

IS 291 before being appointed to her current post.

PS 151K has truly blossomed under her strong leadership and administrative style. Reading and math scores have increased tremendously, and a science lab is now available for the students. Jeanette works diligently with a very active Parents' Association to promote an atmosphere of harmony and warmth. Under her tenure, the third through fifth grade violin orchestra, the third through fifth grade jazz band, and the kindergarten through second grade Piano Lab have all been created. Additionally, her leadership has been responsible for establishing the Fine Arts Lab for all grades. These accomplishments clearly demonstrate her passionate love of the arts.

Jeanette and her husband, Jose, are celebrating 25 years of wedded bliss. They are extremely proud of their three beautiful daughters: Celia, a Doctoral Candidate at Binghamton University; Margo, a kindergarten teacher at PS 145K; and Rebecca, a junior at The Mary Louis Academy for Girls.

Mr. Speaker, Jeanette Lugo Sosa has chosen to dedicate her career to educating our children and enriching their lives. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

IN HONOR OF TILLIE FOWLER,
FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. ROGER F. WICKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues from Florida for allowing me to participate in this tribute to our friend, Tillie Fowler.

I was privileged to get to know Tillie and to see how effective she was here in this body. I served with her on the Whip team, where her intelligence and leadership abilities were great assets. Tillie also had the universal respect of members of Congress in both parties because of her gentle demeanor and the way she got things done. She also enjoyed that same measure of respect from all the branches of our armed services. Tillie gained a seat on the Armed Services Committee and worked hard on issues to strengthen our military and improve the quality of life for our service personnel.

One of the newspaper stories referred to Tillie as a passionate advocate for the City of Jacksonville and for the military. There is no question about that, and she achieved success without raising her voice or pounding on the rostrum. She did it with a personal style that embodied all the characteristics of a Southern lady. Tillie was polite and courteous, always immaculately dressed, and easy to work with—yet tenacious in pursuit of her goals. Working Woman magazine once said about Tillie that she was a “diminutive Southern belle but tough as an old Marine.” She said she learned that lesson from her grandmother, who said being a lady doesn't mean you can't be tough.

Tillie heeded her grandmother's advice, and it served her well throughout a career that was marked by pioneering accomplishments. She was one of only five women in her Emory Uni-

versity Law School graduating class. She won a seat on the Jacksonville City Council and was elected as the council's first woman president. She earned high marks for her work ethic and ability to get things done. In 1993, she brought that same energy and determination to Capitol Hill.

She already had Washington experience as a former House staffer and in the Office of Consumer Affairs at the White House. Tillie's abilities were recognized quickly and she became a leader on issues relating to our military. She also became a member of the House leadership team, serving as vice-chair of the Republican Conference.

Even after leaving Congress in 2001, Tillie was still being called on to tackle tough assignments. She chaired the commission that investigated sexual misconduct allegations at the Air Force Academy and was named to the panel looking into issues surrounding the treatment of prisoners in Iraq.

She never moved to Washington, choosing to commute back home every weekend to be close to her family and her strong Jacksonville roots. While Tillie focused much attention on the district and on issues important to Florida, her work touched lives all across our great country—especially those with ties to our military. That was evidenced by the strong outpouring of support the family received from so many Americans who appreciated Tillie's faithful service.

The House of Representatives is a better place because Tillie Fowler served here. I am honored to help pay tribute to Tillie and her remarkable career.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
SAN ANTONIO COUNCILMAN
CHRISTOPHER “CHIP” HAASS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize San Antonio Councilman Christopher “Chip” Haass for his dedication to public service in my community.

Councilman Haass attended Saint Mary's High School in San Antonio, after completing high school he enrolled at Texas Christian University and received a degree in Political Science and History, then received a master's in Education. After graduation he returned to Saint Mary's as a government teacher, he is the first male alumni to do so.

At age 25 he decided to enter the political arena, and in 2003 he was elected and became the youngest Councilman ever elected in San Antonio's history. He credits his energetic personality, and idealism that led the people of his community to call for reform.

Councilman Haass has distinguished himself during his term by improving the basic infrastructure of District 10. Soon after he entered office he passed bonds that secured monetary assets to parks and schools in the community.

He sees his future in public service, either as an elected official, working with non-profit organizations, or as an educator. He enjoys bringing people together as a community, and debating the issues. Councilman Haass has the ability to motivate others through his vision, and create a consensus.

Mr. Speaker, Councilman Chip Haass has been an inspiring public servant, first as an educator, second as a politician, and lastly as a friend of San Antonio. I am honored to have had this opportunity to recognize his dedication and hard work.

A TRIBUTE TO THE UNITED JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS OF WILLIAMSBURG

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a distinguished organization, The United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg. It is an honor to represent The United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg in the House of Representatives and it behooves us to pay tribute to such a selfless organization.

Mr. Speaker, The United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg was founded in 1966 to help families in need in South Williamsburg. Over the course of its 39 years of service to the Brooklyn community The United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg has thrived marvelously where today it represents more than 50,000 community residents and 148 not-for-profits, religious, educational, charitable organizations and civic associations in the Jewish community of Williamsburg, Clinton Hill and Bedford-Stuyvesant.

Under the tutelage of their President, Rabbi David Niederman, The United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg has established itself as a direct provider of social and housing services and is the address for urban planning, public health and community development services for the Jewish community of Greater Williamsburg.

The United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg, has been a leader in providing low-income housing to the Williamsburg community. Their most recent project includes the development of a waterfront property at the site of the former Schaeffer Brewery, which has 149 housing units reserved for low-income people. Additionally, they are the central address for the New York State and New York City Departments of Health and the Center for Disease Control in researching and conducting pilot projects on Cancer and Shigellosis in the culturally rich Hasidic Jewish community. They have also been instrumental in providing treatment to those suffering from the adverse affects of tobacco as well as being involved in collaborative efforts with other not-for-profits in providing for the overall betterment of the Williamsburg community.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the achievements of the United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg. After the destruction and decimation of many Hasidic dynasties in Europe during the Holocaust, it is truly an inspiration to see the Hasidic sects of Satmar, Pupa, Vishnitz, Vien, Tzelem, Skver, Klausenberg and Spinka join together under the umbrella of The United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg and call Brooklyn their home.

Mr. Speaker, may our country continue to benefit from the civic actions of The United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg and community groups similar to them.