

willingness to give it his best effort is what will be valuable later in life. I am honored to represent Will in the United States Congress. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Will Babcock and his team for competing and winning this rigorous competition. We all share in wishing him nothing but continued success.

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IN HONOR OF LADY RUTH  
SKINNER

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**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a dear friend of long-standing to my wife, Vivian and me, Lady Ruth Skinner, on 60 years of life and 40 years devoted to the ministry of Jesus Christ. David Viscott once said that, "The purpose of life is to discover your gift. The work of life is to develop it. The Meaning of life is to give your gift away." Ruth Skinner has given her life away in service to God, her family, the Columbus community and the broader faith community. Truly, we and the world are all better for it.

Ruth Skinner, affectionately called "Lady", was born and reared in Columbus, Georgia where she attended Columbus Technical College and became a Master Cosmetologist and businesswoman, in her own right. Furthermore, she is a member of Bread of Life Christian Center Ministries, Inc., where she has served as the Founding First Lady for over 31 years alongside her loving husband, Bishop L.D. Skinner, Sr.

Lady Ruth Skinner's passion and dedication for her faith inspired her to lead. She has dedicated 40 years of her life to the ministry and has taken the gifts with which she had been endowed by God to better support her community. As a Ruling Elder of Bread of Life Christian Center Ministries and National Director of Explosion Ministries Fellowship Association of Churches (EMFAC), a fellowship of interdenominational ministries and churches, she demonstrates her leadership and unwavering faith in God.

She is the mother to three sons—Pastor Darnel Skinner, Jr., Darrell Skinner, and Darius Skinner—and loves spending time with her siblings and grandchildren. Her 60 years of life, thus far, have been filled by travel with her husband, expanding her knowledge through literature, and nurturing her relationship with both God and God's people. Lady Ruth lives by the idea that only what you do for Christ will last, and her selfless dedication and service make it clear the lives she has touched over the years have been irreversibly changed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me in extending our gratitude and best wishes to Lady Ruth Skinner on the occasion of her 60th birthday, and the celebration of 40 years of faithful service in the ministry of Jesus Christ. To God be the glory for the things He has done through the life of Lady Ruth Skinner.

HOWARD L. CHAMBERS, LEG-  
ENDARY LAKEWOOD CITY MAN-  
AGER TO RETIRE

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**HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, Howard L. Chambers, who has served as the city manager of the City of Lakewood for four decades, is the California city manager with the longest tenure in the same city—this in a profession where the average length of service in California is about seven years.

A lifelong member of the Lakewood community, Howard grew up near Mayfair Park, went to neighborhood schools, and worked at the YMCA.

After earning his degree at Cal State Long Beach, Howard interned at the City of Lakewood for two years, handling youth services. He then went to work with the City of Rosemead as an assistant city manager.

Howard returned to Lakewood in 1972 in the role of an executive assistant to the city manager. In 1976, he was named acting city administrator and shortly thereafter hired to permanently fill the position, which was later re-titled as city manager, by the city council.

During his 40-year tenure as a city manager, Howard Chambers has become a respected leader among area city managers, always willing to take the time to share his professional experience with his colleagues on issues affecting Southern California, its residents, and its infrastructure.

Howard has also worked tirelessly and effectively on ad hoc committees and coalitions to address federal, state, and local issues, and has never shied away from a principled battle. As a long-term member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), Chairman of the Southeast Los Angeles County Municipal Management Group, the California Contract Cities Association, and a member of the League of California Cities' City Managers Division, Howard has worked with elected and appointed city officials, legislators, regulators, the business community, residents, and others to achieve solutions to the critical issues affecting local governments.

In addition to his public service, Howard Chambers has made community service a priority. His involvement includes the Lakewood Rotary Club, the Weingart-Lakewood Family YMCA, Lakewood Special Olympics, the American Heart Association, Su Casa Ending Domestic Violence, Lakewood Regional Hospital, Kris Kringle Charity Golf Tournament, and Project Shepherd.

For his sustained excellence, he has been recognized throughout his career by a variety of organizations including ICMA, Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government, California Jaycees, YMCA, Lakewood City Council, Lakewood City Employees Association, and Su Casa Ending Domestic Violence.

During his tenure, Howard Chambers managed the city's largest public works project in its first 50 years: the \$16 million improvement of the Lakewood Civic Center and construction of The Centre at Sycamore Plaza. He later oversaw the \$21-million expansion and modernization of the Lakewood Sheriff's Station, the largest single project in the city's history.

The sheriff's station expansion project was completed without a new tax, tax increase, or special assessment.

Howard Chambers is considered a legend in the city management profession and is known for his ability to build working relationships with city staffers, civic leaders, and state legislators. He also is a role model for his peers. Known for his "teachable moments," he has become a mentor and teacher to new city managers. He has been and will continue to be passionate about local government, and his involvement in community activities and achievements in public service have resulted in significant benefits to Lakewood and surrounding communities.

During his four decades of service, Lakewood has deservedly earned many awards for the quality of its services, its commitment to responsive government, and its innovations.

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IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM B.  
PITTARD

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**HON. JOE BARTON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize William B. Pittard who is leaving the House to reenter the private practice of law. Mr. Pittard has served in the Office of the General Counsel for five and one-half years, initially as an Assistant Counsel; then, for nearly four and one-half years, as Deputy General Counsel; and, most recently, as Acting General Counsel. We will miss him.

Mr. Pittard provided frequent and invaluable legal advice and representation to Members of the House (including me and my staff), the officers of the House, the committees of the House, and the leadership of the House—most often in connection with their interactions with the other branches of the Federal Government. He did so professionally and without regard to partisan identity and, as a result, we came to rely on his expertise and guidance. Over the years, Mr. Pittard played a very significant role in safeguarding the legal and institutional interests of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Pittard has served the House with great distinction, and I am confident he will exhibit that same level of distinction in representing private clients. On behalf of myself and the entire House community, we thank Mr. Pittard for his many years of devoted service, and extend to him our very best wishes for his continued success.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF COACH  
PAUL GROVER OF PENSACOLA,  
FLORIDA

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**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise to remember Coach Paul Grover from Florida's First Congressional District. Paul passed away on Wednesday June 22, after six courageous years of battling with cancer.