

in 1977. He held the position for nearly 20 years and went on to serve as the publisher and owner. Through the newspaper, he opened the doors of opportunity for many African American youth in the community who found the Florida Sentinel Bulletin to be the first step into the business world. The newspaper has served as a voice for the African American community of West-Central Florida for decades, providing news twice-weekly and offering an outlet for African American writers and columnists. This family legacy continues through his children, C. Blythe Andrews III and Sybil Kay Andrews Wells.

Mr. Andrews was a voice for the working class as well as his fellow African Americans. He was a member of the board of trustees for Tampa General Hospital, and directed the Lily White Security Benefit Association that offered burial insurance benefits that other companies did not. Mr. Andrews was appointed to many positions of honor and distinction in community organizations including: Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center Trustee, the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, the Tampa Employment and Training Council, the Foundation Board of the University of South Florida, the Arts Council of the State of Florida, and Chairman of the Board of the Hillsborough County Hospital Association. Additionally, he was the first African American appointed to the Tampa Sports Authority, later serving as vice chairman, and advocated for the renaming of Tampa's Buffalo Avenue after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Mr. Andrews was merited as one of the Twenty-Five Most Influential People of Tampa Bay by Tampa Bay Life Magazine—an honor that is befitting a man who uplifted the people of Tampa Bay while educating and informing the community of the news that applied to their lives when no one else thought it was necessary to do so. He leaves a legacy of leadership as a pioneer for the African American community.

Madam Speaker, Mr. C. Blythe Andrews Jr. will be greatly missed by the state of Florida and especially by the Tampa Bay area. My thoughts and condolences are with his wife, Gloria, and the rest of his family in this time of loss.

HONORING STEVE D. CHAN, DDS

### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 19, 2010*

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Steven D. Chan, a pediatric dentist who resides and practices in Fremont, California. Dr. Chan was recently elected as a Regent of the American College of Dentists, the oldest national honorary organizations for dentists in the country. During his service as Regent, Dr. Chan will represent Regency 7, which comprises California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico and Hawaii.

The College recognizes meritorious contributions to the Dental Society and the profession of dentistry.

Dr. Chan serves on the Executive Committee of the California Society of Pediatric Dentistry and is past president of the California Dental Association. He is founder of the

California Dental Association Foundation. The Foundation was formed as the philanthropic affiliate of the California Dental Association in 2001 with the mission to improve the oral health of Californians.

Dr. Chan formerly served on the Fremont Library Commission and is active in the Fremont community. I am confident Dr. Chan will serve admirably in his newly elected role as Regent. I wish him every success.

HONORING MR. EARL WILSON, JR.

### HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 19, 2010*

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true St. Louis legend and visionary, Mr. Earl Wilson, Jr. on the occasion of his retirement from the St. Louis Gateway Classic Sports Foundation. Earl Wilson has devoted his life to serving the St. Louis community first as a trailblazing corporate executive and later as a dedicated community servant. His commitment led him to establish one of the most honored and respected community organizations in the Midwest, The St. Louis Gateway Classic Sports Foundation.

Mr. Wilson has been blazing a path for inner-city residents, especially the youth of St. Louis, since graduating high school and becoming an ROTC captain at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri. He served as a captain in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and was a successful 30 year executive with IBM. He also had the honor of serving as the Marketing Director for the U.S. Olympic Festival in St. Louis in 1994. He has been a wonderful husband and dedicated father of four.

Sixteen years ago, Mr. Wilson created the St. Louis Gateway Classic Foundation in an effort to elevate the status of African Americans in St. Louis. The Gateway Classic was originally organized as a football event hosting teams from historic black colleges and universities. The game eventually grew into his trademark St. Louis Gateway Classic Sports Foundation and has created an impressive list of community events and initiatives.

Through the foundation Mr. Wilson has raised millions of dollars for his scholarship fund leading to the education of more than 100 African-American students who otherwise might not have the means to attend college. Over sixty of the awardees graduated from historically black colleges or universities.

He also established the St. Louis Gateway Classic Walk of Fame. The Walk of Fame highlights the sacrifices and achievements of area African Americans. It has honored the lives of prominent St. Louis citizens such as Dick Gregory, Jackie-Joyner Kersee, former Congressman William L. Clay, Sr., Ozzie Smith and the Fifth Dimension.

Mr. Wilson has exhibited a tireless dedication to his community throughout his life. That commitment has been an inspiration to his family, friends and all that have come to know him. His impact on young people's lives in the St. Louis community can be measured in his wonderful array of good works.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. Wilson; a man who has made a difference in each life that he has touched. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Earl Wilson, Jr.

HONORING MIKE SIITARI

### HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 19, 2010*

Mr. PAULSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to Mike Siitari, a 31 year veteran of the Edina Police Department and who will retire as its Chief at the end of January.

For more than three decades, Edina law enforcement has seen Chief Siitari rise through the ranks from police dispatcher to patrol officer to lieutenant and finally, a decade long stint in the Department's highest post.

Even after dedicating a lifetime to public service, Chief Siitari has no intention of quietly retiring; instead he will take on a role at the School Safety Center in St. Paul. There, he will work with the Minnesota Department of Safety to make schools safer by minimizing violence and maximizing prepared emergency procedures.

As the community congratulates Chief Siitari on his new opportunity, we would also like to thank him for what he leaves behind. Because of his dedicated work, Edina is a safer, more enjoyable community.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MRS. MILDRED DELOACHE WINSTON THOMAS

### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 19, 2010*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an incredibly gifted teacher and devoted citizen of the Dallas community, Mrs. Mildred DeLoache Winston Thomas, who passed away on December 29, 2009 at the age of 93.

Mrs. Thomas was born in Cedar Creek, Texas on May 12, 1916. A lifelong Christian, she spent her formative years at Mount Olive Baptist Church where she was baptized and completed primary school. She later went on to graduate from Emile High School and receive a Bachelor of Science Degree from Tillotson College in Austin, Texas.

Throughout her remarkable life, Mrs. Thomas worked diligently to better herself, her family, and her community. She began a career in education that would last roughly 40 years, spending 36 of those years with the Dallas Independent School District. While working as a full time mother and teacher, she completed a Master of Science Degree at the University of North Texas at Denton where she was one of seven African Americans to integrate the university.

Upon retirement in 1986, Mrs. Thomas continued to be active in civic life. She served as a docent for the Dallas African American Art Museum, the Dallas Museum of Art, and the Dallas Arboretum. As a woman committed to her faith, she continued to be active in various ministries at New Hope Baptist Church where she was a deaconess.

Mildred Thomas lived a spirited life and carried herself with dignity, elegance, grace and warmth. She held deep beliefs on fairness,