

Treasurer for two years. He continues to serve as deputy treasurer.

Mr. Verrastro was married to the former Angelina Mecca, who died in 1996, and the couple had three children: Vita Grace Masucci, Carmel Ann Biko and Dominic Verrastro. He has seven grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Verrastro on being selected as "Man of the Year." His contributions to his community demonstrate his selflessness and commitment to improving the quality of life.

A TRIBUTE TO AFRICAN LODGE 459
NO. 63

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of African Lodge 459 No. 63, ardent supporters of the community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding organization and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing their impressive accomplishments.

African Lodge 459 No. 63 was founded in 1921 from a group of Brooklyn's outstanding young men: Bro. Francis F. Giles, Widow Sons' No. 11, Mr. A.P. Portias, J. Francis Mickens, W.R. Lee, William Odell, Cornelius Moore and Samuel W. Green. Due to their success in Masonic circles, African Lodge 459 No. 63 was granted bona fide Lodge status and on November 19, 1921, they became an integral part of the Masonic Fraternity of the State of New York and the nation. The Lodge is appropriately named after African Lodge 459, the original lodge of the illustrious founder of Masonry among men of color in the United States, Prince Hall.

Down through the years, the Lodge has achieved and maintained a very prominent place in the jurisdiction. It has furnished the fraternity with numerous officers and is currently represented in the Grand Cabinet by R.W. Richard A. Grady, Judge Advocate, R.W. Elwood E. Gregory, District Deputy Grand Lecturer.

With 13 living members and 9 honorary members, their mission as Prince Hall Masons is to serve God through selfless service to others. They strive to give our youth a positive direction and high self-esteem; our elderly the love, respect and attention they deserve; and our poor and down trodden brothers and sisters whatever assistance they can provide. Over the past 84 years, they have raised funds for college scholarships, summer camps, reading clinics, community feeding programs, Christmas gifts for needy and/or hospitalized children, and their Knights of Pythagoras youth group.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of African Lodge 459 No. 63. This groups' deep commitment to love, support and assist one another makes them most worthy of our recognition today.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HERBERT H.
RICHARDSON

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Herbert H. Richardson for his incredible dedication to the scientific community at Texas A&M University as Director of the Texas Transportation Institute and Associate Vice Chancellor for Engineering.

Dr. Richardson was born in the State of Massachusetts and was educated at Colby College in Maine and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he received a B.S. and M.S. degree with honors in 1955, and the Sc.D. in 1958 from MIT. Shortly after graduation, he served as a faculty member, then as head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Association Dean for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for 27 years. Under his leadership, he conducted and directed a wide-ranging research program, and made numerous publications of his research in mechanical engineering and transportation systems.

He then served as the first Chief Scientist of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 1970 to 1972, and joined the Texas A&M University System in 1984 as Vice Chancellor for Engineering, and Dean of the College of Engineering and Distinguished Professor of Engineering. Dr. Richardson brought together the three engineering research and service agencies—the Texas Engineering Experiment Station, the Texas Engineering Extension Service, and the Texas Transportation Institute—to form an integrated Engineering Program. In 1993, he became Director of the Texas Transportation Institute, the largest university-affiliated transportation research organization, and Associate Vice Chancellor for Engineering. Under his leadership, the Texas Transportation Institute has become home to nine national research centers with expenditures ranging to \$36 million.

Dr. Richardson has also received numerous accolades and awards from his peers for his exemplary academic leadership such as the recently awarded 2006 Roy W. Crum Distinguished Service Award from Transportation Research Board, Rufus Oldenberger Medal, Centennial Medal and the Benjamin Garver Lamme Medal by the American Association for Engineering Education; and in addition to these awards, he was elected to several notable organizations such as the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, American Association for the Advancement of Science, National Associate of the National Academies and the Research Council.

In his 22 years of academic service with the Texas A&M University System, Dr. Richardson has shown exemplary leadership in building strong academic and research programs, thus helping make the College of Engineering and the Texas Transportation Institute one of the unparalleled centers for excellent education in engineering.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the strong academic leadership of Dr. Herbert H. Richardson for the Texas A&M University System.

MARCUS HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING
BAND, STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the superior performance of the Marcus High School Marching Band of the 26th District of Texas. The band won the State championship at the UIL Class 5A Marching Contest in San Antonio, TX.

The breakdown of a travel bus did not deter the Marcus High School Band from capping off their marching season with excellence. At the rigorous UIL competition, Marcus surpassed 35 elite Texas programs before receiving the top honor of State champions. Marcus competed against all 5A Texas high schools reserve a spot in the State competition.

The band's achievements are the combined efforts of many extremely talented students, dedicated school administrators, and a strong support network of parents and community. The students have cultivated strong leadership skills among their peers, and excelled under the capable direction of Director Amanda Drinkwater.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the achievements of the Marcus High School Marching Band. I extend my sincere congratulations to these hard-working students, and I look forward to their future successes.

A TRIBUTE TO JAMES J. BINNS

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor James J. Binns for his service to the people of Philadelphia. Jimmy Binns is a Philadelphia attorney specializing in litigation who has always been a friend of labor. His unflinching service to labor is shown by his achievement of 51 consecutive "not guilty" verdicts on behalf of those accused of picket line violence during the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers strike. It is clear his efforts enabled union members to unite to better their lot without fear of intimidation.

Mr. Binns is more than a friend of labor. He is also an important member of the community as seen through his service on numerous boards, including the Boy Scouts of America, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and St. Luke's Hospital. He also dedicated the James J. Binns Fitness Center at LaSalle University, his alma mater. Mr. Binns founded the Judeo Christian School at Roman Catholic. Additionally, Mr. Binns initiated the current fundraising drive to replace 65 motorcycles for the Philadelphia Police Highway Patrol.

Mr. Binns also chaired the Organized Crime Task Force of the Citizens Crime Commission and served as Pennsylvania's Boxing Commissioner under Governors Dick Thornburgh and Bob Casey. Due to his service he was inducted into the Pennsylvania Boxing Hall of Fame.

It is readily apparent that James J. Binns has played a vital role in the betterment of the community of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania

as a whole. His continued contribution is to be applauded, and I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending James J. Binns for his immeasurable contribution to the City of Philadelphia.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES LAMAR
SHULER

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and to mourn the passing of James Lamar Shuler, a civic leader, successful entrepreneur, talented businessman, community role model, devoted husband, beloved family man and loyal friend.

Mr. Shuler will be remembered as a selfless individual who spearheaded economic development and neighborhood revitalization programs within the community. What Mr. Shuler practiced, he preached; vision was followed by action. I grieve with Mr. Shuler's wife, Barbara Carey-Shuler, a former Miami-Dade Commissioner and political icon in South Florida. During this difficult time, the Carey and Shuler families do not mourn alone: They are joined in prayer by a saddened and indebted community.

James Lamar Shuler was born on August 14, 1953 to Marian Steward Shuler and Cleveland Shuler of Delray Beach, Florida. Mr. Shuler attended S.D. Spady Elementary School and graduated from Atlantic High School in 1971. He then graduated from Miami-Dade Community College in 1976 with a degree in Mortuary Science and became a Licensed Funeral Director in 1977. Mr. Shuler soon purchased the House of Albert Funeral Home on West Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach, then renovated and dedicated Shuler's Memorial Chapel Inc. on May 26, 1985. An institution that served the community was borne. Mr. Shuler was a professional who provided funeral services to all, irrespective of their economic status.

Mr. Shuler hosted a re-dedication celebration on May 21, 2001 to recognize the renovation and expansion of his funeral home. The ribbon cutting ceremony was attended by approximately 800 well wishers, including government officials and celebrities. Mr. Shuler achieved iconic status within the community.

Personal successes were coupled with community leadership activities. Mr. Shuler served as chairman of the West Atlantic Redevelopment Coalition which supported business and investment activities along the West Atlantic corridor. Mr. Shuler also served actively as chair of the Community Redevelopment Agency, guiding neighborhood renewal projects throughout Delray Beach.

Mr. Shuler was named 1998 Mortician of the Year and served as 1st Vice President of the Florida Mortician Association. He attended Saint Paul AME Church in Delray Beach. He was also a member of the Delray Beach Masonic Lodge #275, the Zeta Iota Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, the Alpha Gamma Chapter of Epsilon Nu Delta Mortuary Fraternity, the Vision 2000 Committee for Delray Beach.

Mr. Shuler is survived by his wife, Barbara Carey-Shuler; sons, Victor Shuler and Wesley

Potts; daughter, Jessica Coogle; stepson, Archie Carey; two brothers, Jerry Shuler and Cleveland Shuler; and a sister, Marion Stewart.

When families throughout Delray Beach and South Florida experienced the passing of a loved one, they came to Shuler's Memorial Chapel for funeral arrangements. It was James Lamar Shuler who would comfort the bereaved, in a manner that bespoke his grace, empathy and humanity. We stand united as one community honoring this remarkable man.

RECOGNIZING THE OPENING OF
THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY IN
THE DULLES TOWN CENTER

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the opening of the Cheesecake Factory located in the Dulles Town Center.

The Dulles Town Center is a commercial, retail, and office park located in Loudoun County, VA, which is the second fastest growing county in the nation. This exciting restaurant addition will add to the elegant atmosphere and tasty restaurant choices already provided by the existing 185 surrounding stores and restaurants.

The history of the Cheesecake Factory begins with Oscar and Evelyn Overton in the 1940's. Evelyn created her Original Cheesecake recipe, and it immediately gained praise from family and friends. With the dream of owning a successful family business, Evelyn opened a small cheesecake shop in her hometown Detroit. The business then moved to the Overton family's basement kitchen to continue to provide the local restaurants with her famous cheesecakes.

In 1971, the Overtons decided to move their cheesecake business to Los Angeles. Using their retirement savings, they opened a small bakery selling only Evelyn's Original Cheesecake. They called it "The Cheesecake Factory." In 1978, son David joined the family business and founded The Cheesecake Factory restaurant in Beverly Hills to showcase his parents' delicious, high-quality baked goods. The restaurant became an immediate success, not an easy feat in the culinary business. Today there are more than 100 Cheesecake Factory restaurants nationwide, and the residents of Loudoun, Prince William, and Fairfax counties will surely enjoy the additional restaurant in the Dulles Town Center.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the opening of the Cheesecake Factory in the Dulles Town Center.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMBASSADOR
EURIPIDES L. EVRIVIADES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ambassador Euripides L.

Evriviades, who has served as the Cypriot ambassador to the United States since December 2003.

As a co-founder and co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, I have worked closely with Ambassador Evriviades on several issues of importance to both the United States and Cyprus. He exemplified uncommonly exceptional service in building on the harmonious relations between our countries.

Ambassador Evriviades worked diligently with Congress to ensure that lawmakers understood the importance of ending the division of Cyprus. Over the last three years, he has worked with untiring devotion to create awareness and compassion for finding a peaceful solution for Cyprus. I commend him for his commitment to the reunification of Cyprus.

The people of Cyprus have been fortunate to have such an accomplished individual represent them not only in the United States but in a variety of other diplomatic posts. As a career diplomat, he has held positions at Cypriot embassies in Libya, USSR/Russia, Germany, and served as the Ambassador to Israel and the Netherlands before coming to Washington.

As a testament to his exemplary public service over the years, he was lately honored with the King Legacy Award for International Service in recognition for his distinguished leadership and contributions and for his steadfast dedication to sharing and implementing Dr. King's historical work wherever he has traveled.

While I am sad to see Ambassador Evriviades leave his post in the United States, I am grateful for his three years of stellar service. I am confident that he will bring this same level of passion and integrity to his next endeavor.

NEW BOOK DETAILS ATROCITIES
AGAINST SIKHS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, in the June issue of the International Journal of Sikh Affairs, Dr. Awatar Singh Sekhon reviews a book entitled "Tabai Ros Jagio," which translates into English as "Details of Fundamentalist Hindus' Attacks on the Sikh Faith," by Dr. Sukhpreet Singh Udhoke. The book details how the fundamentalist Hindus who run India have been attacking Sikhism and other faiths since the very earliest days of the Indian republic. Despite the fact that the Brahmin caste is only 3 percent of the population, they run Indian society, according to Dr. Udhoke.

Dr. Udhoke details those Sikhs who have supported the Hindu fundamentalists in their effort to enforce Hinduism on the entire population of India. He details those who connived with India on the attack on the Golden Temple, the seat of the Sikh religion. He recorded the brutality of the Brahmins and the Hindu fundamentalists. He writes about how their umbrella organization, the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS), was founded to support the Fascists in Europe. He describes the RSS as a terrorist organization. India claims to be our ally in the War on Terror, but their preeminent ideology is a brand of Fascism that practices violence against minorities and their neighbors.