

of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal.

Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Major General Haskins for his service to the state of California and our nation. We wish him the best in his next stage in life.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND
WORK OF RONALD CLIFFORD
CLARK

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in remembering the life and work of Ronald Clifford Clark. Clark, the co-founder and former executive director of Regional Addiction Prevention, now known as RAP, Inc., passed away on May 14, 2019. He will be remembered by District of Columbia residents for his contributions to the battle against drug addiction and for his love and appreciation of life.

Clark moved to the District of Columbia in 1970, at a time when D.C. was facing an addiction epidemic. Originally on a path of becoming a musician, Clark's life took on new purpose after seeing firsthand the damages of drug addiction and a society ill-equipped to handle it. Clark took a novel approach to providing treatment for substance abusers and created a holistic program that was African-centered and drug free. RAP, Inc. was one of the first programs in the District to allow mothers to bring their children into the facility with them while they participated in treatment. It was also one of the first programs to provide services to individuals living with AIDS. Over the years, his strategy proved to be lifesaving and redeeming for many D.C. residents.

Clark will also be remembered for his love of music, in particular jazz, which he carried into his work, making sure that music was ever-present in his facilities. As the son of the musician Roy T. Clark, Clark learned how to play piano, saxophone and bass at a young age and later formed a Modern Jazz Society in his early 20s. He was devoted to jazz and for a period of time he had a show called Transitions that aired on Thursdays from midnight to 4am on WPFW-FM 89.3.

His organization continues to serve those in need. His work touched and changed thousands of lives in D.C., bringing families back together, motivating individuals to choose different pathways for their lives and changing attitudes of the public about the value of treatment over of sending addicted people to prison.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in remembering Ronald Clifford Clark for his strength of character, his capacity for love, and his commitment to helping others and giving many District of Columbia residents a second chance at a better life.

COMMEMORATING WOMEN'S
EQUALITY DAY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, later this month, on August 26, 2019, we will commemorate the 99th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which granted women the right to vote.

This momentous achievement did not come easy or without struggle, for as the great abolitionist and orator, Fredrick Douglas stated: "If there is no struggle, there is no progress . . . Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

The fight for women's suffrage was waged over a 72-year period, beginning in Seneca Falls, New York at the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848.

At Seneca Falls, the delegates issued the "Declaration of Sentiments" regarding the repression of women in American society.

The Seneca Falls Conference was organized by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Mary McClintock, and Sojourner Truth, who powerfully reminded the delegates that equality and suffrage for women should include all women, saying "Ain't I A Woman?"

With the end of the Civil War, the suffrage movement resumed with the 1869 formation of the National Woman Suffrage Association and its rival, the American Woman Suffrage Association.

By 1890, these two groups merged to create the National American Woman Association led by Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucy Stone.

The progressive National Women's Party was formed in 1916 as an outgrowth of the Congressional Union and reached out to social groups beyond the elite class, using radical tactics in the fight to win suffrage.

During World War I, the struggle for suffrage continued as the National Women's Party organized protests outside the White House, turning President Wilson's famous question back on him, asking: "Mr. President, how much longer must women wait for liberty?"

These protests resulted in the jailing of suffragists for "obstruction of traffic" and they endured mistreatment and forced-feeding while in jail.

Among the courageous women who organized these protests and some who spent time in jail were Alice Paul, who fearlessly executed the National Women's Party picketing protests, and conceived the hunger-strike in prison; Carrie Chapman Catt, who devised the "winning plan" at the Atlantic City Convention; and Ida B. Wells-Barnett, whose political activism and criticism of the suffrage leadership for excluding black women led to a more inclusive and effective movement.

The pressure generated by the White House pickets, the arrests, and forced-feedings of women protestors compelled President Wilson to embrace the suffrage amendment in January 1918, which was approved by Congress on June 4, 1919, and became the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution when it was ratified by the 36th state, Mississippi, on August 26, 1920.

The 19th Amendment states:

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any states on the account of sex."

In 1971, Congresswoman Bella Abzug of New York introduced legislation designating August 26 as "Women's Equality Day," which was passed by the Congress in 1973.

Madam Speaker, in 1916, four years before the ratification of the 19th Amendment, Jeannette Rankin was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Montana, the first woman elected to federal office in American history.

A little over a century later, a record 102 women serve in the House of Representatives, comprising 23.4 percent of the chamber's voting members, and presided over by NANCY PELOSI, the first and only woman elected Speaker of the House.

In the 116th Congress, 37 percent of women are women of color, and since 1964, more than 70 women of color have been elected to Congress.

While women obtained the fundamental right to vote, they are still too often treated as second class citizens in our society and there remains much work to do to ensure that women enjoy full blessings of liberty and equality.

But this does not detract the achievements and contributions to the greatness of our country made by American women, including Sally Kristen Ride, the first woman sent into space; Eileen Marie Collins, the first woman space shuttle pilot; Grace Murray Hopper, an American computer scientist and United States Navy rear admiral; and Katherine Johnson, one of the unsung heroes of the NASA Space Program, whose mathematical calculations helped the United States win the Space Race.

The technology sector represents \$1.2 trillion of economic activity but women only make up 20 percent of tech jobs.

In 2019, 41,000 new tech jobs were created, but female founders only account for 2.1 percent of the leadership in these new tech jobs.

Studies have shown that there has been a decline over the last 20 years in the percentage of bachelor's degrees in computer science earned by women of color, from 6.5 percent in 1993 to 4.8 percent in 2012.

During this same period, for minority women in engineering, the increase was less than 1 percent.

The low number of women in the tech industry is an effect of the pipeline, the lack of resources and education for young women studying STEM.

It is important that we ensure that all young women, especially those of color have equitable access to the STEM field.

The tech industry is one of the fastest growing industries in America's economy, and when women are involved, the outcomes are triumphant.

In 2019, several women have been recognized for their work as CEOs of major corporations, such as Lynsy Snide of In-N-Out Burger; Cathy Engelbert of Deloitte; and Colleen Wegman of Wegmans Food Market.

Seven female CEOs are among the U.S. top 100, and 3 women earn honors for leading U.S. small and midsize businesses. Women of color represent a very small part of this population.