RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF NEAL HENDERSON

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 6, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, last month California lost an esteemed political colleague and tireless advocate, Mr. Darren Parker. He championed racial equality and civil rights, especially for African Americans, and his career was one of public service and selfless contributions.

From a very young age, Darren showed a strong interest in political engagement. At just 11 years old, he teamed up with a few family members to found One Hundred Thousand Students for the Freedom of South Africa, gathering peers in his grandmother’s Compton home to support the anti-apartheid struggles half a world away.

His passion for politics continued through his college years, then as a union rep with the Communication Workers of America during his 20-year career with Pacific Bell. Early on, he became involved with the Democratic Party, in Los Angeles City, Antelope Valley, L.A. County, and the state of California. After years of involvement, in 2007 he was elected Chair of the California Democratic Party’s African American Caucus, aiming to lift up the voices of African Americans and encourage civic engagement. He was particularly proud of significantly increasing voter registration in the Antelope Valley.

His passion for service continued with his positions on many nonprofit boards and appointed offices over the course of his life, including his appointment to the LA County Commission for Children and Families.

Wanting to contribute directly to governing the state, he ran for a seat in the California Senate in 2011 and in the Assembly in 2016. In between, he served in state government as special assistant to California Assembly Speakers John Pérez, Toni Atkins, and Anthony Rendon. As a former Speaker myself, I know how demanding and important that job is, and I know that he contributed to successes in each Speaker’s administration. Remarkably, during that time he also served as Executive Director of AFSCME Local 2620 for two years.

I had the privilege of working with Mr. Parker many times over the years. I offer my sincere condolences to his family and friends. He will be remembered for his influential activism, indomitable spirit, and life-long dedication to public service.

IN HONOR OF RAUDE RAYCHEL

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 6, 2019

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Raude Raychel for her tireless work on behalf of the Indonesian community in New Hampshire.

Raudie serves as President of the Indonesian Community Connect (ICC), a non-profit organization based in Somersworth, NH. ICC hosts community events for the Indonesian community, shares Indonesian culture and values with the broader community, and provides support and information for those building lives in the United States.

The daughter of immigrants, Raude’s parents always instilled in her a drive to always make her community stronger. Throughout her life, Raude has been a model citizen—she is truly a pillar of our community.

In her role as President of ICC, Raude has not only upheld and carried on the traditions of the Indonesian community but also shared these with the entire Seacoast region. The contributions of the Indonesian community have made Somersworth and all of New Hampshire a better place to live. I am particularly proud of her efforts to bring local municipal officials and the Indonesian Consulate and Embassies together to discuss creating the country’s first ‘Little Indonesia’ in Somersworth.

Like so many other Granite Staters, I have been lucky enough to learn about Indonesian culture through ICC’s events and festivals. On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire’s First Congressional District, I want to thank Raudie for her decades of dedication to our community. I thank her for her tireless work for our community, and for helping to make our state such a wonderful place to learn, live, and grow.

HONORING DOROTHY STONE ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CHERI BUSTOS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 6, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dorothy Stone around her 100th Birthday. Ms. Stone was born August 6, 1919 in Erie, Illinois.

Ms. Stone grew up in Erie, Illinois and graduated from Erie High School in 1937. She went on to get her teaching degree at Blackburn College in Carlinville, Illinois and Misericord College in Davenport, Iowa. Ms. Stone then had a long and successful teaching career spanning 35 years in the Erie area until she retired in the 1970’s. In that time, she left a long lasting, positive impact on her community.

It is because of community leaders such as Ms. Stone that I am especially proud to serve Illinois’ 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally honor Ms. Dorothy Stone on her 100th Birthday.
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — Extensions of Remarks

E1095

Friday, September 6, 2019

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF COMMANDER MAJOR JOHNNY NEAL MARLOW

HON. TREV KELLY
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 6, 2019

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and military service of Command Sergeant Major Johnny Neal Marlow, who passed away on August 20th at the age of 68.

Mr. Marlow was born in Eupora, Mississippi on May 28, 1951. He answered the call to serve our great nation as Command Sergeant Major for the United States Army. He previously served with the Mississippi National Guard and was a retired Master Sgt. with the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol. Command Sergeant Major Marlow set an example for his community by his extensive military and public service. Before he passed, he was currently serving as a Command Sergeant Major with the Mississippi State Guard, as a Carroll County Sheriff's Deputy, as the Carroll County Veterans Service Officer, and was the president of Veterans Helping Veterans in Carroll County.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife Christy Costillo Marlow of Canton, Mississippi; his sons, Chris Marlow of Long Beach, Mississippi and Jeff Marlow of Ocean Springs, Mississippi; his sisters, Sheila Newsom, Carolyn Hodges, Peggy Brister, and Billie Garner; his brother Gayle Marlow; as well as eight grandchildren, one great-grandchild and nephews.

Command Sergeant Major Johnny Neal Marlow's life was one of service, grace, love for his family, and community. He will be greatly missed by all whom he encountered.

CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAINT REST BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JIM COSTA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 6, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Saint Rest Baptist Church in Fresno, California on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. The church is a valuable part of the community and strives to make West Fresno a better place for all residents.

The church began in 1944 when West Fresno was growing. Reverend A.W. White organized and raised money to build the church. The first services were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Rogers. Reverend White did not know it at the time, but he would be the first of a long line of pastors of the Saint Rest Baptist Church of 68.

Over the years, Saint Rest continued to grow. In its early days, congregants met in a borrowed army surplus metal building. In 1948, the congregation moved into a former retail storefront, before building its first church in 1950.

Saint Rest was without a pastor for some time, but finally Reverend Hudson Spencer Moore was named the seventh pastor of the congregation. Over the next two decades, the church only continued to grow. As the church expanded its programs and outreach, it was clear it was also outgrowing its space. In 1978, church members constructed a new worship facility.

The congregation of St. Rest have been greatly involved in their community. Church pastors and members have initiated a number of programs to benefit the community. This includes a food and clothing ministry, house-to-house revival program, and marriage workshops. The church also supports local nonprofits, such as the Poverello House and the Fresno Rescue Mission. After being approved for 501(c)(3) status, Saint Rest established the Saint Rest Economic Development Corporation to increase economic opportunities for the neighborhood and create a stronger quality of life.

This church has had many leaders in its 75-year history, including Reverend M.F. Clay who took leadership after Reverend White. Reverend C.D. Davis started in 1946, then two years later, Reverend J.L. Hall during the metal building being dismantled. The first printed Sunday bulletin started in 1951 during Reverend Carter's leadership. Reverend E.C. Johnson became pastor and under his leadership, the church's mortgage was paid off. Reverend Hudson soon became head pastor and then Reverend Riggins.

In 2006, Reverend Shane B. Scott became senior pastor and had the church address renamed to 1550 E Rev. Chester Riggins. It was one of the many successes that happened in his tenure for Saint Rest Baptist Church. In 2013, Pastor DJ Criner became Senior Pastor and has traveled throughout the United States to preach. His dedication to the community continues to make a difference.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Saint Rest Baptist Church as it celebrates their 75th anniversary. I wish all of the members of the congregation continued health, happiness and prosperity.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DENA GROSS LEAVENGOOD

HON. KATHY CASTOR
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 6, 2019

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Dena Gross Leavengood, a tireless advocate for Florida, our Tampa Bay community and indeed our planet. Her determined advocacy has left a special place in my heart and of the entire Tampa Bay community. Dena was a driving force behind The Florida Aquarium. After being appointed to the board of the Florida Aquarium, she worked with me to fight for health care for working families in her role as the founder of the Hillsborough Health Care Coalition.

Dena was legendary in leadership roles for women with the League of Women Voters and Athena, to name a few. Tomorrow Matters and the Sierra Club were among so many other places where Dena left her inimitable and indelible stamp. As a Hillsborough County Commissioner, Member of Congress and as her friend, I witnessed her acumen and steadfast commitment on behalf of her neighbors, friends, Tampa Bay families and people she would never know, except in her heart.

Dena’s decades of activism and professional accomplishments earned her the love of our community and numerous accolades, including the 2010 Education Award from the Health Council of Pinellas County, the 2003 Human Rights Award from the Tampa Human Rights Council. She also received national recognition as community liaison with The Florida Aquarium.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of a grateful and saddened Tampa Bay community, we promise to reflect on Dena’s life of service to improve the lives of our neighbors, our community and our country, and have it serve as a beacon and inspiration as we undertake the hard work of going forward without her—as Dena would certainly insist on us doing. Dena earned a special place in my heart and of the entire Tampa Bay community. Dena would be sorely missed in all times but especially in these challenging times. I will strive to remember our indefatigable, Happy Warrior, Dena, if ever we get discouraged.

IN RECOGNITION OF GERRY MEYER WINNING FOUR GOLD MEDALS AT THE 2019 NATIONAL SENIOR GAMES

HON. LIZ CHENEY
OF WYOMING
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 6, 2019

Ms. CHENEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate E.G. “Gerry” Meyer on competing and winning four gold medals at the 2019 National Senior Games in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

I am incredibly proud to call Gerry a constituent, and his gold medals in track and field are a point of pride for the entire state. His achievements, at the young age of 100, are nothing short of incredible. Gerry is a true Wyomingite and embodies the grit and determination that makes our state great.

Again, Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Gerry Meyer on winning four gold medals, and representing the best that Wyoming has to offer.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF DEPUTY CHIEF RICHARD H. BRADBURY, SR.

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 6, 2019

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated public servant from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who served our community with distinction for over four decades. At the time of his retirement, he was