

TRIBUTE TO MRS. HORTENSE
HUNN

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hortense Hunn's years of outstanding achievement and service to the children and families of San Bernardino County, and to bid her a fond farewell as she retires from more than 30 years of service to the Head Start and Preschool Services Programs in San Bernardino County.

Mrs. Hunn has dedicated both her professional and her personal lives to helping improve the lives of those most in need of our community. As the Executive Director of the Preschool Services Department for San Bernardino County, Mrs. Hunn has taken a program that initially served only a handful of children and turned it into an exemplary department that serves over 5,300 children and their families. Under Mrs. Hunn's direction, the Head Start Program has been nationally recognized for its success. Her leadership has also extended well beyond the local area to positions with regional and national committees and organizations.

Mrs. Hunn's personal achievements include: 31 years with the Head Start Program in San Bernardino County; Policy Council Member, Children's Network of San Bernardino County; first President, California Head Start Association; National Head Start Association member; Governor's Child Development Programs Advisory Committee member; Southern California Cluster of Head Start Grantees Advisory Board founder; Black Voice Newspaper's Woman of Achievement for 1992; past Secretary, NAACP; Black Culture Foundation's 1997 Black Rose Award recipient.

Mrs. Hunn has also volunteered as a Board Member of the Cornerstone Christian Preschool, is a member of the Hospitality Committee for New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in San Bernardino, and is a member of the Children's Defense Fund.

Hortense Hunn is a remarkable person. Her dedication and commitment to the community and those less fortunate extends to every aspect of her life. She has touched the lives of countless families, and while she will be sorely missed, she has left San Bernardino County a great legacy and serves as an example for us all. Her new community will undoubtedly benefit greatly from her presence. Mrs. Hunn is truly a friend to all in need and I consider myself very lucky to have worked with her over the years.

TRIBUTE TO ROULETTE AND
JESSIE WOLFE

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful couple, Roulette and Jessie Wolfe. Roulette and Jessie are the classic example of people that work hard, play by the rules, and achieve great success.

They were the kind of people that made you always feel that you were welcome and that

they were always happy they saw you. Through hard work, thrift, and fair dealings they achieved financial and personal success.

They were always ready to do their part for the community. It made no difference if it was for the school, town, people in need, or the church they were always there to do their part. They provided a Christian witness by great example. They treated their fellow man with respect and dignity.

Roulette was a self-taught engineer and farmer of great skill. His buildings were always sound and pleasing to the eye. His crops were always the same way.

Their life cannot be described without the mention of Jessie's skills as a fisherman. She was a sport fisherman of great ability and was highly respected in a community of people that contains many skilled in this area.

They gave marriage the image that is was intended to have and were clearly devoted to their family and church. It remains difficult to have church without them in their customary place on the front row of Gillett Methodist Church.

They accepted their lot philosophically and moved on to the next task.

Their life was what Thomas Jefferson had in mind when he envisioned the agrarian society.

They were the kind of people that made America the great Nation it is today.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF MARGARET MCCOOK

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor an outstanding volunteer and citizen from my Congressional district who has achieved a long list of community service. Mrs. Margaret "Peg" McCook began her service in politics in 1967 as a Democratic Committee person. She went on to become and Administrative Aide to Senator Joseph F. Smith from 1972 to 1981. Senator Smith became Congressman Smith as a result of a special election and Mrs. McCook then became his Legislative Aide until 1982. Peg then began to work as an Administrative Aide to Senator Vincent Fumo until 1984 when she applied for the position of Bail Commissioner. Peg was sworn in as one of the first Bail Commissioners to serve in the Philadelphia Municipal Court in February of 1984, and finally retired from this position in 1997.

During her thirteen years of service in Municipal Court, Peg won both the adoration and respect from her peers, the Administration, and the Judiciary. She volunteered both her time and services, never hesitating to go above and beyond the call of service. She was even known to bring in some home made specialties, especially when her shift fell on a holiday. It is no wonder she has been affectionately referred to as "mom".

Peg McCook also ran for City Commissioner, and Council Person for the First District, but was narrowly defeated. Along with her various duties she was an advisor to several self help organizations. Peg has become well known and loved throughout the community for her many years of service. Along with all of her political achievements, Peg is also

the wife of Joseph McCook, Sr., the mother of eight children, grandmother of seventeen, and great-grandmother of two.

I am proud of Peg McCook and all that she has done for the city of Philadelphia and abroad. She emulates the ideals of citizenship in our country—through her concern for others, her service to the community and active participation in our governments. I wish to congratulate and thank Peg McCook for all that she has accomplished. I hope that she enjoys her years of retirement, and wish her all the best.

IN MEMORY OF STANLEY RADWAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Stanley Radwan, a native of Poland and a famed strongman. Mr. Radwan's life was filled with amazing accomplishments, both physical and mental. He embodied the spirit of a hardworking individual.

Born in Poland in 1908, Radwan was a distinct child from his birth, showing off his strength for childhood friends during his youth. He joined several Polish fraternal organizations and clubs, taking great pride in his Polish heritage. His national pride inspired him to join the Polish navy and learn many languages before World War II. Unfortunately, Radwan was captured by the Nazis and became a prisoner of war at the Bergen-Belsen camp. He became legendary in the camp as he escaped briefly by pushing a brick wall over with his bare hands. Radwan immigrated to the United States after the war and established himself in Northeastern Ohio.

Mr. Radwan, also known as the "Polish Strongman" and the "King of Iron and Steel," wrestled professionally for over twenty years and was never defeated. He amazed his audience with feats of strength including straightening horseshoes, pulling cars with his teeth, and ripping quarters in half. Radwan even demonstrated these talents on the television show "You Asked For It." Radwan also served his new country in many capacities, most notably as a bodyguard for Cleveland officials and a worker in the Cuyahoga County Auditor's Office. He was noted for his clean attendance record and his hard work at the office. Radwan never lost touch with his Polish heritage, hosting a Polish-language radio show and working with Polish organizations. He is survived by two sons, a daughter, and seven grandchildren.

My fellow colleagues, join me in saluting the life of a true "strongman" in all facets of the word: Stanley Radwan.

SAVING SOCIAL SECURITY

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, just a few weeks ago, President Clinton held his first meeting to outline his thoughts on reforming the Social Security system. The problem is, we still don't have any answers.

Although President Clinton won't admit it, Social Security is not financially sound. Statistics show that within the next 15 years, the system will begin to pay out more than it takes in. This means that unless we begin to make changes now, the system could be bankrupt in 30 years.

As a father and grandfather, I am not only concerned about the money I have payed into Social Security over the course of my lifetime, but now my children and grandchildren are putting their hard-earned dollars into the program as well. The worst part is, none of us have any confidence that this money will still be there when we need it.

Mr. Speaker, before our break you asked us to find out how our constituents would like to see the Social Security system reformed. I agree that the only way to create a system that is consistent with what Americans want is to talk to the very people who pay into and benefit from the program.

It is time for us to use the suggestions we heard from our constituents while we were back home and show the President and Social Security can and must be reformed now.

WORKER MEMORIAL DAY

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, for today's observance of Worker Memorial Day, I would like to have the opportunity to recognize a shameful tragedy that millions of Americans must face every day.

Last year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, over 6,000 workers were killed by traumatic injuries, 50,000 workers died of occupational diseases, and 6.2 million suffered injuries on the job. Lamentably, my home state of Indiana has paralleled these statistics by averaging 60 deaths a year.

Today in South Bend, Indiana, community leaders, business owners, and union representatives are gathering to pay tribute to two friends whose deaths hit very close to home. Officer Paul Deguch, member of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 36, was struck down in the line of duty by a senseless act of violence. This pointless death has not only shocked our community, but left his family devastated.

Jim Slater, member of the Elevator Constructors Local 57, was also killed on the job this year while working in an elevator shaft. His wife is now without a husband, his three children no longer have a father, and those he knew have lost a great friend.

As Members of Congress we must continue the fight begun at the turn of the century to ensure safety for everyone at their place of employment. Our American workforce is responsible for our booming economy, our high standard of living, and the quality of life which we enjoy. We have made a great deal of progress in the last eighty years, but for Officer Deguch, Jim Slater, and every other worker killed or injured on the job, we must do more.

My prayers go out of the families of those who were taken from us, and I know the rest of our community joins me. I only hope that we in Congress can do more to prevent tragedies like these from happening in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF HOUSTON'S FIFTH ANNUAL AFRICA DAY

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Houston's fifth annual celebration of Africa Day taking place on Saturday, May 2, 1998.

African Cultural Exchange, Inc. (ACE) initiated Houston's celebration five years ago, joining an international effort to recognize the progress of people of African descent toward social, cultural, and economic freedom. Since its inception, ACE has had five goals and objectives: to exchange culture, arts, and educational programs between African countries and the United States; to build bridges of communication and better understanding; to promote awareness and appreciation of diverse culture; to provide programs and activities for children, youth, and the elderly; and to establish The Africa House as a cultural exchange center to serve all people.

The theme of this year's celebration is "Children of The World—Our Future." Festivities at the University of Houston, Central Campus, will include exhibitions and cultural activities, a soccer tournament, and an awards ceremony to recognize the achievements of children and youth. Other activities will provide opportunities to promote the arts, business, and entrepreneurial awareness and exchange.

The Africa Day celebration is especially timely this year in light of President Clinton's recent trip to Africa. While Africa still faces poverty, malnutrition, disease, unemployment, and terrible conflict in some places, free markets are taking hold, and democracy and peace are making progress. As a genuine partner and friend to the people of Africa, America can make a difference in its future. Cultural exchanges such as Africa Day are essential to bridge the gap and increase awareness and understanding between the United States and Africa.

I congratulate Africa Day on its fifth anniversary and commend the African Cultural Exchange, Inc. and all of the participants and supporters for their dedication to improving U.S.-African relations and to the future of our children and communities. Our continued support of events such as Africa Day will enhance our children's future, their educational development, economic growth, and their quality of life.

RECOGNIZING COURTLAND SEYMOUR WILSON

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Courtland Seymour Wilson, Executive Director of the Hill Development Corporation on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Over the course of his life, Mr. Wilson has built a wonderful legacy of community and political activism that has improved his city and the world in which we live.

Born and raised in New Haven, Mr. Wilson attended school and worked there until enlist-

ing in the United States Army. During World War II he saw active duty in both Italy and North Africa, returning to New Haven in 1945 having achieved the rank of Master Sergeant.

As dedicated an activist as he is a worker, Mr. Wilson's career began as a machinist in several shops in New Haven where he strived to organize his fellow workers. He served on the Executive Committee and as Treasurer of the International Association of Machinists local of the AFL-CIO.

Courtland Wilson did not however, contain his activism to the workplace. His efforts for equality and justice led to his Presidency of the New Haven chapter of the NAACP, and the founding of both the Hill Parent's Association—precursor to the Hill Development Corporation—and the New Haven Black Coalition.

This dynamic synergy of community and job politics led to his transition from machinist to staff activist at Yale University. Mr. Wilson was hired by Yale to desegregate their School of Medicine during a period of hiring and enrollment reforms. From Assistant Dean of Student Affairs at the Medical School, Mr. Wilson moved to Yale-New Haven Hospital's Office of Government and Community Relations where he worked until his "retirement" in 1985. During his tenure at Yale-New Haven, he sat on many local and state governing boards, and is a lecturer at the Yale School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry.

For the past 13 years he has been the Executive Director of the Hill Development Corporation, working diligently to ensure every family's right to decent, affordable housing. For his countless efforts and contributions to New Haven, Mr. Wilson was given the Elm Award in 1995, the city's highest honor. In addition to his esteemed years of service, Courtland Wilson raised his usually low profile by winning his first elected office, that of Democratic Party Ward Co-Chair, at age 78.

A man who loves life, Courtland Wilson enjoys the company of his wife of 56 years, Ruth, and his children, Courtland H., Jon, Ruthia, and Peter, as well as the company of his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. As his family and friends gather to celebrate his eight decades of improving our world, I rise today to wish him a happy and healthy birthday, and to thank him for his countless, tireless contributions.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR DOUGLAS KLEPSCH

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to greet you today as we honor Youth Corps Volunteer, Douglas Klepsch, for his selfless act of bravery.

Douglas Klepsch went beyond the call of duty when he took it upon himself to investigate the cries from a woman who sought help at the Woodhaven-Richmond Hill Ambulance Corps because her kitchen was on fire. That altruistic decision saved eight lives. This outstanding young man is an inspiration to us all. He risked his own life to save the lives of others.

Gathering here today to acknowledge the heroism of Douglas reminds us to continually