

our city” and was a “champion for civil rights,” who “worked tirelessly for all who called Baltimore home.”

Thomas Ludwig John D’Alessandro III leaves to cherish his memory his beloved wife, Margaret; his children, Thomas, Dominic, Nicholas, Patricia and Gregory; a brother, Nicholas; 10 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and countless neighbors and friends who will always remember this family man and transformational mayor who opened up the City of Baltimore politically. My deepest sympathy to his entire family.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF REVEREND GREG JACKSON

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2019

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of my good friend, and a great leader in New Jersey, Pastor Greg Jackson. For the last thirty-five years, after growing up in South Carolina, Reverend Jackson has shared his warmth, integrity, and compassion with our blessed community in Hackensack, New Jersey.

Reverend Jackson is the longest-serving pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church in the congregation’s remarkable 130 years. Under the Pastor’s leadership, Mount Olive has continued to flourish; it serves not only as a vibrant spiritual center, but also as a community dedicated to serving others, especially for those in need. Among other accomplishments, during his tenure, Mount Olive Church built the Logan Family Life Center, providing emergency assistance, social services and educational programs, and advancing the church’s goal of serving humanity. Without question Mount Olive’s success is reflective of the compassion and selflessness of its spiritual leader. We are truly lucky to have Reverend Jackson in North Jersey, and I am especially lucky to call him a friend. He has, more than once, invited me to speak from his pulpit. I have often joked that I spent more time praying with Pastor Jackson than my own Rabbi.

Reverend Jackson’s efforts to improve the lives of others extends beyond his work as pastor at Mount Olive. He founded the Interfaith Brotherhood and Sisterhood breakfast, has served on Hackensack City committees, and the Bergen County Council of Churches. Even in retirement, Reverend Jackson’s service will endure as President of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention.

Over the course of his incredible career, Reverend Jackson has traveled across the world to preach, including in South Africa, China, India, Brazil, Cuba, and right here on the floor of the House of Representatives, where he offered the opening prayer as the Guest Chaplain. He has also welcomed transformational leaders to his church, including JOHN LEWIS and so many other civil rights leaders. I only wish my colleagues had the opportunity to experience the passion, smarts, warmth, wisdom, and conviction of Reverend Jackson for themselves.

I am proud to recognize Reverend Jackson on his remarkable career and wish him many years of happiness alongside his wife Barbara

and their children, Michael, Monique and Aashon, and their grandchildren Jordan, Kennedy and Madison. In the years to come, I know he will remain a pillar of our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GROUNDBREAKING OF MICHIGAN MEDICINE’S ‘HOSPITAL OF THE FUTURE’

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the groundbreaking of Michigan Medicine’s new “Hospital of the Future.” The construction of Michigan Medicine’s new adult hospital on its main medical campus will transform patients’ medical and surgical care, improving the lives of many within our community. This endeavor is worthy of commendation.

Since the opening of the University of Michigan Medical School in 1850, Michigan Medicine has been the site of many transformative medical and technological advancements. Since its humble beginnings, Michigan Medicine has grown to become one of the largest health care complexes in the state of Michigan. Today, the institution continues to advance the future of healthcare and lead the nation in health care reform, education, and biomedical innovation.

The groundbreaking of Michigan Medicine’s new hospital exemplifies the institution’s lasting commitment to meeting the increasingly complex health care demands of communities across Michigan. The new 12-story facility will include a revolutionary neurological and neurosurgical center, specialty care services for cardiovascular and thoracic patients, and 264 private rooms equipped with universal intensive care. Measuring around 690,000 square feet, the hospital will expand Michigan Medicine’s breadth of services and significantly heighten access to medical care community-wide.

Notably, the new facility aligns with the University of Michigan’s commitment to enhancing environmental sustainability and continued efforts to reduce the institution’s carbon footprint. Working alongside a team of expert architects and engineers, Michigan Medicine hopes the new hospital will be a highly efficient “green” facility and achieve LEED gold status.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the groundbreaking of Michigan Medicine’s new hospital. It is critical that healthcare providers adapt to meet the changing medical needs of communities nationwide. I am grateful for Michigan’s support in this endeavor. Their revolutionary vision propels our country forward and truly makes them part of our nation’s leaders and best.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with affection in memoriam of Congressman Elijah E. Cummings of Baltimore, Maryland. He was a man for our time.

Today, I join a grateful nation in honoring the life, as well as, mourning the death of an exceptional American, a man of deep faith in his creator and fellow human beings. As I learned of Elijah’s passing, I was deeply saddened by the loss of such a magnanimous human being, a devoted patriot, and a man whose heart for others never stopped beating. During my tenure in the House of Representatives, I had the honor to serve alongside Elijah for over 23 years, but it is the greatest privilege of all to call him my friend. All Members who served with him know this similar affinity. The word great is often overused, but Elijah was truly a great man. He served his district in a way that made clear to everyone his unshakable love for the City of Baltimore and its people. His love was enduring. His service and passion touched those of us serving in any capacity.

A graduate of Howard University in 1973, Elijah received his bachelor’s in political science and served as the student government president. Following the completion of his undergraduate degree, he attended the University of Maryland where he studied law, which led to two-decades of legal practice in the private sector. Elijah also served as the Chief Judge on the Maryland Moot Court, where he aided law students in their studies on appellate casework.

Prior to winning his election to the House of Representatives in 1996, in 1982, at only 31 years old, Elijah became the youngest chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus in the Maryland House of Delegates. With not only an impressive 16 years to show for this service, he successfully climbed the ranks to become the first African American to serve as Speaker pro tem—one of the many groundbreaking milestones in his illustrious career. As a trailblazer, Elijah advocated for economic and racial justice, and human rights. He was constantly working to improve the condition of his community that had been devastated by the loss of over 30,000 steel jobs, which brought about great despair. Elijah persevered for his people and community using every opportunity to revitalize and to improve his hometown.

Joining the House of Representatives in 1996, Elijah became the Representative for the seventh district in Maryland, serving and dedicated to Baltimore and its suburbs. He was truly a crusader, as he tirelessly fought as an advocate against drug abuse, gun violence, and a visionary for home ownership for all and labor unions—issues that so deeply impact our nation and his district. Amid racial conflict in his home city, Elijah was able to stand above the fray in such a riot-torn landscape and bring peace and reason. As a man who lived by example, his mantra of standing up for one’s beliefs was reflected through his years of diligent service and his grace under fire.