

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TALLADEGA SUPERSPEEDWAY

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2019*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Talladega Superspeedway in Talladega, Alabama.

In the mid-1960s, NASCAR founder Bill France, Sr., envisioned a bigger and faster track on the NASCAR circuit. After meeting with local race car driver and race fan, Bill Ward of Anniston, Alabama, the location was selected for the track and the groundbreaking ceremony for the Alabama International Motor Speedway (today known as Talladega Superspeedway) took place on May 23, 1968.

The first race, the Talladega 500 (now the 1000Bulbs.com 500), was held on September 14, 1969, with Richard Brickhouse winning the race. The race played a major role in NASCAR's history as many of the top stars of the sport walked out the day before the race due to concerns of tire wear on the nearly 200 mph track. Mr. France said the race would go on and recruited drivers from the smaller NASCAR Touring Series, the Bama 400, the day before.

The Talladega Superspeedway is the most competitive race track on the NASCAR schedule (record 88 lead changes in 188 laps), the highest-banked (33 degrees) and the longest (2.66 miles) as well as the most fun and fan-friendly.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Talladega Superspeedway.

HONORING PEYTON COMSTOCK

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2019*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Peyton Comstock. Peyton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Peyton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Peyton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Peyton has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Peyton Comstock for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF MR. G. BROWN LOFLIN

**HON. TED BUDD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2019*

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. G. Brown Loflin.

Brown was born November 23, 1934 in Davidson County to Justice Snow Loflin, Sr. and Alice Elliott Loflin. He was an active member of Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, the Denton Lions Club, and Denton Lodge No. 404 AF and AM.

Over the course of his life, Brown wore many hats. Some that come to mind are U.S. Army Reserve veteran, Davidson County Commissioner, owner of the Loflin Garage, and bluegrass enthusiast, just to name a few.

But Brown will probably be most remembered as the visionary behind the Denton FarmPark, which started back in 1970. It all began when Brown and a buddy decided to offer airplane rides to raise money for the local rescue squad. But the crowds and wait time for airplane lines grew so much that they needed another attraction. They quickly added antique farm machinery and tractors for folks to view while waiting in line. Brown would eventually abandon the airplane rides and transition to farm equipment, which was a major attraction. He also brought the Handy Dandy Railroad to Denton FarmPark, which features an old steam train that runs during the show and provides rides to visitors of all ages.

Today, the Southeast Old Threshers' Reunion is the largest steam, gas, and unique farm machinery show in the Southeast. The property has 15 restored buildings, including a church, grist mill, general store, plantation house, and blacksmith shop.

In 2018, Loflin told local reporters that there were more than 1,200 tractors at the Southeast Old Threshers' Reunion. Even when his health declined a few years ago, Brown remained the driving force behind what has become one of the largest events of its kind in the entire country. I'm grateful to have met Brown and know that his many contributions to Davidson County will live on for years to come.

Brown is survived by his wife Ruby Johnson, who he had been married to for over 60 years along with his son, Gordon Keith Loflin, a daughter, Karen Loflin Miller, four grandchildren, and a great grandchild.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Brown Loflin for his service to Davidson County.

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD WILLIAMS

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2019*

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the life and legacy of a fellow Texan, former staffer, and my friend, Bernard Williams, Jr.

Mr. Williams was born on January 28, 1928, in Dallas, Texas, as an only child to Bernard Williams, Sr. and Nellie Mae Mayes. He grad-

uated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1945, after which he attended West Virginia State College in Institute, West Virginia, where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics. There, Mr. Williams met the love of his life, Marguerite Reddick. They married in Savannah, Georgia, in 1952 and had two children, Martha Nell and Susan Kay.

Mr. Williams answered his country's call to service, serving as a Lieutenant in the United States Army following his college graduation. At the conclusion of his military service, Mr. Williams was hired as one of the first African American lab technicians in the cardiopulmonary lab at Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, now known as the UT Southwestern Medical Center. He would later take a position with the IBM Corporation in Dallas as one of the first African American systems engineers. Following a brief retirement, Mr. Williams joined my Dallas district office, where he served the constituents of the 30th district of Texas for seven years.

Mr. Williams generously gave his free time to our community—working with multiple organizations such as the Dallas Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc., Big Brothers Inc., the Moorland Branch YMCA, and the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce. He also served as a board member on the DART Citizens Advisory Committee and Senior Source.

Mr. Williams was a faithful and active member of the New Hope Baptist Church for over half a century. During his time with the church, he served as Chairman of the Deacon Board for 17 years before being named Deacon Emeritus. Mr. Williams was widely regarded as a mentor for the youth in the church and was a strong supporter of religious education programs like vacation bible school.

Mr. Williams was preceded in death by his parents, Bernard Williams, Sr. and Nellie Mae Mayes. He is survived by his wife, Marguerite Williams (née Reddick); daughters, Martha Bedford (Louis III) and Susan Williams McElroy; granddaughters, Erica Chiles and father Don Chiles, Opal McElroy and father Daniel McElroy; sister-in-law, Charlesetta Reddick Lacy; brother-in-law, Thomas Reddick (Margaret); and many loving nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Mr. Williams' family, friends, and to those he influenced over the course of his life. The Dallas community will dearly miss him.

HONORING DR. THOMAS K. WEBER

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2019*

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life, accomplishments and contributions of Dr. Thomas K. Weber of Chappaqua, New York. Dr. Weber passed away on September 15, 2019, after a brief, but fierce battle with a rare and very aggressive form of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Today would have been his 65th birthday. Dr. Weber was a surgeon, researcher and visionary leader in relentless pursuit of the goal to save lives from colorectal cancer.

Dr. Weber served as the Director of Surgical Oncology of the Northwest Region, Northwell

Health and Medical Co-Director of Cancer Genetics at Northern Westchester Hospital, Northwell Health. Until 2018 he was a Full Academic Professor of Surgery at SUNY Downstate and Surgeon-in-Chief at VA New York Harbor Health Care System, Brooklyn, NY.

Dr. Weber's career includes significant accomplishments in multiple arenas including clinical surgical leadership, academic appointments, mentoring of young investigators, and international recognition for innovation and leadership in cancer prevention and collaborative translational cancer research. In addition to his clinical and academic appointments he led at least 10 national and international organizations, such as the National Colorectal Cancer Round Table, the Collaborative Group of the Americas and the NYC Health Department sponsored "Citywide Colorectal Cancer Control Coalition" (C5).

Dr. Weber was an early and passionate advocate for addressing the early age onset colorectal cancer (EAOCRC) issue. He organized and chaired the nation's first Summit focused on EAOCRC and was instrumental in the American Cancer Society's 2018 recommendation that Americans be screened for colorectal cancer at the age of 45 instead of 50. He published extensively on hereditary and early age onset colorectal cancer and was a frequently invited speaker on both subjects at national and international meetings.

Dr. Weber was a pillar of the colorectal cancer community and has been recognized for his philanthropic leadership and contributions. He founded New York City's first colon cancer awareness event in 2003, the Colon Cancer Challenge, which led to the formation of the Colon Cancer Foundation. With Dr. Weber at the helm, the Foundation supported research into the causes, potential cures and most effective treatments for colorectal cancer. The Foundation has increased public awareness of the disease, educated the public about the importance of early detection, and advocated on behalf of thousands of colorectal cancer patients and their families.

He has been recognized for his leadership in public health, cancer control and research by New York City Health Commissioner Thomas Farley, the Health Department of New York State, the AliveAndKickn Foundation, the American Cancer Society, the Prevent Cancer Foundation, the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable and the National Institutes of Health.

Year after year, Dr. Weber would travel to Washington to meet with lawmakers, including members of my staff and myself, to discuss the importance of scientific research funding at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), removing barriers to colorectal cancer screening, and other priorities in the health care community.

Dr. Weber leaves behind a remarkable legacy of civic and community engagement. Individuals suffering from colorectal cancer and their families are better off today because of his work. He is survived by his loving wife Clare, sons Luke and Nick, sister Jeannie and her husband David Aplin, and family.

Madam Speaker, I urge my fellow Members of Congress to join me in recognizing Dr. Weber's many years of service to the community and in sending our sincerest condolences to his family, friends and colleagues.

HONORING ALEX GALLAGHER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2019*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alex Gallagher. Alex is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alex has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alex Gallagher for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEARBORN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2019*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce was established in 1944 to serve business owners throughout the Dearborn and Southeast Michigan communities. Since its inception 75 years ago, the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce has been creating a forum for business members to meet and network with other local businesses to create lasting partnerships, generate exposure, and inspire economic growth. The Chamber provides a strong, unified voice for the entire business community and actively advocates on their behalf at all levels of government, striving to assist members in meeting each of their business objectives. Through its five core strategies of member development, community promotion, travel and tourism, government affairs/advocacy, and education, the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce is committed to cultivating a strong local business climate in our community.

The Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce continues to support the expanding business communities in Dearborn and Southeast Michigan. Today, these communities are more vibrant and diverse than ever, but the Chamber works tirelessly to meet the challenges of an increasingly dynamic and ever-changing business world. The Chamber's dedicated efforts have been paramount in ensuring Dearborn continues to be a welcoming destination for businesses, families, students, young professionals, and the like, and that businesses have the tools necessary to thrive. Thanks to its tremendous work, the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce is recognized as one of the best Chambers in the State of Michigan.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 75th anniversary of the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce. We are grateful for its impact on our community and wish it many more years of continued success ahead.

ELEVATION OF THE EDUCATION PROFESSION ACT

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2019*

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Elevation of the Education Profession Act. This legislation sets up within the U.S. Department of Education an advisory committee of teachers and other stakeholders. Their job: to make recommendations on how we can improve recruitment and retention of teachers and school leaders for the benefit of America's children.

Every child in the United States deserves quality instruction from quality teachers. Unfortunately for our children, however, far too many of their most qualified teachers are leaving the profession. As a nation, we need to understand why. Because these departures are having a serious, negative impact on the quality of education, especially on the education of children from low-income families and on children of color. In fact, the Learning Policy Institute reports teacher turnover rates are 50 percent higher in Title I schools, which serve low-income children, than in non-Title I schools.

Testimony from teachers at an Education and Labor subcommittee hearing I chaired in July cited various reasons that lead teachers to leave their profession. We heard teachers are not being well prepared, especially when it comes to serving students whose backgrounds and experience with trauma and poverty may differ from the teachers' own. We learned school systems are not giving teachers the support they need. And, of course, we were told teachers are underpaid.

It is important to raise these issues in a congressional hearing. More important is that we provide a forum for teachers and other education stakeholders to come together to take a deep dive in the issues our hearing could only glancingly examine. Most important is to find solutions.

That is what the Elevation of the Education Profession Act does. The Act brings together teachers and the unions that represent them; state, territory and local education agencies; school administrators; parents; civil rights organizations; teacher colleges; and others who can comprehensively assess the concerns raised in our hearing. How can we increase the value of pre-service and in-service training for teachers? Are certification and credentialing practices setting an adequate standard? And are these quality controls sufficiently uniform across our nation? These are the kinds of questions we want answered.

Having made these assessments, the advisory committee is charged with recommending rigorous standards and compiling evidence-based best practices for educating and training profession-ready teachers and school leaders and supporting them once they are at