

Len Canty's tireless work to open access to intellectual and economic capital for communities of color stretched to many fields. He frequently traveled to Washington, DC, to fight for initiatives and spoke extensively about financial fitness, health disparities, supply diversity issues, regulatory bodies and equal access to federal and corporate contracts. His numerous accolades included, most recently, the 2012 "Spotlight Award" from the Bay Area Business Roundtable.

On a personal note, Len was a longtime friend and supporter. His "tough love" was a constant source of inspiration. Our conversations were deep and authentic. He was truly a visionary and a magnificent leader who always kept his "eyes on the prize." Moreover, Mr. Canty was a church Deacon and a man of deep compassion. He demonstrated a strength and commitment to both his immediate family and the extended family that he created within our community.

Today, California's 9th Congressional District salutes and honors an outstanding individual and inspiring community leader, Mr. Leonard James Canty, Jr. He was a dear friend, a respected colleague and mentor, and a beloved husband, father, son, grandfather, brother and uncle who will be deeply missed by an extended group of loved ones. I offer my sincerest condolences to Len's surviving family and to the many friends and associates whose lives he touched over the course of his incredible life. The Bay Area and the nation has lost one of its greatest advocates for economic justice. May his soul rest in peace.

SUPPORT FOR VOTER EDUCATION
EFFORTS BY NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my thanks and support for recent actions by Northwestern University to help students register to vote and navigate increasingly complex and strict voter registration procedures nationwide. Their efforts were chronicled in an article by the New York Times this past Sunday, and I hope that my colleagues will pay attention to the story and its lessons.

Today, roughly 11 million college students are eligible to vote. Unfortunately, states across the country have considered or passed legislative initiatives that erect barriers to student voting. Northwestern University, which I am proud to represent, rose to the challenge and adopted a series of policies to ensure that its student body could go to the polls. When incoming freshman picked up their student IDs, they were given the opportunity to register to vote. Volunteers took time out of their day to make sure that out-of-state students were given absentee request forms, and any assistance they required so that their vote would count when they engaged in their civic duty.

As last weekend's article noted, Northwestern University's initiatives were wildly successful. Last year, 89% of incoming Northwestern freshmen were registered to vote in 37 states by the first day of class. This year,

the university again saw dramatic success—almost 95% of their eligible freshman were registered as of the first day of classes, and out-of-state students had the tools to make sure their vote was not denied due to new state regulations.

After the enormous success seen on its campus, Northwestern University expanded its project and created the UVote Project. The UVote Project shares these proven registration techniques to campuses across the nation—providing consistent and streamlined registration efforts so that students get the support they need to participate in the democratic process. According to the project's web page, schools who adopt these methods typically see their student voter registration rates double or triple.

These recent efforts by Northwestern University and their UVote Project are the type of collaboration between students and institutions of higher learning that I envisioned when I introduced the Student VOTER Act, a bill that would make institutions of higher learning play a key role in voter registration efforts. The contents of this bill have been incorporated into H.R. 5799, the Voter Empowerment Act of 2012. The Voter Empowerment Act modernizes and overhauls our voter registration system to assure that as many people are involved in our democratic process as possible, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

I congratulate Northwestern President Morty Shapiro and hope other universities will follow his lead. Together, through policies like those created by Northwestern University and through legislation such as the Voter Empowerment Act of 2012, we can encourage increased engagement and participation, including among student voters.

[From the New York Times, Oct. 13, 2012]

COLLEGES TAKE A LEAP INTO VOTER
REGISTRATION

(By Steven Yaccino)

EVANSTON, IL.—Every four years, volunteers swarm university campuses, clipboards in hand, to register newly eligible voters for what is generally the only presidential election of their undergraduate careers. This year they found large numbers were already registered.

Dozens of colleges have begun their own voting registration drives in orientation programs, class registration, intranet Web sites and other interactions crucial to campus life, institutionalizing services that had often been left to outside efforts. As a result, thousands of students registered to vote, updated their addresses or requested absentee ballots from their home states within days of arriving to campus this fall, officials at several universities said.

University-sponsored attempts to make voting easier for students are being tested in at least 60 colleges across the country amid the outbreak of battles over new voting laws.

"The voter registration process has become more cumbersome and difficult as there's been a competition to define who is eligible to vote," said Dan A. Lewis, director of Northwestern University's Center for Civic Engagement, which started incorporating voter registration into its freshman orientation last year. "You almost have to have a Ph.D. now to figure out how to do it if you're not sitting in the same house for the past 20 years."

Northwestern officials who developed the new program, UVote Project, said their intent was not to critique voting rules across the country, but to help students navigate them more easily.

"We're not always going to have the incredible excitement among 18- to 22-year-olds that you did in 2008, so I think it's an obligation," said Morton Schapiro, the president of Northwestern. "We're supposed to teach citizenship."

Northwestern, just north of Chicago, began a drive to register voters last year, with incoming students signing up when they picked up their campus IDs. University-trained staff and volunteers provided absentee ballot request forms from all 50 states, scanned students' driver's licenses or other identification, and offered to mail in the paperwork.

By the first day of class, 89 percent of the university's freshmen had been registered to vote, in 37 states. Northwestern repeated the effort this year, registering almost 95 percent of eligible freshmen, and expanded the model to eight other colleges. Stanford University used the method around campus, including on its bicycle registration line, netting more than 700 new voters in two weeks.

Roughly 11 million eligible voters ages 18 to 24 are in college, about a quarter of all eligible young voters, according to the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement at Tufts University.

The federal Higher Education Amendments of 1998 require colleges to make a "good faith effort" to distribute registration materials to transient students, who have the option to establish residency in their home community or where they go to school.

Students who prefer to vote absentee must first traverse an array of varied rules. Some states, like Michigan and Tennessee, make voters who register by mail cast a ballot in person for their first election. North Carolina requires that ballot requests be handwritten. Other states, like Delaware and Wyoming, require a notary.

Complicating matters more this election have been partisan fights over restrictions on registration drives and new laws requiring state-issued IDs for voting, though many have been overturned or blocked this year.

Harvard University, which holds a competition among dormitories to register the most voters, is one of a growing number of schools expanding efforts by purchasing access to the Web site of TurboVote, a non-profit effort that provides complete online registration and automated vote-by-mail services.

Founded in 2010, TurboVote is working with 58 colleges this year. It now helps more than 100,000 individuals get absentee ballots, find voting locations and track coming elections, sending out text reminders for important deadlines.

"We single-handedly registered more people in a couple of hours than several organizations that have been doing this for months," said Shelby Taylor, a spokeswoman for the University of Florida, which promoted TurboVote on the college's intranet home page and in an e-mail from the university's president. The school, which registered more than 3,000 students this year, also flashed ads for TurboVote on the football stadium's GatorVision screen during the opening home game last month.

"We alone cannot do this," said Heather Smith, president of Rock the Vote, which has been registering voters on campuses for two decades. "If we could get every university engaged and invested in the work of asking every one of their students to register to vote, we'd have a very different democracy."

RECOGNIZING MRS. DORIS STEEN IVY FOR HER COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today Mrs. Doris Steen Ivy. Mrs. Ivy has proven to be a woman of tenacity, dedication, and compassion.

She is a resident of Rolling Fork, Mississippi, but was raised in the town of Anguilla. In 1972, Mrs. Ivy obtained her Bachelors of English degree from Mississippi Valley State University and later received her Master's of Science from Jackson State University in 1979.

After graduating from Jackson State University, Doris began teaching English for the South Delta School District in Rolling Fork, Mississippi, where she served as a Department Chair.

From 1992–1993, Mrs. Ivy taught English Composition I and II as an adjunct professor at Mary Holmes Junior College in West Point, Mississippi, and served as a Mississippi Teacher's Accountability Instrument Evaluator. Doris served as an ACT protector for twenty-two years and Drug-Free and Safety facilitator for South Delta High School for fourteen years as well as advisor for the South Delta High School peer counseling program. This program was able to provide food and inspirational services to members of the elderly community in Rolling Fork. In 2011, Mrs. Ivy furthered her commitment to literacy by becoming certified as a Library Media Specialist.

She is the wife of Mr. Sammie Ivy; to their union they have two children, Stephanie and Steven. Mrs. Ivy is a faithful member of Chapel of the Cross Church, where she has served as secretary for over thirty years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join us in recognizing Mrs. Doris Steen Ivy for her unwavering commitment to serving as a role model and educator for the children of the South Delta School District.

HONORING ELIZABETH "BETH"
BARNES

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Elizabeth "Beth" Barnes, Tuolumne County Senior Veterans Services Representative, who will retire in December 2012, after 35 years of outstanding service to our veterans.

Elizabeth "Beth" Barnes was born October 2, 1945, in San Andreas, California. Beth moved to Tuolumne County in 1967 and went to work at Brown's Drive Inn in 1972. On June 1, 1977, she was hired on as a Housekeeper at Tuolumne General Hospital. On June 5, 1982, she was promoted to a clerk typist in the Veterans Office. Beth was then promoted to Senior Veterans Services Representative on November 5, 2000.

Beth married Harold "Barney" Barnes on March 26, 1965. Barney went to work for Ras-

mussen Lumber Company, now known as the Sierra Pacific Industries, in Chinese Camp on September 12, 1965, and retired on June 28, 2012. Beth and Barney have three sons: Stephen, Harold Jr. (Chip) and wife Debbie, and Rick and wife Sheila. Stephen and Rick both enlisted in the Marines and each served eight years.

Beth's first passion is her family and home, then her family of veterans. She served as the Secretary of the California Association of County Veterans Service Officers from 1992 until 2012. She also served as the Secretary of the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers from 2006 to 2012.

Over the years, Beth's name has become synonymous with Veterans Services. Before most of us had even entered public service, Beth had gained a reputation for her vast experience helping veterans and their families apply for and obtain their benefits. Her devotion to veterans is not only professional, but personal. Many of her family members have served in the military, so it is not surprising that working with veterans has become her life's work.

The work that Beth has chosen to do makes significant differences for our veterans—from applying for financial compensation, to ensuring veterans receive appropriate medical care, to helping their dependents with health insurance and college tuition. She has filed claims and advised veterans from the Spanish-American War, WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Beirut, Grenada, Panama, Iraq and Afghanistan. These benefits also help our community. Between 2009 and 2010, over one million dollars in new one-time benefits were obtained.

Beth has numerous accreditations and affiliations with the following agencies: Accreditations with American Legion; California Department of Veteran Affairs; Disabled American Veterans; National Association of County Veteran Service Officers; California Association of County Veteran Service Officers; Veterans of Foreign Wars; American Veterans; Military Order of the Purple Heart; Retired Enlisted Association; World War I of USA; Vietnam Veterans of America; Jewish War Veterans; and Catholic War Veterans.

To quote Beth: "This is more than a job; it's a life."

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Beth Barnes, Tuolumne County Senior Veterans Representative, for her many years of selfless service to our veterans and the betterment of our community.

IN MEMORY OF UNITED STATES
AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA JOHN
CHRISTOPHER STEVENS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my Northern California colleagues GEORGE MILLER, JACKIE SPEIER, ZOE LOFGREN, MIKE THOMPSON, LYNN WOOLSEY, ANNA ESHOO, DORIS MATSUI, PETE STARK, JOHN GARAMENDI, JERRY MCNERNEY, MIKE HONDA, and SAM FARR of California, to honor, celebrate, and remember Ambassador John Christopher "Chris" Stevens. A son of Northern

California and the Bay Area, Ambassador Stevens tragically lost his life in the greatest service to this country—selflessly and courageously representing American values in a foreign nation he knew intimately and cared for deeply.

Born in 1960 in Grass Valley, California, Ambassador Stevens made a mark early in life as a student at Piedmont High School, where he participated with enthusiasm in academics, the performing arts, and tennis. His education in the 9th Congressional District continued upon his admission to the University of California, Berkeley. As a History major, he delved into studies of the Near East and became a member of the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity. Later, he earned a law degree from another Bay Area institution, UC Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. His subsequent work in international trade law preceded the takeoff of his diplomatic career in 1991.

Ambassador Stevens' passion for foreign service began early, starting with his high school participation in an AFS Intercultural Program in Spain and blossoming during his years as a Peace Corps volunteer in Morocco. The diverse and instrumental positions he held as a member of the U.S. Foreign Service in Israel, Syria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Libya and Washington, D.C., among others, helped to build his deep and personal understanding of the Middle and Near East.

A fluent Arabic speaker, Stevens was selected by President Obama to be the U.S. Special Representative to the National Transitional Council in Libya, undertaking the complicated task of creating connections with insurgents and tribal groups on behalf of the United States. As the Qaddafi regime crumbled, Ambassador Stevens worked passionately towards establishing a nascent Libyan democracy. In the process, he created innumerable personal friendships and professional relationships with Libyans—not only with officials and diplomats, but with everyday people.

In his diplomatic capacity, Ambassador Stevens brought a profound and prolific knowledge of the Arab world to his assignment. His exemplary gift for making personal connections was invaluable in his role as Special Representative and, later, Ambassador, to one of the most complex and challenging regions of the world. Therefore, as we join in recognizing Ambassador Stevens amidst a sober outpouring of praise from his family, colleagues, fellow Americans, and the leaders of this nation, we remember that Chris Stevens was beloved by many Libyans, as well.

In remembering Ambassador Stevens, we also honor the three other Americans who bravely sacrificed their lives alongside him: Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty. The mournful loss of these members of the Foreign Service will not be forgotten. We pay tribute to all of them today and keep their families in our thoughts. We also express our deepest sympathy and condolences to Ambassador Stevens' family, to whom he was a devoted son, brother and stepson who always made time for visits home despite the incredible demands of his diplomatic missions.

Therefore, on behalf of the residents of California's 1st, 5th, 6th, 7th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th Congressional Districts, we join President Barack Obama, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI and an expansive global network of supporters in saluting Ambassador John Christopher Stevens.