

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE FOR RITA AND STEVEN
JEROME

HON. MAX ROSE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. ROSE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring two of my constituents—siblings Rita and Steven Jerome. Their family represents the best that Staten Island has to offer, and now they are continuing their family's legacy of service, not just their fellow Staten Islanders, but the entire country.

On Staten Island, a passion for public service is part of our DNA, and the Jerome family is the perfect example of that. Rita and Steven's father serves as a NYPD lieutenant and their uncle is a pastor. Their paternal grandfather acted as a judge in the New York State Compensation Board and "in 1978 single-handedly apprehended a man threatening to blow up his courtroom in the World Trade Center." Now, Rita and Steven are choosing to follow in those family footsteps by joining the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academies (USMMA), respectively.

Rita isn't just any Air Force Academy cadet, she's making history as part of an increasing percentage of women serving in the Air Force. According to the USAFA Admissions Office, Rita, who is majoring in astronautical engineering, is among the 28.2 percent of women in the Class of 2023. She is also the first alumna from her high school along with the first Staten Island women to be admitted to the USAFA.

Her brother, Steven, recently completed a rigorous regime of academic, military, and physical training at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy after his graduation from Monsignor Farrell High School. Steven, who is earning a four-year degree in maritime logistics and security, will be completing almost three years of classes along with spending a year at sea away from his family.

As Rita and Steven embark on their new careers in service, I know that their entire family will be right there with them.

So, Madam Speaker, today I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in commending Rita, Steven, and the entire Jerome family for the sacrifices they have made, and will continue to make for our nation.

MODESTO JUNIOR COLLEGE HIS-
PANIC EDUCATION CONFERENCE

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. HARDER of California. Madam Speaker, Modesto Junior College (MJC)'s thirty-sixth annual Hispanic Education Conference wel-

comes students from across the Central Valley. This conference celebrates the achievements of Latinx education while exploring the amazing opportunities available to students in the Central Valley. This conference is a time for current students to explore their educational and career paths, and for prospective students to see the best of what Modesto Junior College has to offer.

A tradition started in 1984 by Dean Juan Alvarez and the Modesto Hispanic Leadership Council lives on today as the largest youth conference in the Central Valley. It serves our Central Valley community and promotes enrichment and success in higher education. Its workshops and lectures have inspired many generations of high school students, and are sure to inspire another generation to come. With a student body that's 52 percent Hispanic, Modesto Junior College is one of California's premier Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and no event better celebrates this impressive status than the Hispanic Education Conference.

I am proud to have taught at MJC, and I am proud to dedicate this record to an event that recognizes the opportunity and possibility offered by higher education, the dedication and creativity of its students and faculty, and Latinx achievement in the Central Valley. I'm also proud to recognize the Legacy Award recipient, whose contributions to making this event a reality and a success have been immeasurable. I'm happy to be part of this tradition that's more than three decades old, and I know I can look forward to more successful conferences in the years to come.

HONORING THE 95TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF SMITH CHAPEL AME
CHURCH

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Smith Chapel AME Church, a house of worship located in Inkster, Michigan, on the occasion of its ninety-fifth anniversary service.

Smith Chapel AME Church held its first service on October 5, 1924 when a small, but passionate group of people gathered together to worship. Drawn together under the shared value of creating a caring community, the congregation quickly grew in size and influence. Though the church has witnessed many changes over the years, the congregation continues to gather regularly to nourish the spirit, mind, and body and give back to the surrounding community. In recent years, Smith Chapel has expanded its food pantry program to include a community garden, which is tended by church members, as well as its Summer Youth Café program that offers recreational and character development programs for young people. Whether gathering in prayer, celebrating love in marriage, or marking the

passing of a dear friend and loved one from this life, we all draw great strength from sharing with one another through faith. The history of Smith Chapel AME provides a wonderful example of how much this faith and unselfishness mean to our entire community.

Please join me in recognizing Smith Chapel AME on this milestone as we wish them well in the years to come.

IN MEMORY OF DR. CORNELIUS W.
GRANT

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a strategic thinker, a great motivational speaker, an excellent entrepreneur, a man of God, a friend of longstanding, and my fraternity brother, Dr. Cornelius W. Grant. Sadly, Dr. Grant passed away on Saturday, September 28, 2019, at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in Albany, Georgia. His homegoing service was held on Wednesday, October 2, 2019, at Mount Zion Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia. His passing leaves a tremendous void in the lives of his family, friends, and the countless students he mentored as the Vice President of Student Affairs at Albany State College (now University) and those he touched in his many other endeavors.

Dr. Cornelius "C.W." Grant, also affectionately known as "Dean Grant", was born on February 10, 1931, to the union of the late Reverend Everett Grant and Mrs. Elberta Clark Grant. He was a product of the public-school system in Jacksonville, Florida, graduating from Stanton High School. The next step of his life's journey took him to Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU). He took a brief respite from FAMU to serve our country in the United States Army. After a successful tour of duty, he returned to FAMU and earned his Juris Doctorate Degree. He began his career at Albany State College in 1966 as the Vice President for Student Affairs where he retired in 1996 after an incredible 30-year career.

Because of the solid spiritual foundation that was instilled in him at an early age by his parents, he enjoyed a strong relationship with God. He was an active member of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia for many years, serving under the leadership of Dr. E. James Grant and Dr. Daniel B. Simmons. In later years, he continued his walk with the Lord at Second Mount Zion Baptist Church in Albany under the leadership of Dr. Theodus Drake. God indeed ordered the steps of his life.

He was highly sought-after as a public speaker, lecturer, and consultant. Dr. Grant gave many speeches all across the country. He always left a mark and very often ended his speeches with his legendary phrase, "If it is to be, it is up to me!"

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