

## BRIAN COOPER TRIBUTE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2011*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Brian Cooper for earning the Alamosa Police Department's Lifesaver Award. His quick thinking and decisive action during his regular patrol of the small Colorado town saved the life of another resident.

Detective Cooper, a patrol officer at the time, saw one of the town's elderly residents choking. After calling an ambulance, he cleared the man's airway of the food he was choking on and successfully administered CPR. Paramedics credit Officer Cooper for saving the life of a man who would have otherwise died had he not intervened.

Detective Cooper is one of only a handful of recipients of the Lifesaver Award. It is not given lightly, but there was little argument against the Detective's merit. A father of two and loving husband to his high school sweetheart, Brian Cooper is an exemplary member of Colorado's police force.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Brian Cooper today. Alamosa is deservedly proud of him and I have no doubt that he will continue to expand on his already excellent record.

## HONORING OFER BAVLY

**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2011*

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ofer Bavly, the Consul General of Israel to Florida and Puerto Rico for his many years of service to the South Florida Jewish Community, which is being honored this evening by the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County.

The son of Israeli diplomats, Mr. Bavly has dedicated his life to public service since his graduation from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem with dual degrees in International Relations and Middle Eastern Studies. Like many Israelis, Mr. Bavly courageously served his country in the Israel Defense Forces, rising to the rank of Captain.

In 1991, Mr. Bavly joined Israel's Foreign Ministry, and has since served his country in Israel's Embassies around the world, including Madrid and Rome. Mr. Bavly's success as a diplomat and foreign policy expertise led to his appointment as a Policy Advisor to the Foreign Minister of Israel in 2005. Subsequently, Mr. Bavly was appointed Counselor in the Foreign Ministry's North America Division in 2006.

Mr. Bavly's diplomatic career has culminated with his 2007 appointment to his current position of Consul General of Israel to Florida and Puerto Rico. It has been an honor working side by side with Mr. Bavly to further America's unshakeable relationship with Israel.

I congratulate Mr. Bavly, his wife Ayala, and their three children for their great honor tonight, and I look forward to many more years of strong partnership with Mr. Bavly as we

work towards our shared goals of advancing the safety and security of Israel and creating a lasting peace.

## CARL TAYLOR TRIBUTE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2011*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carl Taylor, a farmer, soldier, and Colorado Native who lived his life in service of his country and family.

Mr. Taylor was born in Blanca, Colorado on May 16, 1919. Shortly after his twenty-third birthday, Mr. Taylor joined the U.S. Army. He was assigned to Fort Bliss in Company B, 271st Infantry, which eventually allowed him to serve in military campaigns all over the world. He was involved in the Battle of the Bulge, as well as other campaigns in Tunisia, Naples, Rhineland, Rome and Southern France.

After the war, Mr. Taylor returned to Colorado where he farmed barley. He and his wife lived in Center, Colorado, where they eventually began to distribute their barley to the Colorado Coors factory. On January 8, 2008, Mr. Taylor and his wife, Mona, retired and moved to the Colorado State Veteran Center at Homelake, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Carl Taylor today. Throughout his life he has served as an outstanding soldier and citizen, and his great life achievements deserve to be noted.

## IN RECOGNITION AND REMEMBRANCE OF MR. LUTHER R. GATLING

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2011*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great sadness as I pay tribute to my dear friend Luther Gatling who recently passed away peacefully in his home in Teaneck, New Jersey on Tuesday, May 31st. As I speak with profound sorrow, I ascend to celebrate a life well lived and to remember with fondness the accomplishments of a remarkable man who, over his many years of service in government and credit counseling, etched his name in history as The Credit Doctor.

Luther dedicated his life to public service and championed diversity. And, as a long-time civil rights and business leader, he possessed a remarkable moral compass that inspired fiscal responsibility upon many disadvantaged people. Mr. Gatling has provided mentorship to our youth and much needed credit guidance to all. He stood for the empowerment, development, and prosperity of our Nation.

Luther R. Gatling was born in Waterbury, Connecticut on September 9, 1931. He received his Bachelors degree in business administration from Temple University. Luther then went on to serve as the president of the Waterbury City Council. He became the mayor of Waterbury before the age of 30 and later served as the assistant director at the Manpower Assistance of Boston program in Washington, D.C.

In my community of Harlem, Mr. Gatling is well known for his service as the President of the New York Chapter of the One Hundred Black Men, Inc. for 8 years. He also served on the executive committee and Board of Directors of the National One Hundred Black Men of America organization. In 1976, Luther created Budget and Credit Counseling Services, Inc. to help educate consumers with financial difficulties. BuCCS provided counseling and advocacy for more than 40,000 consumers.

Luther Gatling was an economically savvy man who never resisted sharing his wealth of knowledge with those in need. The Credit Doctor, as he was known, believed in empowering struggling and financially illiterate consumers through the power of sound credit comprehension.

Consumer credit, debt education, financial literacy are passions of Mr. Gatling. Instructing consumers on how to manage their credit wisely and pay their debts responsibly was important to my friend Luther.

Luther symbolized the American Dream. He worked vigorously with the One Hundred Black Men to expand educational and economic opportunities for African Americans and other minority communities. Mr. Gatling worked tirelessly with the BuCCS to properly educate the public on fiscal responsibility. Luther extended his guidance through practically every medium to educate the masses. He worked his first job as a taxi driver later to become the CEO of the Budget and Credit Counseling Service.

I would like for my colleagues in the Congress to join me in offering our heartfelt condolences to his wife Bonnie Gatling and their children, Dr. Sharon G Waldrum, Lydia Miller, Robbin Gatling, and Richard Patton. It is important that they know that their friends and all of those whose lives were touched by Luther over the years, are with them in spirit and the Gatling family are in our thoughts and prayers.

No amount of words can ever replace this titan. Luther bore his illness with great dignity and pride. And through his illness, he continued to persist on living and fighting for causes true to his faith and community. Now free from pain and discomfort, we can all draw some comfort in knowing that he has found peace in the eternity of God's Kingdom. He will long be remembered for his extraordinary commitment, humor, liveliness, energy, wisdom, discipline, principle and clear purpose which won the admiration of all who were privileged to come to know and work with him during his distinguished career.

Mr. Speaker, I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to observe and experience Luther's example as a personal inspiration. Though Luther is no longer with us, we will continue to keep his memory alive in our hearts and minds, and continue to honor his legacy with our advocacy for the issues he cared about the most. We as a nation are all blessed to have known a Luther Gatling, "The Credit Doctor," a titan who shaped financial counseling history with his everlasting spirit.

## ED ELLIS TRIBUTE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2011*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ed Ellis for his commitment to the