

Paulus teaches chemistry at North Hennepin Community College in Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District.

Professor Paulus has been mentoring students at North Hennepin Community College and participating as a science fair judge for local high schools through the North Hennepin mentoring program for approximately 15 years. During this time, Professor Paulus has mentored about 100 students with amazing results. Students participating in her mentoring program are 40 percent more likely to graduate than the Minnesota average.

This Presidential Award is not the first time Professor Paulus has been recognized for her success with students. In fact, she was previously awarded for extraordinary undergraduate teaching from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. She has also received the annual Student Life Faculty Excellence Award which she received from North Hennepin Community College.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Professor Paulus on receiving the Presidential Award. She deserves it.

□ 1015

RECOGNIZING VINCE HOLLAND,
MATT BOYD, MATT CONNOLLY,
BILLY DONAHUE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say that September 10, 2019, was a very special day for an infant child who had been severely neglected by her mother. And had it not been for the quick action by members of the Tega Cay Police Department located in South Carolina, the abuse would have continued.

Four officers—Sergeant Vince Holland, Officer Matt Boyd, Officer Matt Connolly, and Officer Billy Donahue—responded to a call at 6 p.m. from employees of the Tega Cay Walmart who were concerned about a mother who was with an infant who, in the words of the officers, was “filthy” and in dire need of help.

The officers immediately reacted to the situation by cleaning the infant and giving food, diapers, and other aid to the child. The officers stayed with the child while the South Carolina Department of Social Services was notified and the child was taken into emergency custody by the agency, along with two other children who were removed from the home.

The mother was charged with three felony drug charges, shoplifting, and cruelty to a child. In the words of Chief Steve Parker, “That little baby did nothing wrong.”

Because of the action of these brave officers who showed compassion and empathy, three children are now out of danger and living in a safe environment.

The four officers of the Tega Cay Police Department lived out the words of Winston Churchill, who said, there are times when doing your best is not good enough; we must do what is required.

Sergeant Vince Holland, Officer Matt Boyd, Officer Matt Connolly, and Officer Billy Donahue are shining examples of the saying, “to live is to serve.”

HONORING STEVE TAMAYO FOR
LIFETIME CONTRIBUTION TO NA-
TIVE AMERICAN CULTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Steve Tamayo in recognition of Native American Heritage Month for his lifetime contributions in the arts and the preservation of Native American culture.

Steve's passion has been fueled by the desire to restore what was taken away from the indigenous people of this land. For centuries, cultural teachings have been passed down through art, symbols, colors, patterns, and construction techniques are narratives that reflect values and beliefs of traditional Native American life. American history is bound in the antiquity of its Native people.

We are proud of the role Mr. Tamayo has played in ensuring that we can all learn and appreciate this rich heritage.

Steve Tamayo was one of four children raised by loving parents Fortunato and Beulah Tamayo. As a migrant worker, Fortunato grew up working the fields from Texas to Montana. Notwithstanding this lack of schooling, he was successful in obtaining a job and taking care of his family. Steve describes his mother as a kind and compassionate woman despite her difficult childhood as a survivor of the American Indian boarding school tragedy. Steve's parents encouraged their children to have a strong work ethic, to focus on getting an education, and to pursue the opportunities they were not afforded.

After graduating from Thomas Jefferson High School in May 1984, Steve enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving with the 101st Airborne Division. After returning to Omaha, he sought out Native elders to guide him in his pursuit of cultural knowledge.

In 1988, his first teacher was Cleo Frazier from Yankton Sioux Reservation of South Dakota. She resided in the Omaha area and took time to teach Steve and his older brother about indigenous life. This relationship fostered Steve's quest to learn as much as possible about the history and stories of indigenous people.

This led him to an elder named Howard Wolf, a World War II veteran from the Umo N Ho N Nation of Nebraska. Under elder Wolf's guidance, Steve learned about art and regalia, including the traditional materials, construction, and the history surrounding Native American artifacts.

In 2000, he moved to the Rosebud Reservation, where he was able to gain a deeper understanding of the art of the Northern Plains Tribes. Because of the unique skills and specific knowledge gained, Steve was hired as faculty in the Lakota Studies Department of Sinte Gleska, where he taught college students for 12 years.

In 2005, he became the cultural specialist for the Native American Advocacy Program on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota. This was a special time for Steve because he was in a place that was the ancestral homeland of his mother's family.

That same year was an important point in his professional life. A group of conservators from the Smithsonian Institution stumbled upon him while tanning a buffalo hide in his front yard. Six months later, he was headed for Washington, D.C., for a 6-month internship.

Since that time, Steve has been one of the main consultants from the Plains Tribes for the National Museum of the American Indian. He has been part of numerous exhibitions, including an exhibit scheduled to run for 15 years called “As We Grow,” featuring historic games and toys of the Plains Indians.

In 2015, Steve traveled to Washington, D.C., to erect a teepee that he painted on The Mall and presented to President Obama, which is now part of the Smithsonian's collection.

He had the opportunity to paint two buffalo robes for Willie Nelson and Neil Young at the “Harvest the Hope” concert in Neligh, Nebraska, to honor them for their work in preserving our Nebraska land.

Steve's work has helped to educate our country about our history, the culture, and the struggles of Native American people.

Today, Steve leads study groups on all four reservations in Nebraska and nine reservations in South Dakota. He travels to schools and museums throughout the country to help train students, docents, conservators, and curators on the significance of traditional Native arts, as well as the dangers of cultural appropriation.

Steve is on the Artists in Schools and Communities roster for the Nebraska Arts Council. He serves as the cultural consultant for the Omaha Public Schools' Native Indigenous Centered Education program. He works as the cultural specialist for the Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition. Steve has also been an adjunct instructor for the University of Nebraska Omaha and Metropolitan Community College.

In 2014, he was honored by Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman at the Nebraska Arts Council's Governor's Arts Awards when he was presented the Heritage Art Award. His proudest moment was when his mother saw him receive that award.

Steve has also become a source of pride and empowerment for his children. Of his six children, his eldest

daughters, twins Nicole and Rebecca, work in the field of Native American advocacy, health, and education. Steve and his wife, Susan, love their children and their numerous grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Steve for all of his contributions. Because of his work, generations to come will learn about the culture and contributions of the indigenous people.

REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE JOHN CONYERS, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday evening, I joined Ambassador Etienne at the French Embassy to acknowledge the DC JazzFest. But I also was there, more importantly, to pay tribute to the Honorable John Conyers.

Yesterday, I took a minute on the floor to indicate that I would be speaking about him over a period of days and weeks because his 53 years as a mentor and beloved colleague deserve that tribute. But yesterday, I was probably at a place John Conyers enjoyed the most. Many people may not know that he was a jazz enthusiast and maybe prepared to become a jazz musician in his early years as a young, young man. His father, a strong union organizer, a UAW worker, thought that might not be the best approach for his young son, I believe the oldest of their four children.

John, being a dutiful son, went on to Wayne State and graduated from its law school as well. That was our gift to the American people.

I want to take a moment to be able to highlight the very undercore, if you will, the underpinnings of the leadership of John Conyers, a progressive before the term could even be defined.

I don't believe that he looked at himself in that way, but I think he looked at himself as one who would break through doors that others could not.

Of course, he was one of the original cofounders of the Congressional Black Caucus. But he rose to be chairman of two committees, the Committee on Oversight and Reform and the Committee on the Judiciary, and he became the dean of this House, this entire House of Representatives.

I don't think that would be what his own desire of tribute would be. I use the terminology that he not only spoke for the voiceless, but he spoke for persons who were actually silenced. That means that they tried to speak, but they were silenced. They were rejected. They were pushed back. They had not the power to be heard.

How amazing it is to have found someone of the African American heritage and tradition who had gone through life in a segregated America to be able to speak for voices that were varied and different, who needed to hear that someone cared about them, from Native Americans to Latinos, to

the disabled, to those in the LGBTQ community and beyond.

He was a champion of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. He got into Congress in 1964. He understood the value of giving people, no matter who you were, the right to vote. I will talk about that more extensively in the days to come, but I remember when we sat and reauthorized that legislation with a Republican President, what a wonderful experience of coming together around voting as we wrote legislation that George W. Bush signed enthusiastically, with an overwhelming vote in the House and an overwhelming vote in the Senate.

We even honored many different people from around the Nation, including naming it after the Honorable Barbara Jordan and many others in that timeframe to reinforce the value of voting. John did that in a bipartisan manner, a lesson that we can learn even today. He never compromised his principles, but he stood for the idea of bipartisanship for justice.

He was here for the Legal Services Corporation Act. Can you imagine that if you were poor 50 years ago, you wouldn't have any representation, not in the criminal system or sense, but in the civil system—being evicted, having problems with healthcare and dealing with your health insurance, or having a matter that required legal representation so that you could have justice. The Legal Services Corporation was something very near and dear to John Conyers.

Let me move quickly to talk about his work dealing with the PATRIOT Act after 9/11. Yes, we wanted to be protecting ourselves against terrorists, but John Conyers was a voice that said that civil liberties of the American people are crucial, and we will not trample in this committee, the Committee on the Judiciary, on their rights of privacy and their rights of liberty. He believed in that.

Let me also say that in the bankruptcy bill, when so many people were pushing to get a bill done that would leave out women and children, divorcees, leave out the poor who also needed to have some way of organizing their debt, in fact, he was a champion for that.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, a champion for the reparations bill that most people don't understand, an idea they would understand later, he was our champion. He spoke for those who were silenced.

CELEBRATING LIBERTY DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, this week, the Virgin Islands celebrates Liberty Day and honors David Hamilton Jackson and his relentless pursuit of free press for the people of the Virgin Islands.

From the 1700s until the 1950s, the Virgin Islands was owned by Denmark,

which maintained censorship over the press. D. Hamilton Jackson knew that in order for a people to truly have freedom, the press must also be free.

Traveling to Denmark to advocate on behalf of the workers of the Virgin Islands, he took it upon himself to also fight for the emancipation of the press. His passionate advocacy was fruitful, and upon his return to the territory, he published the first newspaper in the Virgin Islands not controlled by the government.

This act empowered the people of the Virgin Islands and opened the door for generations of Virgin Islanders to allow their voices to be heard in the formal medium of press.

D. Hamilton Jackson challenged the status quo and the prevailing laws of his time to secure a future for the islands he loved.

D. Hamilton Jackson used his newfound right for the free press to create *The Herald*. As editor, he used that publication to uncover corruption and educate the working class. Frustrated with neglect from the Danish Government, Jackson used *The Herald* to build support for the transfer of the Virgin Islands from Denmark to the United States.

The American flag that flies over the Virgin Islands today is a fruit of the seed that D. Hamilton Jackson sowed on his quest for liberty and greater opportunity for Virgin Islanders.

□ 1030

The Virgin Islands continue to embody the spirit of D. Hamilton Jackson and his work.

Rena Brodhurst has spent her life walking the path of Jackson as a champion of Virgin Islands Free Press as the owner and editor of the *St. Croix Avis*. Educated on St. Croix and then attending college, she followed her family's tradition of fighting to defend a free press.

Her father, Mr. Brodhurst, was once convicted of contempt of court after publishing an unsigned letter critical of a court decision and social conditions of his time. However, the right to free press prevailed with the U.S. Third Circuit making clear that the constitutional right to freedom of speech in the press was not one that would be infringed upon in the United States.

Rena, herself, has sued the government to protect the right to publish freely without retribution. A strong woman, mother, and friend, she acts as a true Virgin Islands queen, unbroken and a fierce defender of free press.

Today, a new generation steps up to carry the torch of D. Hamilton Jackson. State of the Territory founder Amaziah George, a Marine Corps veteran, brings Virgin Islands press to the world through his online social media paper.

His passion for making the voice and concerns of millennial Virgin Islanders heard make him a trailblazer of his generation. With his willingness to speak truth, the secret stories that