

recipients who trained in Mineral Wells, Texas, at Camp Wolters during World War II and at Fort Wolters during the Vietnam War. On March 23, 2012, the Fort Wolters Gate Committee joined with the citizens of Mineral Wells to honor these brave men with two ceremonies on Medal of Honor Day.

These thirteen outstanding individuals are First Lieutenant Eli L. Whiteley, First Lieutenant James M. Sprayberry, First Lieutenant Charles L. Thomas, First Lieutenant Vernon Baker, First Lieutenant Jack L. Knight, Second Lieutenant Audie L. Murphy, Staff Sergeant Edward A. Carter, Jr., Chief Warrant Officer Michael J. Novosel, Chief Warrant Officer Frederick Edgar Ferguson, Captain Ed Freeman, Captain Jon E. Swanson, Major Patrick H. Brady, and Major William E. Adams.

The Medal of Honor is our nation's highest military honor that can be bestowed upon an individual service member by the United States government. It is given to men and women of the Armed Forces who set themselves apart through their uncommon courage, selflessness, and valor which goes above and beyond the call of duty. The recipients of this prestigious award are not only leaders among those with whom they serve, they are also the role models to whom future generations of Americans will always look. I am honored to be able to join in recognizing these heroes before Congress today.

HONORING THE LEGENDARY
CAROLE KING

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2012

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say a few words about my friend Carole King.

Carole King is a music legend, with hundreds of pop hits, including the recognizable "I Feel the Earth Move." She has won four Grammys, and is a member of the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Many of her songs have been featured in commercials, TV shows, and movies, and she has worked with many music icons such as Eric Clapton and Celine Dion.

In addition to her fame as a musician, King is also a strong activist for environmental issues. She is often here in our offices on Capitol Hill fighting for the protection of our wildlife and ecosystems, both in her native Idaho and worldwide.

While Carole and I do not always agree on the issues, I have always been impressed by her tenacity. She is truly dedicated to this cause, and her perseverance is something to be admired. Many of us do not have the opportunity to meet someone like Carole. She has a great heart and is a great asset to America.

I want to congratulate Carole King on all of her accomplishments. It has been a pleasure to work with her over the years.

MALAWI PRESIDENT JOYCE
BANDA SWEARING-IN ADDRESS
ON APRIL 7, 2012

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2012

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the April 7, 2012 swearing-in address by Malawi President Joyce Banda.

This is a unique occasion.
May his soul rest in peace.

I am not here to give a long speech considering the circumstances we are in. Let us focus on mourning our father, former President Mutharika.

I also would like to report to all you people that this afternoon I had a cabinet meeting. We felt the holy spirit in that room. It was a good meeting, as a nation we should realize that, because it was significant and marks a starting point for healing the wounds of this nation . . .

I thank you all for showing me great humility and honor as I accept the huge responsibility. I also thank you all for the peaceful transition and I appeal to the nation to mourn the former president with dignity and thank all of you who have come to witness this occasion from all walks of life, irrespective of political, spiritual, regional backgrounds . . .

I want to ask all of us to move into the future with hope and the spirit of oneness and unity. I sincerely hope there is no room for revenge, that we shall stand united . . .

As a God fearing nation we shall allow God to come before us because if we do not do that, we have failed.

IN HONOR OF ANDREW F.
SIMMONS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Andrew F. Simmons, a native of Yonkers, has spent a good deal of his adult life in improving housing in his hometown. He began a partnership with Yonkers 15 years ago in assisting with the development of affordable homes in the distressed southwest area.

Since 1999 he had managed numerous development projects, including the Gazette Building Waterfront Development. He was contractor for the Hamilton Heights renovation project, the Metro North Train Station demonstration projects in Yonkers and Croton-Harmon.

He has helped to lead the completion of the pre-development of three two-family homes and worked as general contractor and developer of an additional three two-family homes. Further, he is developing an affordable twelve-unit condo on the Hudson River.

Andrew Simmons developed Think Services, a consulting firm which works with Community Development Corporations with design phase, budget and community inclusion in project development.

I am proud to join with the Women's Civic Club of Nepperhan in honoring Andrew Simmons for his outstanding work in developing and building homes for those who need it most.

IN HONOR OF GEORGIA STATE
REPRESENTATIVE BOB HANNER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Southwest Georgia's most respected public officials, Georgia State Representative Bob Hanner. Representative Hanner, first elected as a member of the Georgia General Assembly in 1975, recently announced that he will not run for re-election after serving 37 years in Georgia's House of Representatives.

His longevity of dedicated public service and steadfast representation of his constituents in Chattahoochee, Lee, Quitman, Stewart, Terrell and Webster counties, are just a few of the many reasons as to why Representative Hanner has been an invaluable member of the Georgia General Assembly.

Representative Hanner hails from Parrott, Georgia and is a graduate of both Gordon Military and Southwestern Colleges. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard in Vietnam from 1967–1968.

Following his collegiate career and military service, he worked in the private sector as a farmer and an estate planner. Prior to being elected to the Georgia General Assembly, he also served as a member of the Terrell County Hospital Authority.

Representative Hanner's first election to the Georgia General Assembly was in a September 1975 runoff in what was then the 130th House District. He successfully claimed 2,811 votes of the 5,442 votes cast in the special election runoff.

Over the course of his distinguished legislative career, he has served as a member of the House Appropriations and Rules Committees and as Secretary of the House Committees on Natural Resources & Environment, and Public Safety and Homeland Security. For the last 15 years, Representative Hanner has served as the Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee and he co-chaired a state-wide water management study committee.

In conjunction with his legislative responsibilities and other important duties associated with his public service, Representative Hanner has played an active role in several civic and community service organizations in Southwest Georgia. He is a member of the P.T. Schley Masonic Lodge #229 in Dawson, Georgia; the Terrell County Chamber of Commerce; and has served as a past director of the United States Jaycees.

It cannot be disputed that Representative Hanner has achieved numerous successes throughout his life. However, none of this would have been possible without the grace of God and the support of his loving wife, Linda. Mr. and Mrs. Hanner are the proud parents of three magnificent children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting an outstanding legislator and one of Georgia's most respected public figures, Representative Bob Hanner, on the occasion of his well-deserved retirement.