

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

STATEMENT ON THE RETIREMENT OF FATHER ROBERT F. LEAVITT

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Father Robert F. Leavitt, S.S., commend him for his 27 years of service as President-Rector of St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore, Maryland, and wish him well in his retirement.

In 1962, Father Leavitt began his philosophical and theological studies at St. Mary's and has since remained fully dedicated to the spirit of the seminary. In 1968, he was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Hartford, Connecticut and appointed to the faculty of St. Mary's.

His ability to articulate a compelling vision for the seminary led to his being elected the fourteenth President and first President-Rector of St. Mary's, a position he has held longer than anyone in the seminary's proud 215-year history.

Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of San Francisco, was once asked what a person had to do to lead a good life, to which he replied, "Preach the Gospel. Sometimes use words." Father Leavitt has done just that, preaching by example to generations of students.

As President-Rector, Father Leavitt has presided over construction and rebeautification efforts of the seminary as well as successfully enlarged the endowment to ensure the long-term viability of the institution. He has worked to expand the spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral resources necessary to prepare students for the priesthood.

As a philosopher, theologian, teacher, and preacher, he has re-energized the St. Mary's community and instilled a sense of principle and potential to our nation's first Catholic seminary.

It is an honor for me to congratulate Father Leavitt for his tireless commitment to education, faith, and leadership and recognize the truly exemplary impact he has made within our greater faith community. I wish him well in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM J. SHARROW

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, today I wish to honor Brigadier General William J. Sharrow—a truly great American. Bill has tirelessly served this country for many years, managing some of our country's important military programs. Most recently, Bill served as my State Director, where he dedi-

cated himself to tirelessly working for the people of Alaska.

Born in Witherbee, New York on August 19, 1932, Bill entered the Army in 1952. He served with the 867th AAA Battalion at Fort Richardson, Alaska until his discharge in November 1954. He returned home to New York and joined an Army Reserve Unit. However, he realized his heart was back in Alaska and returned a short time later to make Alaska his permanent home. Bill joined the Alaskan Army National Guard where he served as First Sergeant of Company D, 207th Infantry Battalion until he was commissioned in November 1956.

Some of Bill's many roles in the National Guard include: radio repairman, supply officer, administrative assistant, personnel officer and Command Administrative Assistant to the Adjutant General. His military assignments range from platoon leader to battalion commander. He served as Chief of Staff for the Alaska Army National Guard from 1972 to 1974 and was appointed as Assistant Adjutant General on February 7, 1974. Bill's dedication to our Nation was federally recognized on June 25, 1974 when he was promoted to Brigadier General.

During his 20 plus years of service to Alaska and to his country, Bill remained a strong leader who set an example of achievement that was unmatched. He represented the United States with honor and dignity and continuously strove for excellence. The loss to the United States the day Bill left his post, was a great gain to me and to all Alaskans.

Bill worked for me for 24 years as my State Director. When I was unable to attend an important function or meeting, it was Bill that I always be trusted to represent me. We share a common love of Alaska and its people and it was comforting for me to know that when work forced me to remain in Washington, Bill would always be there to listen to the Alaskan people and keep them informed of our work.

Bill has been happily married to Margaret for 52 years and is the father of 3 sons: David who lives in Anchorage, AK; Phillip who lives in Auckland, New Zealand; and Steven who lives in Fairbanks, AK. He is also the grandfather to 6 grandchildren. I know that Bill is looking forward to spending more time with his family and traveling around the world with the love of his life, Marg.

Bill has always provided sage advice to colleagues and staff and done so with quick wit and much humor. Bill was an invaluable employee and he will be sorely missed but he continues to be a dear friend and confidant. I will miss his daily leadership and guidance but know that our friendship will endure. My wife Lu and I wish him and Marg all the best as they embark on this new chapter of their lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF THURMAN R. PAYNE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Thurman R. Payne, a man who worked tirelessly at Brookpark Ford for 50 years and served diligently as the President of Local 1250 for two terms, as the Building Chairman of the Cleveland Casting Plant, and as President of the Foundry Council.

Thurman R. Payne is an advocate of worker's rights, supporting equality for all of his fellow brothers and sisters. Thurman's advocacy garnered enough national attention that the great civil rights leader Rosa Parks visited the Union Hall.

During Thurman's first term as President of Local 1250, challenging economic conditions caused layoffs and a decrease in morale. During these tough times, Thurman rallied his co-workers to take a stance against layoffs and to advocate for quality products in order to assure job security in the future.

Thurman R. Payne was an innovator in many ways. As President of Local 1250, Thurman began a program to help further the education of all of his brothers and sisters. He made educational opportunities accessible to these men and women of Local 1250 by placing a trailer on the Union's lot, where any member could go for various educational opportunities.

Thurman R. Payne retired on September 1, 2006 after 50 years of advocating for labor rights. Thurman is currently battling cancer. Though this is a different sort of challenge, we know that he will battle this disease with the same amount of energy and optimism as he had during his years at Ford.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Thurman R. Payne, a man that dedicated 50 years of his life to ensure that his fellow brothers and sisters were treated with equality, had opportunities to further their education, and had job security.

IN HONOR OF THE BRAVE AND COMMENDABLE PUBLIC SERVICE OF MARY CODY

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise to share the story of a phenomenal public servant, Mary Cody of Blairstown, New Jersey. Mary has spent much of the last decade dedicated to saving the lives of unwanted canines and helping loving families find their perfect pets.

Mary starts from the principle that no animal is an unwanted animal and that every homeless dog is merely awaiting an introduction to

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

their perfect family. She and the volunteers and staff who work with her give the dogs that come to their home, medical care, food and shelter, and, most importantly, love and comfort. They seek out the right family for each pet, and help new pet-owners adjust to their new lives with their pets. In fact, they are a one-stop clearinghouse of information for new and seasoned pet-owners alike, with answers to frequently asked questions about pet care, recommendations for veterinarians and grooming, and more.

The testimonials on her website, www.auntmarysdoghouse.com demonstrate her unparalleled talent to match families with pets that meet their needs and schedules and familial temperament. For instance, from a rescued dog named Dina: "Thank you Mary for my rescue and letting me get adopted by Sandy. For a large breed black dog with an unknown past I know I'm a very lucky girl that there are people like Sandy to love and care for me."

Earlier this month, Mary's extraordinary public service was recognized by the American Red Cross of Northwest New Jersey with the Red Cross Medal for Bravery. And, it is my honor to commend her spirit of service to my colleagues here in Congress.

PROSPECTS FOR PEACE IN
GUINEA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, with so many important and often vexing challenges competing for our attention throughout the world, it seems that the tendency in Congress is to focus our attention on a crisis only after it has evolved into an unmitigated disaster. Fortunately, that was not the case last week, when the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health held a hearing on prospects for peace in Guinea.

This hearing presented us with an opportunity to discuss not only our strategic, humanitarian, human rights, and economic interests in Guinea—particularly as speculation about President Lansana Conté's political future and the potential for even greater conflict mounts—but also to consider how the United States Government has positioned itself to respond to threats and mitigate crises before they have spun out of control.

The stakes are high. Western Africa historically has been beset by political instability and violence, where conflict in one country spills across borders and threatens the region as a whole. This has led to massive displacements, refugee flows, the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and the perpetration of some of the most heinous human rights atrocities known to man. If we fail to capitalize on the opportunity to address transformative, stabilization and reconstruction needs in support of a democratic transition in Guinea today, I fear that we may be headed for a much wider regional crisis down the road.

Experts have been warning for years that the "ground was quaking" in Guinea. Widespread dissatisfaction with the autocratic rule of an aged and ailing Conté, coupled with economic decline, high inflation, political cronyism

and corruption, has led to periodic episodes of unrest in Conakry. However, the union-led strikes of December 2006 through February 2007 took on a new dimension. For the first time since the country obtained independence in 1958, Guineans across the nation have taken to the streets en masse, demanding change and refusing to accept half measures.

Through solidarity, the unions, opposition parties and civil society gained strength, and in the end, they succeeded in exacting critical concessions from the government. But while this symbolizes a significant victory, the hardest part is yet to come.

While the naming of the new consensus prime minister, Lansana Kouyaté on February 27th is a significant step forward, the office of the Prime Minister is not constitutionally protected and Conté has a record of breaking agreements. In addition, substantial resources are urgently needed for economic and social programs that will address the root causes of social unrest and shore-up popular support for the Prime Minister. History has shown that Conté is unlikely to share power in a meaningful way, and the longer he keeps his hand on the tiller in his authoritarian style, the more likely a renewed and destructive political crisis will emerge.

That said, it is widely speculated that—one way or another—Conté will not finish his term in office. His health is extremely poor and his power appears to be waning. Even the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States, which typically shy away from criticizing one of their own in public, have condemned Conté's violent response to protests and have suggested that this may be the appropriate time for him to step down. Experts are no longer talking about *IF* Conté will leave office, but *WHEN* and under what conditions he will leave.

Still, Conté has not designated a successor and, in fact, has sidelined a number of individuals who appeared poised to succeed him. The President of the National Assembly, who would be the successor to the President under the terms of the Constitution, is widely unpopular. It has been widely suggested that a military takeover may be the only option for a "soft landing" should Conté die in office or retire to his farm.

However, I would strongly contend that a military takeover in Guinea, no matter how "temporary" it is intended to be, should NOT be considered an appealing option. The military is divided along generational and ethnic lines. Neither Guineans nor the international community should assume that the military is a cohesive group capable or willing to deliver a smooth transition to a democratic, civilian-led government.

While the responsibility for fostering an environment of peace and security in Guinea rests with Guineans, the United States is in a unique position to help facilitate a non-violent, democratic resolution to this crisis. Guineans remember the fact that it was the United States who came to their aid when Guinea was attacked by the Revolutionary United Front rebels from Sierra Leone, with the support of former Liberian President Charles Taylor. We also have invested heavily in peace in Liberia, and have credibility in the region. Guinea is a predominantly Muslim country which is favorably disposed to the United States. The time to help is now . . . before the crisis spirals out of control.

HONORING SGT MICHAEL A.
MARZANO

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. JASON ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an American hero, Marine SGT Michael A. Marzano. Last Tuesday, March 20, I joined my colleague, Congressman Phil English, in introducing H.R. 1594, legislation to name the Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic in Hermitage, Pennsylvania in Sergeant Marzano's honor.

In December 2004, Sergeant Marzano volunteered for a tour of duty in Iraq and joined Ohio's 3rd Battalion, 25th Regiment of the 4th Marine Division. He served honorably as a member of a Mobile Assault Platoon. On May 8, 2005, Sergeant Marzano was killed by a suicide bomber while taking part in an offensive against insurgents in the city of Haditha, Al-Anbar Province, Iraq.

Sergeant Marzano was the first soldier from Mercer County to die in either Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom. He exemplified the core values of honor, courage and commitment to a grateful nation and community. This designation will honor his memory and recognize his bravery and sacrifice. He is representative of all of Mercer County's veterans who have worn the uniform proudly, upheld the military's traditions of courage and faithful service, and stood ready, if duty required it, to make the ultimate sacrifice.

HONORING TIBOR HOLLO

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize someone who has contributed significantly to the growth of Miami for more than 30 years. Tibor Hollo is a wonderful man whose impact on South Florida can be seen from its skyline. Over the years, Florida East Coast Realty, which Mr. Hollo founded in 1952, has become an integral part of South Florida's development.

Today's skyline surrounding Brickell Avenue and Miami's financial district can be attributed to Mr. Hollo's vision. In 1972, he constructed Brickell Avenue's first high-rise building, which today is surrounded by countless others. In the years since, downtown Miami has changed drastically, many of its improvements a result of Mr. Hollo's entrepreneurship. It came as no surprise when Mr. Hollo received the Miami Visionary Award; he took chances, seized opportunity, and was rewarded for his determination.

Today, Mr. Hollo continues to be involved with many projects in South Florida. His company, Florida East Coast Realty, is celebrating its 55th Anniversary and continues to play a major role in South Florida's real estate market. Included among many noteworthy projects over the years has been the construction of two United States Treasury buildings and a United States Justice building. It was fitting

that he constructed the first high-rise apartment building of this millennium, opening the Bay Parc Plaza in January of 2000.

Miami is a city that will continue to grow and inspire us. I am grateful and proud of Mr. Hollo's accomplishments over the years. He has left a legacy others have pursued and will continue to follow for years to come. Miami's high-rise architecture is truly unique and sets it apart from so many other large metropolitan cities across this country. Once again, as a fellow South Floridian, I would like to recognize Mr. Hollo for his outstanding achievements.

THE "CHESAPEAKE'S HEALTHY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND STEWARDSHIP OF ENERGY AND AGRICULTURE" ACT OF 2007

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Chesapeake's Healthy and Environmentally Sound Stewardship of Energy and Agriculture Act of 2007"—CHESSEA. This bill will have a major beneficial impact on the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay and many of its 150 tributary streams and rivers. We invite and encourage you to join us as original cosponsors.

Like many of America's natural resources, the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers continue to be plagued by pollution. Unfortunately, agriculture accounts for a significant part of the nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment running to the Bay. The House will soon take up the 2007 farm bill which will provide billions of dollars a year for farm conservation programs and therefore, provides an unparalleled opportunity for our region to address its critical conservation needs.

CHESSEA would bring significant new federal technical and financial assistance to farmers and landowners in the Bay watershed states to help them in their efforts to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment runoff into the streams and rivers that run to the Chesapeake Bay. It would also provide additional incentives for the region's farmers to produce new sources of renewable energy that will simultaneously improve water quality and reduce the impact of fossil fuel consumption on the atmosphere.

Over the past five years, several Chesapeake Bay states have committed significant new funding to try to reach the goals of the federal-state Chesapeake 2000 agreement, which set specific pollution reduction goals for 2010. In spite of those commitments, we are far from meeting the 2010 goals. The experts have estimated that in order to meet our clean up pledge, the federal Government will have to provide \$200 million a year. This legislation would help to fulfill the federal government's Chesapeake 2000 commitment to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment pollution to the Bay while at the same time helping the region's agriculture and rural areas.

The Chesapeake Bay and several of the major rivers that feed it, including the Susquehanna, the Potomac, and the James, are among America's most stunning natural features. Approximately 400 years ago, Captain

John Smith and the Jamestown settlers sailed into a Chesapeake Bay that was healthy, balanced, and among the world's most biologically productive places. Today, the Bay and its rivers are sadly diminished. The CHESSEA Act of 2007 would make significant progress toward restoring the Bay's balance and biological productivity to support generations to come.

RECOGNIZING THE MORELLI HOUSE PRESERVATION PROJECT

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, the Junior League of Las Vegas (JLLV), in community partnership with the Las Vegas Chapter of the Architects Institute of America (AIA Las Vegas), will debut the Junior League's Morelli House Preservation Project on Monday, April 9, 2007. After years of hard work and fundraising, the Junior League's Morelli House Preservation Project will open for public viewing as a pristine, accurate and beautiful example of Las Vegas mid-century residential architecture.

The Morelli House was built in 1959 by Antonio Morelli, longtime orchestra leader at the Sands Hotel, and was originally located on the Desert Inn Golf Course Estates, now the Wynn Resort. In 2001, the League saved the house from demolition and relocated it to the corner of 9th and Bridger Streets on the outskirts of the historical district in downtown Las Vegas. Because the Morelli House is an excellent example of Las Vegas Mid Century modern architecture and displays a high degree of integrity of design, materials, workmanship and even association, it was placed on the Nevada State Register of Historic Places in 2002 and on the City of Las Vegas Historical Register March 7, 2007.

The opening of the Morelli House to the public and the lecture will be the premier event of Architecture Week, a nationwide celebration that marks the 150th anniversary of the National American Institute of Architects. In addition, the 2007 edition "Architecture: Las Vegas", the official publication of the AIA Las Vegas Chapter, will also premier at the event and will feature an article on the Junior League's restoration of the Morelli House. The Morelli House restoration was made possible by funding from the Nevada Commission on Cultural Affairs and by generous donations by Junior League members and the community. The debut will be highlighted by a lecture on Mid Century architecture by foremost architectural historian, Alan Hess. The Junior League will be completing restoration and rehabilitation efforts to meet the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation for Historical Structures by the end of 2008.

With the help of the Las Vegas Design Center at the World Market Center, JLLV secured participation by Vladimir Kagan, world famous Mid Century furniture designer, to serve as the Morelli House's lead interior designer. Mr. Kagan's historical furniture will be permanently showcased at the Morelli House with donations which he personally solicited from his manufacturers including American Leather and Weiman Preview and from pieces he donated from his personal furniture collection.

Because of the project's prominence, the AIA will be presenting the Junior League one of its esteemed "Livable Community Awards". These awards, established in 2006, were designed to recognize organizations and individuals outside the architectural profession, whose dedication, commitment, hard work and contributions to the security, arts, culture, beauty and livability of our communities have made Nevada a better place to live.

The Las Vegas Junior League deserves recognition for its Morelli House project and for sharing this beautiful example of Las Vegas Mid Century architecture with the local community and our visitors for many years to come. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this outstanding collaborative effort to preserve historical architecture for future generations to enjoy.

A BILL TO DIRECT THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO ENSURE THAT CERTAIN QUESTIONS ARE PLACED ON THE BALLOT OF THE 2008 GENERAL ELECTION IN AMERICAN SAMOA

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Madam Speaker, I am honored today to introduce legislation directing the Secretary of the Interior to ensure that certain questions related to American Samoa's political status, democratic process, and Federal relationship are to be placed on the ballot of our 2008 general election.

Specifically, this legislation mandates that the following three questions are to be addressed on the ballot in American Samoa:

1. Whether individuals who are born in American Samoa should become citizens of the United States.
2. Whether the Senators of the American Samoa Fono should be elected by the qualified electors from the respective counties that the Senators are to represent.
3. Whether American Samoa should have its own Federal district court with limited jurisdiction.

I believe that placing these questions on the ballot would provide our people an opportunity to have a voice in the shaping of American Samoa's political future. Moreover, the answers to these questions will assist our local political leaders in the shaping of our territory's policies and legislation.

I firmly believe that the people of American Samoa deserve the right to be heard on these fundamental issues. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation that would give American Samoa's voting public this right.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MRS. REBECCA DOLORES JARAMILLO

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Rebecca Dolores Jaramillo, a remarkable and compassionate

leader of the Hispanic community in Kansas City, Missouri, in my District. Born on October 23, 1939, Mrs. Jaramillo, also more affectionately known as "Becky", set forth on the long journey of advocacy of equal rights and equal opportunities for minorities and women before passing on May 13, 2005. Her passing has created a deep loss felt by her family, the greater Kansas City area, and most assuredly, the thousands of lives she touched throughout our great Nation.

Rebecca Jaramillo, as the fifth of twelve children, entered the world curious for knowledge and eager to stir up excitement. She lived a joyous life until the rigors of racism and discrimination entered her life and inspired her to proactively work for equality. After marrying her husband, Joe, and settling down in Kansas City, they soon encountered discrimination when they were repeatedly denied the privilege of restaurant service. The couple became active in fighting the issue when they joined the NAACP and Kansas City, Missouri's People for Public Accommodations drive, which sought the passage of a bill requiring public businesses to provide service to all persons regardless of race, national or ethnic origin, and skin color.

In 1981, Becky received community service awards from the HUD Kansas City Area Office, the Hispanic Chamber of Greater Kansas City and the Guadalupe Centers, for her role as the HUD office coordinator in the application process for Posada del Sol: a senior citizen's high-rise apartment complex in Kansas City's West Side. That same year, Becky, together with her fellow HUD employee Jose Gonzalez, and Ninfa Garza, program coordinator for the Guadalupe Centers Senior Citizens program, founded the Greater Kansas City National Hispanic Heritage Committee and created the Fiesta Hispana, to annually commemorate National Hispanic Heritage Month.

For many years Becky actively continued her advocacy by serving on boards of local and national community agencies such as: Model Cities; the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity; the American G.I. Forum, the League of United Latin American Women; the Panel of American Women; the Incorporated Mexican American Government Employees (IMAGE)—1979 to 1982 as national chairwoman of the IMAGE Women's Action Committee with headquarters in Washington, DC; the Federally Employed Women; the United Nations Women's Commission; the Women's Political Caucus; the Guadalupe Centers, Inc.; the Mexican American Women's National Association (MANA); the Heart of American United Way; the Salvation Army and several others.

While serving as national secretary for the Panel of American Women, Becky was part of a select group of panelists invited to the White House on April 27, 1979, for a special reception hosted by President Jimmy Carter in their honor for their many years of work in the area of human relations.

Becky also received distinguished awards from the Federal Executive Board of Greater Kansas City, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Panel of American Women, the Mexican American Women's National Association, and the Salvation Army. In 1981, The Central Exchange of Kansas City honored Becky by naming her its second Woman of the Year.

In 2002, the Guadalupe Centers awarded Becky its coveted I. Pat Rios Award for out-

standing contributions to the Community, recognizing her for her role in the historical completion of Posada del Sol and the first West Side neighborhood fountain. The fountain was formally dedicated on September 15, 2000 by the Kansas City, Missouri Parks and Recreation Department.

On March 4, 2005, Becky received the YWCA Hearts of Gold Award for Economic Empowerment for her service 30 years before as a United Nations delegate on a commission studying the status of women in the world.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of Mrs. Rebecca Dolores Jaramillo and expressing our heartfelt sympathy to her husband, Joe Jaramillo, her children, Romulo Joseph, Cynthia and James, and her many relatives and friends. I urge my colleagues to please join me in conveying our gratitude to her family for sharing this great woman with us, and to accept our condolences for their tremendous loss. She was an inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO THE 90TH BIRTHDAY
OF MILDRED LAVERGNE BOUTIN
PROTHROW

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I would like to honor the 90th birthday of Mildred LaVergne Boutin Prothrow.

Fourscore and 10 years ago on April 7, 1917, Mildred LaVergne Boutin was born in Point-a-LaHache, Louisiana. At the age of three, she remembers wearing a navy sailor suit, hand and gloves to the train station as her family prepared her to move to Jackson, Mississippi.

A true daughter of the South, Mildred's loving parents, Ruby Anita and Hamilton Henry Boutin, along with her Aunt Nea Learner, instilled all the qualities of a perfect southern lady, refined and generous.

Once more, her journey continued with a train ride to Marshall, Texas in the fall of 1937 to attend Wiley College. There she trained for her future profession as a teacher, joined the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, and met her life partner, Percy W. Prothrow, Jr. With marriage came a home in Marshall and the births of her daughters, Lady Percy Prothrow and Deborah Boutin Prothrow-Stith.

The family moved to Atlanta as Percy ascended the ranks of Atlanta Life Insurance Company and Mildred became an entrepreneur, opening a very popular childcare center. The family moved to Houston in 1968 where Mildred received a master's degree in elementary education from Texas Southern University and taught in the public schools until retirement in 1983.

As a widow, Mildred decided to retire and move to Boston to help her daughter and son-in-law raise their nephews, son and daughter. Known as Memama and Bibi to her grandchildren (Trey, Tony, Percy, and Mary Mildred), Mildred is a wonderful cook, a loving friend and confidant, and a dedicated mother and grandmother.

A TRIBUTE TO GRANT AINSWORTH
THOMPSON

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, today I wish to honor Grant Ainsworth Thompson who has recently left the world of politics to follow his calling in the Church. Grant served as my Communications Director for the last 5 years. Prior to that, he worked as a Legislative Assistant in my office focusing on Veterans Affairs and Postal issues.

Grant Ainsworth Thompson was born June 9, 1962 here in Washington, DC and was educated in the DC public school system. After graduating from Cardozo High School in 1981, he spent a number of years working in the private sector as both a substance abuse counselor and for United Airlines. He then chose to pursue a higher education and attended the University of the District of Columbia from 1991 to 1995, majoring in Mass Media and Television Production. Grant has been happily married to Margaret for 22 years and is the father of 2 sons: Justin, 21 and Jeremy, 17.

Grant used his skills in communications and management to help me better serve the people of Alaska. He was a driving force behind my office's expansion into cutting edge media and always seemed to know what the "next big thing" would be. His positive personality and confidential counsel were invaluable to me and my staff; he will be sorely missed.

Grant was an integral part of my office for many years and it deeply saddens me to see him leave. We often joked that he was my "brother," as we share the same birthday. I wish him all the best as he begins a new chapter in his life. Grant is now going to continue the work he started as Pastor and Founder of the Church of the Rock Praise Factory, located in Washington, DC. He will continue to be involved in many community outreach programs over the coming years, spreading the word of the Lord, and helping those in need. Grant Ainsworth Thompson is a truly great American, with a heart the size of Alaska.

GRUNDY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
BIO-DIESEL PROJECT A RE-
SOUNDING SUCCESS

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, when it came to my attention that a group of students in a Future Farmers of America class and educators at Grundy County High School were developing bio-diesel to use in tractors and school buses, I could not have been more proud.

The fuel, which is made from vegetable oil, methanol, and lye, will be used to make tractors and buses run cleaner, more efficiently, and in a cost effective manner. Additionally, everything in the process is 100 percent biodegradable.

The idea for the project began after a seminar at Middle Tennessee State University in

Murfreesboro, Tennessee that called upon area schools to research alternative fuels.

Not only did these inventive students and educators take it upon themselves to develop their own bio-diesel, the Family and Consumer Science class is looking at ways to make soap from the glycerin that settles to the bottom of the mixture as it develops. There are plans to market the soap as a fundraiser for the school if efforts to make it are successful.

I applaud the actions of these students and the encouragement they are getting from their teachers. These students are receiving life lessons and skills they will be able to keep with them forever. They will not only be passing along these lessons to family and friends, these students are poised to go on to great things in the field of alternative/renewable energies.

There is no quick solution to the rising cost of fuel due to current demands and the lack of infrastructure to support renewable and alternative fuels. The long term solution will be in our ability to commit and invest in the development of these fuels. These young adults have taken this to heart and are to be commended for promoting this practice.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM
"BILL" WRIGHT

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of William V. "Bill" Wright, who for over 57 years contributed immensely to the people of Southern Nevada in a variety of roles both civically and professionally. As a result of his commitment to his fellow Nevadans, the Clark County School District Board of Trustees named a new elementary school in his memory and honor.

Bill was born in Corsicana, Texas in 1917 and he was raised in Illinois. He attended the University of Missouri where he earned a degree in journalism. Prior to his move to Las Vegas with his wife, Annelle, he began his professional journalism career as an advertising salesman at The Peoria Star in Peoria, Illinois.

After his move to Las Vegas, Bill joined the Las Vegas Review-Journal as a member of the staff. He was promoted to advertising director in 1945 and served in this capacity until 1966 when he was appointed to the position of general manager. During his tenure as general manager of the Las Vegas Review-Journal, Bill was responsible for many of the important milestones in the development and growth of the newspaper. He oversaw the newspaper's circulation increase from 48,273 to 89,079 subscribers, which allowed it to claim the title of being the largest daily newspaper in the state of Nevada. He was also responsible for the construction of the newspaper's facilities on Bonanza Road and the modernization of the newspaper printing process from molten lead-typography to computerized typesetting.

As general manager of the Las Vegas Review-Journal, Bill was committed to the idea that its readers should understand how the news stories impacted their lives and insisted that the articles included information on how it would impact the Las Vegas community.

In addition to his many successes and achievements with his professional career, Bill was also passionate about history and was an adamant collector. As a result of his interests in history and his pride for Nevada, Bill became involved with many civic organizations such as the Nevada Historical Society and the Nevada State Museum. He served in several leadership positions and was both a member of the board of trustees and also chairman of the board for 14 years. In 1980, the University of Nevada Las Vegas honored him with the Distinguished Nevadan Award for his many years of service to his state. He was also honored by the Nevada State Press Association with the Silver Makeup Rule Award and inducted into the Nevada Newspaper Hall of Fame.

Unfortunately, Annelle, his wife passed away in 1977 but Bill remained general manager of the newspaper until 1981. Bill was active with his civic organizations and projects until his passing in 1998 at the age of 80 years old. Bill and his wife were survived by 4 children, 6 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren with many of them residing in Southern Nevada.

Madam Speaker, William V. "Bill" Wright was an outstanding Nevadan whose commitment to civic and community organizations has made a profound difference in our state. I thank the Clark County School District for honoring Bill Wright's memory by naming a school after him and I congratulate his family on this special occasion.

HONORING MATTHEW W.
PLUMMER

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, below is a narrative for the RECORD by Mr. Matthew W. Plummer, an original Tuskegee Airman.

In September 1937 when I arrived at Tuskegee the Nation was busily engaged in attaining the Nation's goal in building a fleet of 50,000 airplanes to counter the Axis's warlike threats to our European Allies. I was from San Antonio, Texas where there was located several air fields; in fact I was born adjacent to one of them. The earliest I can remember was making my own airplanes imagining flying myself. It was not long after arriving in Tuskegee I met other boys who were similarly interested. We decided on our own to form a flying club where we could get together and talk about flying.

The next year we were contacted by the school officials seeking the club's help locating an airfield where two visitors could land. They were C. Alfred Anderson, the pilot, and Dr. Forsyth, who were returning from a visit to the Caribbean islands. I informed them of an airport owned by the Sheltons where they could land. The Sheltons owned an ice house in downtown Tuskegee and were in the process of building an airplane I sometimes visited after school.

The information I provided the school officials was helpful and they appointed me as the flying guests' host during their stay in Tuskegee. The height of my enthusiasm was when "Chief" Anderson took me up for a ride over campus. I will always remember that short flight; it was a WacoUP47 4 place cabin craft.

It was not long after the Anderson-Forsyth visit the discontent by a growing voice of citizens demanding inclusion of blacks in programs involving government expenditures was heard by Washington officials. In response to this demand Tuskegee was invited to the hearings along with other black schools offering higher education. It has been reported along with other testimony Tuskegee officials proudly announced there already existed on its campus students anxious to learn aviation citing the existence of an aviation club. It is reasonable to assume that the existence of the flying club constituted one of the factors that inspired the faculty to obtain CPT programs which were the predecessor to the military training facility.

I was in the second class of students enrolled in the civilian pilot training program. After completion of that program I was hired as an instructor for U.S. Army cadets training at Tuskegee. I volunteered for the Armed services, but deferred from active duty due to my position as an instructor.

One of the rewards of being an instructor was the feeling of modesty upon meeting an old student who expresses his admiration for the initial days of teaching lessons on the skill of flying! Consistently they are gracious in thanking us for the assistance in learning the skill of handling an airplane.

A TRIBUTE TO ROYCE O.
CHAPMAN

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. Royce O. Chapman. Mr. Chapman has been an integral part of my operations for more than a decade. He managed my Fairbanks campaign office during the 1992 election and since then Royce has run my Fairbanks District Office. He has been a truly tireless public servant, helping me, the people of Fairbanks and the whole of Alaska.

Royce was born March 4, 1951 in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. He spent his early years in the small farming community of Johnstown, Colorado and graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1969. He attended Western State College of Colorado in Gunnison, Colorado in 1969-1970. After leaving college, Royce started work for Great Western Sugar Company in Johnstown until entering the United States Air Force in April of 1971.

Royce has two brothers: Rodney who lives in Wisconsin, and David in Colorado; and a sister Jana who lives in Oregon. Royce has been married to the former Carolyn Warman since September 2, 1971. They have two adult daughters, Shannon and Stacie, and four grandchildren: Justin, age 10 and Shane, age 7 who live in Seattle, Washington; and Meghan, age 7 and Ryan, age 4 who live in Tok, Alaska.

Royce's public service started in the Air Force. He spent the majority of his time in the Air Force as a Public Affairs Specialist and Technician working in the community relations, internal information, and public information sections. He was also the editor of several base newspapers; along with this he wrote many articles for publication in civilian newspapers and magazines.

Royce served for 20 years with assignments in Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota; Davis-

Monthan AFB, Arizona; Zaragoza Air Base in Zaragoza, Spain; Vance Air Force Base, Oklahoma; and Williams Air Force Base, Arizona. His final assignment was Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska where he served from 1984 until retirement in 1991.

Royce is also a key figure in the community. He is a member of the Optimist Club of Fairbanks, has served on the Fairbanks North Star Borough School Board for 9 years (1997–2006) and is currently sitting on the Fairbanks “Kids Voting” Board of Directors.

Royce has been an integral part of my “Alaska team” for many years and it saddens me to see him leave. He has used his skills in communication and management to help me better serve the people of Alaska. His outgoing personality, confidential counsel and comprehensive evaluation of situations, have allowed him to do his job to the fullest and for the benefit of all Alaskans.

Royce is a Great Alaskan. I wish him and Carolyn all the best and continued good health as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF PRESIDENT
EMERITUS DANIEL RUPP

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of President Emeritus Daniel Rupp, for his 28 years of service as an officer of the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) Branch 40, where he devoted himself to the concerns and needs of the American worker.

For 15 years, Mr. Rupp was the Administrative Vice President of the NALC. His continuous work and never-ending desire to support the labor community earned him the respect of his peers. Mr. Rupp served his position with dignity and honor. It was no surprise when he became the Executive Vice President, and then the President of the Cleveland Postal Employees Credit Union (CPECU).

During the time Mr. Rupp was the President of the CPECU, he remained dedicated to addressing the concerns of the union while preserving the rights of the members. In addition to his tireless work with the CPECU he was a National Trustee delegate, and Branch 40 was well served by his leadership.

Committed not only to the union, Mr. Rupp devoted himself to his family with the same intensity he had when representing the members of the NALC. He and Barb have been married for 45 years, and together they have raised four sons and a daughter. Now, they have the unending joy of doting upon their nine beautiful grandchildren.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring President Emeritus Daniel Rupp for his enthusiasm and devotion to the American worker. His integrity, commitment to his brothers and sisters, and tireless work with the community have made an indelible mark on northeast Ohio, and we are grateful for his dedication.

IN HONOR OF THE 120 YEARS OF
COMBINED PUBLIC SERVICE OF
NORTHVALE FIREMEN ARTHUR
BODRATO AND FRANK
BUONOCORE

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of the extraordinary public service of two firemen who have each served the community of Northvale, New Jersey for 60 years. Arthur Bodrato and Frank Buonocore joined the company in 1947, a mere 41 years after the company was even founded. Their lives stand as a testament to how just a single life of volunteerism can make a profound difference in the lives of so many.

Not content to merely serve their neighbors in this brave role, both men took on extra responsibilities in the Northvale Fire Department and Northvale Fire Association to help their fellow firefighters. Frank Buonocore served as the Fire Association Treasurer for 18 years and as a Relief Association Officer. He also served as Lieutenant, Captain, and Chief of the Department. Arthur Bodrato served as Financial Secretary for the Fire Association and is the current President of the Northvale Fire Department Exempt Fireman's Association. He also served as a Lieutenant in the Fire Department.

As if to demonstrate the example these men have provided to their community, they have inspired a legacy of service. Arthur Bodrato's son, Briant is the current Chief of the Northvale Fire Department, and I look forward to returning to the floor some day to honor him for his service to Northvale as well.

THE GLOBAL THREAT OF DRUG-
RESISTANT TB

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, last week the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health held a hearing on the important and timely global health issue of drug-resistant tuberculosis. It is shocking that this disease which is curable continues to kill about 2 million people each year. Perhaps the reason for this apparent contradiction is that the vast majority of those who die from TB—98 percent—live in the developing world, and are from the poorest and most marginalized sectors of society. TB is particularly pernicious in that it targets young adults who are just starting to form their families and who are the producers and sustainers of their societies. The emergence in recent years of drug-resistant TB has raised the specter of higher death rates, more children who will lose their parents, and communities that will fall deeper into poverty and despair.

Combined with the fact that TB is the leading cause of death of persons with HIV/AIDS, this disease is having a particularly devastating impact on Africa. However, it is important to note that no region—indeed no country,

including our own—is immune from the effects of tuberculosis. We should all be alarmed that strains that are resistant to a single drug have been documented in every country surveyed by the World Health Organization. Given the ease with which TB can be spread, TB is truly a disease without borders, and it is in our national as well as humanitarian interest to seek its eradication.

Therefore, it was highly appropriate that the subcommittee on global health commemorated World TB Day 2007 with the rest of the world, and raised our voices with that of others for an emergency response to this increasingly dangerous threat to global health. I agree with my colleagues here in Congress who are advocating for significantly more resources to be directed towards TB prevention, detection and treatment, and research for new drugs. In addition, the hearing provided us with the opportunity to examine the best means for directing our resources.

The World Health Organization recently came out with an interesting study entitled: “Appreciating Assets: The Contribution of Religion to Universal Access in Africa.” The study was focused on the treatment of HIV/AIDS, and utilized Zambia and Lesotho as the two study sites, but the findings provide useful indications for addressing other health issues, including tuberculosis, throughout Africa. The study found that approximately 30–40 percent of national health services were provided by faith-based organizations. In some areas, those percentages went as high as 65–70 percent.

The benefits of a faith-based infrastructure for addressing HIV/AIDS would seem to apply also to tuberculosis. For example, assisting and monitoring adherence to the drug regimen could be overseen by the volunteer community, as well as education of the general public. Since churches, mosques and synagogues are being encouraged to undertake HIV/AIDS initiatives, TB can readily be included.

It is well-known that the Global Fund is a major contributor to TB detection and treatment programs around the world. The United States has given over \$2 billion to the Global Fund, or just over 30 percent of the Fund's revenues. I was disturbed to read reports earlier this month that the Global Fund has permanently terminated two grants to Uganda for malaria and tuberculosis. When I visited Uganda in January 2006, a suspension of 5 Global Fund grants due to gross mismanagement had just been lifted and I was informed that the problems appeared to have been resolved. The fact that this now turns out not to have been the case, and that several other countries have also had Global Fund grants terminated, raises serious questions about how the Global Fund is operating.

I know from my visits to Africa and from the numerous reports we receive in Congress how well our bilaterally-funded PEPFAR programs are performing. The information and accountability that Congress has come to take for granted through these bilateral programs are not available through the Global Fund. And yet many of the primary recipients of Global Fund grants are governments with a history of corruption and fraud, and/or limited capacity to properly manage large sums of money in their health sectors. One could argue that the absence in the Global Fund of a robust reporting and monitoring mechanism at both the primary and sub-recipient levels is an open invitation

for waste in these countries, and a tragic loss of opportunity to save lives. The implementation of a system that provides accountability and transparency would seem vital to continued and expanded donor support of the Global Fund in the future.

HONORING COMMUNITY SMILES
FOR 60 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a wonderful volunteer organization in my congressional district, Community Smiles/Dade County Dental Research Clinic. Community Smiles was established by a group of dedicated dentists in 1946 as the Dade County Dental Research Clinic. Their guiding principles are: to provide quality dental care, provide professional improvements and post-graduate education of dentists, and provide training to dental assistants for certification.

Community Smiles is a non-profit, community center that treats indigent populations in need of care. This clinic is celebrating 60 years of committed volunteer service to Miami-Dade County, during which thousands of patients have been treated pro bono. A remarkable record! The service this prestigious organization provides is invaluable to our community.

In 2006, more than 2,400 disadvantaged patients received services from 138 dentists, including major reconstructive treatment. As they begin this new year, they are ready and prepared to continue to provide an increasing number of patients with the best healthcare service possible.

I would like especially to recognize the current president, Dr. Robert Perdomo, III, for his leadership and dedication, and the immediate past two Presidents, Dr. Armando Paz & Dr. Shari Witkoff. Their unwavering pursuit of excellence has been an inspiration to the entire organization. It is their passion, talent, and service to the community of South Florida that makes our lives richer and Florida stronger.

Once again, I would like to thank Community Smiles/Dade County Dental Research Clinic for their continued commitment to the promotion of dental care. I congratulate Community Smiles on its achievement and service to the community.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CSRS
RETIREMENT REPAYMENT TECHNICAL
CORRECTION ACT OF 2007

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the CSRS Retirement Repayment Technical Correction Act of 2007. This bill would correct an unintended consequence that followed the enactment of the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-508) on November 5, 1990, and provide relief for Federal employees who were adversely affected by that enactment.

The Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1990 made retroactive changes to the rules related to separating Federal employees. While the rules were made retroactive to October 1, 1990, the implementing regulations were not promulgated until February 1991. This four month period between the enactment of the law and the promulgation of the implementing regulations has adversely affected any Federal employee who withdrew their retirement contributions during this period.

This matter was brought to my attention by Sandra Schatz Landis, my constituent who was on maternity leave from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), a former bureau of the Department of Justice at the time in question. On November 5, 1990, Ms. Landis withdrew \$24,439.00 in retirement contributions and was advised that if she later re-entered federal service, she could re-deposit the withdrawal without paying interest and not suffer any adverse consequences.

Unbeknownst to Ms. Landis and the personnel specialists at INS who were advising her, because of the enactment of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 that occurred on that very same day, November 5, 1990, employees who withdrew their retirement contributions as far back as October 1, 1990 were suddenly required to repay their withdrawn contributions with interest in order to have the prior service included in their annuity calculation. What is unfair about this is that employees had no warning that the rules under which they were making major financial decisions were changing. If Ms. Landis were to make this repayment today, she would have to refund over \$58,000 of which \$34,000 is interest. This is just one example of an unintended injustice that must be corrected.

The CSRS Retirement Repayment Technical Correction Act of 2007 will provide relief

to those who withdrew their retirement contributions between Oct 1, 1990, when the Omnibus Reconciliation Act was enacted, and February 1991, when implementing regulations were promulgated. It is fair and reasonable legislation that needs to be enacted into law.

RECOGNITION OF THE INAUGURAL
VEGAS GRAND PRIX RACE

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Inaugural Vegas Grand Prix Race that will take place April 6-8, 2007, in Las Vegas, and as such is scheduled to be the first of the 2007 Champ Car World Series. The inaugural Champ Car race in downtown Las Vegas marks the rebirth of world-class open-course auto racing within the city, in the great tradition of the legendary Mint 400 and the Caesars Palace Grand Prix.

The internationally televised Vegas Grand Prix will cap an action-packed, three-day festival of concerts and public events and a free street party downtown at Fremont Street. It is expected to be one of the largest events in the history of downtown Las Vegas and will be held on a 2.44-mile temporary street circuit through the heart of "Glitter Gulch" in downtown. The course includes 12 turns winding through Main Street, Carson Avenue, Casino Center Boulevard, Ogden Avenue and Grand Central Parkway.

Besides attracting racing fans and visitors from around the world to Las Vegas, the Las Vegas Grand Prix joins the distinguished list of 2007 Champ Car World Series events currently scheduled throughout North America including: Long Beach, California, Portland, Oregon, Cleveland, Ohio, San Jose, California, Denver, Colorado, Houston, Texas, Phoenix, Arizona, Mexico City, Mexico, and the Canadian cities of Edmonton, Toronto and Montreal. A race will even take place on the Gold Coast of Australia.

Madam Speaker, may my colleagues join me in recognizing this momentous occasion for Las Vegas, my constituents and race fans around the world.