

IN HONOR OF ANNA MAC CLARKE

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 2020

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Anna Mac Clarke. Ms. Clarke was a native of Anderson County, Kentucky and worked to desegregate our nation's armed forces during WWII. Today she is honored with the renaming of her hometown Main Street in her honor.

Ms. Clarke grew up in Anderson County and was a 1937 graduate of Lawrenceburg High School. She then furthered her education at Kentucky State College where she participated in athletics, wrote for the school newspaper, and joined Delta Sigma Theta sorority before graduating with a bachelor's degree in sociology and economics in 1941. Following the Attack on Pearl Harbor, Ms. Clarke decided to join the all-female Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC).

Upon completion of WAAC officer training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, Third Officer Anna Mac Clarke became the first African-American WAAC assigned to a command that was otherwise an all-white unit. Ms. Clarke went on to lead a unit of 144 African-American women in service at Wakeman General Hospital at Camp Atterbury, Indiana before also serving at the WAAC Headquarters in Washington, D.C. After the WAAC auxiliary units became a part of the regular army, Ms. Clarke let the first Women's Army Corps (WAC) unit onto base at Douglas Army Air Field in Arizona. When she and her unit first arrived, the base was segregated. However, Ms. Clarke stood against this injustice, refused to sit in the colored section, and raised this issue with commanding officers. In response, the commanding officer issued the following order, "Educate properly all enlisted and civilian personnel in your respective departments to accept any colored WACs assigned as you would any white man or woman in the Army of the United States. Every consideration, respect, courtesy, and toleration will be afforded every colored WAC. No discrimination will be condoned."

Ms. Anna Mac Clarke sadly passed away on April 19, 1944 at the age of 24 following complications from surgery. Yet, her steadfast contributions to the desegregation of our armed forces serve as an extraordinary example of courage and patriotism in service to one's country. It is my honor to recognize Ms. Clarke, as a street is renamed today in her honor in her hometown of Lawrenceburg, Kentucky. I am forever grateful for brave Americans like Anna Mac Clarke.

CONGRATULATING MS. JAILENE FRANCOIS FOR WINNING THE 2020 CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION IN FLORIDA'S 20TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Jailene Francois for

submitting the winning entry in the 2020 Congressional Art Competition for Florida's 20th Congressional District. Jailene is a 10th grader at Millennium 6–12 Collegiate Academy in Tamarac, Florida. Her photograph, entitled "Oppression," represents the oppression faced by people of color in America. The piece features a black and white photograph of a small African-American girl, crying, with a white X across her lips.

Typically, we would recognize and congratulate young artists from Congressional Districts throughout the United States with a celebration here in the Capitol. This year is anything but typical. The COVID-19 pandemic has forced millions of American to cancel or postpone their celebrations and we in Congress are not exempt.

Madam Speaker, I take great pride in honoring Jailene for her inspiring art work, which will be displayed on Capitol Hill for the next year.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF PAUL DEBOLT)
HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 2020

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Paul DeBolt upon his retirement as an educator in Contra Costa County after forty years.

A West Contra Costa native and graduate of De Anza High School in Richmond, Paul attended Contra Costa College before transferring to San Diego State University, where he was a walk-on member of the Aztecs' basketball team. It was during this pursuit of his passion for basketball that Paul discovered another passion in journalism. He graduated with a degree in journalism in 1977 and earned a Master's Degree in mass communications from San Diego State in 1980.

After completing his education, Paul returned to Contra Costa College, teaching journalism and advising the student newspaper. In the classroom, he introduced Contra Costa's diverse student population to the basics of journalism. Through his tutelage and practical experience, students learned the value that quality, accurate reporting can have on communities across the country. Paul even counted among his students his own son David, who would eventually go on to win a Pulitzer Prize for his role in reporting on Oakland's Ghost Ship Fire.

In 1986, Paul started a women's basketball team at Contra Costa College. By the time he stepped down in 2016, he had led the Comets to 11 Bay Valley Conference titles, four visits to California's final eight, three trips to the final four, and two visits to the state championship. Following the state championship game in 2001, Paul was named the California Community College Women's Basketball Association Coach of the Year.

Paul's work in the classroom and on the court has impacted the lives of countless students and athletes at Contra Costa College. As he retires from Contra Costa College, we wish Paul well knowing that his legacy will continue to inspire all those who have known and worked with him.

REMEMBERING STAFF SERGEANT VINCENT MARKETTA

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 2020

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Staff Sergeant Vincent P. Marketta of Brick, New Jersey, who tragically passed away following an accident while conducting aviation training with this Regiment. He was just 33 years old.

Staff Sergeant Marketta enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2011 as a 15T UH-60 "Black Hawk" Repairer, and was assigned to the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne). While assigned to the 160th SOAR, he was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and deployed multiple times to Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. During his service, Staff Sergeant Marketta was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, an Air Medal with V Device for heroism against an armed enemy, and an Army Commendation Medal with C Device.

Staff Sergeant Marketta represents the kind of uncommon courage and sacrifice that defines our service members and their families. Vincent was a loyal and dedicated member of his family and community and served bravely alongside his Regiment in defending our nation abroad. His passing is a tragedy that is felt in Brick, and across the State of New Jersey.

The immense sacrifice that Vincent and his family have made in service to our country is a reminder to all of us in Congress that we are here serving something greater than ourselves. My heart goes out to Staff Sergeant Marketta's family, and the entire Brick community during this incredibly difficult time. Vincent Marketta's dedication and service to our country will not be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRENCH HARMON
HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 2020

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my long-time friend and pastor, Dr. French Harmon, who has been elected to lead the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.

During a time of great unrest in our nation, the church remains our guiding light as an invisible enemy attacks the health of Americans, our economy, and our way of life. It is spiritual leaders like Dr. Harmon who will ensure that our sovereign God is still recognized as the cornerstone of our blessed and sovereign nation.

His servant's heart has never been resigned to ministry inside a building. Rather, Dr. Harmon has embodied the love of Christ through his outreach in every community where he has resided, and through mission work in foreign countries, including Brazil, Israel, Kenya, and South Africa. Successful ministries are often defined by congregation size, tithing growth and doctoral achievements; to that end, Dr. Harmon is among the elite as a Doctor of Philosophy, a Doctor of Ministry, a Master of Theology, a Master of Divinity and upwards of