

against the enemy in Tarawa, Saipan, and Tinian. Mr. Merritt founded Merritt Plumbing Company in Louisville and worked there until his retirement in 1983.

In 1945, Mr. Merritt married Gladys Taylor, and they remained together for almost 70 years. Upon Mr. Merritt's return from military service, the family grew to include two children, Joe Merritt and Carol Higginbotham. Mr. Merritt now has six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Throughout his life and to this day, Mr. Merritt set an example for his children to follow. Mr. Merritt, a lifelong Christian, was an active member of Poplar Flat Baptist Church, where he served as Music Director for 50 years and was chosen to be a deacon of the church.

On Memorial Day of 2019, Mr. Merritt celebrated his 100th birthday. Mr. Merritt is an American patriot who served our great nation and continues to set an example for others to follow. We wish him many more years of good health.

RECOGNIZING MS. YNETTE LOPEZ
OF PIPER HIGH SCHOOL CLASS
OF 2020

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Ynette Lopez, a student at Piper High School and Class of 2020 in Sunrise, Florida. This remarkable young lady has a current weighted GPA of 3.4, while taking a rigorous schedule of all Honors classes. Additionally, she is passionate about her extracurricular activities, hobbies, and volunteer work. She is a six-year professional clarinetist and currently occupies the 1st chair position with the Bengal Band of Pride.

Ynette has volunteered at the Department of Veterans Affairs since 2017. Her father is a disabled veteran with post-traumatic stress disorder. Growing up and learning so much about his disability, she was inspired to give back in the best way possible. She has accrued more than 200 hours of volunteer work in her many different capacities. Ynette has gained valuable experience by scheduling appointments, communicating with others, and delivering important documents to various offices at the Broward County Veterans Hospital.

She is currently preparing to take the next step in her future and will apply early admission in November of this year. Ynette plans to attend Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in Tallahassee, where she will study Sociology with a Psychology minor. Ynette's persistence, dedication, and ambition has carried her far and I wish her much success in the future.

IN HONOR OF MASTER SERGEANT
ELVIN TRUSTY, III FOR HIS EX-
EMPLARY SERVICE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master Sergeant Elvin

Trusty, III for his dedicated service. His commitment to country and community is worthy of commendation.

Born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, MSG Elvin Trusty attended Dunbar Sr. High School prior to completing Basic Combat and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill in Oklahoma. He became the Battalion Operations Sergeant on the Wolf Team at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin and later assumed duties as Operations Group First Sergeant. MSG Trusty completed two full tours and one extended tour in Iraq and a tour in Afghanistan, earning numerous medals and awards for his service. MSG Trusty currently attends the University of Louisville pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership and Learning. He is also a military science instructor and assistant chair of the Army Officer Education Program at the University of Michigan.

MSG Trusty has shown a tremendous love for his country and community. His years as an educator and a member of the United States Military exemplify the selflessness of public service and stand as a testament to duty, honor, and country. We thank Master Sergeant Elvin Trusty, III for his commitment to protecting the American people and we congratulate him on his retirement. His dedicated leadership will be missed, but we wish him good health and every happiness in his retirement years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Master Sergeant Elvin Trusty, III for his exemplary service. He has effectively served Michigan and its residents through his selflessness and leadership.

HONORING GUNNERY SERGEANT
HENRY L. BAUL, FOUNDER OF
MONTFORD POINT MARINES OF
AMERICA, INC.

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Gunnery Sergeant Henry L. Baul, the 5th African-American Marine in the nation to be inducted into the U.S. Marine Corps in 1942 following President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Executive Order 8802, which ended discrimination in the armed forces.

Although the executive order may have intended to end all discrimination, it did not end segregation. Between 1942 and 1949, approximately twenty thousand Black Marines trained at a segregated facility named Camp Montford Point, New River, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. The Montford Marine Corp is derived from the name of the facility and Mr. Baul trained there.

In 2011, President Barack Obama and the 112th U.S. Congress passed legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Montford Marine Corp at a special ceremony at the U.S. Capitol and Marine Corps Barracks here in D.C.

Mr. Baul, age ninety-six, is a resident of the city of Detroit. He is also Founder and President-Emeritus of the Montford Point Marines of America, Inc. non-profit.

I am proud to recognize Mr. Baul for his work and service. Mr. Baul and so many oth-

ers decided to serve this country even in the face of adversity and discrimination right here at home. Today, I lift up the veterans across the 13th Congressional District and the great state of Michigan in recognition of their service and commitment.

AMERICAN DREAM AND PROMISE
ACT (H.R. 6)

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate alongside the hundreds of thousands of DACA recipients and TPS holders on the historic passage of the American Dream and Promise Act. I was proud to join my House colleagues this week in passing H.R. 6—and thereby marking a critical milestone in the long fight to protect those who have known only this country as their home.

For too long, DACA recipients have been left wondering and waiting, not knowing what will happen with their immigration status. It is time we end that. TPS recipients remain living year-by-year—wondering if their TPS status will be extended. It is time we end that. Dreamers and TPS recipients are our neighbors and friends; they contribute to our communities, pay taxes, fight for our country and our freedoms, and live and work toward the American dream.

The Trump Administration's approach to immigration has been cruel, unjust, and vicious. Its decision to dismantle the DACA program and terminate TPS designations for several countries is inhumane and an abandonment of American values and principles. Instead of working toward a future that creates hope and opportunity for Dreamers, and TPS and DED recipients, the Administration has relentlessly sought to further drive them into the shadows and close the door on their dreams and aspirations.

DACA has enabled 800,000 Dreamers who came to the United States as children, through no decision of their own, to get an education, to get jobs, and to meaningfully contribute to the economy of the only country they have ever called home. They have shown incredible potential and achievement. For instance, Jin Park, one of my constituents from Queens, NY, is the first DACA recipient to be awarded the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship, and he will begin his studies this fall at the University of Oxford in England. Instead of having the usual worries of living and studying abroad, Jin fears he may not be allowed to return to the United States. We need the American Dream and Promise Act for Jin.

Furthermore, with respect to TPS, I think about my constituents, the Nepali community of Queens, who were deeply impacted by the April 2015 massive 7.8 magnitude earthquake that devastated Nepal and destroyed over half a million homes. Today, we have 400,000 foreign nationals living in the U.S. with TPS, some of whom have lived in the U.S. for decades. And I am proud to have fought in Congress for Nepal's TPS designation and extension. TPS is not a decision that is made lightly, but it is a decision that is made compassionately. We need the American Dream and Promise Act for the Nepali community, and all the other TPS recipients.

Madam Speaker, it is long overdue for Congress to protect these individuals who, for too long, have lived in limbo and in the shadows. I am proud to have voted in for the American Dream and Promise Act which would provide vital and humane protections for Dreamers, TPS, and DED recipients. After all, they are integral members of our community, they each have an American story, and they are deeply woven into the fabric of this nation.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MRS.
NANNIE E. WILKINS

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the life of Mrs. Nannie E. Wilkins, a matriarch of CA–24's NAACP Chapter. Mrs. Wilkins was described as "a social justice and human and civil rights champion," because of her hard work fighting for equal rights in the Central Coast.

Nannie Elizabeth Browning was born in Mebane, North Carolina on March 13, 1927 to John Henry Browning and Annie Pearl Richmond. As a young woman, she studied at North Carolina AT&T and earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Commercial Education—an extraordinary accomplishment for women of color at the time. In 1951, Nannie E. Browning married Smiley Edward Wilkins, a member of the U.S. Air Force. Nannie was an ambitious go-getter; she encouraged Smiley to become an officer and used her education and fiscal know-how to raise and run the family.

In 1972, after Smiley retired from the military, the Wilkins family moved to Lompoc, where Nannie continued her life in community and public service. She selflessly served as a hospice volunteer and on the Executive Committee of the Santa Maria-Lompoc Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) for more than forty-three years.

Alongside her husband, former President of the NAACP, she tackled race-based discrimination in their community. She was a Silver Life and Golden Heritage member of the NAACP, serving as the Communication, Press & Publicity Chair. Among her valiant strides towards justice, she also served as a Diaconate at the Valley of the Flowers United Church of Christ for thirty years and was a dedicated member of Lompoc Alpha Club for twenty-five years.

Nannie passed away on May 9, 2019 at her home in Lompoc, California at the age of ninety-two. Her soul and legacy as a Civil Rights champion lives on in her loving family, her friends, and every community member liberated and inspired by her courageous efforts.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to join the nation and the Wilkins Family in celebrating the special life of Nannie Elizabeth Wilkins.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF MR. SID STAFFORD

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize World War II veteran Sid Stafford, in celebration of his 100th birthday and for his service to the United States of America.

Mr. Stafford was born and raised in South Texas before joining the U.S. Army in 1941. His military service took him across the world to serve his country in the European Campaign during World War II. Mr. Stafford was in a tank platoon where he worked as a mechanic. Across much of North Africa and Europe, he courageously fought for the safety of Americans and people around the globe against the Nazi regime.

After being honorably discharged from the military in September of 1945, Mr. Stafford settled down on his farm in Hallsville, Texas, where he met his wife, Mrs. Nitalene Waldron. Together, they raised two beautiful daughters in East Texas. Mrs. Stafford passed away on March 15th of this year, and they would have celebrated their 68th anniversary yesterday, June 4th. Throughout his life, Mr. Stafford has made a positive impact on his East Texas community and it is an honor to call him my friend. No matter what life has in store for him, he has always made one thing clear: the importance of trusting in the Lord with all of your heart.

Madam Speaker, it is because of the sacrifices made by men and women like Mr. Sid Stafford that we are able to enjoy the freedoms which we all hold so dear. Let us not forget this great generation. We thank Mr. Stafford for the contribution he has made in preserving our liberty and we wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL
OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE
HOUSE

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 200th birthday of the New Hampshire State House, also known as the "People's House."

Standing in beautiful downtown Concord, the State House was designed in 1814 by architect Stuart Park and opened on June 2, 1819. It is the oldest state capitol in which both houses of the legislature meet in their original chambers and is home to the largest legislative body in our nation, with 400 members. As the first significant granite building in New Hampshire, the State House was a symbol of the growing granite industry in Concord and our state.

While additions and updates have been made over the years to accommodate government entities such as the General Court, the Secretary of State, and the State Treasurer, the State House remains a focal point in Concord and a source of pride for New Hampshire two centuries after opening.

On behalf of my constituents across New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank the State House Bicentennial Commission for organizing this 200th birthday celebration and I send my deepest appreciation to everyone who maintains this historic, beautiful building.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF DR. ISAAC JOSEPH

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Mr. RICHMOND. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Isaac Joseph, a veteran educator and the first African-American superintendent of the Jefferson Parish Public School System. Dr. Joseph passed away on Monday, June 3, 2019 at the age of 64.

Dr. Joseph was a graduate of Southern University at Baton Rouge, where he earned a B.S. degree in Health and Physical Education and a Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling. He completed all coursework towards a doctoral degree in educational leadership from the University of New Orleans.

Dr. Joseph led Louisiana's largest school district from 2015 to 2018. In 2018, Dr. Joseph resigned as the leader of Jefferson schools.

In 1986 Dr. Joseph began his career in education as a teacher in Jefferson Parish. Throughout his career he served in a variety of roles including principal, assistant superintendent of human resources, and executive director of grants and federal programs.

In 1987 and 1989, Dr. Joseph was bestowed the Waggaman School Teacher of the Year award. Less than a decade later, Dr. Joseph was named Educator of the Year by the National Council on Educating Black Children.

Dr. Joseph loved the city and the people of New Orleans. His legacy will forever be a part of the city and his dedication to community embodies the spirit of New Orleans. We cannot match the sacrifices made by Dr. Joseph, but surely, we can try to match his sense of service. We cannot match his courage, but we can strive to match his devotion.

Dr. Joseph is survived by a wife, Faith. The couple had a son and Dr. Joseph had two other sons and daughters.

Madam Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Isaac Joseph.

IN HONOR OF KAREN HANRAHAN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2019

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Ms. Hanrahan, the retiring Head of School at Mercy High School Burlingame. Ms. Hanrahan has been a strong leader of this school for the past six years and is beloved on campus. I deeply admire her and feel privileged to call her a great friend.

During her time at Mercy, the school has benefitted greatly through her leadership. Mercy is a school where girls are taught to become leaders. In Ms. Hanrahan, they have a