

don't give a damn where you send your son, but mine isn't going to any vocational school. . . ."

Dr. Clark graduated from George Washington High School in New York City and then enrolled at Howard University, where Ralph J. Bunche, a political science professor and later a Nobel Peace Prize winner, became a mentor. He received his undergraduate degree in psychology from Howard in 1935 and his master's degree in the same discipline from there the following year. He taught psychology at Howard in the 1937-38 school year.

In 1940, he became the first black person to receive a doctorate in psychology from Columbia University. Years later, while teaching at Columbia, he would mediate between students who had taken over a campus building and administrators trying to oust them.

From 1939 to 1941, Dr. Clark participated in a study of U.S. race relations headed by the Swedish economist Gunnar Myrdal. The results of the study were published in the book "An American Dilemma: The Negro Problem and Modern Democracy" (1944), a milestone in the nation's gathering awareness of the corrosive effects of racial prejudice.

Dr. Clark was an assistant professor of psychiatry at the Hampton (Va.) Institute in 1940-41, and he joined the psychology department at the City College of New York in 1942.

In 1946, Dr. Clark and his wife founded the nonprofit Northside Testing and Consultation Center in New York City to provide psychological services to Harlem residents. He later accused the New York City school system of allowing de facto segregation in some of its schools. Although school officials denied his charges, an investigation confirmed them and led to major reforms.

In 1960, Dr. Clark became the first black tenured professor at City College, and in 1966 the first black person to be elected to the New York state Board of Regents, where he served for 20 years.

In the early 1970s, the District of Columbia school board hired Dr. Clark as a consultant to revamp the schools. He submitted a comprehensive plan to focus on reading, mathematics and the measurement of teacher skills through student achievement. The "Clark plan" sparked controversy between the school board and the teachers union, and Dr. Clark cut his ties with the District after two years, with only pieces of his plan implemented.

He left with a rebuke of Superintendent Hugh Scott. "I'm glad the superintendent laughs at critics," he told The Washington Post in April 1972. "I'm glad he can laugh at anything. I can't laugh at the fact that these kids are no better off now than two years ago."

Dr. Clark retired from teaching in 1975 and formed a consulting firm that specialized in equal employment opportunity and affirmative action. He was the author of numerous books, including "Prejudice and Your Child" (1955), "Dark Ghetto" (1965), "A Possible Reality" (1972) and "Pathos of Power" (1975).

Dr. Clark's wife, his closest colleague, died in 1983.

Always one to speak his mind, Dr. Clark continued to express his support for integration, although as the years passed he began to express dismay at the lack of progress in race relations.

"I believed in the 1950s that a significant percentage of Americans were looking for a way out of the morass of segregation," he told the New York Times in 1984. "It was wishful thinking. It took me 10 to 15 years to realize that I seriously underestimated the depth and complexity of Northern racism."

Once described by a colleague as "the incorrigible integrationist," he lamented in

later years that perhaps he had devoted himself to a lost cause. He felt that many old allies in the battle for an integrated, nonracist society, both black and white, had abandoned the struggle. He also lived long enough to witness an evolving uncertainty about *Brown v. Board of Education* and the unrealized benefits of school integration.

"I look back and I shudder and say, 'Oh God, you really were as naive as some people said you were,'" he told *The Post* in 1990. "My life has been a series of glorious defeats."

Survivors include a daughter, Kate C. Harris of Lausanne, Switzerland, and Osprey, Fla.; a son, Hilton B. Clark of New York City; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

## HEALTH INSURANCE CRISIS

SPEECH OF

### HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 3, 2005*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge "Cover the Uninsured Week." Many of us have heard from our constituents this week, asking that we make health insurance coverage a top priority in the 109th Congress. America's families are living in fear that someone they love might develop a health problem they can't afford. We must begin a meaningful dialogue about this problem that will continue until every American has access to quality, affordable health insurance.

This national disgrace has reached crisis proportions. Forty-five million Americans—more than 8 million of whom are children, and more than 80 percent of whom live in working families—are one ambulance trip away from financial devastation.

I was pleased to join Leader PELOSI and other Democrats in cosponsoring three bills introduced this week as part of the Democrats' plan to build on programs that already work. Together, the Family Care Act, the Medicare Early Access Act and the Small Business Health Insurance Promotion Act would cover over half of all uninsured Americans. I have also been proud to be a part of other initiatives, both nationally and in my home state of Rhode Island to preserve and expand existing health insurance programs for retirees, children with disabilities, and adults attempting to return to the workforce. These are all important aspects to addressing the health care crisis, and I am honored to be part of building momentum around a solution.

Our small business owners know we are in a crisis. Rising health care costs are undermining their ability to purchase coverage for their employees. They are frustrated with the increasing burden of negotiating and administering health care plans, and they are taking on extra costs or passing them on to employees just to maintain level coverage. Without systemic change, these problems will continue to threaten the health security of all Americans.

What frustrates me most about the health insurance crisis is what little attention it receives. But I believe that with the proper amount of consideration and planning, the health care system in America can be saved. An enormous amount of money circulates through our health care system—we spend

\$35 billion on uncompensated care for individuals who don't have health insurance, with federal, state and local governments covering as much as 85 percent. Wouldn't it be better for American families, and also more cost effective, to transfer a large share of these funds to a new program to subsidize the cost of covering the uninsured? We spend millions treating illnesses diagnosed at later stages, thus requiring more costly treatments, because we didn't offer people the screenings to catch these problems earlier. This is the least efficient way possible to treat people. While we may not be in the best of economic times, if we made this issue a priority and committed ourselves to spending our health care dollars more wisely, we could offer all Americans access to quality, affordable care.

With these principles of efficiency and inclusion in mind, I have developed a model for universal health insurance. Introduced last year as the American Health Benefits Plan. This bill is modeled after the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program—which everyone in this chamber is familiar with, as it offers coverage to Members of Congress, their families and staffs.

Under my proposal, private companies will compete to offer health insurance, attracting enrollees on the basis of benefits as well as efficiency, service, and lower premiums. The government should make a substantial contribution to every American's premium, and for those for whom paying a portion of the premium would be a hardship, the government should offer subsidies—as we currently do under Medicaid. Employers should continue to contribute to the health care system, and they can do so through a payroll tax, which would fund the government contribution—but the burden of negotiating and administering health care plans should be taken on by the government.

A national template for this model already exists. FEHBP manages health insurance for more than 8 million federal employees, annuitants and dependents. This program is administered by the Office of Personnel Management, which assumes responsibility for approving or disapproving carriers, negotiating benefit and rate changes, and auditing carriers' operations under the law. With administrative costs of less than 1 percent, OPM has managed to offer a wide variety of health care choices and protections to federal employees.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the federal government should offer this kind of coverage and oversight to all Americans. I sincerely hope to continue this dialogue with my colleagues, beyond "Cover the Uninsured Week," but this is an important place to start.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF  
JOHN D. MOONSHOWER ON HIS  
APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE  
UNITED STATES MILITARY  
ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

### HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 5, 2005*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce

that John D. Moonshower of Ohio City, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

John's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2009. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

John brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of West Point cadets. While attending Van Wert High School in Van Wert, John has attained a grade point average of 3.97, which places him near the top of his class of more than one hundred fifty students. While a gifted athlete, John has maintained the highest standards of excellence in his academics, choosing to enroll and excel in Advanced Placement classes throughout high school. John has been a member of the National Honor Society, Honor Roll, Beta Club, Key Club, and has earned awards and accolades as a scholar and an athlete.

Outside the classroom, John has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, John has earned letters in Varsity Football, Baseball and Basketball. He was named Co-Captain of the Varsity Basketball team and served as President of the Spanish Club, Vice President of the Beta Club and as Senior class representative. John's dedication and service to the community and his peers has proven his ability to excel among the leaders at West Point. I have no doubt that John will take the lessons of his student leadership with him to West Point.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating John D. Moonshower on his appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available anywhere in the world. I am sure that John will do very well during his career at West Point and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the nation.

#### FREEDOM FOR LEONEL GRAVE DE PERALTA ALMENARES

### HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 5, 2005*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Leonel Grave de Peralta Almenares, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Grave de Peralta is a member of the Christian Liberation Movement and an independent librarian. According to Human Rights First, as director of the Bartolomé Masó Library, Mr. Grave de Peralta had a circulation record of over 700 book loans. His life is dedicated to the proposition that the men and women of Cuba must be free: free to learn, free to worship, free to enjoy their inalienable human rights.

Unfortunately, Mr. Grave de Peralta has been targeted by the totalitarian regime because of his belief in freedom and democracy.

According to Amnesty International, he was harassed in 2002 when his home was besieged by the tyrant's thugs. Despite the constant threat of oppression, harassment, and torture, Mr. Grave de Peralta continued his peaceful, pro-democracy activities.

In March 2003, as part of Castro's heinous crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy activists, Mr. Grave de Peralta was arrested. Subsequently, in a sham trial, he was sentenced to 20 years in the totalitarian gulag.

Mr. Grave de Peralta is representative of the fighting spirit of the Cuban people: of their rejection of the brutality, discrimination, depravity, and oppression of the totalitarian tyranny. Thousands languish in the gulag because, like Mr. Grave de Peralta, they refuse to accept the tyrannical dictatorship in Cuba today.

Mr. Speaker, it is as inconceivable as it is unacceptable that, while the world stands by in silence and acquiescence, Mr. Grave de Peralta languishes in the horror of the totalitarian gulag because of his belief in freedom, democracy, and human rights. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Leonel Grave de Peralta Almenares and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE SEPTEMBER 11TH ASSISTANCE TAX CLARIFICATION ACT

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 5, 2005*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I and several other New York Lawmakers introduced legislation to protect lower Manhattan businesses and residents from having to pay any taxes on 9/11 recovery assistance.

Despite a prior announcement by the IRS they were planning to exempt Lower Manhattan residents from most, if not all taxes, on Federal Grants given to them to recover from 9/11 or grants given as incentive to move to or stay in the area, the IRS has made a determination to tax aid received. A February 5, 2003 letter received by the Acting Commissioner, Bob Wenzel, stated the following:

The legislation enacted in 2001 and 2002 that appropriated \$2.7 billion of CDBG funds to aid in the recovery of New York City did not provide that the grants made from those funds were exempt from income tax. In addition, neither the Victims of Terrorist Attacks Relief Act of 2001 nor the Liberty Zone Benefits provision of the Job Creation and Workers Assistance Act of 2002 specifically exempted the grant payments from income tax. Therefore, we have had to apply existing general federal tax law principles to determine the tax status of the grants.

As incredible as it sounds, the IRS will tax this assistance unless we act. It was never the intention of this Congress to tax any of this money and it is time to pass this legislation to prevent this unfair and unjust tax.

#### HONORING MERRITT COLLEGE

### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 5, 2005*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Merritt College, one of the 9th Congressional District's outstanding institutions of higher education, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Located in the East Oakland hills, Merritt College is part of the Peralta Community College District in Alameda County. Merritt College is named for one of the pioneer developers of Oakland, Dr. Samuel Merritt, who first came to Oakland in 1850. When the community college concept was still evolving, Merritt College and one of its sister campuses, Laney College, were known earlier as the Merritt School of Business and the Joseph C. Laney Trade and Technical Institute. In July of 1953, the Board of Education created Oakland Junior College, developing Laney and Merritt as separate and distinct campuses of the new institution. The following year Merritt added a liberal arts curriculum to the already established business program, and in June 1955, the first students graduated with Associate in Arts degrees.

In November 1963, local residents voted to establish a separate junior college district, which was named in honor of Sgt. Luis Maria Peralta, the 19th-century owner of the 44,800 acres throughout which the district campuses are located. The following summer, the Board of Education voted to offer vocational, technical and liberal arts courses on each of the existing campuses. In 1965, voters passed a \$47 million bond issue for the construction of additional campuses, and in 1971 Merritt College moved from Grove Street to its current home in the East Oakland hills.

Since that time, the faculty and students at Merritt College have continued the campus' tradition of academic excellence. Offering programs in over 70 different academic and vocational fields, Merritt enrolls more than 6,500 students each semester and equips its graduates for careers in law, medicine, art, nursing, government, radiological technology, early childhood education and more. Merritt offers day and evening programs of transfer, technical, occupational and basic skills education, and its programs and services have historically been provided by distinguished faculty and staff who are widely known and respected in their disciplines.

In addition, the student body at Merritt College represents a variety of cultures from throughout the U.S. and the world. Merritt is known for its outreach efforts and initiatives that seek to make education available to all, as evidenced by its work at the Fruitvale Education Center, local high schools and child care centers, and at Oakland City training centers for the police and fire departments. Merritt College sets a leading example of the steps that our educational institutions must take in order to make high-caliber educational experiences and credentials available, accessible and affordable to all.

On Friday, May 6, 2005, our community joins together to celebrate the innumerable contributions Merritt College has made to Oakland and the East Bay during the past half-century. Particularly during a time when our educational system is facing new and growing