

Mr. Moore was born in Beirut, Lebanon in 1930. When he immigrated to the United States in 1949, he came with \$600, a will to succeed, a strong faith and a willingness to devote his life to God.

Upon his arrival, Mr. Moore began to live the "American dream." by selling books and Bibles door to door, he earned enough money to pay tuition to Columbia Bible College in South Carolina. The oldest of six children, Mr. Moore knew the importance of sacrifice and he worked hard to put himself through school. In any situation, supporting oneself is difficult while pursuing an education. But for Mr. Moore, the task was more difficult because he was thousands of miles away from home and had only a limited grasp of the English language.

Still, he was determined to succeed, and he certainly did. He earned two master's degrees simultaneously from the University of South Carolina and from Columbia International University. Then he started his own Bible and book sales business, sticking to the trade that had allowed him to go to college. His dedication paid off. By 1962, Mr. Moore had formed his own Bible publishing firm, Royal Publishers.

In 1967, Mr. Moore was approached by the owner of Thomas Nelson Publishers, a publishing house with a history that dated back to 1798 in Scotland. Thomas Nelson Publishers had been the first to offer spiritual literature to everyone, not just the wealthy elite. The company had survived fires, World Wars and bombs. Now, the owner of the company was asking Mr. Moore to run the American operations.

Instead, Mr. Moore bought Thomas Nelson and merged it with Royal Publishers. By 1975, Thomas Nelson was the leading publisher of Bibles in the world, publishing Bibles with special features targeting individual needs. Today, Thomas Nelson books and Bibles continually top best-seller lists and are found in every country across the globe. In addition, Thomas Nelson is the largest publicly traded Christian communications company in the world. All this from \$600, a determination to succeed, and an unflinching belief that God had a plan.

This year, Thomas Nelson celebrates its 200th anniversary. Examining the history of the publishing company, God clearly had a plan for Sam Moore. The company started in the heart of an 18-year-old Scottish man, flourished through political and social change, survived several devastating setbacks and emerged as a world leader in Christian publishing. God's plan was for Sam Moore and Thomas Nelson Publishers to join together with the goal of spreading God's Word to all people.

As we celebrate 200 years, let us reflect on the colorful, glorious history of Thomas Nelson Publishers and the promise of a bright future in Christian publishing. And, let us not forget the man we honor today, who lives his life to honor God.

Congratulations to Sam Moore on his extraordinary life and business career, and may God continue to bless him, his wife Peggy and his children, Samuel Joseph and Sandra Lee and Rachel Michelle.

THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF WORCESTER—THE HEARTBEAT OF MASSACHUSETTS—1848–1998

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on February 29, 1848, Governor George W. Briggs signed a charter, drafted by local citizens and authorized by the General Court, which transformed Worcester from a town to a city.

January 7, 1997 was the day that I took the oath of office and became a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives—representing the City of Worcester and thirty-three other towns and cities in Massachusetts. And in those initial moments as a Member of Congress, I began to dream. I thought of the magnificent objectives that could be achieved during the years to come if we were able to commit ourselves to a shared vision for this marvelous city. Without question, our ancestors had such dreams.

The first Mayor of Worcester, Levi Lincoln, made the following remarks upon leaving office in 1849. " * * * And now, Gentlemen, in leaving these seats to our successors, we leave to them, also, the fruits of our labors and of our experience, whatever may be their value. We leave to them a new form of organized municipal Government, in all its departments in successful operation, with a system of rules and ordinances, unquestionably somewhat imperfect and requiring modification and amendment, yet the basis of all necessary legislation for the administration of the affairs of the City. We leave them our best hopes and our truest good wishes for the performance of their official duties with satisfaction to their own minds, and to the approval of their constituents, and the lasting benefit and prosperity of our beloved City. They assume high trusts, and heavy responsibilities. The peace and happiness of thousands of citizens, and the security and enjoyment of millions of property, will, in a greater or less degree, be affected by the manner in which these responsibilities shall be met, and these trusts discharged."

On the occasion of Worcester's 50th anniversary, Frank Roe Batchelder wrote:

Five decades have her children kept

Her civic honor free from stain,

While with the world she's laughed and wept
And shared her country's loss and gain.

She toils and ventures, strives and builds,

And seeks to sweeten life for all

The craftsmen of her thousand guilds

Who answer to her every call.

Crowned by the smoke of many mills

She welcomes workers to her gate;

And in her children's hearts instills

Love for the toil that makes her great.

Patron of every useful thing,

She sits at Learning's feet, nor finds

Her glory less that she should bring

Her tribute to the might of minds.

Yet does she make, when all is said,

No product more desired of men,

No brighter chaplet for her head,

Than her grand type of citizen.

In war and peace, in school and shop,

Beyond the knowledge of her name,

Rising insistent to the top,

Those she has bred have brought her fame.

When her bright century is run,

Be ours to have our children say

Their service is the better done

For that we render her to-day.

The heart of Worcester beats the rhythm of progress as she boldly moves in to the 21st Century. This heartbeat is deeply rooted in a strong sense of pride in Worcester's past and reflects not only a deep appreciation for the cultural, religious and ethnic heritage of its people but a legacy of greatness as well.

I am proud to call Worcester my home.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT GLEN S. LEVERETTE

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished Lieutenant Glen S. Leverette of the United States Navy.

On March 17, 1998, Lieutenant Leverette will be recognized by the Newport County Council, Navy League of the United States and the Rotary Club to receive the Military Service Member of the Year.

A native of Jacksonville, Florida, Lieutenant Leverette graduated from Fletcher Senior High School, Neptune Beach, Florida in 1986. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, and Jacksonville University, where he received a Master of Arts in teaching. Commissioned in May 1990, Lieutenant Leverette has had a versatile career as a naval officer, from the Command Information Center and Assistant Operations Officer on the cruiser USS Leyte Gulf (CG-55), to his current assignment as the Propagation Detection/Command and Control Unit Lead Instructor at Surface Warfare Officers School Command (SWOSCOLCOM), Newport, RI.

Lieutenant Leverette was cited for his sustained superior performance during his tour with the SWOSCOLCOM. He has served with the utmost distinction as an instructor, student advisor, and ADP Officer at Division Officer Training Department. Lieutenant Leverette's professional knowledge, enthusiasm, and motivation has had a direct impact on thousands of officers. Due to his dedication of duty and sustained superior performance, Lieutenant Leverette was selected as the Instructor of the Year by his peers.

As a community leader, Lieutenant Leverette provides counseling, spiritual, and pastoral support for more than 150 members in the Providence, Rhode Island Metropolitan area as Pastor of the Congdon Street Baptist Church. As an advocate for youth in his community, he supports the Baptist Youth Fellowship and the City of Providence's Adopt-A-Child program.

Lieutenant Leverette currently resides in Taunton, Massachusetts with his wife Marian and their daughter Kalea.

I am pleased to salute Lieutenant Glen S. Leverette of the United States Navy on his outstanding accomplishment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Vote no. 14, I was unavoidably detained on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted aye, and I ask unanimous consent that this statement be placed in the appropriate portion of the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Vote no. 15, I was unavoidably detained on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted aye, and I ask unanimous consent that this statement be placed in the appropriate portion of the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Vote no. 16, I was unavoidably detained on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted aye, and I ask unanimous consent that this statement be placed in the appropriate portion of the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Vote no. 17, I was unavoidably detained on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted nay, and I ask unanimous consent that this statement be placed in the appropriate portion of the RECORD.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BARS
REMEDY FOR BLACK FARMERS**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, it is with outrage that I rise today to strongly admonish the Attorney General Janet Reno, and the Department of Justice in its handling of discrimination complaints of Black Farmers. It has come to the attention of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus that Attorney General Janet Reno will be releasing an opinion shortly which would block many Black Farmers from receiving adequate relief in the form of compensatory damages for federal claims made prior to 1994. The fate of many, many black farmers will rest on this opinion.

The situation is that the United States Department of Agriculture encouraged all farmer program participants to participate in the administrative complaint/investigation process. Subsequently, after the farmers placed their claims in good faith, the USDA in effect "closed down" the administrative process. This process was closed down for approximately 12 years with no notice of this "closing down" being given to the farmers. Finally, when the black farmers filed lawsuits because that were getting no satisfaction from the administrative process, they were told they were barred by the Statute Of Limitations.

The government is complicit and has unclean hands in this matter. It is shameful that the Department of Justice has decided to raise technical defenses, primarily the Statute Of Limitations to bar claims made by the these farmers. The black farmers are granted only one avenue for monetary remedy from which the Department of Justice is allowing payment. This avenue is The Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1972. This Act has a two year statute of limitations. Hence, all black farmers who made their claims prior to 1994 will be barred from monetary relief, even in cases where discrimination can be established. This is a crime and an atrocity. If the Attorney General goes forward with this tact, then only program type relief will be available. Program relief includes debt and loan forgiveness. Such relief would not be sufficient to right the wrongs done to America's Black Farmers.

I strongly urge Attorney General Janet Reno and the Department of Justice not to issue this opinion, not add to injustices that black farmers have suffered, not to be final death knell to hope for justice and fairness to these black farmers.

RONALD REAGAN WASHINGTON
NATIONAL AIRPORT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2625) to redesignate Washington National Airport as "Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport"

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Chairman, I regretfully rise in opposition to this legislation which will rename Washington National Airport for former President Reagan. I rise regretfully because I do believe that President Reagan certainly should be honored, but I do not believe that this is the proper way to honor our former president.

Washington National Airport is named after one of our founding fathers and first president, George Washington. It is not appropriate to change a name which honors our first president in order to honor another. President Washington lived just down the road from the airport at Mount Vernon, and it has been said here today that the tract of land on which Washington National Airport currently sits was actually owned by his family.

Additionally, this proposed name change is not consistent with President Reagan's philosophies on local control and federal intrusion. President Reagan was a champion of shifting control from the federal government to state and local authorities where decisions are best made. The local governments of Arlington County and the City of Alexandria oppose this

change; certainly the federal government should not usurp the wishes of the local governments to honor a man who worked to ensure local representation and control of many entities, including Washington National Airport.

I hope that we in Congress will find a more appropriate way to honor President Reagan. I personally have a great deal of admiration for President Reagan and respect his public service to our nation. In fact, I doubt there is a single Democrat in Congress who supported Ronald Reagan as much as I did during his presidency. I intend to visit with my constituents to come up with ways to honor President Reagan, and I hope that we come up with a better way to honor President Reagan and his legacy.

HONORING MR. ROBERT L. COUCH JR. FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE COFFEE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND CONGRATULATING HIM FOR BEING AWARDED THE TITLE OF "MR. DEMOCRAT"

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Robert Couch Jr. for his service to the Coffee County democratic party and congratulating him for being awarded the title of "Mr. Democrat."

The honor of being chosen Mr. Democrat stems from life-time support of the party, dedication to the democratic process and an unceasing energy to for volunteerism.

Mr. Democrat, Bob Couch, is a dependable, life-time supporter of the Democratic party. Mr. Couch played an important role in a campaign that is very dear to my heart—he co-chaired Coffee County's campaign to elect my father, Frank Clement, to governor in 1953. I remember meeting Mr. Couch when he came to the Governor's residence to have a picture made with me and my brothers. My father always appreciated the work Mr. Couch did for him and for the Democratic party.

Mr. Couch is a Tullahoma merchant, a photographer and a historian. He teaches Sunday School and holds several offices at his church. He has been active in the American Legion for 52 years and a member of the Shriners Masonic Lodge for 48 years. Mr. Couch was also the recipient of the first Tullahoma "Lifetime Achievement" award.

This devoted citizen embodies the kind of energy, enthusiasm and dedication that we should all strive for. Mr. Couch is a grass-roots campaigner and because of his work, and the work of people like him, Coffee County has not gone Republican for many years.

I congratulate Bob Couch on his lifetime achievement award and I comment him for his years of commitment