

On top of his professional role, he is a member of Rotary Club International, the City Liaison for Special Olympics Northern California, and co-founder of the Hercules Swim Club. Commander Koeppel is a prime example of a community-focused officer who is committed to building vital ties with the community members whom he is protecting.

Madam Speaker, Commander Thomas Koeppel is an outstanding law enforcement officer and model citizen who has served with honor throughout his nearly three decades of duty. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him today.

REMEMBERING MYRA STILES

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember my friend and a local and national Democratic Party stalwart, Myra Stiles, who passed on Friday at the age of 84. Mrs. Stiles was active in Democratic Party politics, joining the Volunteer Women's Roundtable shortly after arriving in Memphis with her husband, Robert, months after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1968. She went on to become an officer, president, and treasurer of the Democratic Women of Shelby County, and served in positions with the Shelby County Democratic Executive Committee, as well as President of the Tennessee Federation of Democratic Women. She always had the Democratic women's annual Christmas Party at her home—a wonderful gathering of friends in the holiday season. Mrs. Stiles was also a longtime member and chair of the Shelby County Election Commission, first elected in 1987. No one in the last 30 years has done more guaranteeing access to the ballot and free and fair elections in Shelby County than Myra Stiles. She was also special assistant to William Farris when he served as chairman of the Tennessee Democratic Party (1978–1981). Mrs. Stiles was active in the political campaigns of Harold Ford, Sr.; Harold Ford, Jr.; Beverly Marrero; Mary Wilder; and many others on the national, state, and local levels. She was instrumental in my campaigns going back to 1976, when I was a candidate for the state Constitutional Convention from the Midtown district. She was an enthusiastic supporter in all my subsequent races for the state Senate and later for Congress with her prominent and well-recognized yard signs on McLean. Mrs. Stiles attended four Democratic National Conventions and two presidential inaugurations. Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland proclaimed February 20, 2016 “Myra Stiles Day” for her dedicated service to the city and its citizens. Since 2003, Mrs. Stiles had been an active member of Mothers of the Nile, an organization which works to reduce the number of children entering the juvenile justice system. Mrs. Stiles loved politics, the democratic process and Democratic principles and her community will long remember her dedicated service. I extend my profound condolences to her children Allison, Sarah and Robert, and their families, and to her many friends and colleagues. She did important work and will be missed.

CELEBRATING CAIRO GEORGIA'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Cairo, Georgia, located in Grady County, in my Congressional district, as they celebrate and commemorate their 150th Anniversary. The city was founded in 1835 and incorporated as a town in 1870 and a city in 1905. In 1906, it was designated as the county seat for the newly formed Grady County. It is an honor and a privilege to have represented the City of Cairo since my election to Congress in 1992.

There was a commemoration event held on Monday, October 26, 2020, at 6 PM during the Cairo City Council Meeting. The city has served as the catalyst to improve the quality of life for thousands of citizens.

The City of Cairo is a city that is steeped in a rich history and accomplishments that reflect the absolute best that our nation has to offer. Cairo, Georgia, was first settled in the early 1800s by William Hawthorne, a Baptist Preacher. Hawthorne cut a forty-mile trail through the area. Another early settler was Henry Miller, who moved to what was then Thomas County. He had a stagecoach stop. By 1860, The Atlantic and Gulf Railroad had bought land from residents Nancy and Malachi Collins, as well as from Phoebe and Washington Baggett. In 1866, H.H. Tooke and James H. Hayes sold land so that the town could be founded.

In 1862, Seaborn Anderson Roddenberry bought land from Mr. Miller and began his medical practice in a horse-drawn buggy by selling his open-kettle sugar cane syrup. By 1867, Roddenberry had a medical office and opened a general store and people from near and far bought syrup from large barrels and filled their own jars with his molasses. The nickname of the local Cairo High School is the Syrupmakers and Syrupmaids because of the importance of this industry in the formation and vitalization of this community. The Cairo plant of the Roddenberry Company was closed in 1993, and now serves as a regional community center.

The town council began meeting in 1871, and its first mayor was Wiley Pearce. Many dedicated men and women have served in elective office since the beginning of this historic town. The city is now led by Mayor Howard Thrower, III, and a five-member city council.

The city has not strayed from the foundation that was set by its early leaders with an attentiveness to the needs of the people above all else. Dr. George Washington Carver once said that “How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life, you will have been all of these.”

The City of Cairo, Georgia, has overcome storms and difficult situations, but has stood the test of time. Through dedicated community servants, they have sought to meet the needs of their community and to move it forward for the betterment of all of its citizens. This city holds dear to the values that make this com-

munity and our country great—God, country, and family.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent this community in Congress and I look forward to seeing their growth and progression in the years to come. I urge my colleagues to join me in commending and congratulating the City of Cairo for 150 years of dedicated service to God, the citizens of Cairo, and humankind.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ARMED FORCES DEFERRED TAX RELIEF ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Armed Forces Deferred Tax Relief Act, legislation that will require the Department of Defense (DoD) to cover any additional taxes incurred by our brave servicemembers as a result of President Trump's reckless Presidential Memorandum issued on August 8, 2020.

President Trump's Memorandum instructed the Secretary of the Treasury to use his authority to defer Social Security payroll taxes between September 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020. The resulting Internal Revenue Service Notice postpones the collection of these taxes until the period beginning on January 1, 2021, and ends on April 30, 2021. This will result in our servicemembers paying double the tax, or 12.4 percent, each month of the first quarter of 2021.

Many private businesses have opted out of the deferral, but the DoD has forced our servicemembers to participate, sticking them with a large tax bill coming due in the new year. My legislation will require the DoD to reimburse our servicemembers for any additional taxes withheld as a result of this Administration's willful ignorance.

REVEREND SH'KUR FRANCIS

HON. JOE CUNNINGHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend Sh'Kur Francis of the New Hope United Methodist Church. This church was founded 136 years ago, and Rev. Francis represents a new optimism for the New Hope Church.

With an upbringing from Charleston and Gullah-Geechee roots, Reverend Francis represents the Lowcountry well in upstate South Carolina. He will celebrate his sixth year of ministry there on November 15, 2020. Reverend Francis has been able to help the congregation grow and challenge previously held thoughts, to great success. Since his tenure as minister, the church attendance rate has nearly tripled.

Reverend Francis has been an activist his whole life and uses his ministry to talk about important social justice issues. His devotion calls to mind Isaiah 1:17, where we are told, “Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, and please the widow's cause.”