

MIAMI RACES FOR THE CURE

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, last Saturday, members of the South Florida community came together in an effort to eradicate breast cancer. Nearly 5,000 people participated in the Komen Miami/Ft. Lauderdale Race for the Cure.

Before the race, Nancy Brinker, founder of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, delighted the crowd with her compassionate words and Soraya, the well-known Latin American singer, who underwent a mastectomy several weeks ago, translated Nancy's message of hope and inspiration into Spanish before walking the course. This year's race was dedicated to Patti Walsh, a Race for the Cure volunteer who lost her battle with breast cancer in August. Today I salute the family and friends who supported her. Twenty-five percent of the dollars raised at last Saturday's event will benefit the National Grants Program for breast cancer research. And, 70% will be used to award grants within the South Florida community by promoting breast cancer research, education, screening and treatment.

I would especially like to congratulate Helen Duncan, my congressional constituent, and Race for the Cure volunteer who organized this magnificent South Florida event.

I commend Jane Torres, President of the Breast Cancer Coalition and a yearly participant in this event who devotes herself daily to eradicating breast cancer.

And I thank the hundreds of South Florida families whose lives may have been touched by breast cancer, and who helped make this event possible.

IN HONOR OF TIM GAUNA

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise in sadness today to honor the memory of Information Systems Technician Seaman Timothy Gauna, a constituent of mine from Rice, Texas, who is among the missing sailors from the attack on the U.S.S. *Cole*.

Tim Gauna was 21 years old and a 1997 graduate of Ennis High School. He was one of five children in a close family. Teachers said he was a quiet student who excelled in baseball and art. He joined the Navy 18 months ago with a dream shared by many recruits, to earn financial assistance to attend college. He wanted to learn about computers, then use the knowledge while attending the University of Texas at Austin. He would have been the first in his family to go to college.

Before sailing into harm's way, Tim let his mom know that he was headed into dangerous waters, but that he would be okay. Like all the sailors aboard the U.S.S. *Cole*, Tim Gauna was serving his country bravely and honorably when this vicious attack took place. I join the Gauna family, and all the families of the missing sailors, in hoping that they will soon be accounted for.

After the attack, I flew down to North Texas to visit Seaman Gauna's family. There, I spoke with a mother who is proud of her son's courage and patriotism. She described her son as having an open and friendly nature, and sharing the family's strong belief in their faith. And I talked to various family members who admire Tim's dedication to America.

I do not know all the sailors on the U.S.S. *Cole*, Mr. Speaker, but I know the family of Seaman Gauna. They—like all of the U.S.S. *Cole*'s sailors and their families—have America's gratitude, and our prayers.

IN TRIBUTE TO ELIE DULAY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Elie Dulay, who will retire next week after 28 years of service to the City of Simi Valley, California, my hometown.

Elie was a clerk with the city when I was elected to the City Council. I can think of few people who were more helpful, energetic or pleasurable to work with than Elie during my entire tenure as a Councilman and Mayor.

It is of no surprise to me that Elie rose through ranks and will retire as an administrative secretary. Aside from being an exceptionally competent employee, she is the personification of a people person. Elie approaches life and her work with a smile. Problems disappear in her capable hands, and her positive attitude is contagious among her coworkers.

Elie's husband, Art, is also retiring, but they will remain busy. The two are accomplished dancers. Elie is also a wonderful cook, with a specialty in Asian food. They have three grown children, two of which work for the Simi Valley Police Department—one as an officer and one as a records technician. Elie and Art also have six grandchildren, ranging in age from 1 year to 16 years old, and look forward to spending even more time as doting grandparents.

Mr. Speaker, if there is an ideal government employee, Elie is it. I know my colleagues will join me in thanking her for her years of service and wish her all the best in her retirement.

WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced legislation in Congress amending the Whistleblower Protection Act (WPA) to restore protections for federal employees who risk their jobs by disclosing waste, fraud, abuse or violations of law they witness on the job. This legislation is critical to restore the flow of information to Congress and the public about wrongdoing within the government. It is necessary because the original congressional intent has been partially nullified by certain judicial decisions.

In 1989, Congress unanimously passed the Whistleblower Protection Act (WPA) and strengthened it in 1994. The new bill closes ju-

cially created loopholes that have made the law useless in most circumstances. Recent decisions by the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit have denied protection for disclosures made as part of an employee's job duties or within the chain of command. The bill restores coverage in over 90 percent of the situations where it counts most for federal workers to have free speech rights—when they defend the public on the job.

The bill also makes permanent a free speech shield known as the "anti-gag statute" that Congress has passed annually for the last 13 years. It outlaws nondisclosure rules, agreements and other forms of gag orders that would cancel rights in the Whistleblower Protection Act and other good government statutes. In particular, it upholds the supremacy of a long-established law that workers have a right to notice that information is classified as secret for national security interests, before they can be held liable for releasing it. The necessity for the bill was increased last week by passage of a little noticed provision in the Intelligence Authorization Act for 2001. That provision functionally could make whistleblowers liable for criminal prosecution, based on speculation that unmarked information were classified.

We must reaffirm our support for whistleblowers. We made a serious commitment to federal workers in 1989 and Congress must ensure those protections stay in place. Congress must demonstrate once again its support for federal workers who risk everything to defend the public against fraud, waste, and abuse.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN E. PETERSEN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Stephen E. Petersen, founder of the Annual Petersen Invitational Golf Tournament. The tournaments have been held on some of the finest and challenging golf courses along the Atlantic Coast from Myrtle Beach to Charleston, South Carolina.

The purpose of the tournaments are to promote comradery, good food, fellowship, and hospitality among friends. The tournaments also provide an opportunity for participants to engage in the finer points of competitive golf. Throughout the years, more than six hundred friends and colleagues have participated in this event.

Stephen has unselfishly invested his inspiration, time, sweat, and funds in order to make these events successful. His love for people and passion for the game of golf together, distinguish him. They explain his sense of kinship with all those who know him. Stephen's efforts have been highly successful in enriching lives and providing enjoyment to all who have participated in his tournaments.

Many have fond memories which will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Many more gained insight and appreciation for what great golf tournaments are really all about.

I, and the many friends, colleagues, and participants of these golfing events wish to extend our sincere appreciation, admiration, and

due recognition to Stephen E. Petersen, in honor of the Petersen Invitational Golf Tournament's 25th anniversary, held September 10–14, 2000, in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, we seldom meet people who give so tirelessly of their time and resources as Stephen E. Petersen. Please join me in paying tribute to this outstanding South Carolinian, military veteran, devoted Christian, and friend.

IN MEMORY OF DR. GROFF

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of the Fourth District of Texas, the late Mayor Marion Allen Groff III of Pilot Point, who died on August 22. Dr. Groff was an active and beloved member of his community—and he will be dearly missed.

At the time of his death, Dr. Groff was serving as mayor of Pilot Point, president of the Chamber of Commerce and member of the Kiwanis. He was a board member and president of DENCO 911 for 8 years. In all these civic endeavors, he gave his time and energy to helping make Pilot Point a better place in which to live.

Allen was devoted to his family, his profession, and to his community, and he leaves a legacy of service that will be remembered by his many friends in Pilot Point. His legacy not only covers his medical service—though it was above and beyond—it goes to the throngs of friends and to many people that he never met. Allen reached out to anyone in need, gave advice, service, and warm friendship. He was a lobby for those who had no lobby. And he was capable of friendship to those in all walks of life—with equal love and dignity for all.

He was born in Shattuck, OK, on August 27, 1949. He served in the U.S. Army from June 1971 to June 1974. He was a graduate of Southeastern Oklahoma University, the University of North Texas and the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. He leaves behind his wife, Karen; has parents, Dr. M.A. and Betty Groff; a daughter, Kristen Groff; four sons, Marion Allen Groff IV, Bryant Adam Groff, John Robert Groff and Cole Kelly Schmitz; and a sister, Janet Sims.

Allen was devoted to his family. Kristen will miss him every day of her life—as will his four sons. Karen was the love of his life, and I had the pleasure of visiting with Karen and Allen during the last days at the hospital. She waited, she served, she encouraged, and she loved and lived within his reach day and night for many desperate days at Zale Lipsey Hospital. She held her head up—and was reassuring to family and a throng of friends who came to Midway Baptist Church to say goodbye to Allen.

Mr. Speaker, Allen was one of a kind—and we will miss him. As we adjourn today, let us do so in memory of Mayor Marian Allen Groff.

HONORING RUBY S. SWEZY OF
MIAMI, FLORIDA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize a wonderful woman and a dear friend, Ruby S. Swezy of Miami, Florida, who will be celebrating her 77th birthday on October 21, 2000.

Ruby was born on October 18, 1923 in Miami-Dade County. She is a descendant of Mr. Charles Lee Greene, of Georgia, and the daughter of John and Estelle Stripling, her loving parents. Her father died when she was a teenager but her mother was blessed to live to the age of 97. Ruby remembers with pride many important life lessons imparted by her mother, who was a strong willed, determined, caring and compassionate woman, traits that she now demonstrates.

Living most of her life in Miami-Dade County, where she grew up and was educated, she married the late Lewis Swezy, Sr. and raised her two beloved children, Laura and Lewis, with unwavering faith and love. The pride and joy of Ruby's life is her family. She beams and her eyes sparkle when she shares stories of their lives.

Abandoning the security of the education arena in the prime of her teaching career, she decided to break into real estate, which proved to be the business that was meant for Ruby. It was a bold and courageous step for a young mother. Over the past 50 years, Ruby has become a respected force having made noticeable contributions to the housing industry around our area.

In addition to real estate and political circles, today Ruby is a giant in local, national, and international housing. She was successful in her first political bid, diligently serving as a Councilwoman on the Hialeah City Council. She also has met with and served as an advisor to various administrations and other heads of government.

Ruby maintains a human and in-touch demeanor with all the people of her community. She is admired and respected not only for her compassion and generosity to anyone who is fortunate to meet her, but for her noteworthy contributions. It is my sincere pleasure and great honor to join Ruby's family and friends in wishing her a wonderful celebration and many more happy and healthy birthdays.

IN HONOR OF THE MASJID HASSAN OF AL-ISLAM FORT WORTH, TEXAS

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, this weekend in Fort Worth, Texas, it will be my honor and privilege to attend and participate in events which promote racial and religious unity and peace. On October 21, 2000, the Masjid Hassan of Al-Islam in Fort Worth, under the leadership of Imam Nasir Ahmed, will host a Southwest Regional Pioneer Banquet honoring those it considers to be pioneers in the causes

of diversity, religious interaction, Islam, economic development, political awareness and education.

I am humbled to be among a group of honorees which includes religious radio broadcaster and journalist, Robert Ashley; American Jewish Congress Southwest Region executive director, Joel Brooks; community relations consultant, writer and member of the Thanksgiving Square Interfaith Council, Rose Marie Stromberg; 97-year old founder of the Tarrant County Black Historical and Genealogical Society, Lenora Rolla; long-time Muslim, 95 year old Dave Hassan; and the organizer of Brooks of Baaziga, a Muslim girls' group, Ruby b. Muhammad.

The work of the Masjid Hassan of Al-Islam is, by itself, noteworthy. Yet, the Masjid's efforts are heightened and broadened by the fact that this celebration will include the personage and the teachings of The Honorable Imam Warith Deen Mohammed, leader of the Muslim American Society. Throughout this country and around the world Imam Mohammed is known, respected and admired for his work towards peace, religious freedom and diversity, and liberty for all people. On October 22, 2000, the Fort Worth-Dallas area will have the pleasure of receiving his message on "Dealing With Racism From Religion". It is my great pleasure, therefore, to join with the Masjid Hassan of Al-Islam, my longtime friend Marzuq Jaami and his brothers and sisters in the Dallas Masjid of Al-Islam, and the larger Fort Worth-Dallas community in heartily welcoming Imam Mohammed to our community.

TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. JORDAN D. SMITH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rev. Dr. Jordan D. Smith on the upcoming thirtieth anniversary of his pastorship at Clement Road Church of God in Columbia, South Carolina.

Rev. Smith was born in Orville, Alabama on April 15, 1939 to the late Fred and Clara Hamer Smith. He was the fourth of six children. In 1961, he was married to Eunice D. Pickett. To this union were born three lovely children—Veronica, Matthew and Donna.

Rev. Smith has been serving his church both locally and nationally since 1967. For three years he served the Tompkins Avenue Church of God in Brooklyn, New York as associate pastor and was ordained into the ministry there by the late Rev. John Cordes. In 1970 he became pastor of his current church.

Pursuant to his commitment to service, Rev. Smith has, in addition to his pastoral and state duties, served his National Church as a member of various committees, commissions and boards. For ten years he served as the elected State Chairman of the South Carolina Presbytery. In 1991, for his faith and commitment to his calling, he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree.

Rev. Smith is a faithful husband, loving father, admired grandfather, and caring father-in-law. As a spiritual leader, he personified faith, love, service and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Rev. Dr. Jordan D. Smith, a devoted