

in 1818. It was named after the first governor of Illinois, Shadrach Bond who helped develop the first big transportation and infrastructure project for Illinois.

Bond County has witnessed many moments in our nation's history. Both Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas gave speeches there in 1858 for their Senatorial election and the Liberty Bell made its way through the county in 1915. Additionally, President Ronald Reagan appeared there in 1980 for a campaign speech.

Bond County is also home to Greenville College, a 4-year Christian university founded on prayer that focuses on the pillars of faith and community to advance students' learning. Greenville facilitated multiple mission trips, study abroad programs, and home-service projects in 2016.

There is much for the citizens of this county to be proud of. A county with such a rich history of beauty, politics, and pride deserves to be recognized after 200 fantastic years.

IN RECOGNITION OF KAREN
SHORTER

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 2, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 15th year anniversary of the organ donation made by one of my constituents, Karen Shorter, of Manassas Park, Virginia. On July 30th, 2002, Ms. Shorter donated one of her kidneys to Janet Melson Burns, a neighbor in need. Together they volunteered at the National Kidney Foundation as members of their Speaker's Bureau. Through the Foundation's Speaker's Bureau they both came to Capitol Hill where they spoke on the importance of the prevention and treatment of various kidney diseases.

Every year, Ms. Shorter and Ms. Burns celebrate a Happy Life Day on the anniversary of their transplant. These two have a ferocious friendship that transcends distance made. This is evident by the fact that even though Janet and her husband live in Atlanta, Georgia, she and Karen still make time for their Happy Life Day celebration. Through the transplant they have come to know personally each other's direct and extended family. This action has brought them closer together as people, neighbors, and friends. I am proud to have Karen Shorter as my constituent in the 10th district and hope she continues to share her heartwarming story on organ donation. In addition to her selfless act of kindness, Ms. Shorter recently retired after 25 years of government service to the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Washington, DC and I thank her for her service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Ms. Shorter for her actions and volunteer work and to wish them a "Happy Life Day" when they meet in Charleston, South Carolina this July.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARGARET
MARY CANTY, RSCJ AS SHE
CELEBRATES HER 50TH JUBILEE
AS A RELIGIOUS OF THE SA-
CRED HEART

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 2, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Margaret Mary Canty, RSCJ for her life and service and work on behalf of the southeast Michigan community. As a former headmistress and current member of the Academy of the Sacred Heart's Board of Trustees, Sister Canty has served the school and community at large through her tireless efforts and service.

As Headmistress of the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Bloomfield Hills from 1988 through 2000, Sister Canty's leadership played a critical role in helping the school grow and evolve to meet the needs of the students, staff and community at large. Under Sister Canty, the school established the Early Childhood Program and oversaw a successful capital campaign that allowed it to expand its science facilities and build a new After School Learning center. These actions helped the Academy of Sacred Heart modernize and serve a new generation of students. After she left Sacred Heart in 2000, Sister Canty worked with the Kenwood Academy (now Doane Stuart) in New York, in a variety of positions to help the school restructure and serve its retired RCSJs. Today, Sister Canty serves on the Academic of the Sacred Heart's Board of Trustees, where she provides guidance and advice to the school.

Sister Canty's life of service and leadership has inspired a new generation of thoughtful and community-minded students and educators. Her tenure at both Sacred Heart and Doane Stuart was transformative, and the initiatives that she has championed continue to help cultivate a new generation of Sacred Heart leaders. It is my hope that these institutions will build on Sister Canty's legacy of excellence in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Margaret Mary Canty, RSCJ on her 50th Jubilee for her lifetime of service and accomplishments. Sister Canty has served the southeast Michigan community well through her work with the Academy of the Sacred Heart and the critical role her involvement played in its growth and development.

TRIBUTE TO EDGAR AND NANCY
MUENZER AND THE PARK RIDGE
CIVIC ORCHESTRA

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 2, 2017

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of the late Edgar and Nancy Muenzer, co-founders of the Park Ridge Civic Orchestra. To honor their hard work and tireless commitment, the Park Ridge Civic Orchestra will be presenting a "Founders Memorial Concert" on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 featuring Chicago Symphony Orches-

tra violinist David Taylor as guest soloist at The Pickwick Theatre in Park Ridge, Illinois.

The Park Ridge Civic Orchestra (PRCOrchestra) features more than 70 professional musicians, renowned soloists, and top-ranked student talents and serves the north and northwest areas of Chicago, its suburbs, and beyond. Founded in 1994 by veteran Chicago Symphony Orchestra first violinist Edgar Muenzer, his wife Nancy, and a cadre of devoted supporters, the PRCOrchestra fulfilled the Muenzer's wish to give back after a rewarding lifetime in professional music. Now led by a group of local business owners, musicians, civic leaders, and others, the PRCOrchestra continues to bring enriching, live classical music to the community.

The PRCOrchestra's founder Edgar Muenzer was the orchestra's conductor and music director for two decades from 1994 to 2014. A longtime Park Ridge resident with his wife Nancy, Edgar brought many years of performing, conducting, and teaching to this role. In 2014, Edgar stepped down from the position of Music Director, giving the reins to his son, current PRCOrchestra Music Director Victor Muenzer. He then continued to serve as Music Director Emeritus until his death in 2016. Among the many honors he earned during his illustrious life, Maestro Muenzer was named Conductor of the Year by the Illinois Council of Orchestras. Edgar and his wife Nancy also earned the Illinois Humanities Council Studs Terkel Humanities Service Award for their tireless commitment to bringing inspiring music to the community.

Nancy K. Muenzer was the co-founder of the Park Ridge Civic Orchestra and wife of Edgar Muenzer. A driving force behind the Orchestra's successful development, the charismatic Mrs. Muenzer worked tirelessly to inspire and enlist major sponsors and donors in support of the Orchestra. Through Mrs. Muenzer's direct efforts and that of the generous music-lovers she recruited, the PRCOrchestra performed five major concerts each year at the historic Pickwick Theatre in Park Ridge. Mrs. Muenzer also managed an array of special events and smaller concerts in between. Mrs. Muenzer continued in her role until 2014, helping the Orchestra transition to the next generation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the late Edgar and Nancy Muenzer and the members of the Park Ridge Civic Orchestra for their dedication to cultivating enriching classical music in the community. I congratulate and wish each of them every success in their upcoming "Founders Memorial Concert." Illinois's Ninth Congressional District is proud to be home to the brilliantly talented members of this organization, and for their outstanding gifts, leadership, and service, these members are worthy of the highest praise.

IN MEMORY OF LOUISE EPTING

HON. DANA ROHRABACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 2, 2017

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, Americans should remember what makes us a great and free country. It isn't a gift. It is earned by those conscientious individuals who get involved, donate their time, and do their share.