

School in 1967, she enrolled at Jackson State University. At Jackson State she completed both a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and a Master's degree in Public Policy and Administration.

The degrees Ms. Denson received from Jackson State University began her life-long journey of helping to improve the health of Mississippians. She started her career in state government at the Mississippi State Department of Health in the 1990s and devoted more than 40 years of service to the agency. During her tenure, Ms. Denson served in many positions throughout the agency and has been awarded two of the highest awards with the Mississippi Public Health Association. In 2000, she was awarded the Felix Underwood Award and in 2002 the Jon Vic Baily Award for outstanding public health and community service.

Today, we celebrate the life and legacy of Louisa Young Denson. As we continue our pursuit of improving the quality of life for all Mississippians, let us do so by honoring a true change agent Ms. Louisa Young Denson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2018

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded for roll call votes on Thursday, July 12, 2018 because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye on final passage for H.R. 6237, the Matthew Young Pollard Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019 (Roll Call No. 326.) As a nation, we continue to face a growing number of threats that are becoming increasingly more complex and versatile in nature. This legislation is paramount to our continued efforts to protect the American people and keep our homeland safe from acts of terrorism.

HONORING ZACH MARTINEZ

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2018

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to honor the service to our country of an exemplary American, Zach Martinez. Born in East Los Angeles, Mr. Martinez entered the United States Navy in 1966, answering the call to duty as our country engaged in one of its most agonizing conflicts, the Vietnam war. He answered by throwing himself fully into harm's way for the freedom of the Vietnamese people and fighting shoulder to shoulder with his brothers in arms. A mine explosion left him with shrapnel torn into his body and a steel ball bearing in his skull. He returned home, not only with a richly deserved Purple Heart, but with a determination to nurture the spiritual health of his fellow veterans. He became a certified chaplain offering free counseling to those suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Even more: He rallied his fellow citizens to found and maintain grounds dedicated to our heroic veterans in Huntington Beach, called Patriot Point, where on this day a me-

morial service will take place in his honor. To his wife Alberta, his three sons and six grandchildren, I want them to know that he inspires this Member of Congress to serve our country with all the spiritual fortitude and love that he so manifestly gave. May all of us here be so inspired.

HONORING BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH OF NEW ROCHELLE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with my great pleasure to honor, and to celebrate the Bethesda Baptist Church of New Rochelle on their 130th anniversary. The Bethesda Baptist Church of New Rochelle is the oldest African-American Church in lower Westchester County, and they are a cornerstone of the New Rochelle community.

In May 1888, there were only a few African-American Baptists living in the village of New Rochelle, and even though they were permitted to worship at the Salem Baptist Church, the community strived to create a church for themselves. Jesses Owns, Israel King, William Fountain, Richard Painter, and others in the village received help from Reverend Guy Powell of Mt. Baptist Church, in Virginia, to raise funds and find a location for the congregation to call their own. The community would soon find their building on North Avenue, and on July 5, 1888, the first sermon was delivered by Reverend Isaac Newton Phelps to 15 members at the Bethesda Baptist Church of New Rochelle's first home.

Throughout the long history of the Bethesda Baptist Church, each pastorate has established new programs to aid and serve the New Rochelle community. Reverend Boddie was instrumental in finding the church's permanent location, in 1918, on Lincoln Avenue. Reverend Dr. Henderson instituted a sermonette for children, and opened the church's first office.

Reverend Dr. Long Sr., who was also the first African-American on the New Rochelle Board of Education, began the youth ministry at Bethesda Baptist Church. Reverend Wana-maker continued to expand the church's outreach to New Rochelle's youth by organizing the Youth Fellowship. Reverend Thompson was the next pastor who led the successful "Debt Free in '73," which eliminated all of the church's debt. The Youth Fellowship program also became more active during his pastorate, which allowed for the group to attend cultural, education, and religious conventions. After Reverend Thompson, Reverend Dr. Allen Paul Weaver Jr. began his pastorate and has remained the Pastor for almost 4 decades.

Reverend Weaver has not only grown the membership of the church, but ensured the core values of the Church: Exalting, Equipping, Evangelizing, Encouraging, Edifying and Exemplifying Christian Evangelism, Reclaiming our Youth, Mission (both home and foreign), and Christian Education.

Mr. Speaker, Bethesda Baptist Church of New Rochelle has a long, and rich history of serving the community. I want to congratulate them on their 130th anniversary, and look forward to their continued works over the coming years.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RALPH PAIGE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Ralph Paige, a man who tirelessly fought for African-American farmers.

Beginning in 1985, Ralph Paige, spearheaded an advocacy organization for African-American farmers, formally known as The Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund. This organization grew out of the civil rights movement. As a known champion and advocate for black farmers, Mr. Paige helped organize black farmers and others in the southeast into economic cooperatives. He educated them on how best to retain their land and later became their spokesman. His work to increase the awareness of the difficulty for African-Americans to maintain ownership of land and receive financial support from local institutions is appreciated and admired today.

Mr. Paige wrote a 2010 column for The San Marcos Daily Record, "When President Abraham Lincoln created the United States Department of Agriculture in 1862, he referred to it as the People's Department. The problem is that its services have never been available to all the people." Blacks were disproportionately denied loans, disaster relief, and other monetary aid for black farmers. Ralph Paige recognized that the loans black farmers did receive were often smaller and took longer to process than those for white farmers. Instead of complaining, he worked to ensure that thousands of farmers have land today.

Today, we mourn the death of Ralph Paige. As a controversial figure, he managed to provoke thought in all of those who he came in contact with either in person or through his work. As we continue to dismantle stereotypes and racism, let us do so by honoring the life and legacy of Ralph Paige.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2018

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded for roll call vote No. 328 on Friday July 13, 2018 because I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted Aye on final passage for H.R. 50 the Unfunded Mandates Information and Transparency Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2018

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for votes on July 13, 2018, as I was tending to official business. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on Roll Call No. 327 and Yea on Roll Call No. 328.