

THERESA A. MANUEL

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary Tampa resident and Olympian, Theresa A. Manuel. While Ms. Manuel competed internationally in track and field, her undying commitment to students at home as a teacher and coach may have had an even greater impact on the hearts of my neighbors across the Tampa Bay area.

Despite growing up during segregation, Theresa Manuel persevered through adversity to become the first African-American woman from Florida to compete in the Olympic Games. Ms. Manuel was born in 1926 in Port Tampa City, Florida. As a young woman, she was a star basketball player at Middleton High School in Tampa. Ms. Manuel had such a love for basketball that she would often convince neighbors to set up lamps at night so she and her teammates could practice on the outdoor court near Middleton High. She attended the Tuskegee Institute, now Tuskegee University in Alabama, where she was affectionately nicknamed Trick Shot for her skill in basketball and in addition won multiple championships for the Tuskegee Track and Field team.

In the summer before her senior year, Ms. Manuel made history by competing as a member of the U.S. Track and Field team at the 1948 Olympic Games in London. She competed in the Olympics at a time when sports were not widely considered open to women, let alone black women. She represented her country with dignity and grace, and upon returning home she and her team proudly celebrated their success with President Harry Truman at the White House.

After graduating from Tuskegee, Ms. Manuel moved back to Tampa to care for her ailing mother and began her 38-year career as a decorated teacher and coach. She was a legendary coach in Tampa. She led her teams to multiple state championships and was named the best coach in Hillsborough County in 1975, and subsequently the best in the state of Florida in 1976.

Ms. Manuel continued to garner countless honors and awards throughout her distinguished lifetime. Some of those honors include being inducted into the Tuskegee Institute Hall of Fame and City of Tampa Hall of Fame and being named one of the "100 Distinguished Women of Hillsborough County."

Ms. Manuel's importance to the African American community in Florida and indeed all Floridians transcends even her many accomplishments in sport. Most importantly, she will always be remembered as a great leader and giant matriarchal figure to the thousands of students whose lives she touched. She was a champion in all facets of life. On November 21st, 2016, Ms. Manuel passed away at the age of 90 in Tampa, Florida.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the Tampa Bay community, I am proud to honor Ms. Theresa A. Manuel for her lifelong service and inspirational life.

TRIBUTE TO JESSE BUNNEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jesse Bunney for being named a 2017 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2017 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 680 past business leaders and growing.

Jesse Bunney is a Senior Associate at CBRE/Hubbell Commercial. One of his main goals is to be the leading commercial real estate agent in Des Moines. Jesse dedicates his time and abilities to a number of different central Iowa organizations including: the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's Iowa Corporate Board, Best Buddies Iowa, Meals from the Heartland, and Young Life Des Moines. Above all, his highest priorities include being a husband, father, and raising his children to be aware of the needs of others.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Jesse in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize him today for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Jesse on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2017 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

IN SUPPORT OF THE 2020 PLAN

HON. CHARLIE CRIST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. CRIST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an innovative effort in my hometown of St. Petersburg, Florida that's empowering the community and changing lives. Looking for new solutions to the chronic problem of poverty in the African American community, and spearheaded by local activist Gypsy Gallardo, a partnership between the Pinellas County Urban League, the City of St. Petersburg, and over 100 grassroots community organizations, known as the 2020 Plan, is already showing results.

The goal is simple and direct—reduce poverty by 30 percent in the South St. Petersburg community by 2020. The Plan, focused on providing a hand-up, not just a hand-out, is holistic. It connects all aspects of society; government, the business community, the non-profit sector, and concerned citizens, focusing on investment in economically distressed

areas to generate jobs and revenue, career training and education to reduce barriers to employment, and providing the necessary social services to strengthen the family unit. Since its inception two years ago, the Plan and its partners have raised \$2.2 million through a combination of grants, private investment, and donations.

If the most recent Census data is indicative, The Plan is having a real impact. In 2015, the poverty rate in this community dropped by 8.5 percent. That's compared to a 1.7 percent decline in Florida and a 1.6 percent decline nationally over the same period.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this effort, and couldn't be more proud of my hometown. The 2020 Plan underscores the power of community coming together to care for each other. It is inspiring, and holds promise as a model for communities across the country. I salute their leadership, and look forward to our working together in the years ahead to reach our goal.

TRIBUTE TO RYAN CRANE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ryan Crane for being named a 2017 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2017 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 680 past business leaders and growing.

Ryan works with the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, where he helped to raise a record-setting \$62 million. Outside of work, Ryan is very active within the community. He volunteers his time at the Des Moines Social Club and the West Des Moines Public Art Advisory Council, works to expand the local chapter of the New Leaders Council, and administers the First Friday Breakfast Club scholarship program. In his free time, you can find him running or cycling on one of the many local trails.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Ryan in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize him today for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Ryan on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2017 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.