

by sixteen stellar sorors who had the foresight and vision to establish a Delta chapter in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the Decatur Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., is celebrating its forty year anniversary; and

Whereas, its members give of themselves tirelessly and unconditionally to serve our community through projects such as voter registration, health walks, mentorships and scholarships; and

Whereas, the lives of many in our district are touched by the leadership and service given by the ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., our nation and the world are better places due to their commitment to excellence in all of their endeavors; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize their outstanding service to our District for the past forty (40) years and to wish them well on their anniversary;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim October 5, 2013 as Decatur Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 5th day of October, 2013.

RECOGNIZING DONALD LARSON AS HE CELEBRATES HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donald Larson as he celebrates his 80th birthday. His many years of dedication to education and service deserve both acknowledgment and appreciation.

Don and his twin brother, Phil, were born on September 5, 1933, to Bengt John and Olive Emmingham Larson. He grew up in Kerman, California, and graduated from Kerman High School in 1951. After attending the College of the Sequoias, Don continued his education at the University of California, Berkeley. Immediately following graduation, Don began his teaching career in Caruthers, California. He taught sixth grade for two years, and then went on to teach at Kerman High School for two years. During his first few years of teaching, Don was also completing a Masters at California State University, Fresno. He taught six years for Fresno Unified and ended his teaching career after 35 years with Fresno City College.

Staying active and involved in the community has always been very important to Don. He takes great pride in his lifelong membership at the First Covenant Church in Fresno where he has taught Sunday school for over six decades. Don has served at various organizations including Fresno County Housing Authority, Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission, and Fresno County Democratic Central Committee. He has also served on the State Center Community College Foundation and was the co-chair of the Capital Campaign for the Old Administration Building on the Fresno City College campus. In addition to these impressive undertakings, Don also found time to be the scorekeeper at basketball

games for Kerman and McLane High Schools, and Fresno City College. He also ran the football chain gang for over fifty years, and taught a current events class to high school seniors from 1965 to 2010.

During Don's retirement he enjoyed spending time with his late wife Carol Kraft Larson. Carol passed away in 2004, but her kindness and love for teaching will always be remembered. They raised one daughter, Lynn, who has furthered the family's tradition by working as an elementary school teacher.

Furthermore, Don has a tremendous interest in the World's Fair. His vast collection of World's Fair memorabilia is housed in the Special Collections Department of the Henry Madden Library at California State University, Fresno. The collection has been named in his honor and is considered second only to that of the Smithsonian in Washington DC.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize Donald Larson on his 80th birthday. He serves as a pillar in our community, and I thank him for all of his contributions to our education system.

CONGRATULATING JOE A. RAVER

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Joe A. Raver, the incoming president and CEO of Hillenbrand, Inc., headquartered in Batesville, Indiana, in my congressional district.

Mr. Raver is the current president of Hillenbrand's Process Equipment Group and senior vice president of the company. Previously, he had been president of Batesville Casket Company. Joe had also served as vice president and general manager of the respiratory care division of Hill-Rom Holdings, where he first served as vice president of Strategy and Shared Services. Prior to joining Hill-Rom, Joe spent 10 years in a variety of senior leadership positions at Batesville Casket Company and Hillenbrand Industries.

For more than a century, the Hillenbrand companies have served as a staple in the Indiana and American corporate landscape, premiering innovative products in the funeral services, and process equipment industries. I have no doubt that Hillenbrand will continue to be a dynamic company that Hoosiers can be proud of with Joe at the helm.

I congratulate Joe on this new chapter in his life and wish him the very best as he takes the lead at Hillenbrand.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOOKS FOR AFRICA

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the staff, board, donors, and volunteers of Books for Africa on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of this nonprofit organization based in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Since

its founding in 1988, Books for Africa has grown into the largest shipper of donated text and library books to the African continent, having shipped over 27 million books to 48 countries. In 2012 alone, Books for Africa shipped more than 2.2 million books to 22 African countries.

Ending the book famine in Africa is the mission that led Thomas Warth to found Books for Africa. Troubled by a chronic shortage of books in Africa and the reality that 40 percent of school-age children do not attend school, Mr. Warth put his vision and enthusiasm into an ongoing commitment to transform lives by facilitating the shipment of container after container of books that put real books in the hands of real people. By sending textbooks to areas with empty shelves and into the hands of children eager to read, learn, and explore the world of literature, Books for Africa is making a difference in the lives of young people. Books for Africa is promoting literacy, and empowering the next generation to break the endless cycle of poverty that will improve quality of life.

This success would not have been possible without the joint partnership of public and private sectors. Books for Africa frequently works with USAID, Peace Corps, and the Sir Emeka Ofori Foundation to deliver books. Together with the generous support of publishers, schools, libraries, organizations and individuals who donate books, Books for Africa is making a positive impact in the lives of people in African countries.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of Thomas Warth and the dedicated staff, partners, donors, board, and volunteers, I am pleased to submit this statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD recognizing the 25th anniversary of Books for Africa.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORLANDO, INC.

**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 09, 2013*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a special occasion for Orlando, Inc. (Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce). In 1913, Orlando, Inc. was first established and this year they celebrate their 100th anniversary. It is my pleasure to recognize them on their Centennial.

During the past century, Orlando, Inc. has been through many phases of growth and change to create the longstanding history they have today. From their establishment in 1913 as the Board of Trade, followed by becoming the Downtown Chamber, then as the Greater Orlando Chamber, then the Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce and now today, Orlando, Inc., their goal and focus of serving the Central Florida region has always remained constant. They have been and continue to be a leader in connecting Central Florida's businesses and communities and maintain success by focusing on what matters most to Central Floridians.

Orlando, Inc. specifically focuses on regional entrepreneurship and is one of four lines of businesses which make up the Central Florida Partnership. The Central Florida Partnership, comprised of Orlando, Inc.,

BusinessForce, myregion.org and Leadership Orlando, is committed to advancing Central Florida's entrepreneurs and moving "Ideas to Results." In their quest to build the best entrepreneurial environment, Orlando, Inc. is positioned to serve the growing demands of entrepreneurs and businesses throughout the Central Florida region by offering some of the most powerful and influential business programs in Central Florida. After a century, Orlando, Inc. has thousands of member businesses that they serve.

Through the high quality, expertise and strong leadership displayed by Orlando, Inc., they have earned and have been accredited a "Five-Star Chamber" by the United States Chamber of Commerce. This honor is the highest level of achievement awarded by the United States Chamber of Commerce, and with nearly 7,000 Chambers in the US, only 217 currently remain accredited.

The excellence with which Orlando, Inc. and the Central Florida Partnership serve Central Florida's business community and enterprises is evident from their history and recognitions. I commend them for their many achievements and I am pleased to congratulate them on the celebration of their 100th anniversary. May their leadership, service and dedication inspire many to follow in their footsteps.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS WESLEY  
HARRIS

**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, Thomas Wesley Harris, Jr., who has given so much to our state and nation; and

Whereas, Thomas "Tom" Harris has been instrumental as a pioneer in the beauty industry with his artistic talents, his high standards in creating and innovating cosmetology, being a mentor for hair stylists and in propelling many careers in Atlanta and beyond; and

Whereas, this giant of a man accomplished so much during his time on earth, he served our country honorably in the U.S. Army, he was an entrepreneur, creating Tom Harris Hair Designers, he was a strong community advocate, a motivator 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 taking the time to encourage and train young stylists into using their skills to impact an industry; and

Whereas, Tom Harris 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, Tom Harris 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; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia recognizes Tom

Harris 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. Thomas Wesley Harris, Jr. U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 15th day of July, 2013.

HONORING KENNETH A. CAMP

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary accomplishments of Kenneth A. Camp, President and CEO of Hillenbrand, Inc., headquartered in Batesville, Indiana, in my congressional district.

Mr. Camp was elected President and Chief Executive Officer of Batesville Casket Company May 1, 2001, and as President, CEO and Director of Hillenbrand, Inc., March 31, 2008. Previously he had served as senior vice president of Hillenbrand Industries, Inc., and as vice president before that. Mr. Camp joined Hillenbrand in 1981, and has held various positions with both Hillenbrand and Batesville Casket. During the course of his career, Ken has had senior responsibilities in sales, marketing, human resources, manufacturing and logistics. From 1972 to 1978, Ken served his country as a commissioned officer and aviator in the United States Army.

The Hillenbrand companies have been a premier example of corporate success in Indiana by developing and producing innovative products in the funeral services, and process equipment industries. Ken's hard work and leadership within the company has been vital to that success.

Ken soon will retire from his duties leading this dynamic Hoosier company. I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in thanking Ken for his long career and service to both his business and community.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,932,605,798,305. We've added \$6,305,728,749,392 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF  
MARION ALICE FALKNER GASH

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Marion Alice Falkner Gash, who passed away on July 31, 2013, two weeks before her 100th birthday. She had an exceptional spirit with an "I-can-do-it" attitude. Marion inspired others through her military service, professional achievements, excellence in teaching, support of her community, and devotion to family and friends.

Marion Alice Falkner was born at her family's Germania Farm in Yazoo County, Mississippi on August 14, 1913. She was born to Marion and Minniealice Falkner and was the eldest of seven children. Marion graduated from Hinds Junior College in Raymond, Mississippi and continued onto Maryville College in Tennessee to obtain her teaching credential. After graduation, Marion taught for six years in Bentonia, Mississippi. In 1940, she moved to New Orleans to attend Soule Business College and worked for attorney John Minor Wisdom who later became a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Shortly after Congress declared war, Marion moved to Washington, D.C. to serve her country. She worked at the Pentagon in the Office of the Budget of the War Department. In 1943, she joined the Navy WAVES and rose to the rank of Lieutenant J.G., serving as the Administrative Officer to Admiral W.K. Romoser, Commander of the Naval Training School in Hollywood, Florida.

In 1946, Marion married Navy Lt. Russell Warner Gash, and they raised two sons, Frank and Warner. At the time, Navy policy did not allow female officers to have children so Marion reluctantly resigned her commission and assumed the role of navy wife for the rest of Russell's naval career. Over the next 15 years, the family moved to eight duty stations in six different states and Cuba. In 1961, the family settled in Fresno, California, and Mrs. Gash returned to teaching.

Mrs. Gash taught English and speech, directed plays, coached debate teams, and established a forensics program at Central Union High School. While working full time, she earned her Master's degree in education at California State University, Fresno in 1967. After retiring in 1978, she continued to volunteer in school, church, military, veterans and community activities. Mrs. Gash was a great teacher who positively affected the lives of thousands of students.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Marion Alice Falkner Gash, a veteran of World War II and a beloved mother, grandmother, aunt, teacher, and friend.

TRIBUTE TO THE JORDAN FAMILY

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 9, 2013*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation: