

the importance of combining athletics, academics, and the significant role of teachers, parents, coaches, and community leaders in the educational processes. To enhance this vision, the Gary Chamber of Commerce chose David J. Johns, Executive Director for the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African Americans, as a guest speaker for the corporate luncheon. This initiative works with federal agencies and partners nationwide to improve the range of educational programs for African Americans. David is not only passionate about empowering youth and conducting research to improve the perception of African American males, he is also heavily committed to educational improvement in the African American community. Through his passion and tireless contributions to education, Mr. Johns has proven to be an extraordinary advocate and example to all youth and is an inspiration to us all.

At this time, I would like to recognize the schools who participated in the Lakeshore Classic basketball tournament. These teams are dedicated to achieving academic excellence and to demonstrating exceptional sportsmanship. The participating teams include the Gary West Side Lady Cougars, Gary West Side Cougars, John Marshall Lady Commandos, John Marshall Commandos, East Chicago Central Cardinals, Thea Bowman Eagles, Charles A. Tindley Tigers, and the Griffith Panthers.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask you to join me in recognizing the Gary Chamber of Commerce, as well as the organizers and sponsors of the 9th annual Lakeshore Classic. Their leadership, enthusiasm, and dedication to our youth and Northwest Indiana is worthy of the highest praise.

RECOGNIZING PEACH TREE
HEALTH ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peach Tree Health for its 25 years of providing quality and affordable healthcare to medically underserved communities in the 3rd District of California.

Peach Tree Health is a federally qualified health center and an independent non-profit corporation based in Marysville, California. It has successfully extended its services throughout three counties within the 3rd District without sacrificing its core values of compassion, integrity, excellence, and cooperation in providing care for almost 30,000 patients.

In August, Peach Tree Health opened its first clinic in Sacramento County, launching a unique vision care service designed to maximize access to any child regardless of their family's ability to pay. In 2017, Peach Tree Health will be opening a comprehensive Pediatric Center in Yuba City, California, that will offer health and dental services.

The Department of Health and Human Services recently awarded Peach Tree Health a federal grant that will allow it to enhance its health information technology, further enhancing the quality of care it provides.

Congratulations to Peach Tree Health on this important milestone and its continued work offering personalized health services at affordable rates. Its services are of great importance to communities throughout the 3rd District and I look forward to working with them in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF PICATINNY
ARSENAL'S STEM PROGRAM

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education program developed by the United States Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC) at Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey.

This STEM Educational Outreach Program supports public and private schools, colleges and universities, and professional development training throughout the state of New Jersey. Participants of the program have the opportunity to visit with exceptional engineers and scientists in their laboratories, gain funding for their student robotics teams and sponsorship for student competitions, and benefit from the creation of new instructional materials. Approximately 200 Picatinny scientists and engineers have volunteered to support STEM education by making over 1000 classroom visits, staffing over 100 educational field trips to Picatinny Arsenal's laboratories, participating in the annual "Introduce a Girl to Engineering" Open House, assisting nearly 800 teachers, and inspiring 50,000 students in over 400 schools, including many throughout the 10th Congressional District of New Jersey.

This program has been developed to inspire students and educators through fresh and stimulating classroom activities in all avenues of STEM education. It has been custom tailored to meet the specific needs of individual schools using cutting edge technologies that are critical in order to compete in this current employment market. On behalf of the New Jersey youth, I am humbled to see such dedication from ARDEC's staff and professionals who are dedicated to transferring their knowledge of emerging technologies in STEM and look forward to the next generation of scientists and engineers from NJ-10.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
MICHAEL SIMONOFF

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Michael Scott Simonoff—a beloved husband, father, and son—who passed away following a motorcycle accident on Wednesday, November 9, 2016.

Michael was born in 1967 to Jerome and Carol Simonoff in New York and spent his formative years in Plainview, Long Island. He graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in 1985 and attended the University of Denver

where he received a Bachelor's of Science in Accounting and a CPA license. He went on to earn a law degree from Whittier Law School in Southern California in 1998.

While Michael is recognized for his business acumen, he was also extraordinarily generous with his time and resources. He started his own firm, the Simonoff Group that provided office services, consulting, and bookkeeping to businesses. As a member of the California State Bar, Michael also used his legal expertise to negotiate complex real estate deals.

His ceaseless generosity is manifested in his final act of goodness. Michael donated his organs to ensure others in need could have the gift of life. His family hopes this beautiful gift will allow others to live their lives to the fullest and extend Michael's free and beautiful spirit.

Michael is survived by his wife, Elayne Howitt, and two sons, Joel Simonoff and Sam Simonoff and two stepsons Adam Howitt and Josh Howitt of Encino, California. He also leaves behind his parents Jerome and Carol Simonoff of Marina Del Rey, California, his brother Zachary Simonoff, sister-in-law Lisa Swenski of Lorain, Ohio, his sister Rachael Wexler, brother-in-law Eric Wexler as well as his niece Amanda Wexler and nephew Harrison (Harry) Wexler of Pacific Palisades, California. He is survived by many good friends and extended family.

A funeral was held for Michael on Sunday November 13, 2016 at the Mount Sinai Cemetery. In the spirit of Michael's generosity, the Simonoff family requested that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to charities of their choice. I wish Michael's family nothing but peace and solace as they mourn the loss of a cherished husband, father, and son. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Michael Simonoff's beautiful life.

HONORING THE LATE DR. LUNA
ISAAC MISHOE

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Luna Isaac Mishoe, former President of Delaware State College and a veteran of World War II. Revered as a mentor, guide, and instructor, Dr. Mishoe was a symbol of hope for many young African American individuals.

One of America's most distinguished mathematicians and physicists, Dr. Mishoe was only the 17th African American in this country to earn a Ph.D. in Mathematics. Indeed, Dr. Mishoe was a very well educated man: he held a Bachelor of Science Degree in mathematics and chemistry from Allen University, a Master of Science Degree in mathematics and physics from the University of Michigan, and a Doctor of Philosophy in mathematics from New York University, as well as a year of post-doctoral research in mathematics at Oxford University. And, at the age of 63, while serving as President of Delaware State, Dr. Mishoe graduated once again, this time with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting and Business Administration, and a Master of Business Administration Degree from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. His tenacious desire to pursue his education is truly inspiring.