

brings to light: that freedom of the press is still behind bars.

This case presented us with the long spectacle of reporters being jailed and threatened with jail time for not revealing their confidential sources. As we saw with former New York Times reporter Judith Miller, without the same confidentiality protection that doctors, lawyers, clergy and so many others have, reporters are forced either to reveal their confidential sources or go to jail. In her case, Judy Miller honorably chose 85 days in jail.

But many reporters and their sources will not want to have to make the same decision.

Because there is no federal media shield law, the real losers are actually not reporters but the American public. Confidential sources and whistleblowers within the government who expose wrongdoing and injustice in order to hold the government accountable will keep the facts to themselves because the reporters to whom they speak cannot promise them confidentiality. The chilling effect is real, and the American public will suffer.

That is the real tragedy of this case.

It's time to repair the tear in the First Amendment. It's time to pass a federal media shield law. Representative RICK BOUCHER and I will be reintroducing the Free Flow of Information Act soon, and I urge this Congress to act on it expeditiously. Let us free the First Amendment by passing this important legislation.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF TED TESTERMAN

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and life of Ted Testerman, a resident of the First Congressional District of Tennessee, who passed away March 5, 2007. Theodore W. "Ted" Testerman lived a life of entrepreneurship, service, and was known by all for his fairness to all those around him, even his business competitors.

He was married to Emma Greene for 55 years. They had two sons Hugh and William, and five grandchildren. Ted was very dedicated to his family, a quality that is sought after in today's world.

He served the great State of Tennessee as a member of the Sullivan County Election Commission since 1974. He was also a past president of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce, former member of the Bristol Jaycees, and the Kiwanis Club of Bristol. He was truly a pillar of Bristol.

Theodore W. "Ted" Testerman started working in a men's clothing store as a salesman and by 1964 he owned the business, Blakely-Mitchell, which became the epicenter for community discussion in Bristol.

Madam Speaker, I ask that the House join me this evening in offering our sympathies to the family and friends of Theodore W. "Ted" Testerman. He was a dedicated family man, a foundation to the Bristol community, and entrepreneur. His service is greatly appreciated, and he will be deeply missed.

THE CITIZENSHIP PROMOTION ACT OF 2007

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of my bill, the Citizenship Promotion Act of 2007. The goal of the legislation is to minimize the obstacles that legal immigrants face on the road to becoming U.S. citizens.

During my 15 years in Congress, I have made citizenship and immigration issues the cornerstone of my work here. In my district, we have created innovative naturalization workshops that have become a national model for legislators around the nation. I am proud to say that these workshops have helped more than 40,000 Chicago-area immigrants to become U.S. citizens.

But there is much more to these workshops than numbers. There is something special, something amazing, about seeing the pride, the promise, and the confidence on a person's face after they have completed the citizenship application process. Men and women who take the oath of citizenship are committed to the responsibilities of being American citizens and are equally dedicated to making the most of America's opportunities.

They have done everything right. They work hard and play by the rules. Yet, this Administration continues to put citizenship out of reach for many hard working individuals by proposing unrealistic and punitive fees to complete the citizenship process.

And the proposed fee hikes, which were announced a few weeks ago, are a glaring example of the government imposing a higher price on its customers, while continuing to offer inadequate, inefficient and ineffective service.

That would never fly in the business world, and it shouldn't when it comes to providing government services.

Prospective citizens are not asking for a free ride—they never have. They are simply asking for fairness, and for a broken bureaucracy, with an unacceptable backlog, to stop trying to fix its failures, and its inefficiencies, on the backs of low-income working families.

In recent years, USCIS has increasingly burdened prospective citizens with indirect costs not related to the application process. The legislation I am introducing today would help reverse that trend in a way that makes sense for prospective citizens and for the agency.

It would freeze fees at their current rates until we can conduct proper oversight and thoroughly review the proposed fee structure.

It would also ensure that indirect costs, those not associated with the application process, can be funded through the appropriations process and not through increased filing fees. The legislation would also help ensure that the citizenship test is administered fairly—and justly—and that people aren't deterred from pursuing the process because of electronic filing barriers.

In addition, the legislation would set up the New Americans Initiative. This would establish a grant program to fund the work of community-based organizations to promote and increase citizenship opportunities through appli-

cation assistance, outreach and community education, and English and citizenship classes. We have seen a version of this project thrive in Illinois under the leadership of Governor Blagojevich and the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights.

Madam Speaker, let me close with this point. President Theodore Roosevelt once said: "Americanism is a question of principle, of purpose, of idealism, of character. It is not a matter of birthplace or creed or line of descent."

Let's work to ensure that those who possess the principle, the purpose, the idealism and the character of America can earn the chance to achieve the American Dream. And let's ensure that they are not priced out of the process.

Let's work to ensure that they can continue to build and better our great nation, as immigrants have done for generations. Let's work to ensure that hard working men and women can fully share in the rights that citizens enjoy and can also help shoulder the enormous responsibilities that come with this incredible opportunity.

HONORING THE 220TH ANNIVERSARY OF VIRGINIA'S STATUTE FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, this year is the 220th anniversary of Virginia's passage of its historic Statute for Religious Freedom. This measure, authored by Thomas Jefferson, was so important to the future President that he insisted that his authorship of this bill be memorialized for all time on his tombstone.

As Bryan Fischer, executive director of the Idaho Family Alliance, noted in a recent article in the Idaho Statesman, Jefferson's "statute is problematic for groups who like to cite Jefferson in support of their effort to remove all mention of God, and Christianity in particular, from the public square" (January 29, 2007).

As Mr. Fischer observes, "In the first line of the statute (Jefferson) refers to 'Almighty God,'" and also includes references to "the Holy Author of our religion" and the "Lord both of body and mind." Most historians agree that Mr. Jefferson is referring to Jesus Christ.

The respected American University historian Daniel Dreisbach, an Oxford Ph.D. and careful student of Jefferson's understanding of church and state issues, echoes the same theme: "Jefferson firmly believed that the First Amendment, with its metaphoric 'wall of separation,' prohibited religious establishments by the federal government only. Addressing the same topic of religious proclamations, Jefferson elsewhere relied on the Tenth Amendment, arguing that because 'no power to prescribe any religious exercise' has been delegated to the 'General [i.e., federal] Government . . . it must then rest with the States, as far as it can be in any human authority.'"

Put simply, Jefferson never envisioned that the "wall of separation" would be used as a pretext for government hostility to religion. To the contrary, he first used this phrase in a letter to the Baptist congregations of Danbury, Connecticut. Here's the phrase used in its

original context: "I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,' thus building a wall of separation between Church & State."

In other words, the "wall" was designed not to prevent people of faith from expressing their views in the public square, or to discourage them from applying their faith to public life, but rather to prevent the Federal Government from suppressing Judeo-Christian beliefs or their adherents.

What of President Jefferson's own practice as a public figure? Consider the words of James Hutson, Chief Manuscript Historian at the Library of Congress, in a recent article on the "wall of separation."

Jefferson's public support for religion appears . . . to have been more than a cynical political gesture. Scholars have recently argued that in the 1790s Jefferson developed a more favorable view of Christianity that led him to endorse the position of his fellow Founders that religion was necessary for the welfare of a republican government, that it was, as Washington proclaimed in his Farewell Address, indispensable for the happiness and prosperity of the people. Jefferson had, in fact, said as much in his First Inaugural Address. His attendance at church services in the House (of Representatives) was, then, his way of offering symbolic support for religious faith and for its beneficent role in republican government.

In summary, it was because of his firm conviction that the state should never impede the liberties of religious citizens or organizations in the public square that Mr. Jefferson penned the Statue for Religious Freedom, not because of a secular desire to stamp out religion under the foot of government power. His Statute was not borne out of an enmity to religion, but a desire to protect it. And for that, on its 220th anniversary, the Virginia Statue for Religious Freedom and its author Thomas Jefferson should be honored by this body.

MOTORSPORTS FAIRNESS AND PERMANENCY ACT

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Motorsports Fairness and Permanency Act. This bill would make permanent the tax treatment of speedways and racing facilities around the country.

This legislation will provide needed certainty to track and speedway operators regarding the depreciation of their properties. For decades, motorsports facilities were considered as "theme and amusement facilities" for depreciation purposes. Congress codified this treatment as part of the Jumpstart our Business Strength Act of 2004. The Motorsports Fairness and Permanency Act would simply make this treatment permanent, helping facility owners make long-lead time decisions on major capital investments.

My congressional district is home to Lake Erie Speedway, a $\frac{3}{8}$ -mile track that hosts a full schedule of races, including the Mid-Atlan-

tic Asphalt Racing Alliance and NASCAR Whelen All-American Series. Lake Erie Speedway can accommodate up to 7,000 race fans and has a substantial impact on the Erie County economy.

Pennsylvania is home to 60 motorsports facilities, including Pocono Raceway, which hosts two NASCAR Nextel Cup races each summer. These facilities are an important part of the fabric of our State's economy. Indeed, a recently-released report, authorized by the Pennsylvania General Assembly, found that motorsports facilities have a combined impact of over \$390 million on the State's economy.

Because of the importance of motorsports to my district and State, I am cosponsoring the Motorsports Fairness and Permanency Act. This legislation will make permanent the well-understood and widely-accepted depreciation classification of motorsports facilities. The legislation will provide fair treatment and needed certainty to the dozens of facilities in Pennsylvania and the hundreds located throughout the country.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Motorsports Fairness and Permanency Act.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KARE FAMILY CENTER

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to a great resource in southern Arizona.

For 5 years, the Kinship and Adoption Resource and Education Family Center, KARE, has been providing support and resources for grandparents and other relatives raising children whose biological parents are unable to do so. Considering that Arizona is one of the fastest growing States in the country where children are having to be raised outside of their own birth-families, the center's work has become invaluable to the community members of my district. Through KARE, many families are able to keep more children out of foster homes. It is my pleasure to thank them on this landmark date.

Over the existence of the KARE Family Center, several thousand grandparents, relatives and adoptive parents have received many crucially important services. The center provides such benefits as case management services and mental/behavioral health services, completely free of charge. Without such services, many of the children in question would not be found under the care of their own family, which simply can not be equaled by state care. Grandparents, relatives, and adoptive parents, who are often suffering from declining health and financial burdens, are able to overcome these extraordinary circumstances through the help of the KARE center.

As the need for specialization in the area of adoption and kinship support services grows across the country, the KARE center has helped to develop and promote access to similar programs. In its 5 years, KARE has provided assistance to several thousand families, and with more programs like it in development, far fewer children are left to be raised

in unfamiliar surroundings, or overburdened foster families. Their work has shown that kinship and non-nuclear biological families can provide permanent stable homes, an alternative to foster care and delinquency systems, while 100 percent of children in the program remain in school.

I wish continued success of the KARE Family Center. It is my honor to celebrate with them a history of community involvement and service.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA MCNAIR

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished African American actress and singer, Barbara McNair, who passed away in January after a long battle with cancer. She was a trailblazer, who had a successful recording and acting career in an era when few African Americans, particularly African American women, could sustain themselves in Hollywood. Barbara was also my dear friend.

Barbara McNair was one of the world's most stunningly dynamic, talented, and beautiful singers, who achieved international fame not only as a singer, but also as a movie, television, and Broadway star.

At a young age, Barbara moved to New York where she supported herself with a secretarial job while auditioning off-hours at a variety of New York nightclubs. Persistence eventually paid off when Max Gordon, proprietor of one of the most famous jazz clubs in New York, The Village Vanguard, offered her a job. Soon after, her big break came when she was tagged for a stint on The Arthur Godfrey Show. Not much later, she appeared in shows at world famous nightclubs such as the Purple Onion and the Coconut Grove.

Barbara quickly became one of the country's most popular headliners and a guest on The Steve Allen Show, Hullabaloo, The Bell Telephone Hours, and The Hollywood Palace. She also made guest appearances on popular television shows of the day, including Dr. Kildare, I Spy, Mission: Impossible, Hogan's Heroes, and McMillan and Wife. She hosted television's The Barbara McNair Show, a musical and comedy show in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Her movie credits include If He Hollers Let Him Go, playing opposite Raymond St. Jacques; They Call Me Mr. Tibbs, with Sydney Poitier; and Change of Habit, with Mary Tyler Moore and Elvis Presley in his last scripted movie role.

Her Broadway credits include The Body Beautiful, No Strings, and a revival of The Pajama Game.

Barbara McNair not only acted, but also had a successful recording career. Her recordings include Livin' End, I Enjoy Being a Girl, and The Ultimate Motown Collection.

Barbara McNair had her share of tragedies and setbacks during her life of 72 years. But through it all, she continued to move forward. Her singular accomplishments as an actress and singer are to be admired and remembered.