

RECOGNIZING BILL SAMPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, yesterday our Nation recognized National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, and I am proud to stand here today with my colleagues to express our gratitude to the brave women and men who sacrifice for our safety each and every day.

I would like to recognize the memory and legacy of one law enforcement officer who left an indelible mark on families in Bucks County and beyond. Bill Sample, a Chalfont resident who passed away in 2014, was a Philadelphia police officer who founded the Sunshine Foundation in 1976.

Based in Southampton, the Sunshine Foundation, which seeks to help chronically ill, physically challenged, and abused children from underserved families, was inspired by Bill working protective duty at St. Christopher's Children's Hospital. To date, the Sunshine Foundation has answered over 40,000 dreams of deserving children.

Mr. Speaker, I speak on behalf of our entire community when I say that I am thankful and we are all thankful for our law enforcement community and for officers like Bill Sample. We want to thank him and all law enforcement officers for their service and applaud the work of the Sunshine Foundation.

RECOGNIZING CALEB BYELICH

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding young citizen in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who at only 8 years old is already making a substantial impact in the lives of the underserved in our community.

Caleb Byelich, a student at Neidig Elementary School in Quakertown, held a hot cocoa stand last month with the goal of raising \$100 for the Upper Bucks Code Blue Shelter, a program that advocates for the homeless in upper Bucks County.

To say that Caleb's stand was a success, Mr. Speaker, would be an understatement. Through selling hot cocoa and with the help of additional donations that came in days later, Caleb was able to raise \$1,715 for the Upper Bucks Code Blue Shelter.

We applaud Caleb for his remarkable work, and I look forward to seeing his accomplishments in the years to come. We would also like to thank his parents, Loren and Alicia, for instilling in him the values of service and compassion.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to Pastor David Heckler of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church for his coordination of the Upper Bucks Code Blue Shelter.

RECOGNIZING VINCENT KABASO

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an individual in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, who recently accomplished a major feat in his industry.

Vincent Kabaso of Ambler has become the first Professional Golf Association member from his home nation of Zambia, a country of 17 million people. Vinny currently works as a golf professional at Talamore Country Club in Ambler.

Vinny's love of golf came at a very young age. After graduating from high school in 2004, he studied in England and Scotland before becoming a coach on the Zambia national golf team. He later came to the United States where he served as a golf professional in Connecticut before moving to Pennsylvania.

In addition to his golf talent, Vinny has also founded a nonprofit organization and he is also an author. He established the Raised by the World Foundation, which assists students at the University of Zambia and provides used equipment for young golfers.

Mr. Speaker, we applaud this major professional achievement of Vincent Kabaso, and wish his wife, Hannah, and daughter, JoAnna, all the best. Our community appreciates their service and their accomplishments.

END THE SHUTDOWN AND REOPEN GOVERNMENT NOW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. PAPPAS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to say this is the first time that I have addressed my constituents and my colleagues from the floor of this House.

Under normal circumstances, I would be talking about creating new jobs and new opportunities for my constituents in New Hampshire. I would be talking about plans to rebuild our roads and bridges, to step up our response to the opioid crisis. I would be sharing and discussing ideas and proposals that can improve people's lives and move America forward. But today's circumstances in this brand-new Congress are anything but normal.

Instead of talking about how we can reform government, I am here to plead with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to simply reopen government.

Mr. Speaker, today marks day 20 of the shutdown. After nearly 3 weeks without a paycheck, Federal employees across the country are grappling with how they will pay their rent, their mortgage, and their utility bills. They are anxious about putting food on the table and providing for their kids.

With no end in sight, thousands of workers in my State of New Hampshire are facing tough questions. What if the shutdown lasts months or even years, as this President has threatened? What will that mean for their savings, for their jobs, and for their families? Will they be forced to leave Federal service simply to stay afloat?

The treatment of our dedicated Federal workers is completely unacceptable. As someone who operated a fam-

ily business with 230 workers, I can tell you that shutting your doors and cutting off pay for your employees is no way to run a business. It is certainly no way to run the greatest country on Earth.

Mr. Speaker, this is the people's House, so today I am lifting up the stories of everyday Granite Staters, who are suffering because of this senseless shutdown.

I am here on behalf of a furloughed IRS worker from Sandown. Her bank is denying her the interest-free loan they promised Federal workers, because the furlough letter the IRS gave her was too vague. And, of course, there is no one around at the IRS to write her a new one.

I am here on behalf of an air traffic controller from Derry who just transferred airports and has been told she may not get back pay because she was furloughed prior to starting her new assignment.

I am here on behalf of an FAA worker from Hampton who is being forced to take unpaid leave to look after his wife who is going through a health emergency. He is worrying about how he can possibly care for his spouse without knowing when his next paycheck is going to arrive.

These workers from my district deserve better from our Nation's leaders, and so do each and every one of the American people.

This fall, voters sent an unmistakable message: the way Washington works simply isn't working for them. They want less drama and dysfunction, more compromise and more common sense. They want leaders who will put the national interest before their own partisan political interest.

Instead of business as usual in Washington, it is time for Washington to start operating more like a responsible business that looks out for its workers. That means ending the shutdown now and making sure all of our outstanding Federal employees and contractors are fully compensated.

We have got to do better. For the sake of the more than 2,400 Federal workers in New Hampshire who are currently furloughed or working without pay and the more than 800,000 across this country, let's close this dark chapter by immediately reopening the doors of our government.

DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT EXPANSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate a very special and personally meaningful victory for residents in the Coachella Valley in my district.

I rise to celebrate the passage of Measure BB and the expansion of the Desert Healthcare District.

You see, when I was a young boy growing up in a farm-worker trailer park in Coachella, I saw the dignity of

good, humble people who loved God, worked hard, and struggled to make a better life for themselves and their children.

I also saw their needless pain and suffering due to their poverty and lack of healthcare resources.

I vowed at the age of four to become a doctor and serve them.

As a freshman pre-med student at UCLA, I stayed awake at night on the top bunk bed of my tiny dorm room thinking about the difference I would one day make.

After graduating from Harvard's medical, government, and public health schools, I returned home as an emergency medicine physician as promised.

I rolled up my sleeves, organized, and went to trailer parks, rural community parks, and the poorest communities to help.

I saw familiar faces with familiar stories of suffering still living in poverty and resource-poor communities.

That is why I founded the Coachella Valley Healthcare Initiative in 2010, along with my wife, Monica, and our good friend Chauncey Veatch, to address our local healthcare access crisis.

We produced a report and a strategic improvement plan. Our most important solution was the expansion of a healthcare district.

Today, I am very happy to celebrate the passage of Measure BB and the expansion of the Desert Healthcare District to cover all medically underserved communities in the valley.

It is significant, because the district has an annual multimillion dollar budget that funds healthcare and public health programs that improve the public's health.

That means more providers caring for more patients and providing much-needed services like pediatric specialty care, mental health, veterans' health, senior services, and provider pipeline programs.

It is proof that good things happen when good people come together to do good work.

I would like to thank California Assemblyman Eduardo Garcia for answering the call and stepping up to be a champion for the expansion of the district.

He got the bill to put expansion on the ballot passed into law, and together, we helped build local support by putting out fires and persuading others of the big idea.

I also want to thank Riverside County Supervisor Manuel Perez. When the expansion of the healthcare district was under threat, Supervisor Perez and I worked closely to convince other county supervisors how much our communities would gain in both improved health outcomes and increased economic activity.

The Riverside County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously in favor of the expansion.

There were many other champions who pulled their weight and got the job done.

Thank you to the leadership of the Desert Healthcare District itself, including the President of the Board of Directors, Dr. Les Zendle, previous CEOs Kathy Greco and Herb Schultz, and Interim CEO Chris Christensen.

Thank you to board members Dr. Jennifer Wortham, Kay Hazen, and Carole Rogers, who voted in favor of expansion, and the many, many other staff members who have helped ensure this advocacy ran smoothly.

Several key healthcare organizations were instrumental in this success.

As the largest provider for the east valley, Tenet Healthcare has been enormously supportive by prioritizing the health of their patients above all else.

Thank you to Borrego Community Health Foundation for your generosity and leadership to help create this victory.

Thank you to Planned Parenthood for your tireless work, and thank you to Building Healthy Communities, Clinicas de Salud Del Pueblo, and Eisenhower Medical Center.

Thank you to James Williamson, who led the campaign.

Thank you to Barbara Fields, Juan Armenta, Mary English, Walter Clark, Oscar Armijo, Richard Meyer, and Jack Marco, whose generosity never wavered throughout this journey.

Thank you to the voters who approved the expansion measure by an incredibly large margin.

Thank you for helping to make the dream I had as a boy from a farm-worker trailer park a reality.

Together, we are improving lives and making a difference.

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NINETY YEARS A PREACHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dear friend and one of the most revered ministers of the gospel that the Chicago metropolitan area has ever known.

Reverend James Bass was born on May 7, 1920, to the late Frank and Hattie Bell Bass in a rural Mississippi town.

James began school at the age of 6 in a little church house near Sunflower River Road, where he attended with his two brothers and one sister. His first teacher, Mr. Lee, taught all of the classes that were in session when the farming seasons were not in force.

As a little boy, James loved playing marbles, pitching horseshoes, and playing church, with him preaching. He also would preach the funeral for any of the animals that died and became known as the boy preacher.

Every Sunday, James attended church with his family in their mule-driven wagon. In 1929, he officially joined church after sitting on the

mourners bench during a revival. He continued to grow and develop, got a job at the church as custodian, and attended and graduated from the Booker T. Washington High School in Ruleville, Mississippi.

In 1938, James revealed his calling and preached his first sermon as a full-fledged minister at the age of 18.

On December 7, 1941, James was drafted into the military and served 3 years in the U.S. Army during World War II. He carried no weapon and continued his ministerial work.

After being discharged, he returned home and enrolled at Tougaloo College in 1948, majoring in history. He attended the Mississippi seminary in Jackson in 1951. He became pastor of the Mt. Israel Baptist Church in Clarksdale, Mississippi, where he sponsored a radio broadcast for senior citizens and those who were sick and shut in.

In December of 1955, James was invited to Detroit to preach a revival at Canaan Baptist Church. On the way back, he stopped in Chicago to visit his brother and sister and was honored to preach at the Greater Open Door Baptist Church.

In August of 1956, Reverend Bass organized a small mission. The mission grew, and the Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church was founded in September of 1956.

He returned to Chicago and commuted between Chicago and Mississippi for 6 years, and, after fasting and praying, he decided that his type of ministry really needed to be in a large urban city.

In 1967, Reverend Bass and Helyn Maxine Julius were united in holy matrimony and were blessed with two children, Vincent in 1968 and Vikkeda in 1970.

Under Reverend Bass' leadership, Mt. Olive grew into a substantial Baptist church, with significant influence in the community.

When Dr. Martin Luther King came to Chicago and lived on the West Side, Reverend James Bass was there with him and stood shoulder-to-shoulder when others sleekeed away or refused to stand.

Reverend Bass was known as an activist, independent-minded preacher who used his pulpit effectively to foster something called liberation theology. He will be remembered as one who knew that the doors of the church must be open both ways: inside so that people could come and be spiritually nurtured, but also outside so that they could use the information for the benefit of themselves and their communities.

For more than 90 years, Reverend James Bass preached what he called the gospel. He was an effective messenger, and what a messenger he was. May his soul rest in peace.

HONORING JANET WOLF

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from