

Ivy Vicory is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ivy Vicory is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ivy Vicory for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO LEE SCHULZ

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lee Schulz, Chief Executive Officer of IndependenceFirst in Milwaukee. Lee Schulz is retiring from IndependenceFirst in April, 2018 after serving in this position for over 32 years. He has led the organization with dedication, passion, enthusiasm and motivation.

When Lee Schulz assumed this position in 1986, IndependenceFirst was a small organization of seven people with an annual operating budget of \$260,000. Under his guidance, the agency grew to 106 in-house staff and 1,600 Personal Care Workers with a budget of \$31 million. Lee Schulz has developed several innovative programs while at IndependenceFirst, such as: the statewide Women and Abuse Program; Alternative Financing Program, Home Ownership Program; the Try a Gadget Resource Center; and the Personal Assistance Program. He also led the relocation of IndependenceFirst into its current, owned facility which is a model of accessibility. I have had the opportunity and pleasure to utilize the IndependenceFirst's facility on many occasions; it is a welcoming environment for all.

Mr. Schulz has served several terms on the National Council for Independent Living's (NCIL) Board of Directors, served on the State Independent Living Council (SILC), co-founded Wisconsin's Coalition of Independent Living Centers (WCILC), served on several research and training center advisory committees on disability related issues, and served on several local non-profit board of directors.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Lee Schulz for his unwavering commitment to uphold IndependenceFirst's mission to effectively facilitate the empowerment of individuals with disabilities. Under his leadership, this multi-dimensional agency, IndependenceFirst, has assisted thousands of individuals with disabilities to live with dignity and independence. Next year, IndependenceFirst will celebrate their 40th year anniversary, without Lee Schulz at the helm but we know he has left a legacy of strong leadership there. The citizens of the Fourth Congressional District, the State of Wisconsin and the nation have benefited tremendously from his dedicated service. I am honored for these reasons to pay tribute to Lee Schulz.

HONORING PASTOR RONALD G. TONEY, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated husband, loving father, community activist and an outstanding Man of God, Pastor Ronald G. Toney, Sr., who is celebrating his 25th anniversary as the distinguished pastor of Lizzie Chapel Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia. An anniversary worship service was held on Sunday, April 8, 2018 at 11 a.m. at the church located at 1180 Bartlett Street in Macon, Georgia.

Pastor Toney was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to the union of Mr. Elijah and Mrs. Mary Toney. He graduated Cum Laude from Morehouse College in 1985 earning a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Religion and a minor in Psychology. Always seeking to improve the craft of Christian ministry and discipleship, he furthered his studies at The Interdenominational Theological Center and Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia.

Pastor Toney received the most important calling in his life in 1976 as a minister of the gospel. He served as assistant minister at Greater Galilee Baptist Church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin before serving as assistant pastor of Damascus Baptist Church in Milwaukee from 1979 to 1981; associate minister of Antioch Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia from 1981 to 1985; and pastor of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Thomson, Georgia from 1985 to 1993. On April 11, 1993, he answered the call to serve the Lizzie Chapel Baptist Church, where he has served for the past twenty-five years. Under Pastor Toney's leadership, the foundation of the church and the size of the congregation have grown tremendously.

Although Pastor Toney's official title is Pastor of Lizzie Chapel Baptist Church, he quickly realized that a true minister of the gospel must take the ministry to the people. Shirley Chisholm once said that, "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Pastor Toney has paid his rent and he has paid it well. Under his leadership, the church has created and grown ministries that have accomplished this very important purpose. These ministries include: Love's Attic, Community Thanksgiving, Community Scholarship, Angel Tree, and the church's Evangelism Ministry. The church also has community partnerships with the Macon Rescue Mission and Ingram/Pye Elementary School. He is founder and President of Ministry Addressing Neighbor Needs Abundantly, Inc. (MANNA), an organization dedicated to improving the lives of people that live in the Barlett Crossing/Cherokee Heights Community—one of Macon's most economically disadvantaged communities. He is an active member of many other religious-affiliated and other community-based organizations where he continuously pours his time and energy into his community, including: Haitian Empowerment of Life Project (HELP); Co-Founder and President of Gifts of Grace Foundation; Second Vice Moderator for Union Baptist Missionary and Educational Association of Middle Georgia; Foreign Mission Director for the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia;

First Vice President of the Sixth District for General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia; and an Instructor for the Congress of Christian Education. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Crisis Line Safe House, the Family Counseling Center, and Living Waters Recovery Home for Women.

George Washington Carver once said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Pastor Toney has gone far in life because his everlasting faith in the Lord is vivid testimony of His greatness to all whom he encounters. His love and commitment to Christ is reflected in his compassionate leadership, which makes him a guiding light within the community. He is an humble man who always puts himself in the shoes of others. It has been said that, "The true person of success is not the person that climbs the ladder of this life with two hands, but climbs the ladder of this life with one hand and reaches back with the other." Pastor Toney has always climbed the ladder of life with an eye towards helping others to reach their full potential, both spiritually and socially.

Pastor Toney has achieved much in his life but none of it would be possible without the grace of God and the love and support of his wife, Patricia, their children, Jason, LaTai, Ronald, Jr., and Erika; their nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the congregation of Lizzie Chapel Baptist Church, and the more than 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in extending our sincerest congratulations to the Pastor Ronald Gene Toney, Sr. A man of great accomplishment, he is an outstanding mentor and strong leader, but above all, he is a faithful servant of God who climbs "Jacob's Ladder" on a daily basis to make this world a better place to live for all of God's children.

RECOGNIZING THE GRACE COMMUNITY SCHOOL LADY COUGARS FOR WINNING THE TAPPS CLASS 5A BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is with enormous pride that I recognize and congratulate the Grace Community School Lady Cougars on an outstanding basketball season in which they captured the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Class 5A Basketball Championship.

The team finished this season with a most impressive 27–6 record, managing an undefeated 6–0 standing in their district. There was no doubt the Lady Cougars would be a powerful force in Texas and a basketball team with which to be reckoned.

The path to the championship found the Grace Community team defeating the number one ranked team 42–41 in the semi-final game.

Then, the Lady Cougars faced off with the team from Corpus Christi Incarnate Word to