

In 1961, Mrs. Abernathy and her husband moved to Atlanta, Georgia where she worked closely with the Kings to integrate Atlanta's public schools. Upon learning that Spring Street Elementary School was the school favored by the children of Georgia Tech professors, Mrs. Abernathy sent her children Donzaleigh, Juandalynn and their late brother Ralph Abernathy III, who became some of the first children to integrate, alongside two of the Kings' children. Mrs. Abernathy took great pride in her children's cultural and classical education, bringing them to Europe and, in Atlanta, to attend the opera. At this same time, understanding the inextricable link between racial and economic inequality in this country, Mrs. Abernathy fought to establish a National Food Stamp Program for low-income families and a National Free Meal Program for public school children.

Mrs. Juanita Abernathy was perhaps the last living member of Dr. King's inner circle, but her legacy supersedes even such prominent relationships. In addition to her work during the Civil Rights Movement, Mrs. Abernathy has travelled around the world three times on peace missions, served on the board of MARTA for over a decade and became a national sales director for Mary Kay Cosmetics, ranking second in the nation in recruitment. A true servant leader, Mrs. Abernathy's brilliant mind, full heart and resilient spirit should serve as a reminder to us all of what constitutes a life well lived. When she sat at President Barack Obama's inauguration, it was in a place of honor, directly behind former President Bill Clinton.

On a personal note, I was honored to get to know Mrs. Abernathy during her many pilgrimages to my hometown of Selma, Alabama for the annual commemorations of "Bloody Sunday" and the March from Selma to Montgomery. She was a powerful force for change and a proud product of Alabama's Black Belt, who passionately protected the legacy of her husband and their lifelong work to advance civil rights in this nation. Mrs. Abernathy graciously encouraged me to run for Congress and honored me with her presence in Selma on election night when I won in November 2010. I saw in her face that night the pride she felt witnessing the election of Alabama's first black Congresswoman. It was a time that had come because of her personal courage and sacrifices to pave the way for future generations of black children like me to succeed. I know there comes great responsibility in standing on her broad shoulders and I seek to honor that privilege every day in my efforts to protect and further the progress made and legacy of the Freedom Fighters for Justice like Mrs. Juanita Abernathy. To her family, I thank them for sharing their parents with the world. Their mother's passion, courage and determination will always live on in the hearts and actions of those she touched.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute and honor to Alabama native Mrs. Juanita Jones Abernathy on the passing of this Civil Rights icon and true American heroine whose tremendous efforts helped this nation on its path towards a more perfect union.

HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. The Joint Base, and the tens of thousands based there who serve our country, is a critical part of the fabric of our community, economy, and national security.

Bases McGuire, Dix and Lakehurst have stood as a unified base for a decade, but each has a rich history. Fort Dix was established during World War I, and trained soldiers that helped liberate Europe During World War II. McGuire Air Force Base was a hub for operations during the Cold War, and Lakehurst Naval Air Station was home to some of the Navy's most historic missions.

Today, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst continues in that proud tradition of serving at the vanguard of our nation's defense. The servicemen and women training and operating at the Joint Base continue to be deployed overseas to project American security and protect America's interests.

Furthermore, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst is an absolutely critical part of New Jersey's economy. The Joint Base is one of our state's largest employers and generates billions in income to support our communities. It is also a point of incredible pride for the people of Burlington and Ocean Counties.

I appreciate the work that those stationed at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst do on a daily basis to keep our nation safe and support families living in New Jersey. On behalf of my neighbors in Burlington and Ocean Counties, I congratulate our base leadership and servicemembers for a successful ten years serving our community and country, and look forward to continuing that work in the years and decades to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HARRINGTON LIBRARY

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Harrington Public Library in Plano, Texas. The first library to ever call Plano Home, Harrington opened its doors in 1969.

With a collection of over 15,000 volumes, Harrington offers our community a multitude of classes ranging from languages, Test prep, money management, and much more.

I would like to thank the library, their staff, and volunteers for all of their hard work in cultivating a strong appreciation for literacy, learning, and imagination.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Harrington Public Library on 50 years of serving the city of Plano.

TRIBUTE HONORING SHAWN B. HARLEY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Shawn B. Harley upon his retirement as Meteorologist-In-Charge after dedicating 31 years to the National Weather Service, including more than two decades in Jackson, Kentucky.

Meteorologists provide the first line of defense for residents to prepare and seek safe shelter during severe weather events. When a violent and historic storm produced a deadly tornado outbreak in Eastern Kentucky on March 2, 2012, the Jackson Weather Service provided the most accurate and vital storm tracking information and urgent local warnings that undoubtedly saved countless lives. That fateful day was just one of many that required fast, accurate and minute-by-minute tracking of the meteorological team in Jackson, led by Shawn Harley. I want to commend Shawn for dedicating his time and talents to help protect the people of Southern and Eastern Kentucky for 23 years.

In addition to his career in meteorology, Shawn has extended his heart of service by volunteering with the Red Cross and becoming a board member. He also works with the youth group at the First United Church of Jackson and dedicates time to help the Holy Cross Catholic Church. Shawn and his wife, Susan, have also cooked and served hearty meals for the Haven House, a homeless shelter in Breathitt County, and assisted with projects for local senior citizens. It is clear that Shawn's courage of conviction has impacted families and individuals who are most-in-need, and I applaud his spirit of philanthropy and goodwill for the people of our region.

Finally, I want to congratulate Shawn on his retirement from the National Weather Service, including assignments that have spanned across Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana. My wife, Cynthia, and I wish Shawn and his family a retirement filled with many years of joy and happiness.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DONALD MCEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. MCEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on September 12, 2019 during roll call no. 526, On Agreeing to the Amendment, Young of Alaska Part D Amendment No. 1 to H.R. 1146, Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 527, On Agreeing to the Amendment, Gosar of Arizona Part D Amendment No. 2 to H.R. 1146, Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 528, On Agreeing to the Amendment, Gosar of Arizona Part D Amendment No. 3, as Modified to H.R. 1146, Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act. Had I been