

Reverend A.J. Turner, and Reverend A.J. Green.

From 1918 to 1972, the six pastors who led the church included Reverend S.A. Adamson, Reverend C.C. Terry, Reverend G.W. Sims, Reverend J.P. Madison, Reverend B.O. Phillips, and Reverend R.L. Thompson.

In March 1973, Reverend Elijah Jackson, Jr. was called to lead the flock and in April 1974, the Wehadkee Missionary Baptist Church was incorporated. In October of that same year, Reverend Jackson presided over the church's first centennial celebration.

For the past 42 years, Reverend Jackson has led the congregation with distinction as the longest serving Pastor of the church. His spouse, First Lady Farris Jackson, plays an important role in his ministry.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly join President Obama in celebrating the 141st anniversary of the Wehadkee Missionary Baptist Church.

I am pleased to join in celebrating your 141st anniversary.

Throughout our Nation's history, places of worship have brought us together in the spirit of faith and love. Offering space for celebration in times of joy and comfort in times of uncertainty, they help foster a strong sense of community and call on us to meet life's most sacred responsibility—to give of ourselves in service to others.

As you mark this special milestone, I hope you take pride in your community's commitment to faith. May the years ahead be filled with continued blessings.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *August 28, 2015.*

OCTAVIA GEE—BEST IN THE  
WORLD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 7, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate nine year old Octavia Gee from Sugar Land, Texas for setting a world shot put record.

Octavia, a student at Settler Way Elementary, recently competed at the Texas Vs. The World All Comers Meet with the goal of setting a world record in the nine-year-old division with an 8.8-pound shot put. If Octavia was nervous, she didn't show it, blasting the old record with a throw of 7.28 meters. Even better—she broke the world record on her mom's birthday. Octavia made her family, friends, and community proud. We look forward to seeing her set more records. We'll definitely see Octavia in future Olympic games.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Octavia for setting a world shot put record.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 7, 2015*

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, for 50 years the National Collegiate Honors Council has been

enriching the lives and education of honors program students around the country. I rise today to congratulate them on this historic accomplishment. Serving over 325,000 honors students at 800 colleges and universities, the NCHC is dedicated to excellence in education in diverse subject and curriculum areas.

I would like to further honor the University of California, Riverside, in my home district. Since 1988 the University of California, Riverside has provided a world-class honors education to its students.

Founded on the principle of strengthening the involvement of faculty in undergraduate teaching and, through doing so, improve the quality of undergraduate education, the University of California, Riverside's honors program has produced significant results.

With their four-year honors program, the University has a program that provides intellectual growth, personal development, and social responsibility, at its core. The four-year honors program provides guidance and preparation to students, and allows entry portals to select students who demonstrated academic excellence, interest in research, or creative activities, that led to a senior thesis project.

The robust honors program at The University of California, Riverside has proven to be at the pinnacle of education creating the global citizens of today and tomorrow.

TRIBUTE TO CLEMENCIA SPIZIRRI

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 7, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Clemencia Spizirri for being named Iowa's Teacher of the Year by the Iowa Department of Education.

Established in 1958, the Iowa Teacher of the Year Award recognizes one teacher each year who displays the ability to motivate, challenge and inspire their students. They must be someone who is respected by their peers and students. The Teacher of the Year must be able to think outside the box and have a positive influence on their students, not only inside the classroom but also outside the classroom.

Clemencia is a shining example of all the qualities this award represents. She has dedicated her career to bettering the lives of her students through effective teaching techniques and a determination to provide high quality education for each and every one of her students. It is clear that Clemencia is uniquely qualified and deserving of this prestigious award.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Clemencia for receiving this award and for her role in molding the leaders of our future generations. Her hard work and dedication truly embodies our Iowa values, and I am proud to represent her in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Clemencia and in wishing her nothing but the best moving forward.

RECOGNIZING FLORIDA'S 16TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FIRE AND RESCUE AND EMS PERSONNEL

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 7, 2015*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize fire and rescue and EMS personnel who have provided distinguished service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

As first responders, fire departments and emergency medical service teams are summoned on short notice to serve their respective communities. Oftentimes, they arrive at scenes of great adversity and trauma, to which they reliably bring strength and composure. These brave men and women spend hundreds of hours in training so that they are prepared when they get "the call."

In 2012, I established the 16th District Congressional Fire and Rescue and EMS Awards to honor officers, departments, and units for outstanding achievement.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District, it is my privilege to congratulate the following winners, who were selected this year by an independent committee comprised of a cross section of current and retired fire and rescue personnel living in the district.

Firefighter/EMT Michael Dunn of the Cedar Hammock Fire Rescue was chosen to receive the Preservation of Life Award.

Lt. Don Rossow of the Englewood Area Fire Control District was chosen to receive the Dedication and Professionalism Award.

District Chief/Paramedic Robin Thayer of the Manatee County Emergency Medical Services was chosen to receive the Career Service Award.

Lt. Jason Wilkins, Lt. Jamie Mann, Firefighter/EMT Nicholas Jones, Firefighter/Paramedic Sean Sponable and Firefighter/EMT Clayton Huber were chosen to receive the Unit Citation Award.

Deputy Chief Brett Pollock of the West Manatee Fire and Rescue was chosen to receive the Career Service Award.

Fire Investigator/Inspector Larry Betts of the Southern Manatee Fire and Rescue District was chosen to receive the Dedication and Professionalism Award.

IN MEMORY OF GREGORY THOMAS  
ALIA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 7, 2015*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, tragically Forest Acres, South Carolina, Police Officer Gregory Thomas Alia was killed Wednesday, September 30th at Richland Fashion Mall in the line of duty protecting the people of his community. There was an outpouring of love and appreciation for his services. The following obituary is from The State on October 2nd.

Columbia—A Mass of Christian burial for Officer Gregory Thomas Alia, 32, will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, October 3, 2015, at St.