

Bernie is best known for his passion for preserving the environment. He has made extraordinary efforts to clean and maintain the Lackawanna River watershed, an area that encompasses 350 square miles across four counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Bernie was also instrumental in establishing the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority. Under his direction, the Lackawanna River Conservation Association acquired sections of railbed that are now incorporated into the Lackawanna Heritage Trail. As Vice President of the Rail Trail Council, his work resulted in the acquisition of 40 miles of D&H railbed. As Executive Director for Lackawanna Valley Conservancy, he was successful in protecting 18 properties totaling 200 acres.

He is also a great supporter of the arts. Bernie is an active member of the Mulberry Poets and Writers Association. A lifelong learner, Bernie satisfies his intellectual curiosity and takes it upon himself to study different disciplines, including geology, history, ecology, and various aspects of engineering.

It is an honor to recognize a fellow environmentalist and public servant for all the great work he has done. May he continue to work for the good of the natural world and our community. I wish Bernard the best as he accepts the Paul "Hook" O'Malley Man of the Year the Award.

FRANK ALLEN-TATE ERICKSON

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 7, 2019*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Frank Allen-Tate Erickson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Frank Allen-Tate Erickson is a student at Oberson Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Frank Allen-Tate Erickson 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 Frank Allen-Tate Erickson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING SAINT THOMAS MIDTOWN HOSPITAL ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 7, 2019*

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital is the largest faith based nonprofit hospital in Middle

Tennessee, providing spiritually centered, holistic care that sustains and improves the Nashville community.

With its 683 licensed acute care beds, more than 2,000 employees, 1053 physicians, and 425 allied health providers on staff, Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital delivers world class care and makes a tremendous impact on Nashville and the surrounding counties every day.

Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital provides a wide variety of vital inpatient and outpatient services. The clinical programs and medical facilities are continuously updated to meet both the changing needs of the community and the challenges posed by new discoveries and innovations in technology.

Saint Thomas Midtown began its healing ministry in Nashville as Protestant Hospital on March 20, 1919. The ownership of Protestant Hospital was transferred to the Tennessee Baptist Convention in 1948 and became Mid-State Baptist Hospital. The name was later changed to Baptist Hospital on December 17, 1964. In January 2002, Baptist Hospital joined Saint Thomas Health's regional health system and became a member of Ascension, a Catholic Health System that is the largest non-profit, faith based health system in the United States. In 2013, the name was changed from Baptist Hospital to Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital.

Despite its evolution and many name changes over the years, one thing has remained constant. Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital has always been dedicated to improving the health of our entire community, especially the poor and most vulnerable.

We are fortunate to have a ministry like Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital providing compassionate care in the great state of Tennessee for the past 100 years. I hope that Nashville is lucky enough to have Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital caring for our citizens for 100 more years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND, INC.

### HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 7, 2019*

Mr. BYRNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the United Negro College Fund, Inc. (UNCF). In its 75 years of existence, UNCF has helped thousands of students attend colleges and universities throughout the country; Through their work, they have created leaders and proud members of our communities whose contributions to the United States are immeasurable.

The UNCF was founded in 1944 to help increase the total number of black Americans enrolled in college. UNCF traces its founding to Frederick Douglass Patterson, who wrote an open letter in the Pittsburgh Courier to presidents of other private black colleges in 1934 urging them to "pool their small monies and make a united appeal to the national conscience."

Today, UNCF is a strong organization with a profound mission to build a robust and nationally-recognized pipeline of under-rep-

resented students who, because of UNCF support, become highly-qualified college graduates. UNCF also seeks to ensure their network of 37-member Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) is a respected model of best practice in moving students to and through college and then into the workforce.

As co-Chair of the Bipartisan HBCU Caucus, I am proud to represent the many HBCUs in Alabama and advocate for the betterment of all HBCUs across the country. I have appreciated working with UNCF to accomplish this mission.

Since its founding, UNCF has raised more than \$4.8 billion in scholarship aid for students. Each year, UNCF awards scholarships and internships to more than 10,000 students at 1,100 colleges and universities nationwide. Overall, more than 445,000 students have earned college degrees due to the support provided by UNCF.

It is impossible to measure the legacy and contributions of UNCF. Madam Speaker, please join me in commemorating the constant investments by UNCF in our low-income, first generation college students and HBCUs, and all of the immeasurable good they have done for our students and our nation.

JAELYN VELASQUEZ

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 7, 2019*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jaelyn Velasquez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Jaelyn Velasquez is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated Jaelyn Velasquez 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 Jaelyn Velasquez 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.

IN HONOR OF THE 2018-2019 AAAAA STATE CHAMPIONS: THE BAINBRIDGE BEARCATS FOOTBALL TEAM

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 7, 2019*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2018-2019 AAAAA Football Georgia State Champions, the Bainbridge High School Bearcats of Bainbridge, Georgia. The team will be celebrating this significant milestone with a celebration on Monday, March 18, 2019, at Centennial Field in Bainbridge, Georgia.