

October as Filipino American History Month and I am proud to note its observance again this year.

Filipino Americans have a longstanding history in the United States. In 1988, the Filipino American National Historical Society established this celebration to mark October 18, 1587, as the date when Filipinos first immigrated to the continental United States in Morro Bay, California.

Filipino Americans are the second largest Asian American ethnic group in the United States and continue to play a prominent role in our country in all facets of public life. One of the largest Filipino American communities in the U.S. resides in my district and I am committed to such a vibrant community. Filipino Americans have long served in the U.S. Armed Forces, and as chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee I continue to honor the military service of Filipino American World War II veterans.

The United States is a nation of immigrants and we celebrate the accomplishments of Americans of all backgrounds. From the military to health care, education, arts, business, sports, government, the sciences and countless other areas of endeavor, Filipino Americans have made and continue to make invaluable contributions to the United States.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this important celebration of Filipino American History Month.

RECOGNIZING COMMISSIONER
CLARENCE BROWN

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bartow County Commissioner, Clarence Brown. His dedication to Bartow County and to the 11th District of Georgia has earned him the well-deserved honor of having a new conference center in Bartow County named after him.

Commissioner Brown has earned this great honor for a number of reasons—mostly because he has spent much of his life as a selfless servant to Bartow County. He has developed sustainable growth management plans while perpetuating Bartow's commitment to environmental stewardship. He has also brought a new college campus to Bartow County, and he has established local partnerships with national non-profit organizations while expanding recreation facilities throughout the county.

Madam Speaker, Commissioner Brown has touched and enriched the Bartow community in a number of lasting ways. I would like to congratulate Commissioner Brown on his accomplishments.

WESTERN WATER SUPPLY
ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, today, I am introducing a bill that

would expand water supplies, help resolve aging infrastructure in the West and protect irrigated farming acreage—all without increasing federal funding.

This bill, titled the "Western Water Supply Enhancement Act," recognizes the benefits of long-term regional water conservation planning at the local level by authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to provide up to \$15 million of already-authorized federal funding to irrigation districts and municipal entities engaged in multi-year, regional, integrated and coordinated water planning. This legislation amends what is commonly known as the "Secure Water Act" provision of Public Law 111-11 to ensure that large conservation efforts are eligible. As opposed to the current small-project-by-small-project approach to conservation, this legislation incentivizes more comprehensive, regional approaches throughout the western United States.

These regional approaches are a result of the Endangered Species Act, which places additional demands on already limited water supplies originally devoted to agriculture or municipalities. The Endangered Species Act is national in scope, but many of its requirements impact local water districts that bear much of the financial burden. Investing limited federal dollars in regional conservation projects that are the result of federal regulations can relieve this pressure and protect and promote existing water uses.

I have always been and will continue to be a strong proponent of new and expanded water storage. Legendary projects, such as the Grand Coulee, Hoover and Glen Canyon dams, are the flagship federal projects that have transformed the American West from the desert to some of the most productive agricultural land in the world. Some in the environmental movement believe that conservation of existing resources is the only way to solve our growing water and power scarcity problems. I beg to differ. Everything, including new storage, regulatory reform and new conservation, has to be on the table for us to resolve our supply problems.

The Western Water Supply Enhancement Act would be one tool in that toolbox. It is not the solution, but it is part of the overall solution to help water utilities with limited, already authorized funding in their efforts to provide water to farm families and help promote a safe and affordable food supply for our nation and the world.

HONORING HAWTHORNE MATH
AND SCIENCE ACADEMY, HAW-
THORNE, CA

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Hawthorne Math and Science Academy, HMSA, in Hawthorne, CA. HMSA, a dependent charter high school of the Hawthorne School District located in my congressional district, was recently honored with a Blue Ribbon Award by the U.S. Department of Education, a coveted award recognizing high-performing and improving schools across our country. This year, HMSA shares this distinction with 304 other schools among the thousands of schools in the United States.

I am very proud of the students, faculty, staff, parents, and community members of HMSA. In addition to receiving this prestigious award—the first school within the Hawthorne School District to do so—HMSA was also named a California Distinguished School and was listed—again—as one of the nation's top 100 high schools by U.S. News & World Report.

I want to especially honor Principal Esau Beruman, who is only in his first year as principal of HMSA. I suspect we will continue to see great things from HMSA under his leadership, and I look forward to meeting him and one of HMSA's teachers when they come to Washington, DC in November to be officially honored by the Department of Education.

HMSA has made great strides to create a rigorous and comprehensive academic regimen that prepares its students for college and helps them become well-rounded young adults. It boasts an impressive 97 percent graduation rate.

As its own mission statement reads, "HMSA is committed to creating a challenging, rigorous, standards-based curriculum for all students, regardless of gender, ethnicity, primary language, or special needs status, within a safe and cooperative learning community." I believe the school is not only living up to that standard, but superseding it.

The students of HMSA should be particularly proud of their strong work. They are giving their school, our community, our state, and our country a good name through their dedication, their drive, and their excellence.

Congratulations to HMSA on this latest, but surely not the last, accolade.

THE INSTALLATION OF DR.
CLAUDE G. PERKINS AS VIR-
GINIA UNION UNIVERSITY'S 12TH
PRESIDENT

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Claude G. Perkins as Virginia Union University's 12th president. I am proud to represent Virginia Union University (VUU), which is located in Richmond, Virginia, and is one of the nation's oldest Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Established in 1865 on the site of Lumpkin's Jail in order to educate the newly freed slaves, VUU was formed by the merger of Richmond Theological Institute and Wayland Seminary. Hartshorn Memorial College and Storer College were later merged into the University forming a true "union." Today, VUU continues to be nourished by its African American heritage and energized by its commitment to excellence and diversity.

VUU's student body currently numbers 1,500 students—including 1,200 undergraduate and 300 graduate students—consisting primarily of first generation college students. VUU is proud to offer 24 majors at the baccalaureate level, as well as Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Christian Education, and Doctor of Ministry degrees at the Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology. VUU's Criminal Justice and Mathematics programs are renowned, and many teachers in the City