

come before him and offered him instruction and advice when he was just beginning his lifelong journey in music back in 1983. Now 35 years later, Mr. Calderón has taken those lessons and turned them into a successful musical career working with renowned artists and being recognized with numerous awards along the way. One such award that was especially fitting was his recognition as “Ambassador of Mexican Music in the World” after a successful tour in Japan.

I know the impact music has in solidifying cultural identity—by bridging generational gaps and expressing a community—and Mr. Calderón has worked effortlessly to enshrine the Mexican cultural identity in song. For this reason, I am honored to recognize the accomplishments and career of Mauro Calderón.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber on Tuesday, September 25, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call votes 400 and 401.

CONGRATULATING TAIWAN ON THE 107TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Taiwan as they celebrate the 107th anniversary of its National Day on October 10, 2018.

We just celebrated the 39th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) this past April. The TRA was intended by Congress to endure an important relationship between close friends and allies. I am heartened by the strengthening of ties that have taken place since the enactment of the TRA, notably Taiwan’s admission to the U.S. Visa Waiver Program in 2012. Travel from Taiwan to the United States has since increased by 50 percent.

Our close ties are underscored by our shared commitment to democratic values. With the success of its sixth direct presidential election in 2016, Taiwan continues to serve as a beacon of vibrant democracy in the Asia-Pacific region. There are now 150 sister cities between the United States and Taiwan. In 2017, Taiwan became the third in East Asia and twelfth worldwide whose passport holders are eligible for the U.S. Global Entry Program. In addition, Taiwan is the United States’ seventh largest source of international students. Correspondingly, many of our students participate in study abroad opportunities in Taiwan.

The United States has also forged an important bond with Taiwan in commerce. In 2017, trade in goods between the United States and Taiwan exceeded \$68 billion, making Taiwan the United States’ 11th largest goods trading partner. Just this past September, Taiwan sent an agricultural trade mission to the United

States in pursuit of \$300 million worth of soybeans purchases.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating our friend, Taiwan, on this significant occasion.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GEORGE’S CONEY ISLAND IN WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of George’s Coney Island in Worcester, Massachusetts on Sunday, September 30, 2018.

Mr. Speaker, everyone from Central Massachusetts is familiar with George’s Coney Island. Since its opening in 1927, the restaurant has become one of New England’s most iconic eateries. I grew up enjoying their hot dogs, and still try to visit whenever I’m back home in Worcester.

George’s Coney Island is an important piece of Worcester’s history. George Tsagarelis opened Coney Island in 1927 after he bought an existing luncheonette. George ran it with his wife, Catherine, eventually passing ownership down to their children. The restaurant is now run by Kathryn Tsandikos, who is George’s granddaughter.

As for the hot dogs—the restaurant’s signature style is to smother them in chili and top them with mustard and onions. What many people don’t realize is that this style was made popular in the United States by Greek immigrants like George, who migrated to the U.S. during the early 20th Century.

Because so many immigrants passed through New York’s Ellis Island, they were familiar with Coney Island—this is how the Coney Island hot dog was born.

I’m especially grateful to George and Catherine for opening George’s Coney Island nearly a century ago. The restaurant has been a staple for visitors and locals alike. The dark wooden booths that line the sides of the dining room are covered with decades of graffiti as customers etch their names and initials into the booths.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of everyone that knows and loves George’s Coney Island, I’d like to offer a sincere “thank you” to Kathryn and her grandparents for making George’s Coney Island such a treasured landmark. For all of us in Central Massachusetts, their restaurant is a point of pride. I’m proud to represent such an iconic, beloved piece of Worcester.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEW GRAFTON BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of New Grafton Baptist Church in Newport News, Virginia.

New Grafton Baptist Church was established on November 10, 1915. It began as The Grafton Mission, named in honor of the Grafton Baptist Church in Grafton, Virginia. Reverend Silas Crowley, originally a member of Grafton Baptist Church, led his fledgling congregation in meetings at 1111 35th Street, Newport News, Virginia before they moved their services to Reverend Corsey’s home in 1916. After years of fundraising and growing in membership, Reverend Corsey was finally able to purchase a lot at 3913 Roanoke Avenue, and from there they began to build their new church. Reverend Corsey oversaw the construction of their new church building in 1918, and the name was officially changed from The Grafton Mission to New Grafton Baptist Church.

Reverend Corsey served as New Grafton Baptist Church’s pastor until his retirement in 1923. Following his departure from the church, he was succeeded by Reverend N. E. Jackson in 1924, Reverend Isaac Daniels in 1928, and Reverend R. H. Green, DD in 1933.

The New Grafton Baptist Church congregation continued to worship at their Roanoke Avenue location until 1963. Reverend W. M. Alston, DD, elected as pastor in 1937, oversaw the construction efforts and helped to ease the church’s transition into their new building.

New Grafton Baptist Church expanded again in 1988 under the leadership of Reverend S. D. Sparrow, who had ambitious plans for how to grow the church and give back to the local community. A number of choirs and ministries were established under his leadership, as well as the New Grafton Baptist Church Governing Board.

Reverend Dr. Michael L. Sumler became the church’s eighth pastor in 2000, and the church has continued to grow and expand since then. New Grafton Baptist Church now supports a variety of ministries and programs aimed at bolstering fellowship and strengthening the church’s community, including a Virtuous Women’s Ministry, Community LINK program, Boys and Girls Scouts programs, Youth Ministry, Pastoral Care Ministry, and more. Reverend Sumler also led the congregation as they renovated the church and built a new, larger sanctuary in 2006.

New Grafton Baptist Church enjoys a strong fellowship with Grafton Baptist Church—Dare Road and Grafton Baptist Church—Harris Grove, founded in 1777 and 1860 respectively. These three churches share a rich and deep common history, and their congregations regularly meet for joint picnics and worship services. Together they formed a Steering Committee, dedicated to celebrating their shared experiences as linked congregations that flourished in Virginia “from slavery to the present.”

Over the last 100 years, New Grafton Baptist Church has been served by many dedicated men of faith—Rev. Silas Corsey, Rev. N. E. Jackson, Rev. Isaac Daniels, Rev. R. H. Green, DD, Rev. W. M. Alston, DD, Rev. D. M. Willis, Sr., Rev. S.D. Sparrow, Sr., and Rev. Dr. Michael Sumler.

Mr. Speaker, as New Grafton Baptist Church of Newport News, Virginia celebrates this historic milestone, its congregation can feel affirmed by 100 years of successful discipleship and service to both their community and to each other. I would like to congratulate Reverend Michael Sumler and all of the members of the church’s congregation. I wish them