

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO MYRA L. CRUMPE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and achievements of Myra L. Crumpe. Myra was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, and is a product of the New York City public schools. After her high school graduation from Erasmus Hall High, she enrolled in Kingsborough Community College, majoring in business administration.

Myra currently works in the Bedford-Stuyvesant community at JP Morgan Chase Bank as the assistant branch manager. For the past 13 years, she has worked in the banking industry, withstanding several mergers. Her professional dedication to the local businesses has been instrumental in making Chase the No. 1 bank in the community.

Myra has always exemplified a passion for her community. She constantly seeks opportunities to help her fellow neighbors whenever needed. For more than 15 years, Myra was an active member for the Mays Designer Club, working alongside her uncle, Dr. Gerald Deas. She served as president, treasurer, and youth director for that organization whose primary goal was to raise funds to benefit the Sickle Cell Victims' organization. The money raised was donated to various families and hospitals, including Kings County Hospital Center and University Hospital of Brooklyn for the care of African-American children afflicted with the disease.

Myra wanted to do more for her community, so she joined the Stuy Park Lions Club, which is associated with the Lions Club International and Bermuda Foundation, in 1995. She has held various positions with the Lions Club, including treasurer and financial secretary, and is currently the club's president. Myra was also the district governor cabinet treasurer of District 20-K1 and is presently the chairperson for the local Habitat for Humanity.

Myra has also served on several committees and received numerous awards. Myra was recognized by Councilwoman Annette Robinson in 1999 and received the Sheroes Award as a woman who has made a difference. The East Flatbush Friends of Education presented the Booker T. Washington Award to her in 2001. Myra has also received the Melvin Jones Fellow Award for dedicated humanitarian services, the Robert J. Uplinger Distinguished Service Award, Lion of the Year Award and various certificates of appreciation.

Myra has been the loving wife of William Crumpe, Jr. for 32 years. She is a devoted mother of two daughters, Keisha and Charlene, and two grandsons, Richard, Jr., and Gurshaan.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the hard work and dedication of a caring and giving woman.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Myra L. Crumpe.

HONORING MR. PAUL R. DE VAUL

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, on the occasion of stepping down as the American Legion's junior county commander of Suffolk County, NY, I rise to honor and recognize a good friend, Mr. Paul R. De Vul, for a lifetime dedicated to serving our Nation and the First Congressional District of New York.

For the past year and a half, Paul has worked alongside me in my Long Island office, serving my constituents capably and with steadfast dedication. In addition to his case-work responsibilities, Paul has served four 1-year terms as junior county commander. I commend him for achievements during his tenure and thank him for his contributions to improving the lives of Long Island's veterans.

As a member of my New York office staff, Paul's tireless efforts and dedication are invaluable to our constituent service operation. Paul is known for going the extra mile to help my constituents, particularly veterans.

Paul is a lifetime Long Island resident and currently lives in the town of Bay Shore, Long Island, with his wife, Terri, of 31 years. They have six children, many of whom have followed in his footsteps to serve in either the military or public service.

Paul served in the U.S. Army from 1961 to 1964 and was decorated with the Army Commendation Medal, Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the NYS Conspicuous Service Cross.

After working 32 years for Keyspan Energy Corporation, Paul retired in 1999. He joined the American Legion, Bay Shore Post 365 and served as the post's commander for 2 years before first being elected Suffolk County commander in 2002.

In May 2006, Paul brought his knowledge of and experience with veterans' advocacy to my staff. We have benefited from his dedication and work ethic ever since. He has earned our deepest respect and gratitude.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of my entire staff and New York's First Congressional District, I thank Paul R. De Vul for his lifelong commitment to veterans and public service. I congratulate him for his many contributions and wish him and his family continued success, good health, and the best of luck.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICES OF
SERGE S. DUARTE

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 20 years of exemplary service that Serge S. Duarte has given to this great country.

Serge S. Duarte, a native of southern California, is the Deputy Special Agent in Charge in San Diego for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, ICE, Office of Investigations.

From March 1987 to 2003, Mr. Duarte served in a variety of management, supervisory, and Federal investigative roles with the U.S. Customs Service. During his first 5 years with Customs, Mr. Duarte conducted extensive undercover investigations penetrating international narcotics trafficking organizations.

In March 2003, the U.S. Customs Service merged under the newly created Department of Homeland Security. Under this new organization, Mr. Duarte oversees a large Federal law enforcement workforce that conducts investigations into terrorism, protection of critical infrastructure, money laundering, commercial fraud, copyright protection, criminal gangs, immigration fraud, cyber crimes, and narcotics smuggling. He is responsible for enforcement operations that have identified and removed over 500 unauthorized aliens illegally working at airports, military installations, Government shipyards and other critical infrastructure facilities in San Diego. Additionally, over 100 persons in the San Diego area involved in sexual predation and child pornography have been arrested or deported. Finally, he oversees investigations into criminal organizations that are responsible for the illegal transfer of military aircraft hardware and restricted technology from the United States to Iran, China and other proscribed countries.

Mr. Duarte received a masters in public administration from National University in 2003. He is also a graduate of the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar and the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, VA, and is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. He is the Chair of the Border Research Technology Center Advisory Council, and a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Area Maritime Security Council, the National Tactical Officers Association, the California Narcotic Officers Association, the Intelligence and National Security Alliance, and the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association.

On behalf of the people of the United States, whom Serge Duarte spent a career serving, I thank him for his service and commitment to the defense of our Nation.

A TRIBUTE TO WILMA BEST

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Wilma Best. Wilma McGlothlin was born in Excelsior, WV, to Sylvester McGlothlin and Inez Tarvant-McGlothlin.

Wilma, who was educated in the Excelsior School System, excelled in her studies and

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

was voted into the National Honor Society. All of her hard work paid off and she was offered a full scholarship to Bennett College. After graduating Bennett, she enrolled and graduated from City College of New York. There she maintained her scholastic achievements earning her a place on the Dean's List. Wilma became a registered nurse in 1973 and later went to work for New York Methodist Hospital where she has been employed for 34 years.

Wilma is an active member of New Canaan Baptist Church where she serves as the superintendent of vacation bible school and a Sunday school teacher. She is also a member of the C.E. Lewis Gospel Chorus, Floral Club and the Senior Usher Board. She also serves as president of the Red Circle Ministry, the building fund, and the renovation committee. Wilma has also been named an honorary member of the First Ladies Club and Gospel Chorus.

Wilma is the faithful and loving wife to the late Robert Best. Their union was blessed with one son, Robert, Jr. She is the grandmother of two: Antoine and Christian Best; and is also a great grandmother of three: Tionnah, Tion, and Tishaun Best.

Wilma loves gardening, arts and crafts, listening to music, and attending nursing seminars. She has received a Betty Crocker Award for her baking skills.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the achievements of Wilma Best and her work in caring for others.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Wilma Best who demonstrates a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

HONORING THE SMITHTOWN LIBRARY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a respected and important landmark in the First Congressional District, the Smithtown Library.

Since 1907, the Smithtown Library has been a dynamic center for continuous learning, with a multitude of resources and programs for the Long Island community. The library ranks as the seventh largest system in the State of New York. Its main building and three branch libraries serve over 115,000 residents in the town of Smithtown.

The Smithtown Library was first housed in the former chambers of Judge John Lawrence Smith, which still stands today east of the present main library building on Middle Country Road. In May 1952, the library was granted an absolute charter by the State of New York and became a town library under the direction of the town of Smithtown.

The library is home to "The Long Island History Collection and the Richard H. Handley Collection of Long Island Americana," a unique collection of priceless artifacts dating back to the 1600s that includes nearly 8,000 books, over 750 maps and 130 boxes of written documents. No other institution on Long Island has a collection this large available for public viewing and scholarly research.

In November 2001, Smithtown residents voted that the library become independent and

the name was changed to the "Smithtown Special Library District," but it is still affectionately known as the Smithtown Library by the community. On Friday, November 30, the library celebrated its 100th anniversary with a gala centennial celebration.

Madam Speaker, I'd like to quote John Quincy Adams, this great country's sixth President, who said, "To furnish the means of acquiring knowledge is the greatest benefit that can be conferred upon mankind." Indeed, the Smithtown Library is a welcoming place for knowledge, dedicated to excellence and to enhancing the quality of life in Suffolk County, New York. I am proud to honor its 100th anniversary.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO ALL OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE (ITS) ON GRANTING OPEN ACCESS TO VAST HOLOCAUST AND OTHER WORLD WAR II RELATED ARCHIVES LOCATED IN BAD AROLSEN, GERMANY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my good friends and original cosponsors of this important resolution, Representatives ROBERT WEXLER, chairman of the Subcommittee on Europe, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, the ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and MARK KIRK to introduce a resolution expressing gratitude to all of the member states of the International Commission of the International Tracing Service (ITS) on ratifying the May 2006 Agreement to grant open access to vast Holocaust and other World War II-related archives located in Bad Arolsen, Germany.

I am thankful for their bipartisan leadership, not only on this issue to open the Bad Arolsen archives, but on wider issues of anti-Semitism in general.

This legislation is the culmination of long-standing efforts I have made with Representatives WEXLER, ROS-LEHTINEN, KIRK, and others to release these crucial Holocaust records.

Madam Speaker, November 28, 2007, was a historic moment in time when for the first time in 62 years, Holocaust survivors, their descendants, researchers, and the public were allowed open access to the International Tracing Service (ITS) archives in Bad Arolsen, Germany, the largest closed Holocaust-era archives in the world.

These significant archives contain 50 million records on the fates of some 17.5 million individual victims of Nazi brutality. Everything from lists of the names of Holocaust concentration camp victims murdered on Hitler's birthday to death camp prisoners' personal affect cards are included in these records, and each holds an important place in the memory of a victim.

Until earlier this year, when Holocaust survivors requested information from the ITS, they were shamefully often provided with letters written entirely in German with incomplete or misinformation about the horrors they had

experienced. Often survivors passed away prior to ever being provided the truth about their experiences under Nazi persecution. Until only 2 weeks ago, these historic materials were held secret from researchers and research institutions and the general public.

In today's world, filled with growing international intolerance including anti-Semitism, hate, racial bigotry, xenophobia, and religious discrimination, it could not be more urgent and critical to allow for unfettered access to these archives.

The ultimate release of these documents serves to further delegitimize international leaders who insist on spewing Holocaust denial and other anti-Semitic rhetoric.

Allowing for open access to these historical records also contributes to the world's collective memory of the Holocaust atrocities and ensures that these historic documents will be preserved and shared with future generations when survivors are no longer among us.

I am thankful for the efforts made by the Holocaust Memorial Museum, the State Department, survivor groups, and this body of Congress to pressure the member states of the International Tracing Service to ratify the 1955 Bonn Accords and throw open the doors of these archives.

The new leadership of the International Committee of the Red Cross at the ITS should also be commended for their efforts to provide more expeditious and comprehensive responses to survivors and their descendants. A year ago, the ITS faced a 140,000 backlog of survivor and others' inquiries. Today, the ITS has reduced the requests to less than half of that amount and is committed to processing incoming requests within 8 weeks.

Our collaborative bipartisan efforts have truly paid off. I am most appreciative that the remaining European ITS member states ultimately recognized the justifiable and moral importance of combating modern day anti-Semitism with the release of these archives.

This resolution serves to commend all parties who assisted in opening the archives and increasing their accessibility to all. Finally, remaining survivors and researchers alike will be able to view these tremendously important documents and hopefully find closure on one of the darkest moments in history. Our efforts send a robust message to the world that the atrocities and murders of the Holocaust victims shall forever remain at the forefront of our collective and individual memories.

May we never forget the horrors of the Holocaust and view this historic moment as a constant reminder of what happens when humanity is silenced and evil permitted to wage war on the innocent.

I ask for my colleagues' support and urge the swift passage of this resolution.

A TRIBUTE TO ALBERT J. SIMMONS, JR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Albert J. Simmons, Jr., and the hard work that he has dedicated to the better development of New York City youth.

Born in Savannah, GA, and reared in New York City, Mr. Simmons is a graduate of

Brooklyn College. He resides in Forest Hills, Queens, with his wife Cheryl and daughter Alexis.

At an early age in his adult life, Mr. Simmons sensed his calling as a voice and servant to the youth, and the underprivileged of the New York City community. As a former kindergarten teacher, Mr. Simmons found immeasurable pleasure in aiding our young in developing a firm foundation for education and self-esteem. As a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Mr. Simmons was able to continue his desire to serve as a mentor and role model. As a participant in the fraternity's Adopt-a-School project, sixth-grade boys at P.S. 144 in Harlem were exposed to positive male role models, participation in commencement programs at various colleges and universities as well as tutorial programs. Mr. Simmons has also served and participated in the Melvin C. Patrick Career Day Programs.

For more than two decades, Mr. Simmons has worked in the managed care industry, affording him the opportunity to continue to work with youth organizations, various community-based organizations and being an advocate for the underserved families and individuals of New York. As regional marketing manager for Fidelis Care New York, the largest and a leading state-wide non-profit managed care organization; Mr. Simmons has used his position to work with politicians, faith-based organizations and other associations to serve as a conduit for the provision of health insurance benefits and other human services to many families and individuals in New York. Mr. Simmons has been honored and recognized for his selfless contributions to the New York City community.

Madam Speaker, I would like to once again recognize Mr. Albert J. Simmons, Jr., for his tireless work with the citizens in need of New York City.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderful man of substance and the great things for which he stands.

TRIBUTE TO SAM LICKLIDER

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this moment to recognize the career of Sam Licklider. Sam Licklider has served as the senior vice president of governmental affairs for the Missouri Association of Realtors for 40 years.

Mr. Licklider joined the Missouri Association of Realtors in 1968 after graduating from Westminster College in Fulton, MO. As the organization's head of legislative affairs, Mr. Licklider spends his time fighting for realtor issues at the Missouri capitol. He is widely regarded as being one of the Missouri Association of Realtors' biggest assets.

Sam Licklider and his wife, Jane, currently reside in Jefferson City. They have two children and four grandchildren. I trust that Members of the House will join me in wishing Sam Licklider and his family the best of luck in the days ahead.

A TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINE TOOMER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Christine Toomer for her contributions to the nursing profession and to the Brooklyn, NY, healthcare community.

Christine Toomer as born September 11, in Kingston, Jamaica. In 1972 she moved with her family to Brooklyn, NY. Christine knew at an early age she wanted to help people, so she enrolled in the Clara Barton High School for Nursing. After high school, Christine attended Borough of Manhattan Community College and later, Long Island University. While attending LIU, Christine found employment as a nurse extern. Eventually, Christine graduated from LIU and passed her nursing board certification exams.

Christine is a dedicated nurse and has spent several years at Interfaith Medical Center always putting her patients first. In the mid-90s, her hard work and dedication was recognized and Christine was promoted to assistant head nurse of the Tuberculosis Unit. Christine continued to demonstrate her dedication to nursing and in 2006 she was honored as Nurse of the Year. In April 2007, she was named Employee of the Month. She also became an active member of the American Nurses Association and the New York State Nurses Association.

Christine is not only a wonderful nurse, but also a committed mother of two sons. She is a devoted daughter and granddaughter who oversees the care of her disabled mother and ailing grandmother.

Christine believes that nursing and teaching others the proper way to monitor their health is her purpose in life. The many contributions she has made to the Brooklyn healthcare community are evident. Her love for nursing continues to make her an asset to the profession.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to once again recognize the impressive achievements that Christine Toomer has made in the healthcare field and the Brooklyn community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderful woman of substance and the great things she stands for.

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, we know what is possible for our Nation if we choose to move seriously and quickly down the path to energy independence. We know what this choice means.

Energy independence means demanding more efficiency and smarter technology for our cars, homes, businesses and industry. Energy independence means investing in our communities and creating the resources and workforce necessary for expanding markets. It

means developing new technologies that create new jobs through America's economic backbone: our innovation industries.

If we want to make opportunity real for more Americans—if we want to keep our Nation strong even as our new economy continues to change—there is no better way to do it than by investing in a new energy future.

The Energy Independence and Security Act meets our obligations as a nation at every point along the spectrum: promoting renewable energy, growing our economy, creating new jobs, lowering energy prices, and beginning to address global warming.

We are taking on an initiative more ambitious than ever, to be sure, but nothing less will secure our Nation's energy future.

Of course, our energy challenges have never been more urgent—threatening our environment, our economy, and our national security—but we have been dealing with many of these issues for quite a while: As far back as 1925, Henry Ford touted ethanol as the fuel of the future.

Well, more than eight decades later we still have some work to do when it comes to potential solutions like biofuels, especially in my region of the country. There are still no E85 fueling stations in Connecticut, and the first public biodiesel station in the State opened just last week.

We must understand that despite some of the current drawbacks of corn-derived ethanol, biofuels are a critical first step—not so much a panacea or a solution, but a transition into a more sustainable process toward cellulosic ethanol.

But the real question is: How do we respond? How do we in New England respond when access remains limited? And how do we as a Congress respond right now, as families and businesses across America struggle with skyrocketing gas prices and escalating home heating costs. Do we bury our head in the sand or do we aspire to achieve something great. If we give consumers and businesses the opportunity to be it part of a real transformation, our entire Nation will reap the benefits.

It is already happening: Last year, I was very proud to help unveil the first large-scale biodiesel plant in my State, in the town of Bethlehem. Today, the BioPur Company is producing over 400,000 gallons of pure biodiesel annually and plans to double production within a year to meet the growing demand.

Spurring that kind of change is why I came to the Congress, and I believe it is at the core of our mission on the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee which I chair.

With this year's House Agriculture Appropriations spending bill we made significant new investment—\$1.2 billion; a 215 percent increase over the president's request—to promote renewable energy, strengthening research and education to make biofuels a priority and moving us further down the path to energy independence.

And we can do that again today by passing the Energy Independence and Security Act, providing a historic commitment to the home-grown biofuels that will fuel our cars and trucks: diversifying our energy crops from coast to coast with a robust increase in the renewable fuels standard; requiring 9 billion gallons of renewable fuels in 2008 and progressively increasing to a 36 billion gallon requirement by 2022; incentives to boost their production and increase the number of flex fuel and hybrid vehicles.

And, of course, we are taking the long overdue step to increase vehicle efficiency standards to 35 miles per gallon by 2020—Providing the automobile industry the certainty it needs, while offering flexibility to automakers and ensuring that we keep American manufacturing jobs and continue domestic production of fuel efficient vehicles.

The Union of Concerned Scientists, UCS, reports that these higher standards will cut oil imports by 1.1 million barrels per day in 2020. That is about half the amount we currently import from the entire Persian Gulf. If these standards had already been in place this year, the average driver would have used 160 fewer gallons of gas, and saved \$500. But let's not look back, when we can move forward and embrace tomorrow's great challenges.

This is an investment in the generations to come. But we also have it responsibility to working and middle class families today. A 2006 study from the National Renewable Energy Lab, NREL, identified the shortage of skills and training as a leading non-technical barrier to renewable energy and energy efficiency growth. The NREL study identified a number of critical unmet training needs, including lack of reliable installation, maintenance, and inspection services, the shortage of key technical and manufacturing skills, and failure of the educational system to provide adequate training in new technologies.

That is why this bill authorizes \$125 million to establish national and state job training programs in the renewable energy and energy efficiency fields, training a quality workforce for "green" collar jobs—such as solar panel manufacturer and green building construction worker.

In Connecticut we have already seen the local job growth that comes with investment and innovation in biofuel and fuel cell technology. Now, for example, this bill provides an 8-year extension of a tax credit for investments in fuel-cell properties with a credit of \$3,000 per kilowatt capacity—expressed in the tax code as \$1,500 per half kilowatt capacity—or 30 percent, whichever is less. Looking forward, we know that major investments in renewable energy could create 3 million green jobs nationally over 10 years.

And we are doing it responsibly. This legislation does not add to the deficit and all revenue offsets resulted from bipartisan negotiations.

It is time to stop talking about energy independence and start moving toward it. The American people get that and they want us to act today. It is no wonder this bill has won the support and praise from such a broad coalition of environmental, business and labor organizations—from farm groups to faith groups, from the United Auto Workers to the U.S. Conference of Mayors. For years, President Bush has talked about breaking our addiction to fossil fuel, State of the Union after State of the Union. But now that he actually has an opportunity to make good on that promise, it seems he would rather make a hollow political gesture with his veto pen.

We deserve better. This bill represents a critical turning point and bold statement: On the path toward energy independence, the status quo is not an option. There is nothing America cannot achieve if we put our minds to it, harnessing our future to our own spirit of ingenuity and innovation.

A TRIBUTE TO PEARLINE LOUNDS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Pearlina Lounds. Pearlina was born on the island of Jamaica in the West Indies, where she has six brothers and sisters. It was there she received a formal education in home economics. Pearlina later relocated to England, working at South Mead Hospital as a nurse's assistant, which gave her an opportunity to help support her family in Jamaica until her return. However, she decided instead to relocate to New York.

Pearlina continued her education, attending New York City Technical College where she graduated with an associate's degree in applied science. She furthered her studies at York College of the City University of New York, earning a bachelor's degree of science and graduating with a 4.0 grade point average. Pearlina later went to work at Sephardic Nursing Home as a nurse's aide. She left there for an opportunity as a social worker for Project Chance and as a social worker for Bushwick Community Services as well as Safe Horizon.

Pearlina is a champion for peace. She is a member of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace, and in 2001, the United Nations honored her with the title of Ambassador for Peace. Pearlina is a board member of New York's Family Center and is known as "Mama P" in the community, consistently encouraging young people to be themselves. She is a mother, friend, counselor, leader and guide.

Pearlina is married with 7 children; 24 grandchildren; and 9 great-grandchildren, 2 of whom have been in her care for the past 7 years.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize this wonderful and caring woman who has always put the needs of her family and her community before her own.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Pearlina Lounds.

HONORING THE WILLIAM FLOYD VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker. I rise to congratulate the extraordinary efforts of the William Floyd High School Varsity Football Team, for yet another flawless and record-setting season.

It was around this time last year that I rose to recognize the William Floyd High School team for an undefeated season and for winning the Long Island High School Championship, along with the coveted Rutgers Trophy. One full season later, and the Colonials are enjoying a winning streak of 33 consecutive games. This is a historic and unprecedented achievement in the 126-year history of Long Island high school football.

The William Floyd Colonials have been a dominating force for 3 consecutive years of

perfect 11–0 seasons. Their exploits have garnered even national recognition, as a recent Sports Illustrated poll ranks the powerhouse team 25th in the entire country.

I am honored to represent William Floyd High School athletes who not only display great athletic prowess, but also a commitment to winning with class and sportsmanship. Competitive athletics teaches our students a host of valuable life lessons and I have long been an advocate of sports and extracurricular activities, as they complement, and contribute to academic excellence.

It is an honor to read the names of Coach Paul Longo's team into the RECORD.

First his coaching staff: Gil DeCicco, Pete Friedman, Robert Jackolski, Pete Lesiewicz, Brian Babst, Ernie Villatore and Mike Agostino.

Now the players who make up one of the most feared lineups in Long Island football history: Mat Golden, John Amato, Jarel Johnson, Krys Valentin, Nick Sidaras, Ricky Kruger, Joe Sidaras, Luke Miller, Matthew Vigliotta, Rey Marcano, Brian Zippel, Steven Murphy, Nick Verderosa, Keith McCormack, Rahmel Cook, Marcus Muelthaler, Kevin Lacey, Tom Antinucci, Vaughn Magee, Jonathan Romeo, Brandon Walsh, Jon Hernandez, Brock Jackolski, Fernando Vasquez, Malik Green, Tom Penney, Jonathan Elbedawy, Jon D'Amico, Billy Keane, Chris Mocera, Pablo Ortiz, William Melin, Nick Astore, Wayne Magee, Dom Buffa, Anthony Hernandez, Sam Feerer, Tom Mocera, JJ Santiago, Joe Johnson, Calvin Forbes, Chris Cordovano, Brendon Turril, Brandon Clark, Andrew Giovine, Andrew Incantalupo, Dan Bayer, Nick DiGiorgi, Brandon Fardella, Guy Loomis, Matt Seib, Andrew Lingg, Mike Presseison, Alex Winters, Tom Lindley, Stephen Diaz, Donald Strand, Joe Miranda, Jon Korn, Eric Koenigsdorf, Nico Gonzalez, Jesse Kelley, Orion Folborg, Joe Mensch, Ricky Stoner, Robert DeSilva, Tim Cork.

The entire William Floyd community is justifiably excited and proud of the achievements of this team. These young student athletes represent what is good about high school sports, and it is my privilege to serve as their Congressman.

Go Floyd.

TRIBUTE TO BROOKLYN'S FIDELITY CHAPTER NO. 54 ORDER OF EASTERN STAR

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brooklyn's Fidelity Chapter No. 54, Order of Eastern Star. The Fidelity Chapter has been outstanding in its service to the Brooklyn community for nearly 70 years. I am privileged to have such a dedicated group of individuals in my district.

On the Seventh day of November, 1938, Roland R. Johnson, Worthy Grand Patron of Eureka Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star of the State of New York, Prince Hall Affiliation, by virtue of the authority vested in him, did grant and issue a warrant to Fidelity Chapter No. 54 to be held in Brooklyn, New York; Samantha Taylor, Worthy Grand Matron,

Octavia Giles, Associate Grand Matron, and Frances E. Frances, Grand Secretary.

Fidelity No. 54 has been fortunate to have had dedicated members to serve Eureka Grand Chapter. Past Worthy Matrons with the help of Worthy Patrons, have contributed their time, knowledge, and experience enabling the Fidelity No. 54 Chapter to carry out a varied number of community programs. Fidelity No. 54 has been responsible for sending underprivileged children to camp during the summer, assisting in the feeding of the homeless in the Second District, responding to a request for non-perishable food and clothing for natural disaster victims, and extending charity to the family of their deceased members. Fidelity No. 54 members have taken part in doing volunteer work at several hospitals and nursing homes.

Fidelity No. 54 holds a host of community service events at the end of each year, including their annual Thanksgiving dinner for the community and their annual clothes drive.

Madam Speaker, I would like to also recognize the impressive achievements of Paulette Cudjoe, Fidelity's Worthy Matron and Elwood E. Gregory, Fidelity's Worthy Patron for their commitment to the Brooklyn community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderful group of Americans and the great things for which they stand.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, on the legislative days of Wednesday, December 5, 2007, and Thursday, December 6, 2007, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to cast a vote on a number of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: rollcall 1127—"yea"; rollcall 1128—"yea"; rollcall 1129—"yea"; rollcall 1130—"nay"; rollcall 1131—"yea"; rollcall 1132—"yea"; rollcall 1133—"yea"; rollcall 1134—"nay"; rollcall 1135—"yea"; rollcall 1136—"nay"; rollcall 1137—"nay"; rollcall 1138—"yea"; rollcall 1140—"nay"; rollcall 1141—"yea".

A TRIBUTE TO ALBA MAY POWELL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Alba May Powell. Alba was born and raised in the Republic of Costa Rica. She is from a tightly knit family composed of five sisters and one brother. She received her formal education at Liberty Hall School and later moved to Panama where she lived for 35 years. In 1964, she migrated to the United States and settled in Brooklyn, NY.

Alba is an active participant at the East New York Seventh Day Adventist Church, where she has been a member for the past 36 years. Additionally, she is a member of the East New York Community Service Department, an honorary deaconess, and a member of the East

New York Benevolence Society. Alba is also a faithful supporter of the Concerned Women of Brooklyn.

Alba received a New York State Assembly Citation for Outstanding Achievements and Senior of the Year by Assemblywoman Diane Gordon.

Alba has no biological children of her own. She has been a supportive and concerned mother and grandmother to many children over the years. She is also a dedicated aunt to all of her beloved nieces and nephews. Alba vows to continue helping others as long as she is allowed.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize this wonderful and caring woman who has given so much of herself, asking very little in return.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Alba May Powell.

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, this bill is a failure on the most basic points: It fails to drive down prices at the gas pumps; it fails to lower home heating bills; and it fails to reduce our reliance on foreign crude oil. Worse yet, this bill actually increases our reliance on oil from the Middle East and increases taxes by \$20 billion on American manufacturers.

Had this bill been crafted in a bipartisan fashion, instead of in a secret marathon session that produced a bill only this morning, we might have a bill that actually helps families and businesses dealing with record energy costs, and we might have a bill that actually helps us transition to more environmentally friendly fuels.

Unfortunately, what we do have—in addition to a new \$20 billion tax bill—are Federal mandates that States cannot possibly comply with, a slush fund worth billions of dollars that lacks any oversight, and more advisory committees and task forces.

I am particularly concerned about this \$3 billion in new government spending to subsidize projects that have nothing to do with lowering energy prices. Instead of lowering prices for consumers, this bill allows the Beverly Hills police department to buy hybrid Lexuses and a fake rainforest to be built in Iowa. In my view, this \$3 billion should be spent on helping Americans better afford their high home heating costs.

As a Member from Michigan, I would be remiss if I did not talk about the CAFE standards in this bill. To suggest this bill is the best America's automakers could get says much about this Congress. If President Coolidge's quote that "The business of America is business" expressed overconfidence in the American economy, this bill expresses at best a disdain for American automobile manufacturers and at worst an outright hostility to the work we do in Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote against this bill.

A TRIBUTE TO WANDA A. JACKSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Wanda A. Jackson. Wanda is the second generation child of the civic-minded parents, Della and Irkston R. "Jack" Jackson, Jr. Her mother, known as a friend to the friendless, providing a home for the homeless and making everyone feel special, has long been considered the mayor of East New York. In the shadow of her parents and the only girl in a family of six boys, Wanda has quietly and steadily made contributions to the Brooklyn community as well as to the community at large.

Wanda is a native of New York and a product of the city's public school system, graduating from John Dewey High School. She earned a business management degree at Berkeley College where she graduated magna cum laude. In 2005, she was listed among Who's Who of the Berkeley College Alumni Association.

Wanda maintains strong family ties while juggling a demanding, fast-paced career for nearly 20 years as an executive assistant at a major brokerage firm on Wall Street. She still finds time to lend assistance to major fundraising campaigns such as the United Negro College Fund, United Way of Tri-State, the Building Capital Fund Campaign at St. Paul's Community Baptist Church and Project Sunshine, a non-profit organization that provides free social, educational and recreational programs to children and families living with medical challenges. During tax season, Wanda can be found preparing tax returns for Brooklyn's East New York residents. She is also former treasurer of the Rosetta Gaston United Democratic Club, Inc., where she was a close friend of the late Mary Warren, district leader for East New York. She is also a current member of the Spirit of America Heart Volunteers.

In addition to her professional and volunteer accomplishments, Wanda is extremely creative, with a flair for fashion. She attended Fishburn's Charm School and graduated from Barbizon Modeling School. She has designed her own clothes, which she models at talent shows.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize this accomplished, civic-minded woman who comes from a lineage of giving people.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Wanda A. Jackson.

TRIBUTE TO THE CHRISTIAN YOUTH CENTER IN JOLIET, IL

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Christian Youth Center in Joliet, IL. The Christian Youth Center, CYC, is celebrating their 50th anniversary this year.

In 1957, a group of concerned businessmen under the leadership of Mr. Joseph Pickering,

approached Youth Pastor Chuck Miller with the idea of starting a Christian Youth Center. In the fall of 1957, the Christian Youth Center began meeting at the home of Mr. Joseph Pickering and then to a rented storefront on Cass Street near Joliet Central High School. Within a year's time, the club had outgrown the storefront and purchased a two-story house on Herkimer Street. Mr. Miller felt called to another area of service and left the center. In 1961, Harv Russell assumed the responsibility of director of the Center.

The organization realized tremendous growth in the following 9 years. Several programs were started which include a Tuesday 1 hour high school radio program, a monthly publication called the Center News, and the establishment of the Women's Auxiliary. All of these programs and more continue to function to this day.

In the spring of 1972, ground was broken on a 5-acre tract of land to build the current Christian Youth Center. The new facility was opened on April 15, 1973. Since moving into the new facility, the center has been able to increase the staff to five full-time and five part-time employees. Thousands of young people have passed through the new facility and have participated in weekly activities, concerts, day camps, films and a host of activities established to attract young people.

Madam Speaker, I urge this body to identify, and recognize other organizations in their own districts whose actions have so greatly benefited and strengthened America's families and communities.

A TRIBUTE TO LADONNA
PAULETTE KORNEGAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to LaDonna Paulette Kornegay of Brooklyn, NY. LaDonna's musical talent, as well as her dedication to service and ministry, is truly inspirational.

LaDonna, a lifelong New Yorker, was born on December 6, 1980 to Donald Kornegay, Sr. and Emily Kornegay-Brown. Music has always been an important part of LaDonna's life. She was inspired by her father, who would sit with all of his children and teach them the lyrics to popular songs. LaDonna began to sing formally at a young age. She joined her elementary school Glee Club and her junior high school Gospel Chorus. As a member of the New Canaan Baptist Church for 27 years, she has blessed the congregation with her talents through her consistent involvement with the church's musical programs.

LaDonna began singing at the church as part of the Sunbeams. She later moved up to the RJL Youth Choir eventually becoming a member of the ALC Choral Ensemble and the directress of all New Canaan Church choirs. Along with fellow directress, Alethea Brisco, LaDonna has taken the Youth Choirs to several competitions, and has ministered in churches across New York City.

LaDonna graduated third in her class from Thomas Jefferson H.S. in Brooklyn after only 3 years. She was a leader in the school's Fine Arts Academy and a member of the school's

Gospel Chorus and Dance Club. She was also a participant in the school's Rights of Passage Cotillion. LaDonna attended college at the Katherine Gibbs School, where she majored in business administration and minored in business law. In college, she maintained excellent grades, earning a placement on the Dean's List multiple semesters while at the same time caring for her father who had become disabled.

LaDonna lost her father January of last year but she continues to be inspired by him. Although she currently works at HSBC Private Bank, she continues to be committed to music and ministry. She sings and ministers at churches, competitions, nursing homes, shelters and hospitals. She had the privilege of singing at New York City Hall on two occasions for both Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Mayor David Dinkins.

LaDonna is a volunteer youth tutor and a youth praise and worship leader, and is a member of the Youth United in the Body of Christ Ministry and Forever Anointed of Brooklyn. In addition, she is a member of Gospel Workshop of America, which hopes to release its first album in 2008.

Madam Speaker, I would like to commend this gifted woman who has so unselfishly shared her talents with the people of New York.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to LaDonna Paulette Kornegay for her remarkable abilities and her commitment to the Brooklyn community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 1141, H.R. 2085, McGee Creek Project Pipeline and Associated Facilities Conveyance Act, had I been present, I would have voted "yes".

A TRIBUTE TO KRYSYIANNI HILLS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor to Krystianni Hills. Krystianni is the daughter of Harold and Patricia Hills. She was born in March of 1990 at the Long Island College Hospital.

At age five, Krystianni was enrolled in St. Mark's Day School where she excelled in all of her classes. She graduated in 2004 and was one of two students in her graduating class to pass the specialized high school exam.

Krystianni is currently a senior at Brooklyn Technical High School where she majors in architecture. She is a member of the track team and the cheerleading squad. Krystianni was a flutist for the Brooklyn Technical High School Jazz Band during her sophomore and junior years. She now has an internship with Salle de Danse, a dance shop located in Flatbush and plans to attend college next year pursuing a major in forensic science.

Krystianni first received her religious training at Newman Memorial United Methodist Church Sunday School. She is currently a member of Berean Baptist Church where she serves with the Ministry of Sacred Dance under the direction of Paulette Newberns. Krystianni is the former vice-president of the Junior Usher Board under the guidance of Deacon Vernart Jenkins.

Krystianni's hobbies and interests include reading, jumping double-dutch, and science. One of her favorite television programs is C.S.I.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize one of our young people who is really doing some great things and who is working hard to make a difference.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Krystianni Hills.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 11, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 12

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

Constitution Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 1782, to amend chapter 1 of title 9 of United States Code with respect to arbitration.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 579, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer, and any pending nominations.

SD-430

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Harvey E. Johnson, Jr., of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator and Chief Operating Officer, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Jeffrey William Runge, of North Carolina, to be Assistant Secretary for Health

<p>Affairs and Chief Medical Officer, both of the Department of Homeland Security. SD-342</p> <p>Rules and Administration To hold hearings to examine a recently released Government Accountability Office report, focusing on funding challenges and facilities maintenance at the Smithsonian Institution. SR-301</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Aging To hold hearings to examine reverse mortgages, focusing on polishing not tarnishing the golden years. SD-628</p>	<p>United States in certain civil actions, S. 344, to permit the televising of Supreme Court proceedings, S. 1638, to adjust the salaries of Federal justices and judges, S. 1829, to reauthorize programs under the Missing Children's Assistance Act, S. 431, to require convicted sex offenders to register online identifiers, S. 2344, to create a competitive grant program to provide for age-appropriate Internet education for children, and S. Res. 388, designating the week of February 4 through February 8, 2008, as "National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week". SD-226</p> <p>Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine prioritizing management, focusing on implementing chief management officers at federal agencies. SD-342</p> <p>Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe To hold hearings to examine freedom of the media in the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) region. B318-RHOB</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs To hold hearings to examine shopping smart and avoiding scams, focusing on financial literacy during the holiday season. SD-538</p> <p>2 p.m. Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine mine inspections, focusing on the efficacy of the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA). SD-124</p>	<p>Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Investigations Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine United Nations Development Program operations in North Korea. SD-342</p> <p>2:30 p.m. Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine perspectives on the next phase of the global fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. SD-419</p> <p>Energy and Natural Resources Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine forest restoration and hazardous fuels reduction efforts in the forests of Oregon and Washington. SD-366</p> <p>Intelligence To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219</p>
DECEMBER 13		
<p>9 a.m. Environment and Public Works To hold hearings to examine the Clean Water Act (Public Law 92-500), focusing on the Supreme Court decisions in Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County and Rapanos-Carabell. SD-406</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Energy and Natural Resources To hold hearings to examine ways to reform the Mining Law of 1872. SD-366</p> <p>10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). SR-253</p> <p>Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Employment and Workplace Safety Subcommittee To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Education and Labor Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor and Pensions to examine the National Labor Relations Board, focusing on decisions and their impact on worker's rights. 2175-RHOB</p> <p>Finance To hold hearings to examine the housing decline, focusing on the extent of the problem and potential remedies. SD-215</p> <p>Judiciary To hold hearings to examine S. 2402, to provide for the substitution of the</p>	<p>Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Business meeting to consider pending executive nominations. SD-226</p>	<p>DECEMBER 18</p> <p>10 a.m. Judiciary Business meeting to consider the nomination of Mark R. Filip, of Illinois, to be Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice. SD-226</p>
DECEMBER 19		
POSTPONEMENTS		
DECEMBER 12		
<p>10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, focusing on truck driver hours-of-service (HOS) rules and truck safety. SR-253</p>		