

important services and investments, helps Members of Congress address local challenges, and provides sound guidance to federal agencies as they administer federal law. But Members of the Appropriations Committee could not accomplish any of these goals if not for the hard work and support of dedicated staff, like David.

His retirement is bittersweet. Since 2011, David has led our House Democratic staff and supported the Members of our Committee with wisdom, calm, and occasionally boisterous laughter. David and I have had more emergency meetings, late night conference calls, and strategy sessions than either of us care to remember. His steady hand has been an asset during some of the most contentious funding debates with which the federal government has ever had to grapple.

While we already miss his depth of knowledge, expertise, and good humor, we are delighted for him to begin this new chapter in his life.

Having grown up on the West Coast, the son of a successful professional in the entertainment industry, David's return to his family's roots on the East Coast and his pursuit of a long career in federal service may have seemed counterintuitive. Prior to his distinguished career on Capitol Hill, Dr. Pomerantz was an Assistant Professor of Political Philosophy at SUNY Stony Brook. He began his service to the U.S. House of Representatives with the Democratic staff of the Rules Committee in 1983. He joined the Appropriations Committee in 2001, where he served as Professional Staff, Clerk of the Commerce, Justice, State Subcommittee, and Director of the nonpartisan Surveys & Investigations staff under Chairman and Ranking Member David Obey and finally as Democratic Staff Director for Ranking Member Norm Dicks and myself.

David reflects the best of this institution. He served the Appropriations Committee, the Rules Committee, and the U.S. Congress with integrity and skill. His time and talents were essential in solving some of the greatest challenges before the Congress, particularly in recent years when we faced government shut-downs and gridlock over appropriations and budget matters. In addition to his expertise of agency and program budgets, his knowledge of parliamentary process is unparalleled. His vast institutional knowledge of the House is second to none, and he will be sorely missed. Members of the Committee, staff, and the full Democratic caucus are deeply indebted for his tireless service and dedication.

It is a testament to David's leadership that our Committee remains so well prepared to address the great challenges we face, and his lasting imprint will be an unyielding commitment to fighting for Democratic ideals and an excellent staff who will carry forward his legacy.

I wish David the best as he begins this new and exciting chapter in his life.

GOLD STAR FAMILIES

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2017

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank College of the Ozarks in

Branson, Missouri, for their dedication to honoring Gold Star Families in Missouri by building Missouri's first memorial dedicated to those individual families.

A Gold Star family is one that has lost a loved one in military service.

The Gold Star memorial on College of the Ozarks campus will honor Gold Star Families of Missouri. This memorial preserves the memory of the fallen and stands as a stark reminder that freedom is not free. College of the Ozarks feels that it is their duty to honor all who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. Building this memorial is the college's way of honoring those families that sacrificed everything in the name of freedom.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing College of the Ozarks on their outstanding dedication to this country by honoring Missouri's Gold Star Families.

DEATH OF SECRETARY WILLIAM
T. COLEMAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2017

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a civil rights champion: Secretary William T. Coleman.

I had the privilege to know while working as a congressional staffer for another civil rights hero, Congressman Ron Dellums.

Secretary Coleman served this country with character and conviction.

He served in World War II and graduated first in his 1946 Harvard Law School Class.

He also broke through racial barriers to become the first African American Supreme Court Clerk and the second African-American in U.S. history to lead a Cabinet-level department.

Secretary Coleman believed deeply in the Constitution and fought to defend civil rights at all costs.

It was his commitment to that belief that led Thurgood Marshall to recruit Secretary Coleman to coauthor the legal brief in *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954.

I was honored to work in a bipartisan fashion alongside Secretary Coleman's Special Assistant, Elaine Jones during his tenure as Secretary of Transportation in the Ford Administration.

Together we were able to include language on affirmative action in the Airport and Airway Development Act.

Secretary Coleman's determination in the face of discrimination has served as an inspiration for me throughout my career.

My thoughts and prayers are with Bill's wife and family during this trying time.

I am confident that his legacy will live on through the lives of those he touched.

May his soul rest in peace.

IN HONOR OF ALENE OWENS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, after four decades of service on the Downhome

Gospel radio show on KMVL and two decades as the show's primary host, Alene Owens signed off Madisonville's airwaves on Sunday, April 2, 2017.

Although she was born 84 years ago in Nacogdoches, Texas, Miss Alene and her family settled in Madisonville in 1976 where she began working as an assistant radio co-host. Never did she think she would host the Sunday morning gospel hour, but that is just what happened. After the host moved away, KMVL owner Leon Hunt asked Miss Alene to take over.

Miss Alene says she didn't know much about the radio business or hosting a radio show back then, but she dove right in and started sharing her love of the Lord to all who tuned in. She cherishes the listeners and supporters of her show and considers herself blessed to share God's glory over the radio.

As a busy member of Lakeview Missionary Baptist Church, Miss Alene has more praise for the Lord than ever. She is Superintendent of her Sunday School Class and a member of a prayer band that meets four times a week—all while striving to get even more involved in her Women's Bible Class.

As if her calling wasn't enough, Miss Alene is excited about having more time to enjoy her nine great-grandchildren. While she feels the Lord moving her in a new direction, she remains thankful for her faithful listeners, station owner Leon Hunt, the KMVL family, and especially her Heavenly Father for "the strength to continue on this long."

She is confident that the next Downhome Gospel host will take the program she has loved for four decades to "another level in the name of Jesus." As she embarks on her next adventure, it is my honor to recognize Miss Alene and thank her for her many years of faithful service.

HONORING GIVE EVERY CHILD A
CHANCE CEO CAROL DAVIS

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2017

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor Carol Davis for her long commitment to the future of our youth and her belief in the power of education to improve our communities. Over the last 17 years, Carol Davis' leadership has been instrumental to the academic success of thousands of struggling students in my district.

Ms. Davis turned her lifelong passion for helping children into reality when she became the CEO of Give Every Child A Chance 17 years ago. At that time Give Every Child A Chance (GECAC) was tutoring 125 students within the Manteca Unified School District and had 50 volunteer tutors. In her first year as CEO, Ms. Davis expanded Give Every Child A Chance to provide tutoring assistance to 325 students in need. 17 years later, Give Every Child A Chance reaches more than 4,500 students in 49 schools with more than 400 mentors and tutors. Carol Davis' outstanding leadership and vision has helped make Give Every Child A Chance the San Joaquin region's leading non-profit afterschool program and has greatly improved the lives of thousands of children.