

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JORDAN HALL

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a member of my staff that has been with me since the beginning of my campaign.

Jordan Hall, 23, has served in my District office since January. Before that, he traveled with me across the District during our campaign.

Folks across the 6th District know Jordan for his work ethic, warm smile, and friendly demeanor.

We are losing a strong member of the team, but Jordan will remain a member of our Hoosier, and 6th District, family.

Jordan will be studying at the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law on the campus of IUPUI in Indianapolis.

I wish Jordan luck, though I know it will be his work ethic and determination that gets him through this next chapter of life.

I wish Jordan, and his wife Chelsea, all the best as they continue to pursue their dreams and ambitions.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF
LOUISE MAUDE BEATON

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Louise Maude Beaton, an individual who gave more than half a century of diligent volunteer service to American veterans at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Fresno County, California.

Beginning in 1963 and until her passing in May of 2019, Ms. Beaton devoted her life to serving as a volunteer to better the lives of the veterans in her community. Initially working as a switchboard operator for the Medical Center, she extended the scope of her work considerably over the next five decades. Eventually, she became an indispensable part of the hospital's operations, taking on positions in nearly every department. Ms. Beaton applied herself to her volunteer positions with an admirable degree of consistency, dedication, and altruistic spirit, culminating in her completion of 55,617 hours of volunteer work.

Now, Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the legacy of Louise Beaton. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her, her tireless work, and her incredible contributions to the health and wellbeing of our veterans.

HONORING ALBERT A. CODERNIZ

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Albert A. Coderniz, an upstanding member of the Dos Palos community, who has been recognized as an honoree for the 2019 Harvest of Hope Dinner by Catholic Charities of Merced, California.

Mr. Coderniz was born on March 4, 1934 in Manteca, California to Frank and Maria Coderniz, who had immigrated to the United States in 1920 after marrying in the Azores a week prior. His family settled in California's San Joaquin Valley and entered the dairy business after buying a small herd of dairy cattle. They moved throughout various towns in the north Valley and eventually settled in Dos Palos in 1951. Raised in a Portuguese dairy family, the values of hard work and a strong Catholic faith were instilled in Mr. Coderniz and his siblings early on.

Mr. Coderniz attended Dos Palos High School where he was active in sports and music while also serving as student body president and participating in Portuguese celebrations. It was during this time that he met his future wife, Arlene. After attending UC Davis for a year, Mr. Coderniz returned to Dos Palos to help his father on their farm and dairy, which would later become the first Grade A Dairy in the Dos Palos area. While he has enjoyed the successes of his family's business, he has always been a stellar community servant.

For 70 years, Mr. Coderniz's involvement and dedication to the Dos Palos community has never wavered. He is a Sacred Heart Catholic School founding member and has served on their board as a member and president. He is a Fourth Degree Knight with the Knights of Columbus and involved in many capacities with his parish, Sacred Heart.

In addition to the involvement with his church, Mr. Coderniz is a member of the California Milk Advisory Board and the Dos Palos Portuguese D.E.S. Association, among other various civic engagements. He often gives of himself by driving people to appointments and helping others with various tasks when asked.

Mr. Coderniz and his wife Arlene are the parents of daughters Karen and Kristy and grandparents to Marlynn, Mark, Catherine, and Joey. They have been loyal supporters of Catholic education and were present at many of their grandchildren's Catholic school events throughout the Valley.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the exceptional life of Albert A. Coderniz. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor him as he is recognized at the 2019 Harvest of Hope Dinner in Merced.

HONORING AMY SHIMBERG FOR
HER SELFLESS DEVOTION TO
HELP THE PEOPLE OF THE
TAMPA BAY COMMUNITY

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in admiration and respect to honor the life and unselfish works of Amy Shimberg. Amy's remarkable contributions to our hometown of Tampa had a tremendous impact on our neighbors and is worthy of recognition. She is survived by her five children and their spouses, 15 grandchildren, brother and numerous nieces and nephews who she loved very much.

Amy was born, raised and educated in New York City. She obtained her bachelor's degree from New York University and her master's in education from Columbia University. After teaching in New York, she followed her parents to Florida where she continued teaching. Amy met the love of her life and life partner in doing good, Jim, on a blind date. Jim and Amy started their 50-year marriage and settled in Tampa in 1958.

Amy was a tireless community volunteer with a very strong interest in public education. She served as PTA president of every school her children attended and continued her involvement with the PTA after her youngest graduated from high school. Many organizations in the Tampa Bay Area benefited from her tireless advocacy and passion. She served on the Citizens Advisory Board to the Hillsborough County School Board and the board of the Hillsborough Education Foundation. She also volunteered for Meals on Wheels in the 1970s and continued serving for more than 25 years, twice as president. She loved helping her neighbors in such a direct and personal way. In a window into Amy's heart, she believed that she gained more from neighbors she visited and delivered meals to than they did. In addition to her direct work delivering meals, she was instrumental in raising funds for Meals on Wheels and was the honorary chairperson of the capital campaign to build a new facility. Her dedication to this cause that brightens the days of so many is unmatched and one of the main reasons Meals on Wheels is such a success and Amy is so revered in Tampa Bay.

Amy was instrumental in helping not just our senior neighbors, but children as well. She co-chaired a fundraising campaign for Nature's Classroom to benefit future generations of sixth graders. She was recognized for her wonderful work, including receiving the Community Hero Award from the Tampa Bay Lightning Foundation in 2014. The philanthropic contributions of Amy and Jim improved the lives of many people in the Tampa Bay area and the James and Amy Shimberg Charitable Trust and the James and Amy Shimberg Foundation, will keep the good deeds going for more generations.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Florida and my neighbors across Tampa Bay, I am proud to honor Amy Shimberg for her formidable efforts and selfless devotion to the people in our community. The time and energy she put into making Tampa Bay a better place to live are unmatched. Volunteering thousands of hours to those in need must be celebrated. Amy Shimberg taught us the true meaning of the word *mitzvah* and her legacy as a tireless advocate will live on and inspire others in the community.

HONORING THE LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE OF RUSS BURNS TO THE OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 3

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Russ Burns upon his retirement as the Business Manager for the Operating Engineers, Local 3. As a third-generation operator and Local 3 member, Russ Burns grew up living and breathing Local 3. He began his career with Local 3 in 1979 as a crane operator for various construction projects such as high rises, bridges, refineries, and large treatment plants throughout Northern California. In 1994, Russ joined the staff of the union as a business representative in the Fairfield District. Russ was unanimously appointed treasurer, serving until 2005 when he was sworn in as financial secretary. In 2006, he was elected Business Manager. Russ Burns has influenced and inspired countless Operating Engineer members beginning with their apprenticeship training to being fully qualified journeyman level professionals. Russ Burns has been an integral part of the Operating Engineers Local 3, and he will be greatly missed as he moves on to the next chapter of his life. Please join me, and the men and women of California's 3rd Congressional District, in thanking Russ Burns for his outstanding service. We wish him all the best in his retirement and his future endeavors.

COMMENDING MR. RICHARD D. MILTON ON HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE HELLFIRE MISSILE

HON. MO BROOKS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Richard D. Milton, a key contributor to the development of the Hellfire missile.

In the 1960s, Mr. Milton worked with a team at the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development, and Engineering Center (AMRDEC) on Redstone Arsenal to find practical uses for lasers in the medical and military fields. By 1965, Mr. Milton found a unique role for lasers on the battlefield, and that by illuminating a target with a laser, a missile could be guided to that target.

In March of 1979, Richard Milton's invention, the Missile System Using Laser Illu-

minator, became U.S. Patent 4,143,835. U.S. Patents 6,166,803, 6,296,803, and U.S. Patent 6,305,797 can also be attributed to Mr. Milton. The invention of laser guided missiles contributed to the creation of the Hellfire missile, and this revolutionized America's defense. The ability to be launched from various platforms, the use of missiles by military personnel under the protection of cover, the ability for long range and multiple launches, and accuracy of hit are all battlefield advantages of the Hellfire missile.

Mr. Milton's coworkers often refer to him as "Dick" and speak highly of his brilliance and everyday problem-solving skills. Mrs. Debbie Jordan, a coworker, says, "Working with Dick and watching how he thought and attacked each problem was a great gift for a just out of college engineer."

Madam Speaker, the new-age ideas Richard Milton offered in the 1960s revolutionized many U.S. ally's missile systems and the U.S. precision in missile defense we have today.

I commend Mr. Richard D. Milton for his innovation and passion for public service to the American people.

IN HONOR OF RUTH LINDSAY BURGESS

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a special woman, Ruth Lindsay Burgess, of Lexington, Kentucky. Born in 1923 in Connersville, Pennsylvania as the only daughter in her family, she grew up hunting with her father and brothers. She was known as quite a sharp shooter.

Ruth Lindsay enlisted in the Army on May 15, 1945. She bravely served in the South Pacific as a nurse, caring for injured American soldiers during heavy fighting. She earned the rank of 2nd Lieutenant and earned a Victory Medal.

Ms. Lindsay was discharged on March 11, 1946. She returned home where she met and married her husband Frank Burgess, who also served in World War II. They had three daughters. Mrs. Burgess worked as a hospital nurse and then did private care nursing until she retired. She was an avid volunteer for American Legion Post 24. Ruth Lindsay Burgess passed away on July 27, 2019 at the age of 95.

Mrs. Burgess and her fellow veterans are true heroes. As members of the "Greatest Generation", they willingly served to protect and defend the freedoms that we enjoy today. I am humbled to honor the service of Mrs. Ruth Burgess before the United States Congress.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MARTIN M. MEDELLIN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. Martin Morin Medellin. Martin passed away on July 24,

2019 at the age of 93. Martin was a distinguished WWII veteran and beloved member of the Madera, California community.

Martin was born on January 30, 1926 in Texas. During his grade school years, his parents and their eight children moved to Madera, where they set deep roots in the community. Martin attended Howard Elementary School and left Madera High School before he could graduate to join the United States Army. Martin and his four brothers honorably served our country during World War II. During his service in the Army, Martin was deployed to France.

Martin was awarded multiple medals for his honored military service, including the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart. Additionally, in 2014 Martin received an honorary high school diploma from Madera High School. Several of these medals were in recognition of his act of bravery on a French battle field that saved the lives of 283 U.S. soldiers. Martin and his commander rescued soldiers who were pinned down by a German machine gun nest. Despite being shot through his shoulder and neck by a German sniper, Martin pushed on and was only treated later despite his injuries. After the conflict, Martin was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Upon his return from military service, Martin settled in Madera and married the love of his life Madeline. Together they were the proud parents of two daughters and a son. Martin was very involved in local organizations and forged many lifelong friendships. Martin was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 1981 of Madera and was a member of the distinguished Honor Guard for the post.

Martin was preceded in death by his wife Madeline, his daughter Judie, and Grandson Kevin. He is survived by daughter Toni, son Reg, grandchildren Rob, Nina and Jamie, and great grandchildren Maddie, Tommy, Cheyanne, and Alyssa.

Madam Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to honored veteran Martin Morin Medellin. His service to our country and community will not be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. KIMBERLYDAWN WISDOM

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom for her appointment to the Advisory Committee on Minority Health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health. This achievement is worthy of commendation.

Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom, M.D., M.S., is the Senior Vice President of Community Health & Equity and the Chief Wellness & Diversity Officer at Henry Ford Health System. Formerly, Dr. Wisdom served as Michigan's and the nation's first state-level Surgeon General from 2003 to 2010 and was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve on the Advisory Group on Prevention, Health Promotion and Integrative and Public Health in 2012. In

addition, Dr. Wisdom has served on the faculty of the University of Michigan Medical School's Department of Medical Education since 1987 and has taught as an adjunct professor in U of M's School of Public Health. Dr. Wisdom's work focuses on health disparities, health care equity, chronic disease, unhealthy eating habits, and infant mortality, to name a few.

Throughout her professional endeavors, Dr. Wisdom has witnessed firsthand the importance of a diverse and inclusive workforce that can provide equitable treatment to patients. Dr. Wisdom's exceptional efforts have been instrumental in improving the health of those disproportionately affected by poor health outcomes, and her work continues to make a difference in patient care. Dr. Wisdom's passion and professional expertise makes her an excellent addition to the Advisory Committee on Minority Health, where she will assist the committee in discovering ways to improve the health of racial and ethnic minority populations.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom on her appointment to the Advisory Committee on Minority Health. We are grateful for her lifetime of impactful work and wish her many years of continued success.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce a resolution to support the goals and ideals of the American Legion on their 100th anniversary. The American Legion is our country's largest wartime veterans service organization and has advocated for a countless number of veterans, servicemembers, families, and communities.

Federally chartered by Congress in 1919, the American Legion evolved from a group of war-hardened World War I veterans to one of the most influential nonprofit organizations in America today. The Legion is committed to mentoring youth, sponsoring beneficial programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continuing devotion to our fellow servicemembers and veterans.

The nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization has given countless hours of service and produced millions of dollars in donations at local, state, and national levels. While American veterans have valiantly served to protect our country and interests around the world, the contributions from the Legion assist these veterans and their families during times of need and stand behind the issues most important to our nation's veterans.

The Legion now has approximately 2 million members of the Armed Forces and veterans in its membership in over 13,000 posts worldwide. A gift from the people of Indiana, the National Headquarters of The American Legion is located in Indianapolis near the Indiana War Memorial Plaza. As the Representative

for the 7th Congressional District of Indiana, I am proud to have such an important and meaningful organization, headquartered in Indianapolis, especially one that has done so much for the well-being of our country's veterans and communities.

Among other notable members, three Hoosiers have served as National Commander of the American Legion. Paul V. McNutt, George N. Craig, and Frank I. Hamilton all served in the highest echelons of leaderships at the Legion as National Commander.

Paul McNutt was an American diplomat and politician who served as the National Commander of the American Legion (1928 to 29), 34th Governor of Indiana (1933 to 37), high commissioner to the Philippines, administrator of the Federal Security Agency, and Chairman of the War Manpower Commission and ambassador to the Philippines.

Craig was the 39th Governor of the State of Indiana from 1953 until 1957. A lawyer and veteran of World War II who was promoted to serve as a division command staff, Craig first gained popularity in the state as National Commander of The American Legion (1949 to 50). Craig served four years with the 80th U.S. Infantry Division in General George Patton's hard-hitting Third Army. He participated in all the bitter fighting of the Patton campaigns in northern France, in the Rhineland, in the Ardennes and in Germany. Through battlefield promotions he reached the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Hamilton was born in Indianapolis, the home of American Legion National Headquarters, on January 6, 1923. He attended public schools, graduating from Wiley High School in Terre Haute; earned his BS degree from Indiana University, and received his LLB and Doctor of Jurisprudence degrees from the Indiana University Law School. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve in 1942, and went on active duty later that same year. In 1945 he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant at the Infantry School in Ft. Benning, Georgia, and served with the U.S. Army of Occupation in Japan. He was separated from active service in 1946 but held his commission until 1953, when he resigned with the rank of First Lieutenant.

Hamilton was a practicing attorney in his home community of Greensburg. He was a member of the Decatur County and Indiana State Bar Association. He served as chairman of the Indiana State Veterans Commission and as a member of the Governor's Economic Committee of the Ninth District of Indiana. Hamilton was extremely active in a number of civic, fraternal, professional and service organizations including: Past Exalted Ruler, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Lodge 475; President and Chairman of the Board of Lambda Corporation of Sigma Chi social fraternity; Chairman, Indiana University Varsity Club of Decatur County; President, Decatur County Bar Association, and Deacon of the Presbyterian Church. He held membership in many other social and fraternal organizations, including several Masonic Orders.

Another notable figure in the Legion's history includes former Marine Corps Lieutenant General Carol Mutter. She is the first woman in the history of the United States Armed Forces to be appointed to a three-star grade. She retired from the Marine Corps on January 1, 1999, and her last active duty assignment was as Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower and

Reserve Affairs (DC/S, M&RA) at Marine Corps Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Mutter currently resides in Indianapolis, Indiana and is a member of Legion Post 438.

Finally, I applaud The American Legion for its more recent efforts in recognizing the military contribution of African-Americans and working to reflect that historical contribution in their leadership ranks. For example, Willie D. Ransom was appointed national sergeant-at-arms of The American Legion on August 30, 2018, at the 100th National Convention in Minneapolis. The sergeant-at-arms preserves the order at national meetings and performs such other duties as may be assigned by the National Executive Committee or national officers.

A Vietnam-era veteran, Mr. Ransom retired from the U.S. Army as a master sergeant. Willie is a member of Maj. Charles A. Ransom American Legion Post 186 in Midlothian, Va. The post was named in honor of Willie's son, U.S. Air Force Maj. Charles A. Ransom, who was killed in action on April 27, 2011, while serving in Kabul, Afghanistan. Willie is a past department commander of Virginia and has also served as the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation chairman for the department.

I recognize the organization and its members for their unrelenting dedication to improving the lives of servicemembers and veterans across the country. With the American Legion's success depending on active membership, participation, and volunteerism, I look forward to working alongside the organization to ensure another 100 years of excellence.

I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this resolution to recognize The American Legion on its 100th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING VERMALENE SMITH'S VSO SERVICE

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Vermaleene Smith of Jonesboro, Arkansas, who faithfully served as the Craighead County Veterans Service Officer the past 12 years. Without a doubt, our country's 18-plus million veterans would be much better served if every VSO had Ms. Smith's knowledge, determination, and passion.

When I first took office in 2011, Ms. Smith literally opened her office doors to my veteran's caseworker, allowing her to observe and learn the VA processes so we could best serve veterans in the first congressional district of Arkansas. Since then, Ms. Smith readily made herself available to my office, offering us advice and direction when veterans experienced complex issues or bureaucratic red tape.

If a veteran had a need, Ms. Smith pinpointed a resource to fill it. She often located suits or clean clothes for veterans facing job interviews. She found places for veterans to live while in transition, even contacting local hotels to provide lodging. She made sure no veteran was buried without a proper funeral. And in situations where Ms. Smith did not have an available resource, she organized efforts to create one.

Yes, finding Ms. Smith's replacement will prove daunting. She, however, leaves behind the most treasured legacy of all—that of investing in people, including the veterans for whom she cares so deeply and the individuals seeking to help them. Consequently, I have no doubt Craighead County is left in good hands based on the leadership example Ms. Smith set.

My office formally congratulates Ms. Vermalene Smith on her retirement, and we wish her many happy years ahead reflective of the stellar service she provided veterans in Northeast Arkansas.

HONORING THE SERRANO FAMILY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Serrano Family, who have been recognized as honorees at this year's Harvest of Hope Dinner by Catholic Charities in Merced, California. Their strong faith and commitment to serving others have distinguished them as stellar members of their church community that are very deserving of this recognition.

David Serrano was born to Florencio and Anita Serrano on August 13, 1941. The family lived in Chowchilla, California before moving across the highway to Le Grand in the late 50's when the family purchased their farm. Raised in a family with a strong Catholic faith, David joined the Newman Club while attending Fresno State, where he met his future wife, RoseAnn Burkhart, who had also grown up in a strong Catholic household and was an integral member of their parish, Our Lady of Lourdes (OLL).

The commitment to faith exhibited by David and RoseAnn guided them as they raised their family and instilled this faith in each of their children: Christine, Danielle, Matthew, and Michael. Their family remained active in the OLL parish throughout their childhood and volunteered for various ministries in the church. David and RoseAnn became mentors for many and over the years, were asked to be Godparents for multiple children and adults.

David and RoseAnn's unwavering commitment to their religion undoubtedly contributed to the strong character present in each of their children, all of whom continue to remain active in the Catholic faith. Each of their children has remained committed to passing their faith traditions along to the next generation while continuing to serve others.

Their daughters Christine and Danielle, in addition to their son Michael, his wife Erika and daughter Catalina, are all active members of OLL. Christine and Danielle continue to pass along their family's faith traditions as Godparents to Catalina. Their son Matthew and his wife Kimberly are active in Sacred Heart Schools, where their children Isabela and William attend. Though RoseAnn passed suddenly on June 25, 2017, her exceptional family continues to carry on her legacy she built.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring an exceptional family that has been guided by their strong Catholic and distinguished service to their community. I wish the Serrano family and Catholic Charities

of Merced the best as they are recognized as honorees at the 2019 Harvest of Hope Dinner.

RECOGNIZING THE CLEAR LAKE AME CHURCH FOR ITS CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Clear Lake African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) for nearly three decades of Christian ministry in the Clear Lake area of Houston, Texas, and the dedication of their new church home. The church is growing, both in membership and spiritual richness, and has embraced its mission statement, "Kingdom Building, One Soul at a Time."

The first meeting to organize an AME church in the Clear Lake City area began with prayer and praise on August 18, 1992, in the home of Reverend Brenda Payne and her family. Bro. Jerry Payne led the praise service, Presiding Elder X.L. Williams of the South Houston District read the scripture, and Rev. Payne offered prayer. There were nine adults and five children present at the very first worship service.

In October 1992, at the Texas Annual Conference held at Shiloh AME Church in Galveston, Texas, Bishop John R. Bryant formally gave Rev. Brenda Payne an appointment to begin a mission church in the Clear Lake area. On November 29, 1992, Clear Lake AME held its first 11 AM worship service at the Piper's Meadow Community Center in Webster, Texas. Bible study continued initially in the home of the pastor until it was moved to the Piper's Meadow Community Center in July 1993. Clear Lake added Sunday Church School at Piper's Meadow on January 9, 1994.

On March 3, 1995, Clear Lake AME glorified God for the first time in a new "home" located on El Camino Real road. The Nehemiah Ministry, under the direction of Wilbert Williams, built an altar and carpeted the pulpit area, helping to transform the former office space into a church sanctuary. On April 16, 1996, Clear Lake AME Church purchased 3.5 acres near the NASA Johnson Space Center and the University of Houston—Clear Lake. This land is believed to be the first church property purchased by African Americans in the historic Clear Lake area.

In October 1999, Clear Lake AME Church joined with Primm Chapel AME Church, LaMarque, Reedy Chapel AME Church, Galveston, and St. James AME Church, Dickinson to form the "Mainland 4." The four churches, though small in numerical size, hosted the Texas Annual Conference.

At the 134th Session of the Texas Annual Conference in October 2000, Bishop McKinley Young appointed Rev. Arthur Ferguson Pastor of Clear Lake AME Church. Rev. Arthur Ferguson preached the gospel of peace, love, and reconciliation, preparing the church to grow and become a beacon in the Clear Lake community.

On Saturday, November 18, 2006, at the Post Conference Planning Meeting of the Texas Annual Conference, Bishop Gregory G.M. Ingram, Presiding Prelate, appointed

Reverend Kevin L. Hodge to serve as Pastor of Clear Lake AME Church. Pastor Hodge and his new bride, First Lady LaShawn Hodge, came with a vision to take the congregation "to the next level" of spiritual growth, church construction, and church expansion. On Sunday, July 1, 2007, Clear Lake AME moved the congregation to its current location on Sea Lark Road.

On Sunday, February 17, 2013, Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie moved Pastor and Sister Hodge to a ministry at Shiloh AME Church in Galveston, Texas. On Saturday, March 8, 2013, Reverend Derrick Cyprian was appointed Pastor of Clear Lake AME Church. Rev. Cyprian, his wife Chalita, and their two sons, Derrick and Jared, came with excitement and a desire to help the community reach their committed goals: to grow spiritually, increase God's kingdom, and build a home sanctuary to house Clear Lake AME Church ministries.

The Clear Lake African Methodist Episcopal Church is committed to fulfilling the Great Commission through worship, fellowship, youth programs, outreach initiatives, and Christian education. The Lord has used this church as an amazing witness, and we are privileged to have such a place of worship in the 36th Congressional District of Texas.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF JOHN RUDD AT THE CAYUGA MEDICAL CENTER

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service of John Rudd to the Cayuga Medical Center and congratulate him on his retirement.

For the last six years, John Rudd has served as the President and CEO of Cayuga Medical Center. Upon its creation in 2014, John was also named President and CEO of Cayuga Health System. Before that, John served as the Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Cayuga Medical Center for seventeen years. His dedicated service and wealth of experience has ensured the highest of quality service, that Cayuga Medical Center is known for, to people in the Finger Lakes Region.

Under John's leadership, Cayuga Medical Center has grown and experienced a major expansion of their services. He oversaw the opening of the Cayuga Wellness Center as well as the opening of the hospital's first cath lab. John is responsible for forging partnerships and collaboration with organizations such as Mayo Laboratories, University of Rochester Medical Center, and Roswell Park. He was also instrumental in the efforts to join Cayuga Medical Center and Schuyler Hospital as Cayuga Health System, producing a successful system with both hospitals performing well.

John's dedication to the well-being of his community extends far beyond his place of work, as he has served on numerous community boards. He has worked with organizations such as Franziska Racker Centers, OAR, United Way Tompkins County, Tompkins County Area Development, Central New York

Area Health Education Center, Challenge Industries, Kendall at Ithaca, Reconstruction Home Inc., and Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce.

As John moves forward with the next chapter of his life, we applaud his tireless efforts to improve healthcare in our communities and we wish him all the best in his retirement.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to celebrate John Rudd and his extraordinary career.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AI ROOT COMPANY

HON. ANTHONY GONZALEZ

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Root Candles of Medina, Ohio on their 150th anniversary. Founded in 1869, this family owned, and operated company has consistently produced the highest quality candles our country has to offer. Now in its fifth generation, the Root family continues to uphold the same values that their founder, Amos Ives Root, first instilled: honesty, integrity, and diligent craftsmanship.

Today, Root Candles continues to be a leader of industry; combining the latest technology in manufacturing with five generations of mastered craftsmanship to create unmatched fragrances and sophisticated color palettes. With their rich history, tradition of excellence, and commitment to customer satisfaction, the next 150 years are sure to be just as successful as the last.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to share the history of Root Candles with the House and want to join in congratulating them and their fine employees as they prepare to celebrate 150 years of service to the people and communities of Northeast Ohio.

IN HONOR OF AMERICAN LEGION
POST 12

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the American Legion "Jesse M. Dykes" Post 12 in Richmond, Kentucky. Post 12 is celebrating its 100th anniversary on August 17, 2019. The Post is celebrating this important anniversary by dedicating a memorial to veterans.

Post 12 has a long and important history in the Richmond community. After the American Legion was organized, a group of veterans in Richmond decided to apply for a post charter in August of 1919. They were the 12th Post chartered in Kentucky. Lt. Harry D. Rice led efforts to secure the charter for Post 12 and was later named the first Post Commander.

The Post's name, Jesse M. Dykes, is in honor of the first Madison County soldier killed in action in WWI. Dykes was killed in battle in the Argonne Forest on October 4, 1918. He was buried in France and later reinterred in the Richmond Cemetery.

The American Legion provides a voice for veterans at the national level, builds future leaders through youth programs such as Boys State, supports young people in the community, provides camaraderie with fellow veterans and patriotic Americans, and much more. The present commander of Post 12 is Cecil Walker.

I thank Commander Walker and all past and present members of American Legion "Jesse M. Dykes" Post 12 for their service to our country. I am grateful for their work through American Legion to honor and serve their fellow veterans. It is my honor to recognize them on this 100th anniversary before the United States Congress.

IN CELEBRATION OF FRANK
GARCIA'S BIRTHDAY

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th birthday of Frank Garcia, my constituent, friend, and the founder and owner of La Casa Garcia.

Mr. Garcia and his wife, Sylvia Garcia, opened La Casa Garcia in 1973 and have since expanded to three locations in Orange County. La Casa Garcia and its authentic, delectable Mexican food has become a staple in our community over the past four decades. Beyond being a successful restaurateur, Mr. Garcia has also become a well-known philanthropist in Orange County as the founder of the We Give Thanks Foundation. Mr. Garcia's passion for giving back earned him the Points of Light Foundation Medal from former President Bill Clinton. In addition, his restaurant, La Casa Garcia, received the designation of "Small Business of the Year" from California State Senator Tom Umberg.

Mr. Garcia began his career in the restaurant industry at the young age of 13 as a dishwasher in a restaurant in Texas. He also worked in the fields picking cotton and onion with his father, Luis Majin Garcia. During his time as a dishwasher, Mr. Garcia worked hard to master cooking skills and was soon promoted to chef himself. It was through these formative experiences that Mr. Garcia learned the value of hard work, the power of food as a way of bonding, and the importance of connecting with the community. Mr. Garcia credits God for his success and expresses his gratitude through every meal that he serves.

Growing up, his mother, Elvira Garza Garcia, one of the founders of LULAC, instilled in him a strong sense of philanthropy. After the success of La Casa Garcia, Mr. Garcia followed his mother's philosophy of charity and founded We Give Thanks Inc., a nonprofit that has been hosting a Thanksgiving feast every year for the past 32 years. The annual We Give Thanks feast began as a small-scale event attended by a few thousand people in the parking lot of one of the La Casa Garcia restaurants. Since then, it has expanded to the lot of the Honda Center, where 1,500 volunteers serve around 17,000 people each year. It has become the largest Thanksgiving feast hosted in Orange County. Mr. Garcia's dedication to serving others also extends beyond Orange County; when Hurricane Harvey

hit Houston, Texas in 2017, Mr. Garcia participated in efforts to raise money for victims and personally flew out to Houston to provide hot meals for those in need and displaced by the hurricane.

In his 75 years of life, Mr. Garcia has become a beacon of light for the Orange County community. He is a constant and consistent supporter of numerous community events and has become known for his community service and volunteer work. His dedication for providing quality food and his passion for helping others brings warmth and comfort to the lives of Orange County locals every day. Mr. Garcia's story is a moving example of the power of hard work, dedication, and charity. For these reasons, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Garcia many more years of health, success, and prosperity and in thanking him for his invaluable contributions and presence in our community. Happy Birthday.

HONORING CHANCELLOR DOROTHY
LELAND

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chancellor Dorothy Leland on her last day as Chancellor of the University of California, Merced. Chancellor Leland leaves a legacy of leadership and advocacy.

After earning her bachelors, masters, and PhD from Purdue University, Chancellor Leland began an impressive career in academia and became the President of Georgia College & State University in 2004. Though she had planned to retire in that job, she answered the call to serve as UC Merced's chancellor in 2011 because she was intrigued about leading a young university.

When Chancellor Leland arrived at UC Merced, the university lacked the resources and infrastructure present at more established schools and California's education budget was still severely impacted by the recession. Chancellor Leland rose to these unique challenges and envisioned the 2020 Project: one that brought together \$1.3 billion of state and private funding to significantly increase the size of campus and provide the necessary facilities to support the longterm growth of this premier 21st century research university.

Upon completion, the 2020 Project will add classroom space, student housing, student life facilities and more labs that will further the University of California's mission to improve and advance society through research. The changes will accommodate 10,000 students.

Chancellor Leland has been an outspoken advocate for underserved student populations during her tenure. UC Merced is a minority-majority campus-many students are the first in their family to attend college. Under her leadership, UC Merced has implemented programs and initiatives to support these students. Chancellor Leland has championed the campus's Dreamers and has even traveled to Washington, D.C. to advocate on their behalf.

As the leader of the UC's newest campus, Chancellor Leland has fostered relationships to ensure UC Merced's positive impact on the future of the San Joaquin Valley. Under her guidance, the university has increased its visibility in the Merced community with its Downtown Campus Center, which opened in early

2018, and has strengthened its partnerships with the National Parks Service.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a true pioneer in higher education who has paved the way for the successful future of UC Merced and the San Joaquin Valley. I am proud to join Chancellor Leland as University of California Merced celebrates her legacy and opens Phase Two of the 2020 Project.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANN ARBOR FARMERS MARKET

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Ann Arbor Farmers Market. It is my honor and privilege to recognize its century of dedication and service to the Ann Arbor community.

Since 1919, the Ann Arbor Farmers Market has striven to connect local businesses with members of the Ann Arbor community. Every week, the market invites vendors to sell fresh produce, flowers, artisanal products, baked goods, crafts, and a host of other Michigan goods. All products are sold exclusively by the people who grow or make them, allowing producers and community members to establish meaningful and lasting relationships with one another. People in the Ann Arbor area are invited to stroll the farmers market year-round to experience all it has to offer.

Over the course of 100 years, the Ann Arbor Farmers Market has significantly transformed. From humble beginnings on 4th Avenue in Ann Arbor in 1919, the farmers market has since grown to become a pillar of our community. Today, the farmers market creates a space for over 100 vendors and countless community members to gather. In addition, the farmers market hosts an array of additional special events for all of Ann Arbor to enjoy. Throughout the year, members of our community look forward to the food truck rallies, live music opportunities, cooking demonstrations, and holiday gatherings that the farmers market offers. The Ann Arbor Farmers Market truly fosters an inclusive, lively, and enjoyable environment where all feel welcome, and I cannot thank it enough for its century of exceptional service to our community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the 100th anniversary of the Ann Arbor Farmers Market. We are grateful for its impactful contributions to our community and wish it many more years of continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE MINISTRY AND SERVICE OF REVEREND ARLESS R. GLASS

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and ministry of Rev-

erend Bishop Arless R. Glass who has served the Lord in ministry for nearly seven decades at the United Pentecostal Church International.

Arless Glass was born to Robert Newton and Allie Glass on August 17, 1929, in DeRidder, Louisiana. He graduated from DeRidder High School in 1947.

Shortly after high school, Glass joined the United States Air Force and served as a Welfare Supervisor in the Chaplaincy with rotations at Kadena Air Force Base in Okinawa, Japan, in 1951 and Carswell Air Force Base in 1953. Chaplain Glass was the first person to baptize someone in Jesus' name while stationed in Okinawa.

Following his honorable service in the Air Force, Arless Glass was licensed as a minister in the United Pentecostal Church in February of 1951 and ordained in July of 1953. Initially, Glass served as an evangelist across the United States and Canada. In November of 1956, Rev. Glass accepted the pastorate of the La Marque United Pentecostal Church in Texas.

In August of 1962, the Lord called Arless Glass to the Pasadena United Pentecostal Church where he has served ever since. He served as pastor of Pasadena United Pentecostal Church for forty-two years. For the past fifteen years, he has also served as Bishop of The Church Triumphant.

Rev. Glass was one of the founding fathers of the Texas Bible College in 1964 and served as an instructor from 1964 to 1970, as well as a member on the Board of Directors from 1964 to 1976. Glass also earned a Bachelor of Theology degree from Texas Bible College in 1975. He later received an honorary doctoral degree in Pentecostal Studies in 1991, from the Apostolic Bible Institute in St. Paul, Minnesota. In 2008, Bishop Glass earned his Master's in Apostolic Studies from World Academy of Letters.

In addition to his day-to-day role as a pastor, Bishop Glass has served in countless other denominational leadership positions on the local, state, and national level within the United Pentecostal Church International. He has also served as an appointed police chaplain for the Pasadena Police Department from 1974 to the present-day. Glass was also an active member of the United States Air Forces' Auxiliary, commonly known as the Civil Air Patrol, from 1974 to 2006 where he served as a Lieutenant Colonel.

After forty-two years of marriage, his wife, Geraldine, passed away. He later married JoAnn Cannon, who passed away in 2002. Bishop Glass is currently married to Joan Carouthers of Arlington, Texas. He is the father of three children, daughters Cathy Glass and Letha Wise (deceased) and son Richey Glass. Glass has six grandchildren: Arlessa Wise, Kayci Dougherty, Garrett Dennard, Taylor Wise, Chelsea Wappler, and Krislyn Glass. He also has three great-grandchildren: Adalyn Sonnier, Grayson Dougherty, and Shay Corossan.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize my brother in Christ, Bishop Arless R. Glass, for his devotion to ministry, service to the community and nation, and in recognition of his 90th birthday on Saturday, August 17, 2019.

IN HONOR OF CHARLIE BEACH III

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a special man, Mr. Charlie Beach III, of Beattyville, Kentucky. This year marks Mr. Beach's 50th year with People's Exchange Bank.

People's Exchange Bank was founded in 1912 by Charlie Beach, Sr. where he served from 1912 to 1966. Charlie Beach III, grandson of the bank's founder, currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors and is responsible for business development and public relations. In his 50-year career with People's Exchange Bank, the bank has grown to serve customers in Lee, Powell, Clark, Montgomery, Fayette, and Scott counties.

Mr. Beach is a graduate of the McCallie School, the University of Kentucky, the LSU School of Banking of the South, and the Owners/President Management Program at Harvard University. In addition to his service with People's Exchange Bank, he also serves as a member of several boards of directors, including the Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions, the Kentucky Industrial Development Council, and the Kentucky Center for Public Issues. He also serves as organist and past senior warden of St. Thomas Episcopal Church.

Mr. Beach led the city of Beattyville as mayor from 1976 to 2008, where he was responsible for overall management of the city including budget planning, public relations, and cost control. He has served as past chairman of the Kentucky River Area Development district, past president of the Kentucky League of Cities, and past president of Group 9 of the Kentucky Bankers Association. He has served on numerous boards of directors, including the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce.

Charlie Beach has contributed greatly to Kentucky over the past 50 years with his banking expertise and his community involvement. As he celebrates his 50th year with People's Exchange Bank, I commend Mr. Beach for his contributions to the betterment of Kentucky and I congratulate him on this important anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF KINGMAN BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Kingman Boys and Girls Club for 50 years of service to children and families in the District of Columbia.

For 50 years, Kingman has provided after-school programming, academic and cultural enrichment, and athletic programming to young people in D.C. Kingman's staff have worked diligently to provide an atmosphere where all young people feel valued and challenged to achieve their dreams. Kingman continues to be an active contributor to the lives

of young people and their families, providing a sense of community, care and stability.

We also recognize Aaron “Cliff” Webster, the Executive Director of Kingman, for over 40 years of leadership. His background managing multifaceted programs on a shoestring budget has made him essential to maintaining the success of Kingman over the years. Mr. Webster has successfully led Kingman through difficult and changing times with a commitment to nurturing D.C.’s youth. He has worked to create an environment where young people can thrive in their academic and athletic pursuits, and we thank Mr. Webster for being a source of stability and guidance to all who pass through Kingman’s doors. His love and dedication for the families of Kingman and the District of Columbia make Aaron “Cliff” Webster a role model for our children.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Aaron “Cliff” Webster and in congratulating Kingman Boys and Girls Club for 50 years of service to children and families in the District of Columbia.

WELCOMING CHIEF MINISTER Y.S. JAGAN MOHAN REDDY TO NORTH TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I stand today in recognition of India’s newly-elected Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. It is my honor to congratulate him on his recent election and to welcome him on his visit to Dallas, Texas on August 17, 2019.

The Chief Minister’s visit represents an ongoing effort to promote economic development between the United States and India, and his participation will help facilitate a discussion about business opportunities that currently exist between both countries. This bilateral relationship that has been fostered over the years has proven especially valuable to the economies of Texas and Andhra Pradesh, both of which benefit from strong business ties.

The 24th District of Texas is home to a booming information technology industry, world-class medical facilities, and the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. It is also home to a large Indian-American population, many of whom immigrated from Andhra Pradesh and have contributed to the District’s status as a magnet for world-class professionals. Cultivating a mutually beneficial relationship is clearly valuable to the economies of Texas and Andhra Pradesh and we look forward to the continued collaboration between our countries.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in welcoming Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy to the United States of America and to the great to the State of Texas.

NATIVE AMERICAN LANGUAGE VITALIZATION ACT

HON. GREGORIO KILLI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Native American Language Vitalization Act, which would help preserve the indigenous languages of the United States through grants to postsecondary institutions to support Native American language education programs and the pipeline of language instructors.

Native American languages are part of our nation’s cultural heritage and are as diverse as the rich cultures of American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and the Native peoples of the Pacific U.S. territories. Over the course of our nation’s history, Native Americans have faced discrimination and government policies that restricted or banned the use of their indigenous languages. These policies have contributed to the decline in speakers of Native American languages. Without action, many of these languages, from Chamorro to Refaluwasch to Cherokee, are at risk of disappearing. Congress recognized this urgency in passing the Esther Martinez Act in 2006 to strengthen Native American language immersion programs. However, we must do more at the postsecondary level so that future generations have the programs and quality instructors necessary to not only preserve but increase the use of their ancestral languages.

The Native American Language Vitalization Act invests in indigenous language education by creating a dedicated grant program under the Higher Education Act to provide the resources Native-serving colleges and universities need to develop or strengthen their indigenous language programs. Schools can use the grant to provide in-service training for language teachers, develop curriculum, professional development of faculty, and create innovative programs, including language immersion. Eligible institutions can also partner with other organizations to reach students in early childhood education programs through grade 12.

I thank Representatives SCHRIER, GABBARD and CASE for cosponsoring the bill. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to help preserve the indigenous languages of the United States for future generations.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GRAND ILLUMINATION CELEBRATION

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 150th anniversary of the Grand Illumination celebration in Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts.

Each year, since 1869, friends, family, and visitors to the island have gathered in the Oak Bluffs Campgrounds to share in this wonderful tradition. What started as an annual ceremony welcome the Governor of Massachusetts to

Martha’s Vineyard has become the vibrant and beloved celebration that we know today. Led by the Martha’s Vineyard Camp Meeting Association, those who live in the beautiful Victorian cottages lining the campground, decorate their houses with scores of colorful lanterns. Many of the lanterns have been passed down from friends and families for generations, with some in use for over 100 years.

As the Grand Illumination evening settles in, thousands of people come to the Oak Bluffs Campgrounds to observe the quiet beauty of the dancing lights before them. Neighbors and strangers alike share a serene and spiritual moment of reflection and contemplation as the Grand Illumination ignites the dark night. For 150 years, the people of Oak Bluffs have set an example of togetherness and community for others around the country, setting aside any differences in a show of unity—especially in challenging times when our nation has been in need of unity.

Madam Speaker, on this milestone 150th anniversary of the Grand Illumination, I am proud to honor the Martha’s Vineyard Camp Meeting Association and the people of Oak Bluffs for their dedication to unity and tradition in the community. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking those who have organized the event, the Martha’s Vineyard Camp Meeting Association and all those who have helped to make it happen. I wish them all the best in the many years to come.

HONORING FRANK AND NATALIA NEVES ON 50 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank and Natalia Neves of Hilmar, California who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on their native island of Terceira. Mr. and Mrs. Neves are great pillars in their community and act as examples to us all with the longevity of their marriage and their commitment to their children and the Hilmar community.

Frank and Natalia were born and met on the small island of Terceira in the Azores Archipelago off the coast of Portugal. In 1969 the Neves left Terceira and their dairy farm which they had owned for 10 years and immigrated to the United States. After they arrived in the United States, they settled in the small town of Hilmar, in the San Joaquin Valley. Once in Hilmar, Frank and Natalia started their family and extensive community service.

Throughout her career, Natalia worked at the local Foster Farms plant in Livingston for over 30 years. Frank was the plant manager of Besnier USA for 23 years. Natalia and Frank are the proud parents of three children, Frank, Lee and Leanna. Frank went on to be a Police Officer, Leanna received her master’s degree and currently works for EJ Gallo Winery and Lee received his law degree and now works as a political consultant. They have 5 grandchildren, one of which, served as the California Dairy Princess, representing and advocating for the Dairy industry on local and state levels. Their children credit their success in life to their parents’ commitment and dedication.

Mr. and Mrs. Neves have had a deep dedication for serving their community; their integrity, honor, and longtime service to the Central Valley has made them cherished figures. Frank served as the Head of The Knights of Columbus Lady of Assumption Church. Through the fraternal service organization,

Frank was able to give back to his community, volunteering hundreds of hours and raising money for his community. Frank also served as the President of Oakdale FES, a community organization dedicated to bringing the Portuguese community closer. Their commitment to their marriage, their family and the Hilmar

community will continue to leave a lasting impact on their family, friends, and community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 50 years of marriage of Frank and Natalia Neves and their tireless service and devotion to their community.