relocated the church and congregation to 124th Street and 7th Avenue. This building is known as the ''Mother Church'' of the Churches of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In two short years, the indebtedness of the church was lifted and on Christmas day in 1947, the mortgage was burned.

It was in 1944 that Bishop Lawson sent Bishop Bonner to Detroit to pastor the First Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It was a storefront. Today, it is a 2,500-seat edifice known as Solomon's Temple. Bishop William Lee Bonner was born on November 12, 1921 in Bolden County Georgia, to Emmett and Janie Bonner. Bishop Bonner was married to the late Ethel Mae Smith Bonner. He is the father of two children, Ethel Mae Bonner Archer and William Lee Bonner, Jr.

Bishop Bonner's ministry began in the 1940s under the tutelage of the late Bishop Robert C. Lawson, (1883–1961), founder of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith. His first pastorate was the Green Avenue Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ in Brooklyn, New York. In 1961, upon the death of Bishop Lawson, Bishop Bonner became the pastor of the 3,000-member mother church, the Greater Refuge Temple in Harlem, New York City.

Apostle Bonner currently pastors churches in Detroit, Michigan, New York City, Washington, D.C., Jackson, Mississippi, and Columbia, South Carolina. He is the Chief Apostle and Senior Prelate of the General Assembly of the Churches of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc. This is an international body of churches. Under his administration, the assembly has grown from 155 churches in 1961 to over 500 churches and missions throughout the world.

He has faithfully kept the charge of the founder Bishop Lawson, to ''Add Thou to It''. Bishop Bonner received his religious education and the Doctor of Divinity through the Church of Christ Bible Institute in New York City. Listed in ''Who's Who in Religion'' In 1985, Bishop Bonner's ministry is based on prayer and faith in God. His message is one of hope and deliverance. He believes that those who pray can expect a miracle.

On December 12, 1989, Bishop William L. Bonner founded The Refuge Temple of Washington, DC. The first services were held at Days Inn, at 12th and K Streets, NW. The next year, Kelly Miller Junior High School became the church's final temporary home. On June 1, 1991, the first service was held at the new edifice for Refuge Temple Church.

On July 20, 1993, Bishop Bonner established The Refuge Temple of Columbia, South Carolina. It was organized with only 22 members and grew to 700 in 3 months. The church is located on 12½ acres in the Eau Claire section of Columbia. Pastor Bonner's ministry in Columbia also consists of the Family Life Center, Retirement Community and the W. L. Bonner Bible College.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in bestowing this special congressional honor to Chief Apostle William L. Bonner's on ''National COOLJC Day'' at the Greater Refuge Temple Church in Harlem, NY.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP WILLIAM L. BONNER

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable man who has dedicated his life to serving the Creator and building an international fellowship of true disciples. Bishop William Lee Bonner will be honored on the occasion of his 90th birthday on Saturday, November 19, 2011 in Columbia, South Carolina.

William Lee Bonner was born on November 12, 1921 in Bolden County, Georgia to Emmett and Janie Bonner. He received his religious training and the Doctor of Divinity through the Church of Christ Bible Institute in New York.

As a young man in the 1940s, Bishop Bonner answered the call into the ministry. He was a protégé of the late Bishop Robert C. Lawson, founder of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith. His first pastorate was the Green Avenue Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In 1944, Bishop Bonner was sent to Detroit to lead the First Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ. When he arrived, the congregation was worshiping in a store front. Today, the current sanctuary holds 2,500 parishioners in an edifice known as Solomon's Temple.

When Bishop Lawson passed away in 1961, Bishop Bonner was called to lead the 3,000-member mother church, the Greater Refuge Temple, in Harlem, New York. As the church's new titular head, Bishop Bonner created a Board of Apostles to govern the churches. He also formed two other groups, the Board of Bishops and the Board of Presbyters, both of which are accountable to the Board of Apostles. Under this new structure, Bishop Bonner serves as the Chief Apostle and Senior Prelate of the General Assembly of the Churches of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.

During his leadership, the church grew tremendously. In 1989, Bishop Bonner founded the Refuge Temple of Washington, D.C. In the beginning services were held in a Days Inn hotel, but moved shortly afterwards to Kelly Miller Junior High School. Less than a year afterwards the church broke ground on a permanent home. On June 1, 1991, the first service was held in the Refuge Temple Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and they continue to this day at the 56th Street location.

The ground breaking for the Refuge Temple of Columbia, South Carolina took place on July 20, 1993. At that time, the congregation was comprised of 22 members. Within three years, they grew to 700 members. The ministry has expanded to include a Family Life Center, a retirement community and the W.L. Bonner Bible College. The church's services are aired on Sunday mornings at 6:00 am on WIS-TV in Columbia. Previously recorded services can also be heard nightly on Columbia radio station WMFV.

Under Bishop Bonner's leadership, the assembly has grown from 155 churches in 1961 to over 500 churches and missions throughout the world. He currently pastors churches in Detroit; New York; Washington, D.C.; Jackson, Mississippi; and Columbia, South Carolina. He has faithfully kept the charge of the founder Bishop Lawson to, ''Add Thou To It.''

Bishop Bonner and the late Ethel Mae Smith Bonner were parents to Ethel Mae Bonner Archer and William Lee Bonner, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in congratulating Bishop Bonner as he celebrates his 90th birthday. He has been a Christian luminary and has served his faith and its congregants with tremendous dedication. Bishop Bonner has touched many people through his great ministries, and is very deserving of this recognition.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF MRS. FRANZISKA HOLZER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of Mrs. Franziska Holzer, a long time and active member of the German-American community in the Greater Cleveland area.

Mrs. Holzer was born on April 15, 1927. After World War II, she met her future husband Josef, in Deggendorf, Bavaria. The two were married in 1949 and had a daughter, Ilse. In 1952, the Holzer family immigrated to Cleveland, Ohio. The couple would eventually settle in North Royalton, Ohio, where they enjoyed the rest of their 62 year marriage.

Upon settling in the Cleveland area, the Holzers became extremely active in the German-American community. Mr. Holzer would eventually become the Regional President of the National Donauschwaben Organization and led the building of the Donauschwaben Society of Cleveland's German-American Cultural Center at Lenau Park. Much of his success is credited to the support offered by his loving wife, Franziska.

I offer my most sincere condolences to her husband, Josef; daughter, Ilse; grandchildren, Lisa, Brian and David; and great-grandchildren, Peter and Alexandra.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mrs. Franziska Holzer, her devotion to her family and Cleveland's German-American community will be sorely missed and thoughtfully remembered for years to come.

HONORING CAPTAIN JACK WILSON FOR HIS LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Captain Jack Wilson of Willow Springs, Illinois, a 100 year-old veteran who landed at Omaha Beach during World War II, who I am helping to honor at a veterans' dinner in Bridgeview, IL on November 13.

Captain Wilson began his military career serving in the Army National Guard from 1931 to 1940. There, he served in the distinguished 202nd Coast Artillery, anti-aircraft division. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, his unit was

activated and sent on the converted Queen Mary to England. A few days after D-Day, he was deployed on a landing craft to Omaha Beach in Normandy. This allied offensive would change the tide of the war.

Following his courageous service, Captain Wilson was discharged from active duty in 1946. He continued in the Army Reserves until his retirement in 1971 when he retired as a Captain at the age of 60.

For over fifty years, Captain Wilson has continued to support the men and women of our armed services through his leadership in the American Legion, serving as the Commander for the William R. Edmondson branch as well as its adjutant. He is currently an honorary member. He has also served the nearby Lemont Veterans of Foreign Wars Post. In both of these positions, he illustrates his dedication to his fellow armed services members and his country. Following his active military service, Captain Wilson was employed as a driver for the Chicago Transit Authority until 1975.

Honesty, integrity, hard work, responsibility, and patriotism are the core principles by which Captain Wilson lives and these are the same principles he has bestowed upon his children, Nancy and Judith. He also was a loving husband to his wife Helen, who passed away in 1978. He is a man who defended our country at a time of tremendous adversity, and who continues to serve his fellow men and women in the armed services. Please join me in honoring his lifetime of service, his bravery, and his dedication to family and neighbor.

HONORING FORMER PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE PAUL J. ELDRIDGE

HON. NAN A.S. HAYWORTH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Ms. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Paul J. Eldridge for his service as County Executive for Putnam County.

Mr. Eldridge was appointed by the Putnam County Legislature in November 2010 to serve until a special election could be held to fill the position. Mr. Eldridge confirmed the wisdom of his selection, serving with honor and distinction during a difficult period. His service as County Executive was the culmination of 33 years as a public servant for Putnam County, during which Mr. Eldridge has received numerous awards and honors for his work.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the Honorable Paul J. Eldridge. New York's Nineteenth Congressional District, and the entire Hudson Valley, is fortunate to have benefited from his service.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. WALTER BEEBE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Walter Beebe, who is being honored at the New York Open Center's 2011 Gala Celebration for his extraordinary vision and service to the New York Open Center and progressive philanthropy.

After obtaining a bachelor of arts from Harvard University in 1962, Mr. Beebe earned his bachelor of laws degree in 1965 from Stanford University. Almost immediately after finishing his education, Mr. Beebe began his career with Partner, Jacobs Persinger & Parker in 1966. He was a corporate attorney with the New York law firm until his retirement in 2006.

Mr. Beebe is the founder, Board Chair and President of the New York Open Center. He has been a leader in the holistic movement through the work of the Center for nearly 30 years. The Center is a nonprofit holistic learning center that seeks to integrate the intellectual, emotional, physical, and spiritual elements of life.

In addition to his work with as an attorney and with the New York Open Center, Mr. Beebe has been an active philanthropist. He has served on the Board of Directors of several organizations and companies including Westar Institute, Interfaith Center of New York, New Jersey Steel Corporation, Von Roll of America, Inc. and subsidiaries, Bank Street College of Education, Sunbridge College, Near East Foundation and Greyston Foundation. Mr. Beebe was also the co-host for the White House Commission on Alternative Medicine.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues please join me in congratulating Mr. Walter Beebe as he is honored by the New York Open Center at their 2011 Gala Celebration on November 10, 2011.

GUS STAVROS HONORED FOR SELFLESS SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to Gus A. Stavros of St. Petersburg, Florida, a decorated war hero, a hugely successful small businessman, and a philanthropist who has devoted his life to educating our youth. Most importantly to me, Gus Stavros is my friend.

Gus received a Certificate of Basic Engineering at the University of Florida in 1944 in preparation for his service to our nation and the Army during World War II. He served with great distinction in General George Patton's Third Army, earning three campaign ribbons for Northern France, Ardennes and Rhineland, and the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He was severely injured on January 19, 1945, and required eight months of hospital care.

Always placing the highest priority on the value of education, Gus returned from the war a hero and enrolled at Columbia University in New York, where he graduated in 1948 and went on to New York University, where he received his MBA in 1951.

It was our good fortune that upon his graduation Gus moved to Florida to start a business forms manufacturing company in Pinellas County, Florida. As the owner and CEO, he grew the company from 3 to 550 employees making it the largest business of its kind anywhere in the Southeastern United States. Having achieved success as a businessman, he sold the company in 1989 and pursued his first love of education, cultural endeavors, and the tireless support of numerous charitable organizations.

Wednesday evening, the Pinellas County Education Foundation will celebrate Gus Stavros' 25 years of service to the students, parents, and teachers of our community through the Foundation he established with then Assistant Superintendent of Schools Howard Hinesley. Unique at the time, the Foundation's first project was the establishment of Enterprise Village in 1989, a hands on program that teaches 10,000 fifth-graders a year important life lessons of business and economics. Every one of these fifth-graders spends a day at Enterprise Village running a business. For most, with the classroom lessons that prepare them for their special day of running their own business, they have their first introduction to free enterprise. Today the most appropriately named Gus A. Stavros Institute administers not only Enterprise Village, but with a $4 million expansion now teaches fiscal responsibility to 8,000 eighth-graders annually at its Finance Park.

Local, state, national and even international leaders of education and business have paid visits to Enterprise Village to learn how they can inspire students in the areas of business and finance just as Gus Stavros has this past quarter century.

Gus and his lovely wife of 63 years Frances have been honored many times over for the selfless work in behalf of numerous charitable organizations throughout our community. And our state's Governors and leaders of higher education have called on Gus repeatedly to serve on the board of trustees for many of our colleges and universities.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when our nation searches for solutions to reenergize our economy and create jobs, we need to look to great Americans like Gus Stavros for answers and inspiration. There are few people I know that are half of Gus' 86 years that have as much energy and as many good ideas.

Gus Stavros has served our nation in war time and in peace time. He has used his success in business to create jobs for others and to provide unique educational opportunities for hundreds of thousands of youth. Most importantly, he symbolizes the American spirit of selfless service to do what he can to improve the lives of others.

It is my hope that my colleagues will join me in saying thank you to Gus Stavros for a lifetime of achievement and in paying tribute to him for a job well done.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM THOMPSON

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend William Thompson of his service to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and to congratulate him on his upcoming retirement.

Mr. Thompson began his career in 1971 with the U.S. Marine Corps after his service with the Marine Corps in 1975. He returned to college and became a co-op student with the