

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. KUNDERT, 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