of the purpose of all children's museums. In addition, the designation will help facilitate partnerships for the National Children's Museum with other regional museums to create models for innovative learning experiences.

For almost 30 years, the Capital Children's Museum has been serving the children of the Nation's capital. I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking the Capital Children's Museum on its service to children for these many years, and in congratulating the museum on this designation and its commitment to the creation of the National Children's Museum.

RECOGNIZING MR. BENON V.
SEVAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, Jr.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 30, 2003

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to laud the accomplishments of Mr. Benon V. Sevan, and his 38 years of service to the United Nations Secretariat. Mr. Sevan, a national of Cyprus, is the recipient of the Life Time Achievement Award presented by the Cypress Federation of America.

This award is given to an individual that has shown how valuable and effective they have been during their time with the United Nations. It is clear to me that Mr. Sevan is truly deserving of this award because of his dedication and diligence with every project that he has taken on. Over the years, Mr. Sevan has worked in several departments at the U.N. and has held several positions within the U.N. Secretariat.