March 4, 2014

KAY EHALT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kay Ehalt for receiving the Unsung Hero Award from the West Chamber serving Jefferson County.

This award is given to an individual who gives of their time and resources to ensure the West Chamber remains a thriving and successful organization.

Kay Ehalt embodies all of the qualities of our unsung hero. Kay has been a West Chamber member since 1997. She was an Ambassador from the beginning, a member of the Friday morning Leads group and recently joined the West Chamber Board of Directors. You will find Kay wherever there is fun. She welcomes new members to events and makes everyone she meets feel important. Her work with the West Chamber has left an indelible mark for future West Chamber members.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Kay Ehalt for this well-deserved honor from the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER EHLERS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a dear friend of mine, Walter Ehlers. Walter passed away on Thursday, February 20, 2014. A long time resident of California, he was a pillar of the community and he will be deeply missed.

Walter was born May 7, 1921, in Junction City, Kansas, and was raised from humble beginnings. While growing up, Walter spent many long, but rewarding days on the farm. This guickly changed when news of World War II broke and both Walter and his brother, Roland, decided that they wanted to join the Army and serve their country. The fact that Walter was underage at the time of his decision proved difficult, but after receiving special permission from his parents, the Ehlers brothers set out in 1940 to serve in the same unit. Their duty spanned from Sicily to North Africa, and became more intense as the war moved along. As what would become known as "D-Day" approached, Walter, 23, and his brother were split up into different units in an effort to better chances that at least one of them would survive the bloody attack.

The morning of June 6, 1944, Walter, a squad leader and staff sergeant, was tasked with getting his 12 men safely through the danger zone on Normandy Beach and move inland in order to fulfill their mission of collecting data on German troop activities. He and his squad survived several rounds of heavy fire as they moved along and Walter's guidance to "run for cover" proved successful time and time again. On June 10, 1944, Walter's squad came under such extreme fire that the company commander ordered a withdrawal. Walter knew that in order to get his

With these appalling acts, the Azeri state reminded the whole world why the people of Artsakh must be allowed to determine their own future and cannot be allowed to slip into Aliyev's clutches, lest the carnage of Sumgait 26 years ago serve as a foreshadowing of a greater slaughter. Mr. Speaker, the memory of the victims of Sumgait must not be forgotten, and it is our moral obligation to condemn crimes of hatred, in hope that history will not be repeated.

IN TRIBUTE TO ANNA MAE WILSON ROBERTSON

HON. GWEN MOORE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and honor a mother, volunteer and veteran, Anna Mae Wilson Robertson. Mrs. Robertson, a long-time resident of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, will celebrate her 90th birthday with family and friends on March 8, 2014. Annie Mae Wilson married John Robertson, who passed away in 1982, and their 33 year union produced 8 children. Mrs. Robertson work history included jobs at Marquette University and St. Camillus Health Center.

Mrs. Robertson enlisted in the Army in 1945 and served in the Women's Army Corps (WAC) 6888 Central Postal Directory Battalion (The Six Triple Eight). The 6888 comprised of 855 women has a long list of firsts and accomplishments, including the first African American all-female battalion and the first and ONLY all women battalion to be deployed overseas. The 6888 confronted life threatening German U Boats on route to Europe in February, 1945 and upon their arrival in England were greeted by Buzz Bombs.

Letters and care packages vital to the morale of soldiers were delayed across Western Europe. The 6888 developed a new mail system housed in three air hangars from floor to ceiling for distribution to the 7 million Army. Navy, Marine Corps, civilian and Red Cross Personnel in Europe. The task was daunting with many letters addressed improperly: some letters were over two years old, and nearly 7500 Robert Smiths to be properly identified. The working conditions were abysmal with no heat in the hangars, windows blacked out due to air raids and the poor light contributed to eyestrain. However, the 6888 successfully processed 65,000 pieces of mail on each of the 3 shifts, 7 days a week.

The 6888 operated under the challenges of "dual segregation" being women and African American; they were not allowed to sleep, shower or eat with other female personnel or soldiers while in Birmingham, England. They were housed in a former boarding school and out of necessity operated their own mess hall. hair salon, and motor pool adding to their workload. The 6888 completed their assignment in 3 months instead of 6 months and were then reassigned to Rouen, France. While in France, they no longer faced the challenges of segregation. Again the 6888 completed their assignment in 3 months in Rouen, France and were reassigned to Paris, their last assignment with the war ending a short time later. Three women of the 6888 lost their lives overseas and were buried in France.

The 6888 was shipped home to Fort Dix and immediately disbanded. Anna Mae Robertson Wilson was a member of this "Band of Sisters", who served honorably, and whose story was largely untold and its successes not celebrated. Mr. Speaker, Anna Mae Wilson Robertson and the 6888 Central Postal Directory Battalion performed above and beyond expectations. I am proud to celebrate her 90th Birthday and her accomplishments as a veteran and resident of Milwaukee.

HONORING PASTOR DR. JOHN E. CAMERON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Pastor Dr. John E. Cameron who was born on June 11, 1932, just outside of Hattiesburg, Mississippi in Petal. His parents were the late Mr. A.C. and Mrs. Courtney Cameron. He is the fourteenth of sixteen children.

Pastor Cameron was educated in the Springfield Vocational High School in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, where he graduated in 1951. He later attended Alcorn A and M College in Lorman, Mississippi. He attended Rust College in Holly Springs, Mississippi where he received his B.S. degree. Pastor Cameron also attended the American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, Tennessee where his major was social science (theology).

Pastor Cameron has been serving in a pastoral position for more than forty years. His first position was at First Baptist Church in Oxford, Mississippi. He is currently pastor at Greater Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi where he has been since 1970. Pastor Cameron has been active in numerous organizations and actively involved in the civil rights movement extending back prior to his involvement with Dr. Martin Luther King on voter registration campaigns in the Hattiesburg, Mississippi area.

Pastor Cameron has been involved in civic affairs which included his bid for the United States Congress Fifth Congressional District in the State of Mississippi. He was the director of the Hattiesburg Ministers' Project and served as Ambassador to Central America. Presently, he serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Pearl River Valley Redevelopment Basin in Hinds County.

Pastor Cameron has been cited in Who's Who in Black America, Notable Americans in the Bicentennial Era and Outstanding Community Leader. He has received a proclamation from Mayor Dale Danks, Jr., a proclamation from Judge Alexander in Hinds County and he served as a colonel on Governor Cliff Finch's staff.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor John E. Cameron for his dedication to serving others.