

laws more consistent and fair, and help reduce immigration fraud and opportunism.

HONORING FANNIE M. WHITE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mrs. Fannie M. White, a life-long resident of Issaquena County. Fannie White was born on September 2, 1950, to Mr. Sidney and Marie Marshall, the seventh of nine children. She is a 1973 graduate of Mississippi Valley State University with a BS in Business Administration. She is retired from the Mississippi Department of Human Services after 28 years of service. She is married to Supervisor Larry White, who is also the assistant pastor of Rose Hill M.B. Church in Mayersville, MS, and has one son, Tristan White, who is a student at Alcorn State University.

Mrs. White has always had an interest in working with the youth in Issaquena County. Since the 1970's, she has been very active in working with the youth in the church, putting on plays to celebrate different holidays. She is the Adult Sunday School teacher at St. Peter M.B. Church where she is a dedicated member. She is also the founder and president of the Mayersville Youth Development Committee, and the director of the Mayersville Children's Village. Mrs. White has worked with these organizations for several years with such services as the Summer Feeding Program, the After School Tutoring Program, as well as the Summer Enhancement Program. She enjoys summer activities with the children, which consists of Summer Fun Days at the park, trips to educational museums such as the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN, the Natural Science Museum, the Planetarium, and the Civil Rights Museum in Jackson, MS. Mrs. White is also instrumental in participating with St. Jude and Muscular Dystrophy Foundation to help raise money for their organizations, also is an alderman for the town of Mayersville.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on February 14, 2011, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 35–37. Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 35: “yes”—On Motion to Recommit with Instructions; rollcall No. 36: “no”—To extend expiring provisions of the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 and Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 relating to access to business records, individual terrorists as agents of foreign powers, and roving wiretaps until December 8, 2011; rollcall No. 34: “yes”—On Approving the Journal.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Ms. BASS of California. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 36, had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

HONORING JESSIE PEARL WATT STEWART

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Jessie Pearl Watt Stewart. Jessie Pearl Watt Stewart is the eighth child of 12 born to the late Plummie and Cora Yates Watt in Grenada, Mississippi where she was reared. She attended the Grenada Colored Public Elementary and High School where she received her high school diploma. Upon graduation from high school, she matriculated in Mississippi Vocational College, now known as Mississippi Valley State University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science Degree in Elementary Education. She also did further studies at Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi.

It was at Mississippi Vocational College where she met and married the late Coach Conway Stewart, a native of Greenwood, Mississippi. To this union was given three beautiful daughters, Rev. Cora Denise Stewart Lowe, Valeria Stewart Skinner Moses and Yolanda Yvette Stewart Spinks.

Jessie Stewart's genuine love for children and people and her respect for education were the guiding forces that led her to a career of teaching for more than 39 years in Indianola, Grenada, Leflore County and Greenwood Public Schools. Her dedication and commitment to the successful education for Black children and young adults of the cultural, civic/moral development of Black women were her inspiration in teaching the whole child every facet of life. This was also instrumental in her organizing several young Black women organizations, a young men's organization, Gentlemen of Quality for high school boys. She worked with junior and high school girls for more than 25 years as sponsor and counselor of a civic, social, cultural and educational club. She worked as counselor, advisor and teacher of youth, and young adults, in the Mississippi State Baptist Congress of the Young People Department of Christian Education for 10 years. Jessie's love for God is evident having served at Jones Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, as assistant secretary for more than 40 years, President of the Missionary Society, Director of Christian Education, Director of Baptist Training Union and Sunday school teacher. She has always exemplified strong Christian faith and gives God all the praise for her successes.

Her leadership ability is reflected in her service to the community, having served as President of The Rising Sun Community Organization, which has more than 300 residents, President of the Greenwood-Leflore Retired

Education Personnel Association, Past President of the Third District, City and local Federation of Colored Women Clubs Inc., An active Silver Star of Kappa Alpha Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority (AKA), Past President of the Cotillion Federation of Colored Women' Club, Board member of the Salvation Army, originator and sponsor of orphan residents of local nursing homes. She is an active life and local member of Mississippi Valley State University Alumni Chapter and she has served on the United Way and Girl Scout Boards.

She is the recipient of numerous plaques, awards and recognitions for work in the community, schools and churches. Teacher of the Year from Threadgill Elementary School 1978, Teacher of the Year Dickerson Elementary School 1991, 1993, 1994 and 1996. Employer of the Year for Greenwood City Schools 1995, A+ Teacher of the year 1992, Who's Who Among American Teachers 1993, Community Services Award for volunteers, Wesley United Methodist Church 1997, 4-H Youth Volunteer Award 1993, Club Woman of the Year, Mississippi State Federation of Colored Women Third District, Cotillion Federated Club Woman of the Year and the Greenwood Commonwealth Newspaper *Unsung Hero* 2004.

She continues to work untiringly, teaching, mentoring, guiding and providing active participation in her church, The Greenwood-Leflore Retired Education Personnel Association, The Rising Sun Community Organization, AKA Sorority, schools, nursing homes and wherever she is called.

UNITED STATES RELATIONSHIP WITH RUSSIA

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, last month, The Economist exhorted Western Leaders to more openly and consistently criticize Russia for its sham democracy, its brutal treatment of human rights activists and political dissidents, and its utter disregard for the rule of law. It was a challenge that should be taken seriously.

Our approach to Russia has been characterized, paradoxically, by a failure to be both sufficiently pragmatic and sufficiently idealistic at the same time.

Russia is a key international player with whom we must engage. That's undeniable. It is a permanent member of the Security Council. It is a key actor in any united international effort to contain Iran's nuclear ambitions. It exerts great influence in regions, such as Central Asia, with implications for our struggle against violent extremism in Afghanistan and elsewhere. Keeping our engagement with Russia as constructive and effective as possible is essential to pursuing our vital national security interests.

But this reality cannot preclude our commitment to promote democracy around the globe and condemn those who brutally suppress it. We must stand up for human rights and the rule of law, even when—especially when—they are undermined by major international players. We cannot remain silent when journalists and activists are killed or savagely