

see this dream realized, but his "I Have a Dream" speech helped pave the way for the success of the civil rights movement and remains an important lesson on history and equality to this day.

As organizations throughout our Nation join in commemorating the anniversary of this momentous speech, I would like to recognize and thank Operation People for Peace, and its Chairman Arthur Rocker, Sr., who has partnered with over four hundred churches and organizations throughout the Gulf Coast to collect food donations to help feed thousands of families, as well as, thank the Southern Christian Leadership Conference chapters of the Gulf Coast, the National Congress of Black Women chapters of the Gulf Coast, and all organizations across Northwest Florida for their efforts. We are truly blessed to have these organizations helping to keep the memory of Dr. King's words fresh in the minds of the people in our community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to recognize the Fiftieth Anniversary of the "I Have a Dream" speech. My wife Vicki joins me in thanking those throughout Northwest Florida for hosting celebrations along the Gulf Coast to commemorate this incredible speech. Most importantly, we would like to remember Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for his tremendous service to this Nation and his efforts to put an end to racial inequality.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR ROBERT S.  
SWENSON, USAFR, RETIRED

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and recognize Major Robert S. Swenson, USAFR, Retired. Major Swenson, a World War II veteran who did not receive his Bronze Star Medal for his bravery during the Varsity Operation in 1945, received his medal on August 10, 2013 at the Trigger Time Convention in the City of SeaTac, Washington.

In 1945, as a glider pilot in the 435th Troop Carrier Group, 75th Squadron, Major Swenson and his fellow airmen distinguished themselves when enemy infantry mounted a counter attack. The 435th Troop Carrier Group fought and repelled the attack of approximately 200 enemy soldiers, a tank, a self-propelled artillery, and two 20mm flak guns.

After the battle, a request was made by Major Charles O. Gordon that all members of the 435th Troop Carrier Group be given due recognition. However, at the end of the war, the order was lost and went unfulfilled. The records have since been conserved at the Silent Wings Museum Archives and Major General Kenneth Dahl, Deputy Commanding General, I Corps at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, will formally present the Bronze Star Medal to Major Swenson at the convention.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Major Robert S. Swenson, USAFR, Retired, for his fearlessness and dedication to serving his country.

TRIBUTE TO BOBBY HURD

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction:

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one man, Bobby Hurd who has given so much of himself in order for others to stand; and

Whereas, his work is present in the gospel music industry for all to see, and "The Bobby Hurd Show" has been instrumental in spreading the gospel and promoting gospel artists in the Metropolitan Atlanta area and beyond; and

Whereas, this giant of a man accomplished so much during his time on earth, he was an electrician by trade, a promoter by talent, a community advocate by concern and a friend to all; and

Whereas, he gave of himself, his time, his talent and his life to uplift those in need, he never asked for fame or fortune he just wanted to help somebody and to inspire anybody by being involved in community activities and spreading the gospel; he encouraged everybody to do the same by witnessing him walk the walk and talk the talk; and

Whereas, Bobby Hurd led by doing both behind the scenes and on the front lines, he was an ambassador of goodwill who will be truly missed; and

Whereas, Bobby Hurd was a husband, a father, a grandfather, and a friend; he was our warrior, our patriarch, a man of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of our community until his end; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia recognizes Bobby Hurd as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby attest to the 113th Congress that he is deemed worthy and deserving of this Congressional Honor by declaring Mr. Bobby Hurd U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, This 12th day of July, 2013.

STATEMENT ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF BISHOP ERIC R. FIGUEROA, SR.

**HON. HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Bishop Eric R. Figueroa, Sr. During his 30 years of service, Bishop Figueroa has ministered to thousands and worked tirelessly to improve the lives of all those he encountered. In honor of his three decades of service to our community, Bishop Figueroa was honored at a celebratory banquet on Monday, May 20, 2013 at Russo's on the Bay in Howard Beach, New York.

In 1983, Bishop Figueroa founded New Life Tabernacle, which has been an important part of our community. In addition to his ministry at the church, Bishop Figueroa has dem-

onstrated a strong commitment to improving the lives of the people of Brooklyn through the Family Life Development Center. The Center provides an impressive range of services which include: a food pantry, drug rehabilitation programs, juvenile alternatives to incarceration, mentoring, counseling, college preparation, scholarships, and senior citizen programming. He recognized the needs of the people of Brooklyn and found solutions. His work has provided critical services to those most in need.

Bishop Figueroa's efforts as a founding member of Brooklyn Congregations Together, which united church communities in the borough to best meet the needs of the people, are commendable. The community remains indebted to the New Life Covenant Fellowship, which educates and empowers new leaders. Bishop Figueroa is truly a gifted teacher, preacher, and singer.

He is an inspirational leader whose work would not have been possible without the love and support of his wife Doreen Figueroa and their devoted children and grandchildren. We thank his family for sharing him with us all. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Bishop Figueroa on his 30th pastoral anniversary. For his commitment to the people of Brooklyn and to his service of those less fortunate, he is worthy of the highest praise.

COMMENDING ALPHA DELTA KAPPA INTERNATIONAL HONORARY ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN EDUCATORS

**HON. MO BROOKS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Alpha Delta Kappa International Honorary Organization for Women Educators on its sixty-six years of dedicated service and proclaim October 2013 as Alpha Delta Kappa Month. Established in 1947, Alpha Delta Kappa's goals have been to establish high standards of education, give recognition to outstanding educators, build a fraternal fellowship among educators and to promote educational and charitable projects and activities enriching the lives of individuals everywhere.

With a membership of over 33,000 educators representing all fifty U.S. states, Puerto Rico, Canada, Mexico, Jamaica and Australia, Alpha Delta Kappa is committed to educational excellence, personal and professional growth and for collectively channeling their energies toward the good of their schools, communities, the teaching profession and the world.

Women in education constitute a great portion of the nation's working force and are constantly striving to serve their communities and nation in educational, cultural, and charitable programs leading to harmony, happiness, and peace among all people.

Over the last few years, the members of Alpha Delta Kappa have given altruistically to the communities they serve by raising nearly \$14.5 million dollars and volunteering over 2 million service hours.

I congratulate Alpha Delta Kappa International Honorary Organization for Women