

development of this knowledge has also served to influence more innovative forest management practices.

His contribution is not limited to the sphere of research, but also includes his commitment to educating the young people of our district and our state. As a fellow forester, it is a supreme encouragement to see the dedication of Fourth District Arkansans like Dr. Babst to the proper management and stewardship of our nation's forests. I take this time to commend him on receiving this honor and to thank him for his years of study and service.

TRIBUTE HONORING MAYOR
SAMUEL EUGENE MURRAY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding South Carolinian, leader, public servant, and personal friend. Samuel Eugene Murray has ably served as Mayor of Port Royal, South Carolina for the past 24 years, and will be leaving office at the end of 2019.

Mr. Murray is a native of Dorchester County and received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from South Carolina State University. He continued his graduate studies at The Citadel, University of South Carolina, Appalachian State and Harvard University.

Mr. Murray is an educator at heart and served 16 years as a teacher in the Beaufort Country School System. He rose to become an elementary school principal for another 20 years. During his tenure as principal, Mr. Murray was the recipient of a \$50,000 Science Foundation Grant and was the only Principal from South Carolina chosen to attend that Summer's Principal Institute at Harvard University.

He has always had a passion for public service. Mr. Murray served on the Port Royal Town Council for 17 years before becoming mayor. During his tenure as mayor, he worked to improve his city's infrastructure with a new town hall, police station, and fire station. He also oversaw the city's growth with the construction of new health care centers, several commercial buildings, numerous businesses, apartment complexes, single family homes, and fast food facilities. During his time in office, Port Royal's population increased from 1,500 to approximately 13,600.

In addition, Mr. Murray has been a servant leader in his community by mentoring a young man with special needs for thirty years, serving as coach for the Neighborhood Youth Core Baseball Team, and volunteering as a homebuilder for Habitat for Humanity. He is involved in many organizations and has served in leadership roles in several of them.

He is currently a board member of the Low Country Blood Alliance and a member of the South Carolina Black Mayors Association. He has served on the Beaufort County Board of Special Needs, the Board of the Municipal Association and the Reconstruction Era Committee that laid the foundation for what is now the Reconstruction Era National Park.

Because of his tremendous service, Mr. Murray has received numerous awards and special recognitions. He was awarded the Life-

time Achievement CIVITAS Award for Business excellence presented by the Beaufort Chamber of Commerce, Congressman Joe Wilson Second Congressional District Minority Advisory Committee Award, and the Special President's Award by the Montford Point Marine Association.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in offering congratulations and sincere gratitude to Mayor Samuel Eugene Murray for his unwavering service to his community. His extraordinary work has made a great impact in the lives of the citizens of Port Royal and I honor him for his selfless deeds throughout his career.

IN RECOGNITION OF JONATHAN
DROPIEWSKI FOR A DISTIN-
GUISHED CAREER IN PUBLIC
SERVICE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the distinguished career of Jonathan Dropiewski as Mayor of Flat Rock for nine years.

Jonathan Dropiewski has become a cornerstone of the Flat Rock community. After receiving his B.S. from Georgetown University and MBA from the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business, Dropiewski moved to Flat Rock to begin a family with his wife, Robin, in 2001. Together, the pair raised two children, Nicholas and Alexander, who inspired Dropiewski to strive to ensure Flat Rock remained a wonderful city for people to live, work, and grow. In addition to his successful career in business and technology, Dropiewski set his sights on public service. In 2004, Dropiewski was elected to serve as a City Council member, and simultaneously served as Mayor Pro-Tempore from 2006 to 2007. In 2010, Dropiewski was elected as Flat Rock's Mayor, a position he has held ever since.

Mayor Dropiewski began his tenure at a critical moment in Flat Rock's history. Mayor Dropiewski faced a significant budget cut coupled with the worst financial crisis since the 1980s. Despite these challenges, Mayor Dropiewski's leadership and business expertise led the city to incredible progress and increased economic development, and his efforts have been paramount in ensuring Flat Rock continues to be a vibrant and welcoming destination for businesses, families, young professionals, and the like. Moreover, his leadership has been widely recognized amongst his colleagues and peers. On two occasions, Dropiewski was elected by his fellow mayors and supervisors to be the treasurer and chairman of the Downriver Community Conference. Among a host of other awards and accolades, Dropiewski was also recognized as a Crain's Detroit Business "40 Under 40" Leader, a Detroit Rotary Club Citizen of the Month, and a WWJ Citizen of the Week. Undoubtedly, Mayor Dropiewski is beloved, respected, and appreciated by many, and he has left a mark on the City of Flat Rock that will be remembered forever. He started community events that have brought people together and have become traditions such as the Riverfest, Summer Blast, and Taste of Flat Rock.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jonathan Dropiewski for his years of service to the Flat Rock community. Flat Rock's continued success can be attributed in no small part to Mayor Dropiewski's hard work, leadership, and dedication. We are all grateful for his exemplary service and wish him luck in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF WILLIAM "BILL" MOREAU, JR.

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor William "Bill" Moreau, Jr. who is retiring from Barnes and Thornburg Law Firm. As a partner in the Firm's Indianapolis and Washington, D.C. offices, Bill has been named as one of "The Best Lawyers in America" for his expertise in higher education and government relations practices.

Bill has provided legal, tactical and fiduciary guidance to a variety of post-secondary education institutions including his undergraduate alma mater. As a graduate of Purdue University, he proudly serves as a trustee. He is also a member of the Indiana State University President's National Advisory Board and the Board of Advisors of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, located in the heart of my congressional district. Bill's expertise in higher education issues was instrumental in the development of Indiana's community college system as a gubernatorial appointee to the Community College Policy Committee.

Bill's government relations practice has included representation at all levels of government over a broad array of issues. Bill is no stranger to Capitol Hill, having worked in both the House and Senate. He also served as Chief of Staff to then-Indiana Secretary of State, Evan Bayh.

For his extensive and passionate work, he has won numerous awards, including being named Master Fellow of the Indiana Bar Foundation. He also received the 2017 Leadership in Law Distinguished Barristers Award from The Indiana Lawyer and, in 2015, he was Barnes and Thornburg's winner of the Joseph A. Marley Pro Bono Award. As an advocate and engaged citizen, Bill has dedicated his efforts to promote civic literacy and engagement and has worked to reduce homelessness in Indianapolis. He led our community in the effort to create the Blueprint to End Homelessness, which is still hailed as a national model. His ongoing support of this priority includes an annual fellowship funded by Bill and his wife, Ann, to support a graduate student training program to advocate for those impacted by homelessness.

I am proud to call Bill Moreau a friend and advisor, and I'm incredibly grateful for his support and counsel through the years. His passionate work on behalf of all Hoosiers shows that he truly understands the meaning of community, and I applaud him for his efforts to improve ours. I have no doubt that he will continue to make a big impact in his next chapter, and I wish him all the best in his retirement.