

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF JUDGE
WILEY DANIEL

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2019

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and achievements of Judge Wiley Daniel, the first African American judge appointed to the U.S. District Court for Colorado, who recently passed away on Friday, May 10, 2019.

Judge Daniel was born in 1946 in Louisville, Kentucky and received his undergraduate and law degrees from Howard University in Washington, D.C. He spent six years in private practice in Detroit before moving to Denver in 1977 where he practiced law for 24 years with a specialty in civil litigation.

In 1992, he rose to be the first—and only—African American president of the Colorado Bar Association. Three years later, President Bill Clinton appointed Mr. Daniel to the U.S. District Court for Colorado, becoming the first African American federal judge in the state. Thirteen years after Judge Daniel took the bench, he became chief judge of the court.

Judge Daniel served admirably both inside and outside of the courtroom. He served as President of the Federal Judges Association, a national organization that supports hundreds of federal judges. He also taught courses in trial advocacy as an adjunct professor at the University of Colorado Law School and the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, where he mentored students. Additionally, from 1998 to 2003, Judge Daniel was a Trustee of the American Inns of Court Foundation, an organization which advocates for professionalism, ethics, civility and excellence throughout the legal profession. Until his final days, Judge Daniel was active in his church—Park Hill United Methodist in north Denver—where he served as a Deacon, sang in the choir and mentored young members.

Judge Daniel believed that racial and gender diversity in the judiciary is important. Accordingly, he was active in the Delta Eta Boulé fraternity, the nation's first African American professional organization. In fact, one of Daniel's passions was the fraternity's scholarship program, which helps young, bright African American students in the metro Denver area attend college.

Judge Daniel retired in 2013 but continued to hear cases and guide younger lawyers. Not surprisingly, Judge Daniel's distinguished legal career and dedication to the community has been recognized many times with numerous awards and accolades. In 2006, Judge Daniel was honored with the American Inns of Court Foundation Professionalism Award for the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. In 2012, he was inducted to the Blacks in Colorado Hall of Fame due to his pioneering professional achievements. In 2013, Judge Daniel was awarded the King Trimble Lifetime Achievement Award by the Sam Cary Bar Association. In 2015, Judge Daniel was selected as the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Center for Legal Inclusiveness in recognition of his lifelong commitment to diversity and inclusiveness within the legal profession. Finally, in 2018, the National Black Prosecutors Association presented Daniel with the Trailblazer Award.

On May 10, 2019, at the age of 72, Judge Wiley Daniel passed away. He was one of the trailblazing Coloradans whose hands have shaped the United States into the great nation it is today. He was principled, pragmatic, well-respected and beloved. That is why his legacy will live on for many decades to come.

My heartfelt condolences go out to his family, the Denver law community and all Coloradans who mourn this terrible loss.

IN HONOR OF EDUARDO PADRON

HON. DONNA E. SHALALA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2019

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize my dear friend, Eduardo Padron, on the occasion of his retirement as President of Miami-Dade College and his brilliant service to the South Florida community.

Dr. Padron has spent his career giving back to the community that welcomed him when he arrived from Cuba as a child. In the 50 years he has spent at Miami-Dade College, as a student, professor, and President, he has fundamentally transformed the school into an internationally recognized institution of higher education. Under his leadership, Miami-Dade College has become a true center of community for South Florida. The college has educated thousands of students in South Florida and sent them on to successful careers and lives.

Dr. Padron has received numerous accolades for his work as an educator. He was included in TIME magazine's list of top ten college presidents in 2009, named Floridian of the Year by Florida Trend in 2010, and honored as one of the eight most influential college presidents in the U.S. by The Washington Post in 2011. In 2016, President Barack Obama awarded him with a Presidential Medal of Freedom in recognition of his leadership on access and inclusion in higher education.

We have all witnessed Dr. Padron's extraordinary dedication to the people of South Florida. I'm grateful to know him as a leader in education and as a friend, and I wish him all the best in his retirement.

CELEBRATING AMAZON'S 20TH
YEAR OF OPERATIONS AT THE
SDF1 FULFILLMENT CENTER

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2019

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my constituents in Campbellsville, Kentucky, who are celebrating Amazon's 20th year of operations at the SDF1 Fulfillment Center.

Amazon has been a tremendous contributor to Taylor County and the surrounding areas since opening SDF1 as one of the first five fulfillment centers in North America. Over the past two decades, Amazon has grown tremendously and SDF1 remains one of the largest employers in Taylor County and the region.

As evidence of the company's commitment to bettering the communities in which they op-

erate, and in commemoration of their 20th year in Campbellsville, Amazon is donating more than \$10,000 in STEM-related supplies to the Taylor County Public Library. This donation will enhance the library's current STEM-themed programs by fostering and promoting the pursuit of STEM education, while also developing students with real-world, marketable skills.

For two decades, Amazon has been proud to call Kentucky home and I am grateful for their continued investment in our commonwealth. I am proud of the economic prosperity and industrial development their presence has brought to Taylor County, and I join with all those whose lives they have bettered in celebrating their generosity to the community.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF T.J. MCGRATH AFTER NEARLY
27 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED
CIVILIAN SERVICE

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2019

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the outstanding service of T.J. McGrath on her retirement after nearly 27 years of distinguished public service, the past 10 years at the Congressional Budget Office, most recently as its General Counsel.

T.J. was promoted to that position in late 2016, in recognition of her dedication, ability, skillful work, and breadth of experience. In that capacity, she has served as CBO's principal legal officer and an integral part of the agency's leadership team. She has overseen CBO's legal staff and their work, skillfully leading them in interpreting legislative proposals and providing high-level analysis regarding significant judicial decisions, scorekeeping guidelines, and relevant budget laws. She has been a leader in making CBO's analysis more transparent.

Moreover, since becoming CBO's General Counsel, she has worked tirelessly, building professional relationships across the legislative branch, focusing on creating a positive work environment at CBO, and providing training so that employees have the skills they need to interact more effectively. One example that encapsulates all three of those efforts is bystander training. T.J. worked closely with the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights to develop training to prevent harassment in the workplace. The training provided participants with practical tools for taking ownership of their work environment and encouraged bystanders not to remain silent if they witness an incident that might make someone feel uncomfortable. As a result of T.J.'s efforts, CBO was the first agency in the legislative branch to receive bystander training.

From 2009 to 2016, T.J. served as CBO's Deputy General Counsel. In that position, she dealt with many operational matters and quickly demonstrated her ability to develop practical solutions. She instituted CBO's successful legal intern program, updated and refined CBO's internal policies, served as lead attorney in cases involving the Congressional Accountability Act, and worked closely with a Justice Department attorney in a case brought in U.S. District Court. T.J. also made valuable

contributions to numerous reports, testimonies, and cost estimates in just about every subject area covered by CBO, including the economy, national security, and health care.

T.J.'s service to the nation did not begin with her work at CBO. She came to CBO from the Defense Department's TRICARE Management Activity (now the Defense Health Agency), where she was an Associate General Counsel, providing guidance to the Director and staff on policy and legal issues involved in delivering quality health care to military personnel, military retirees, and their dependents.

Although T.J. is retiring from civilian service, she will continue her exemplary military career. For nearly 27 years, she has served as a member of the Air Force's Judge Advocate General Corps. She first served on active duty in various locations, including Alaska, Korea, Germany, Iraq, and Afghanistan. During that time, T.J. defended the Air Force against tort claims, prosecuted criminal offenses, taught at the U.S. Air Force Academy, commanded a cadet squadron, and was a military assistant to the General Counsel of the Department of Defense. Since transferring to the reserves more than 14 years ago, she has served in the North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command, the Air Force Space Command, the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center, and the Pacific Air Forces. She remains active as a colonel in the selected reserves today.

Her colleagues in CBO and on the Hill appreciate her hard work, keen insights, sense of humor, and steady hand. They will especially miss her generosity with her time and knowledge, her patience, and especially her kindness.

I know my colleagues join me in extending our thanks and appreciation to T.J. for her service to our country. We wish her well in her future undertakings and hope that the nation will continue to benefit from her expertise and commitment.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE METROPOLITAN AREA AGENCY ON AGING

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2019

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging (MAAA). For 25 years, this nonprofit organization has served as a trusted advocate and resource for older adults and caregivers in the Twin Cities seven-county metropolitan area, helping seniors age well in their homes and communities.

As part of the history of the Older Americans Act, in 1972, the Metropolitan Council was designated the first Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for the Twin Cities metro area. MAAA was founded in 1994 as an independent, nonprofit organization and designated the AAA to carry out Older Americans Act services and programs. In 1997, Senior LinkAge Line call centers were established at MAAA and AAAs across Minnesota. In 2000, the National Family Caregiver Support was enacted by Congress and in 2001, MAAA established the Metropolitan Caregiver Service Collaborative. In 2004, it launched Sustaining

Minority Elders in Their Communities—an initiative to provide technical assistance and funding for organizations serving minority elders. The Upper Midwest Pension Rights Project became part of MAAA in 2009. It provides free legal counseling to residents of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota who have questions or problems related to their pensions. In 2011, MAAA became the fiscal sponsor for ACT on Alzheimer's—a statewide collaboration that began in Minnesota and led to the creation of a national initiative—Dementia Friendly America. In 2015, MAAA hosted the regional White House Conference on Aging.

Over the years, MAAA continues to adapt and expand the connections, services, and programs it oversees to better meet the needs of our aging communities. In 2015, MAAA founded Innovations for Aging, a wholly owned nonprofit subsidiary to expand its health promotion and wellness work. In 2016, Juniper was started in partnership with AAAs across Minnesota, and with Innovations for Aging as the managing partner. It provides evidence-based programming to help adults manage chronic health conditions, prevent falls, and be fit. Today, MAAA has grown from a staff of eight to employing 108 staff and is located in Arden Hills. In 2018, with Older Americans Act funding, MAAA and its community-based partners served 24,366 older adults and caregivers with critical service including chore and homemaking services, meals, rides, and caregiver consultation. More than 35 percent of those served were minority or Native elders. Through the Senior LinkAge Line and the help of its volunteers, MAAA served 66,673 people and answered 43,000 Medicare Open Enrollment calls last year.

Madam Speaker, the steadfast leadership, unbiased information, and assistance that MAAA provides to the aging communities in the Twin Cities metro are commendable and deserve to be celebrated. Please join me in honoring the 25th Anniversary of the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging.

CONGRATULATING GORDON HIGGINS ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2019

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hall County Schools' spokesman and athletic director Gordon Higgins on his retirement.

Higgins first moved to Hall County in 1980, starting as a teacher and coach at Johnson High School in Oakwood, Georgia. Now, at the age of 71, Higgins is retiring after devoting 47 years of his career to education, 39 of which he spent working as an administrator, an educator, and a coach in Hall County.

When Higgins first began teaching in Hall County in 1980, there were only three high schools serving a population of approximately 60,000. Over the last five decades, the population of Hall County has exploded to over 200,000 people, and there are now eight high schools across the district. For the last 39 years, Higgins played a critical role in guiding and shaping the school district through this season of incredible growth, and he focused

heavily on the fact that with growth comes an increased need for accountability. He made continuous efforts to increase the role of athletics in the local community and maintained a close relationship with local media outlets to ensure the community stayed informed on any news coming out of the Hall County School District, whether positive or negative.

During his tenure, Higgins partnered with various individuals and organizations for the betterment of the student body. Within the athletic department, Higgins helped implement new safety standards for tending to student athlete injuries by partnering with Dr. John Vachtsevanos to implement the Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing Program, which has given Hall County athletics staff the ability to quickly determine whether a student athlete has suffered from a concussion and should receive medical attention.

Higgins also worked tirelessly to help prepare students for the workforce by working with the Hall County Chamber of Commerce to create partnerships between Hall County schools and local businesses to make work-study programs available to students.

Higgins says what he will miss the most is the people. The community of students, teachers, and parents he has served mean much to him and his family, and Higgins certainly means the world to our community. He has served our students and our community as a role model, teacher, administrator, and coach, and the Hall County School District is forever better because of his dedication. I want to thank Gordon Higgins for his commitment to our students and our community, and I wish him all the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE BENJAMIN MILLS CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 3, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Benjamin Mills Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

During the Revolutionary War, Benjamin Mills served as a private and then as a 2nd lieutenant in the Maryland troops. His wife, Elizabeth, was also a patriot, having sewn shirts for the soldiers. After the war, the Mills family left Maryland to live in Pennsylvania. The family moved west, settling in Paris, Kentucky where Benjamin, Sr. died in 1822. Son Andrew and his family then migrated to Illinois in 1827 and settled in the southern part of Bond County, where hundreds of their descendants still populate the area.

On June 16, 2019, the Benjamin Mills Chapter, in coordination with the Illinois State Regent, Gloria Perkins Flathom, will dedicate two official NSDAR plaques in honor of Camp Ground Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Old Camp Ground Cemetery.

The Old Camp Ground Cemetery was established around 1830. Buried there are Revolutionary War soldier Joseph McAdams, Mary Trotter Mills, daughter of Revolutionary War