

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GRAND  
RE-OPENING OF THE MICHIGAN  
UNION

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 8, 2020*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the grand re-opening of the Michigan Union.

The Michigan Union is a cornerstone of the University of Michigan. Opened in 1919, the Michigan Union is one of the oldest college unions in the country. For nearly a century, the Michigan Union has given students, faculty, and members of the Ann Arbor community a space to gather, study, and socialize. Throughout the years, the Michigan Union has undergone a great deal of transformation and witnessed some of our nation's greatest historical moments. On the morning of October 14, 1960, Democratic presidential nominee John F. Kennedy gave an impromptu speech that laid the groundwork for the Peace Corps. Later, during a visit to the University of Michigan, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. joined students in the Michigan Union to discuss his thoughts on discrimination and the future of integration in America. To carry on this impactful legacy and adapt to meet the needs of 21st century students, the Michigan Union closed in May 2018 to undergo an \$85.2 million renovation.

Today, we celebrate the Michigan Union as it opens its doors once again. While maintaining the architectural integrity of the 1919 original structure, Michigan Union has vastly remodeled internal features. Aside from technology upgrades and infrastructure renewals, the Michigan Union now includes expanded lounge and study rooms, a revolutionary idea hub, an enclosed courtyard, collaborative spaces, and a host of different food vendors.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the grand re-opening of the Michigan Union. Through the historical renovation, the Michigan Union will continue to be an iconic symbol of the University of Michigan for generations to come.

HONORING JOSEPH MAYNE

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 8, 2020*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph Mayne. Joseph is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 356, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joseph has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Joseph has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Joseph located, plotted out, and painted mile markers

for every quarter-mile along a four-mile loop around Watkins Mill Lake in Watkins Mill State Park, allowing first responders to have some means of locating those in need of their help when an emergency call is made and for hikers to track their progress around the lake.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph Mayne for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF FATHER GEORGE CLEMENTS

**HON. WM. LACY CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 8, 2020*

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, in 1971 the Congressional Black Caucus was formed by the following Members of Congress:

Representative Shirley A. Chisholm (D-NY); Representative William L. Clay, Sr. (D-MO); Representative George W. Collins (D-IL); Representative John Conyers (D-MI); Representative Ronald V. Dellums (D-CA); Representative Charles C. Diggs, Jr. (D-MI); Representative Augustus F. Hawkins (D-CA); Representative Ralph H. Metcalfe (D-IL); Representative Parren J. Mitchell (D-MD); Representative Robert N.C. Nix, Sr. (D-PA); Representative Charles B. Rangel (D-NY); Representative Louis Stokes (D-OH); and Delegate Walter E. Fauntroy (D-D.C.).

Congressman William L. Clay, Sr. invited Father George Clements, Pastor of Holy Angels Catholic Church in Chicago, Illinois, to provide the Invocation for the Congressional Black Caucus' inaugural Dinner. He prayed:

"Lord, make the Congressional Black Caucus instruments of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let Augustus Hawkins and Walter Fauntroy sow love. Where there is injury let Charles Diggs and Robert Nix bring pardon. Where there is doubt let Shirley Chisholm restore faith. Where there is despair let Ronald Dellums bring hope. Where there is darkness let Charles Diggs bring light and where there is sadness let William Clay bring joy.

"O Divine Master grant that John Conyers may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; That George Collins may not so much seek to be understood as to understand; That Louis Stokes may not so much seek to be loved as to love.

"For it is in giving that Parren Mitchell receives. It is in dying that the Congressional Black Caucus is born to eternal life."

While Father Clements was the first to provide an invocation to the Congressional Black Caucus Dinner, he also had many other "firsts" in his lifetime.

In 1945, Father Clements was the first African American graduate of Archbishop Quigley Preparatory Seminary. He was ordained as a priest in 1957 and went on to become the first African American priest to serve at Holy Angels Parish on Chicago's South side from 1969 to 1991. He helped create programs like the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus to support African-Americans within the church.

Father Clements spearheaded the "One Church-One Child" program in 1980, which

aimed to spur Catholic churches to find adoptive parents for orphaned black children. In fact, he was the first Catholic priest to adopt a child, and later adopted 3 more sons. He also started a program for people living with drug addiction in 1944, and another for incarcerated people and their families in 1999.

Father Clements also served at other Chicago parishes, including St. Ambrose from July 1957 to July 1962, and St. Dorothy from July 1962 to June 1969. Outside of Chicago, Clements served at the Diocese of Nassau (Bahamas) from September 1991 to October 1993, and the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., from October 1993 to March 2006.

He was a longtime civil rights advocate from Chicago's Southside. He marched with Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., in Chicago, Alabama and Mississippi. Father Clements was one of the first voices advocating for civil rights for African Americans within the Catholic Church, according to Rev. Michael Pfleger of St. Sabina Church on Chicago's South Side. His career inspired a made-for-television movie in 1989, "The Father Clements Story".

Father Clements was born "George Harold Clements" in Chicago in 1932. On Monday, November 25, 2019, Father Clements passed away at the age of 87. As a devoted priest, human and civil rights activist, and trailblazer, he will surely be missed by the communities he served.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.  
DENNY CHEN

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 8, 2020*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Mr. Denny Chen, a beloved member of California's 33rd Congressional District, who passed away at the age of 81 on November 15, 2019 in Torrance, California. Denny's dental practice has served South Bay residents for more than 30 years.

Born on November 24, 1937 in Taiwan's Sanxia District, Denny graduated from Keelung High School and attended Taiwan's National Defense Medical University. Denny then served as a naval officer in the Republic of China Navy for 10 years before starting a private dental practice in 1969 in Taipei, Taiwan.

Denny moved his family to the United States in 1978, where he enrolled at the University of Southern California School of Dentistry. He received his degree and opened his dental practice in Torrance in 1981, where he served the South Bay community for 33 years until his retirement in 2014. Denny's family moved to Rancho Palos Verdes in 1989.

Whether playing golf, ballroom dancing, or singing, Denny enjoyed the wonderful life he led and the people with whom he spent it. Denny is survived by his wife, Salina; stepson, Ben, and his wife, May; son, Peter, and his wife, Cindy; and three grandchildren: Kirk, Mark, and Priscilla. May his memory be a blessing to all the patients he cared for over the years and lives he touched in the community.