

appeared in the Congressional Record of August 13, 2020.

PN2223 NAVY nomination of Terrance L. Leighton, Ill, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2020.

PN2224 NAVY nomination of Todd D. Strong, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2020.

PN2225 NAVY nomination of Nathan D. Huffaker, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2020.

PN2226 NAVY nomination of Emily M. Benzer, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2020.

PN2227 NAVY nomination of David M. Lalanne, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2020.

PN2228 NAVY nomination of Jean E. Knowles, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2020.

PN2229 NAVY nomination of Kevin M. Ray, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2020.

#### IN THE SPACE FORCE

PN2171 SPACE FORCE nominations (5) beginning DAVID L. RANSOM, and ending JAMES C. KUNDELT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 6, 2020.

PN2172 SPACE FORCE nominations (634) beginning DAVID R. ANDERSON, and ending DEVIN L. ZUFELT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 6, 2020.

### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### REMEMBERING REV. LEON FINNEY, JR.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, on July 17, America lost two giants of justice: Congressman John Lewis and the Reverend C.T. Vivian. Sixty years ago, John Lewis was the youngest member of Dr. Martin Luther King's inner circle, and C.T. Vivian was Dr. King's field marshal, organizing support for the civil rights movement throughout America. In 1966, when Martin Luther King moved to Chicago to help break the grip of slumlords on mostly poor communities of color, C.T. Vivian came with him.

Earlier this month, we lost another civil rights legend, a man who remained in Chicago after Dr. King and Rev. Vivian left and who continued the fight for the next 60 years for racial, social, and economic justice for people and communities of color in Chicago.

The Rev. Leon Finney, Jr., was laid to rest this past weekend following his

home going service at the church he pastored for the last 20 years, the Metropolitan Apostolic Church in Bronzeville. Among those paying tribute to Rev. Finney at his home going were Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot and Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle. They are among more than two generations of Chicago leaders whose careers in public service Rev. Finney helped to nurture. Another public servant whose work as a community organizer on the South Side of Chicago was inspired in part by Rev. Finney couldn't attend the service but paid his respects in a letter read by Rev. Finney's granddaughter.

"Doc was always there for us," the letter read. It was signed: "Barack Obama." In the 1960s, after Dr. King and Rev. Vivian had left Chicago, Leon Finney stayed. He understood that progress is a long march. Systemic racism and deep, generational poverty can't be eliminated in a year or two. Real change, real progress requires sustained commitment and effort. It requires strategy, not just slogans. Above all, Rev. Finney understood that real progress can't be delivered from outside or imposed from above. It has to come from the people who live in a community. He believed in power of grassroots democracy to transform individual lives and whole communities.

Leon Finney was a Chicagoan by choice, not birth. He was born 82 years ago in Louise, MS., the eldest of six children. His father, Leon Sr., moved the family north to Chicago when his children were young, part of the Great Migration. In 1940, his dad opened his first restaurant, Leon's Bar-B-Q, in Chicago's Woodlawn neighborhood. In its heyday, Leon's had four locations throughout the South Side. Leon Sr. was Chicago's "Bar-B-Q King."

In the early 1960s, Leon Jr. enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He served as a military police officer and criminal investigator. After the Marines, he returned to Chicago and founded Christ Apostolic Church in Woodlawn. He served as its pastor for two decades, until that church merged with Metropolitan Apostolic Community Church—"The Met"—where he served as senior pastor.

As his longtime friend and fellow activist, Father Michael Pfleger said: Rev. Finney was "one of the few pastors who still understood that just the DNA of the gospel." It wasn't enough to preach about justice on Sunday mornings. Rev. Finney believed that you needed to work for justice every day.

In 1964 Rev. Finney joined The Woodlawn Organization, or TWO, a grassroots group founded by the legendary organizer Saul Alinsky. He joined forces with another South Side civil rights legend, Bishop Arthur Brazier, who had marched with Dr. King in Chicago. In 1967, he became TWO's executive director. In 1969, TWO created a nonprofit development organization, WCDC—the Woodlawn Community De-

velopment Corporation—and named Rev. Finney as its president.

TWO organized Woodlawn residents to stand up to absentee slumlords, who owned much of the housing in Woodlawn and other low-income neighborhoods on the South and West sides. It pushed back against plans by the University of Chicago to expand its campus south, into Woodlawn, plans that would have driven out longtime Woodlawn residents and businesses. The group also fought against "substandard, segregated housing, high unemployment, poor schools, inadequate public services, community health concerns and other persistent social problems."

Over the years, WCDC helped attract more than \$300 million in commercial and residential development in "uninvestable" communities. The organization developed nearly 1,700 apartments and homes for low- and moderate-income families, mostly in Woodlawn but throughout the South Side. It managed 9,000 rental apartments in Chicago and Gary, IN. It employed 400 Black men and women, as many or more than almost any other employer in Chicago except for government. Many of its early victories were achieved before the creation of real estate investment trusts, affordable housing tax credits, enterprise zones, and other government incentive programs to attract capital to low-income and minority neighborhoods. TWO and WCDC became national models for community investment a revitalization.

Rev. Finney forged alliances with elected leaders because he wanted to have a seat at the table when the interests of his community were being decided. He was appointed to powerful government boards, including the Chicago Housing Authority, the Chicago Plan Commission, the Monitoring Commission for School Desegregation for Chicago Public Schools, and Chicago State University.

In 1993, he joined the faculty of McCormick Theological Seminary on the University of Chicago campus. As a professor of African American Leadership Studies and executive director of the seminary's African American Leadership Partnership, he helped train scores of new ministers in the work of the social gospel.

He was not without fault. As he aged and the real estate industry became increasingly complex, WCDC sometimes struggled to pace with the changes and missteps occurred. But despite the controversy, the imprint that Rev. Finney left on the South Side of Chicago and the good he achieved is profound.

In recent years, he suffered a series of health setbacks, but he never stopped working for justice. At his funeral, a community developer who Rev. Finney helped train recalled a recent conversation they had about today's new movement for racial reckoning.

"What's the strategy going forward? Is a voter registrar marching with you

next time?" he asked. Like the marine he was, he remained focused and disciplined to the end.

He was proud and optimistic that a part of Jackson Park would be home to the new Obama Presidential Library. Not only would the library bring new investment and opportunities to the South Side, it would remind the young people, especially the Black and Brown children, who live there about what is possible for them.

In a 2015 column, Rev. Finney wrote: "The young among us today, many of them, will grow up believing anyone can become president, regardless of race. But some of us can remember when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Brown vs. Board of Education* that separate was not equal; some are old enough to have marched on Washington. Those events signaled the end of legal segregation in this country. But we never dreamed we would see a man of African heritage elected president—not in our lifetimes." The South Side, the community that was home to Harold Washington, Richard Wright, Mahalia Jackson, and many other pioneers for racial justice, was the right home, he said, for the President Obama's library.

Loretta and I offer our condolences to Rev. Finney's many friends, colleagues, students, and especially to his family: his son Leon III, his daughter Kristian Finney-Cooke, his son-in-law Dr. Gerald Cooke, and his three grandchildren.

Several years ago, McCormick Theological Seminary held a gathering to honor Rev. Finney. The occasion was the 20th anniversary of the program he had founded to train African-American ministers. Graduates of the program, including many community leaders, spoke of the profound influence Rev. Finney had had on their lives. When it came time for him to speak, Rev. Finney implored them to always remember to put the mission of the Gospel before their own egos. He recited one of his favorite Bible passages; the Gospel of Luke, chapter 4, verse 18: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free."

Leon Finney remained true to his mission. Martin Luther King and C.T. Vivian helped sketch a vision for a new Chicago, but Leon Finney worked for more than 50 years to make that better, fairer Chicago a reality. The good he achieved will benefit our city, our State, and our Nation for years to come.

#### REMEMBERING GALE SAYERS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, when Chicago Bears football great Gale Sayers was on the field, you knew something extraordinary would happen.

The press labeled him the "Kansas Comet." His teammates called him

"Magic." He did things in the NFL that had not been seen before, and few have come close to matching decades later.

Gale famously said that all he needed was 18 inches of daylight before he would change a game's dynamic. He was an unmatched running back, a star receiver, and his kick returning records remain to this day. But with everything with Gale, there was never enough time. His legendary career was cut short by injury.

He passed away recently, and today, we pay our respect to an extraordinary life.

Gale Eugene Sayers was born in Wichita, KS, in 1943. His father was a mechanic and a car polisher, and his mother was a homemaker. His family moved to Omaha, NE, in the early fifties, and Gale had his chance to play sports for the first time there. At the age of 13, he was playing kids who were 19 and 20 years old. Gale learned early on that he didn't want to be tackled by larger people, so he made sure he wasn't. In high school, he was not only a star running back, but he was also a track star. His record in long jump stood for 44 years.

Dozens of colleges offered Gale scholarships, but he chose Kansas University because he liked the coach and that it was relatively close to home. There, he was dubbed the Kansas Comet. He was the first player in NCAA Division 1A history to record a 99-yard run when he broke loose against the University of Nebraska in 1963. His two-time All-American honors led to the Bears picking him as the No. 4 overall pick in the 1965 NFL Draft.

Gale Sayers' NFL career began like lightning. He returned a punt 77 yards in his first preseason game, returned a kickoff 93 yards, and threw a touchdown pass with his nondominant hand. For the season, he led the league in all-purpose yards and set the league record at the time of 22 touchdowns, earning the rookie of the year award.

Wrigley Field is famously the home of the Chicago Cubs, but the greatest performance on that field was by Gale Sayers. The Chicago Bears played there from 1921 to 1970. In December 1965, Wrigley Field's playing surface was terrible. Players of both the Chicago Bears and San Francisco 49ers were struggling to keep their footing in the rain, but Gale wasn't one of them. He scored six touchdowns that day. He might have scored seven or eight, but with a lopsided score, Bears Coach George Halas sat him down. The 49ers went on to form a special defense just for Gale Sayers.

Sayers had many brilliant games, but one of the revolutionary moments his life was off the field when he was roommates with fullback Brian Piccolo.

Sayers and Piccolo were the NFL's first interracial roommate duo. When many lines were drawn between Black and White players, Sayers and Piccolo set a new path for the league. They became best friends.

On November 10, 1968, the Bears faced the 49ers again, and Sayers took a toss run play like he had done so many times. The 49ers defensive player put his shoulder into Sayers' knee, and it bent sideways. Sayers needed to be carted off the field. His knee would never be the same. The rehabilitation program was difficult, but with Piccolo's encouragement, Sayers was able to return the following year.

Gale returned to playing in 1969, earning the NFL Comeback Player of the Year, but Piccolo became ill. Piccolo was coughing for weeks, and he was diagnosed with embryonic cell carcinoma.

He underwent surgery, but the disease had spread to other organs. In May, Gale earned the George S. Halas Award, an award recognizing the league's most courageous player. In his speech for the award, Gale dedicated it to Brian Piccolo. Piccolo died on June 16, 1970, at the age of 26. Gale was a pallbearer at the funeral. The chapter on their friendship in Gale's autobiography, "I Am Third," is the basis of the 1971 movie "Brian's Song," the most-watched TV movie in history at the time.

In 1971, Gale suffered another knee injury, and it was never right again. He retired in 1972 at the age of 29. It is a testament to the extraordinary talent of Gale Sayers, only playing 68 games, that in 1977, he was the youngest player ever to be voted into the NFL Hall of Fame at the age of 34. His statistics still remain competitive and as records decades later.

After his NFL career, Gale returned to the University of Kansas as an assistant athletic director and student. He completed his bachelor's degree in physical education in 1975 and received a master's degree in educational administration in 1977. He was the athletic director at Southern Illinois University until 1981. Gale also supported the Cradle, a Chicago-area adoption agency that launched the Ardythe and Gale Sayers Center for African American Adoption in 1999. In 2007, Gale testified in Congress along with several other players that the NFL needed to improve its disability benefits system for retired players.

Sayers is survived by his wife Ardythe Elaine Bullard, his brothers Roger and Ron, his sons Timothy and Scott, his daughter Gale Lynne, and his stepsons Guy, Gaylon, and Gary.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARK GUETHLE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, Mark Guethle probably isn't the sort of person you picture when you hear the word "feminist." Mark is a big guy: 6-foot-1, strong and muscular. It is easy to imagine him as the star linebacker he was in high school. He spent decades as a labor leader in the building trades, one of the toughest, most manhood-driven segments of the American labor movement. But Mark Guethle has worked harder to help good women get