

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MS. AUDREY WRIGHT DAY

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

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

Whereas, Over eighteen years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Healthcare Profession as a Registered Nurse; and

Whereas, Ms. Audrey Wright began her career providing health and wellness service to citizens from all walks of life; She has educated and mentored through the Saint Joseph's Mercy Care Services Recuperative Care Program and today retires as a Registered Nurse after years of dedicated service to our community; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents, giving the citizens of our District a friend to help those in need, a fearless leader and a servant to all who want to ensure that the system works for everyone; and

Whereas, Ms. Audrey Wright is a cornerstone in our community who has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Audrey Wright on her retirement and to wish her well in her new endeavors; Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim November 30, 2013 as Ms. Audrey Wright Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 30th day of November, 2013.

HONORING CAMMIE EARL HUTCHERSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable Entrepreneur, Mr. Cammie Earl Hutcherson.

Cammie Hutcherson is a life-long resident of Jefferson County, Mississippi. He has developed the pride of helping his community in any way that he can. As a young adult, his first business was the H & H Farm, which is located on Fountain Road in Fayette. He basically raised cattle and horses. The farm is still operational at this time.

Later, Mr. Hutcherson went into business as Cammie's Wrecker Service, a venture he has worked diligently in for the past 20 years. This business has grown and is operational with four vehicles. His business is known for offering affordable, reliable and courteous services to residents in Jefferson County and surrounding counties.

In 2007, Mr. Hutcherson opened a mini storage facility which has been an asset to many residents in Jefferson County. The storage has 90 rental units.

Presently, Mr. Hutcherson is working to open a restaurant/grill in Jefferson County. It will be named, "Mur's Kitchen." The name is in memory of his late mother, Mrs. Willie Lee Hutcherson.

Mr. Hutcherson appreciates the success he has received from patrons in Jefferson County and hopes that the relationship will continue.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an aggressive entrepreneur, Mr. Cammie Earl Hutcherson, for his dedication to serving the surrounding area of Jefferson County, Mississippi.

COMMENDING THE WINGS OF FREEDOM TOUR ON THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this year, the Wings of Freedom Tour celebrates 25 years of service to World War II veterans.

In 1984, Mr. Bob Collings acquired two iconic U.S. World War II airframes, a B-17 and B-24. After five years of investment and restoration, the world's only flying B-24J Liberator took flight at the 50th Anniversary of the B-24.

The Wings of Freedom Tour began in 1989 and has made nearly 3,000 stops. The Freedom Tour is dedicated to education and to honoring those who served through recreating World War II history. Their motto encapsulates that philosophy: "Read about WWII history and you might remember. Experience WWII history and you'll never forget."

It is my pleasure to commend the Wings of Freedom Tour on their 25th anniversary, and I join the Wings of Freedom Tour in expressing appreciation for our veterans and those currently serving in the United States military.

PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank my good friend and fellow Representative from Pennsylvania, LOU BARLETTA, for introducing this legislation that is so vital to the safety of millions of people across our state and our country.

Merriam-Webster defines a volunteer as "a person who does work without getting paid to

do it." It defines an employee as "a person who works for another person or company for wages or salary." Yet the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), defying these clear definitions and common sense, considers volunteer firefighters to be employees and has not clarified whether or not they are subject to the employer mandate under President Obama's health care law.

In Butler Township, back home in Western Pennsylvania, more than 17,000 people rely on approximately 130 volunteer firefighters to keep that community safe. Ed Kirkwood, the manager of Butler Township, has stated that by his calculations, taxes in Butler Township would have to be more than doubled to comply with the federal mandate and maintain all of Butler's volunteer firefighters.

I've spoken time and again about how the unintended consequences of the president's health care law will hurt Americans. In this particular instance, it threatens to bankrupt communities and endanger the public all because the IRS doesn't know the meaning of what it is to be a volunteer firefighter. This is unacceptable. It must be changed, and Mr. BARLETTA's bill, H.R. 3685—the Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act—will do just that. I give my emphatic support to this bill and ask that the IRS correct its definition of volunteerism before Pennsylvania communities which rely on these heroes have to pay for its lack of common sense.

BROWNS MILL CIVIC AND ATHLETIC BOOSTER ASSOCIATION DAY

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, since its founding, the Browns Mill Civic & Athletic Booster Association has been and continues to be a worthy instrument for good; and

Whereas, the Browns Mill Recreation Center Booster Club Inaugural Blue & Gold Gala is being held to celebrate community service and to assist our youth that desire to participate in recreational activities, sports, summer programs and afterschool educational programs; and

Whereas, the Browns Mill Civic & Athletic Booster Association has always promoted the concept of One Community-One Goal by working with and for individuals of all walks of life to make DeKalb County a place where openness is seen as well as heard; and

Whereas, its members give of themselves tirelessly and unconditionally to serve our community through projects to enhance our youth through sports, health, mentorships and scholarships; and

Whereas, the lives of many in our district are touched by the leadership and service

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

given by the members of the Browns Mill Civic & Athletic Booster Association, our nation and the world is a better place 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; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim November 2, 2013 as Browns Mill Civic & Athletic Booster Association Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 2nd day of November, 2013.

HONORING CLINTON DEMETRUS WILLIAMS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable Entrepreneur, Mr. Clinton D. Williams, who is a resident Cleveland, Mississippi.

Mr. Williams was born November 23, 1972 to Clifton L. Williams, Sr. and Dorothy L. Williams of Shaw, Mississippi. He attended and graduated from McEvans Elementary and Shaw High School. Because of his interest in the arts, Clinton enrolled in the Fine Arts Program at Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena, Mississippi, where he majored in Fine Arts with emphasis in Graphic Designs and Print Making. He graduated from in 1997 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree.

Clinton decided to remain in the Mississippi Delta to assist with the family screen printing business. In 1999, Clinton decided to start his own business, Williams Designs with the determination to take the family business along with his own business to the next level, he and his father worked hard to make sure that they provided quality work with reasonable prices with a fast turnaround time. It was of great importance that their customers understood that they were greatly appreciated by the Williams' family.

In 2005 the reigns to the family business were handed over to Clinton. With the responsibility to make sure the family business continued.

With over 25 years of experience, Triple C T-Shirts & Williams Designs are continuing to provide great customer service. Today, Clinton oversees all operations from cleaning up to doing artwork, making deliveries, printing, running errands, picking up lunch for his staff and even offering words of encouragement.

He is married to Shonda C. Williams and they have one daughter, Justice B. Williams.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an amazing entrepreneur, Mr. Clinton Williams, for his dedication to entrepreneurialship.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT STRAIN

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bob Strain on the high honor of being named Veteran of the Year by the Greater Sierra Vista United Veterans Council.

A retired colonel, Bob served our country with distinction for thirty years in the United States Air Force. After retiring from the military, Bob served his community of Sierra Vista, Arizona for over twenty years with the same level of integrity and dedication through civic engagement and elected office.

The city of Sierra Vista and Fort Huachuca grew stronger under Bob's leadership both as a member of the City Council and as mayor. By increasing and reinforcing water conservation in the city and surrounding region, Bob helped ensure the future growth and sustainability of the city and the Army Garrison.

As an active member of numerous community associations and organizations, Bob has been a strong and articulate advocate for the many veterans who call Southern Arizona home. In 2012, he was inducted into the Arizona Veteran's Hall of Fame. This well-deserved recognition by the Greater Sierra Vista United Veterans Council is another testament to his hard work and dedication on behalf of veterans.

I am proud to call Bob Strain a friend and join with a grateful community in congratulating him on this well-deserved honor.

HONORING LOU TERRELL

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, on January 3, 2014, San Diego lost a true fixture of our community. Lou Terrell was a devoted educator, a loving family man, and a tireless advocate for the people of his city.

In the 1980's, Lou Terrell served as mayor and councilmember for Del Mar, California. Since then, he served as a leader in local chapters of Planned Parenthood and the American Civil Liberties Union, where he continued to work to make his city a better and fairer place.

Lou was also a former professor at San Diego State University, and served as chair of the school's Department of Political Science. A scholarship was established in his name to help students of political science pursuing their own careers in public service.

Lou Terrell established and served as the president of the Del Mar Foundation, a non-profit that organizes cultural events for local children and families and works to keep Del Mar's beaches and parks clean and safe. Today, the Del Mar Foundation remains a symbol of Lou's love for his community.

Those who knew and worked with Lou knew him as a kind hearted and generous man who loved his wife and children, and his dogs. Above all, all of us who had the pleasure of knowing Lou remember his positive attitude in the face of anything. It was contagious.

Lou Terrell was a dedicated public servant and a beloved husband and father. His passing is a terrible loss for our region, and for everyone who was lucky enough to get to know Lou. He will be greatly missed.

MR. KEITH "KEECHO" RAWLS, U.S. CITIZEN OF DISTINCTION

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

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

Whereas, our lives have been touched in a most positive and uplifting way by, Keith "Keecho" Rawls who has given so much of himself through sharing his gift of music and love of life; and

Whereas, at Clark College in Atlanta, Georgia he majored in music and began his professional career as an extraordinarily gifted composer, arranger and accomplished pianist who was instrumental in enhancing the sounds of recording artists such as Peabo Bryson and distinguishing himself as the first Musical Director of the Unversoul Circus; and

Whereas, he gave of himself, his time and talent to uplift his fellowman, he inspired others through his gift of music, his wit and conversation; and

Whereas, he was a son, a brother, a father, a grandfather, a nephew and a friend to many and will be greatly missed by all; and

Whereas, he led by doing both behind the scenes and on the front lines, being an ambassador of good will who remained true to the uplifting of our community throughout this life; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia recognizes Keith Rawls 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. Keith "Keecho" Rawls, U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 16th day of November, 2013.

HONORING MR. HERBERT ALLEN, SR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a long standing black farmer, Mr. Herbert Allen, Sr. of "Allen Farm". He and his family are residents of Silver City in Humphreys County, MS, where generations of Allen's have been farming since the 1940s which gives them over 70 years.

The story of the Allen family as black farmers includes major setbacks, but they are still in operation today. Grandpa Nathan Allen started with 40 acres of land in an effort to provide a decent living for himself, his wife, and 6 children. After he died, his son Herbert

Allen, Sr. began operating the 40-acre farm and grew it into 323 acres.

Herbert and his wife, Nomie, raised 9 children on that small and hard-to-come-by income because again the challenges of the black families were real. In fact they raised most of the food they used to feed their family.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, the odds have been great and many: Depression, rainy and dry crop years with little to sometimes no government compensation, floods, bad loans, too little loans, and other unfortunate things but again, through it all they survived.

Herbert Allen, Sr. operated the farm for over 50 years until his death in 2006, then Herbert, Jr. and his brother, Freddie, took over the operation. Although the two brothers managed the daily affairs, it was still a family affair involving all the siblings. There are several spin-off businesses that have been developed: Allen Recycling (Canton and Yazoo City, MS) Allen Heating and Air (Gulfport, MS), and Allen Cattle Ranch (Silver City, MS).

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring, Mr. Herbert Allen, Sr., a black farmer from the Mississippi's Second Congressional District.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT J.
DREWEL

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Bob Drewel on the occasion of his retirement as the Executive Director of the Puget Sound Regional Council. Throughout his service in this capacity for most of the last decade, as well as his long tenure as Snohomish County Executive, Mr. Drewel demonstrated time and again his dedication to the continued development and success of the Puget Sound region. His civic service, by even the strictest of standards, is second to none. During his tenure as Executive Director, Mr. Drewel built effective partnerships among business, labor, government, and civic interests. Most notably, he spearheaded creation of the Prosperity Partnership, a broad coalition devoted to the advancement of long-term economic prosperity in the central Puget Sound region, and VISION 2040, the region's integrated growth, economic development, and transportation strategy. It is my privilege to thank him for his years of public service and for his unwavering commitment to the prudent growth of our region.

Mr. Drewel's many contributions to the Puget Sound region also include leadership to assure assembly of the Boeing 787 jet airliner in Everett, and subsequent efforts to secure development of a new Air Force Tanker and the Boeing 737 MAX family of aircraft in Renton. In addition, Mr. Drewel was the first President of the Aerospace Futures Alliance, and he is the founder and President of the Washington Aerospace Partnership. He also is a past President of the Executive Board of the Puget Sound Regional Council and the former Chairman of the Sound Transit Board that led the successful attempt to win voter approval of the Sound Transit system in 1996. A man of seemingly endless energy (and forbearance), Bob also was Chairman of the Highway 520

Tolling Implementation Committee to fund replacement of the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge, an absolutely crucial transportation link in the region. Finally, Bob served as Co-Chair of the Transportation Partnership of 2008 that advocated Washington state's largest-ever transportation improvement package, which ultimately was approved by the voters.

Bob Drewel exhibited remarkable conviction and resolute commitment to the central Puget Sound region through the many roles and positions he held during his three decades of civic service to King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish counties. On behalf of the people of the City of Seattle and the State of Washington, I extend our gratitude and our deep appreciation to Robert J. Drewel for his extraordinary leadership and deep commitment to our region. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING LEVELLE GUINN DAVIS
AS HE CELEBRATES HIS 100TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Levelle Guinn Davis, who celebrated his 100th birthday on January 3, 2014.

Mr. Levelle Guinn Davis was born in Corralitos, Santa Cruz County, California to Jay Ammon and Mel Augusta (Guinn) Davis. He was the 2nd of 6 children. Levelle's father was a native of Plymouth, California in Amador County. Levelle was raised in several areas: preschool in San Jose, early school years in Gilroy, grade school years from Crows Landing and Mountain View Road then Faith Home Elementary in Ceres where Walter White was the Principal. As a junior at Modesto High School, he decided to go to work full time against the advice of his counselor, Grace M. Davis. He became friends with the pioneer Hackett family boys and in 1935, married their little sister, Ruth Etta Hackett in the Bethel Church at 15th and G Streets, Modesto, California.

Levelle and Ruth started their family and had two sons, Leonard Aaron and Daniel Arlen while employed at the Spreckels sugar mill near Salinas, California. He was a drive belt maintenance specialist and moved to Tuolumne County in 1943 to be closer to his parents and siblings. In 1952, the family moved to Stockton to allow Lenard and Daniel better education opportunities. Both sons attended Stockton Junior College and served in the California Army National Guard in Stockton.

After their sons were married, Levelle and Ruth moved back to Modesto in 1965 to be near the families of his sister and Ruth's brothers.

Mr. Davis retired after 10 years as a tomato paste cook with the Tri Valley Growers Cannery. Between seasons, he would drive eight row corn combine harvesters; he was a member of the Local #12 Teamsters Cannery Workers Union.

He enjoyed having a large garden with a variety of fruit trees. Ruth canned and froze everything that they grew.

Mr. Davis was a member of the Calvary Temple Church when Pastor Joe Wright was

servicing there. During that time, he would lead a large group of Senior RVers to numerous camp outings to places like Frank Rains Park in Del Puerto Canyon and Oakdale Reservoir. He enjoys all kinds of table games with friends at Modesto Verde.

Mr. Levelle Guinn Davis has enjoyed traveling to all 50 states, including Hawaii and several trips to Alaska. He has a clock and watch collection as well as "button" accordions, harmonicas and has enjoyed various types of photography: 8mm movies, VHS videos, Sawyers 3-D and 35mm slides to name a few.

Levelle and Ruth were married 70 years and have three grandchildren; Laura Giovanetti, Danial Aaron Davis and Renee Crabtree and seven great-grand children: Nick, Alex, Heidi, Kaitlyn, Mitchell, Ashley and Jake.

Levelle has been blessed with good health: he reads without glasses, drinks pure water, takes health supplements and has never consumed alcohol nor smoked cigarettes. He has always been health conscience and wanted to set a good example for his sons. He takes a walk to the clubhouse several days a week and exercises on the trampoline. He even wins at dominoes and other games he plays regularly.

Mr. Davis is a current member of the Modesto Parlor Number 11 of the Native Sons of the Golden West. He still has a good sense of humor and likes to tell jokes. He tells everyone that, like the California Governor, he also has a Highway Patrolman as his driver; his oldest son Leonard, who is a retired CHP pilot.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Mr. Levelle Guinn Davis as he celebrates his 100th birthday.

MS. THERESA WALKER, U.S.
CITIZEN OF DISTINCTION

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

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 woman, Ms. Theresa Walker, who gave of herself in order for others to stand; and

Whereas, her dedicated service is present in DeKalb County, Georgia for all to see, where she was an unwavering advocate for youth, the elderly, the poor and small businesses; and

Whereas, this remarkable, positive woman with the beautiful smile gave of herself, her time and her talent; never asking for fame or fortune but only to uplift those in need; and

Whereas, she led by example from behind the scenes, as well as front and center for the state of Georgia, DeKalb County, the Georgia Black Chamber of Commerce, Paragon Productions, Inc., the Lou Walker Senior Citizens Center, her beloved church, Saint Phillip A.M.E. and her beloved Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; and

Whereas, this virtuous Proverbs 31 woman was a mother, a wife, a daughter, a friend a warrior, a matriarch, and a woman of great integrity; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional recognition on Ms. Theresa Walker for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens in Georgia and throughout the Nation; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 113th Congress that Ms. Theresa Walker of DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor", Ms. Theresa Walker, U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 25th day of October, 2013.

HONORING JACKIE'S BEAUTY
BOUTIQUE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a well respected rural town minority owned business, Jackie's Beauty Boutique.

Jackie Bailey, originally from Edwards, Mississippi, became inspired to enter the profession of barber/stylist through her early interactions with Ms. Doris Green. Ms. Green was a well-known stylist in the Bolton community who performed a number of services, mainly hot comb presses. Ms. Bailey distinctly remembers watching Ms. Green hot comb press a number of young girls hair and noticing the ease and serenity in which Ms. Green styled hair.

Driven by her inspiration, Ms. Bailey enrolled at Utica Junior College in Utica, Mississippi in 1983 in the Barber/Stylist program. After obtaining her degree in 1984, she acquired a job with Apollo Hair Design in 1985, which was located in Jackson, Mississippi. She later resigned in 1986 to take a year hiatus to recover from a car accident. In 1988, an opportunity to co-own her own business presented itself, so she and her cousin, Madge Sherry, opened a beauty salon in Bolton, Mississippi.

Her primary clientele were residents of Bolton and neighboring towns. Men, women, and children were serviced in various manners, such as haircuts, shaves, relaxers, and general hair washing. With the presentation of another business opportunity, Ms. Bailey and her cousin separated business ties, allowing for Ms. Bailey to be one of the longest standing Black-owned salons in town. Her professionalism and expertise in barbering and styling has allowed her business to thrive in this rural area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Jackie Bailey and Jackie's Beauty Boutique for its remarkable contribution and undying commitment to provide professional barbering and stylist services to the citizens of Bolton and neighboring rural communities.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR BOB
BOLEN, FORMER MAYOR OF
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bob Bolen, the beloved former mayor of Fort Worth, Texas. Mayor Bolen passed away in the early morning hours of January 6th, 2014 at the age of 87 at his home in Fort Worth.

Robert Eugene Bolen was born on April 10, 1926 to Milford and Bee Bolen in Chicago, Illinois. While he and his family moved more than a dozen times during his youth, Texas is where he would ultimately call home.

Bob Bolen gravitated to public service at a young age. He chose Texas A&M University in College Station for his undergraduate degree in the 1940s. However, he soon left College Station to serve in the U.S. Navy as a gunnery officer on the USS *Iowa* during the waning days of combat in the Pacific Ocean during World War II. Following his military service, he returned to College Station where he graduated with a degree in Business Administration in 1948.

Upon graduation from Texas A&M University, he began his career as a management trainee with McCrory's, a chain of five and dime stores. While his career led him to locations like Syracuse, New York, he would later be transferred to McCrory's Fort Worth store and he never moved again.

Bob Bolen was first elected to public office in 1979 as the District 6 representative on the Fort Worth City Council. After just one term on the city council, he ran in the special election for mayor. He won and served until 1991, cementing his legacy as the longest serving mayor in Fort Worth history.

He was a dedicated public servant throughout his time as the mayor of the "Panther City". Bob Bolen's efforts were carefully watched by other cities. What the city is today is a direct result of much of the work he accomplished while leading the city as mayor.

During his tenure, Bob Bolen's Fort Worth experienced a rebirth and revitalization of the downtown area. Companies like Burlington Northern expanded and public-private partnerships helped to cultivate the growing community. Alliance airport was developed within the city limits and Fort Worth became home to the only printing location outside of Washington, DC for the Federal Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The Bureau continues to print money there today.

He was a renowned leader and in the process he helped so many people. He had a particular affection for helping young people as well. He would go out of his way to encourage them and steer them either toward public service or toward appreciating it.

Bob Bolen left an indelible mark on the city of Fort Worth and the transformation that he oversaw helped create the distinguished city that it is today.

Bob Bolen loved Fort Worth and Fort Worth loves Bob Bolen. He gave the city far more than it was ever able to give him and that's a legacy worth remembering.

RECOGNIZING THREE MAINERS
FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATH AND
SCIENCE

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize three constituents in my District who have recently been selected to receive Presidential Awards for excellence in math and science.

Teachers Karen Jagolinzer of Frank H. Harrison Middle School in Yarmouth and Elizabeth Heidemann of Cushing Community School in Cushing will receive 2012 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching. By being chosen for this prestigious award, Karen and Elizabeth distinguish themselves as some of the top teachers in the country.

I am proud of both Karen and Elizabeth for what they are doing to give our students solid skills in math and science, along with a greater sense of where those lessons can take them in life. Karen has taught for 18 years, creating classrooms where students can learn mathematics in a safe and supportive environment. Elizabeth is a kindergarten teacher who challenges her young students to apply lessons in their community and natural surroundings.

In addition, Daniela Oliveira, an Assistant Professor at Bowdoin College, will receive the 2012 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. This honor recognizes promising scientists and engineers who are beginning their careers with important research and community service. Daniela is conducting groundbreaking work on using innovative technology to make our computers more secure.

Mr. Speaker, advancing math and science is critical to keeping the United States competitive in a global marketplace, driving innovation, and discovering more about our world. My deep appreciation goes to Karen, Elizabeth, and Daniela for their commitment to these goals, as well as my sincere congratulations for receiving these awards.

STRONGHOLD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

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

Whereas, Stronghold Christian Church has been and continues to be a beacon of light to our district for the past twenty years; and

Whereas, Pastors Benjamin and Sherry Gaither and the members of the Stronghold Christian Church family today continues to uplift and inspire those in our district; and

Whereas, the Stronghold Christian Church family has been and continues to be a place where citizens are touched spiritually, mentally and physically through outreach ministries and community partnership to aid in building up our district; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious Church of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the needy and empowered our community for the past twenty (20) years; and

Whereas, this Church has produced many spiritual warriors, people of compassion, people of great courage, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who have shared not only with their Church, but with DeKalb County their passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Stronghold Christian Church family for their leadership and service to our District on this the 20th Anniversary of their founding; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim November 10, 2013 as Stronghold Christian Church Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 10th day of November, 2013.

HONORING MACK H. SHORTER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a hardworking and self motivated man, Mr. Mack H. Shorter.

Mr. Shorter, a native of Issaquena County, has always called the Delta his home. He has been a farmer since 1976.

Mr. Shorter retired from the U.S. Corps of Engineers as a construction supervisor in 2008 and began farming full time. Farming has been his favorite past time for the last 37 years. During this time he has grown cotton, corn and soybeans. "I just love to make things grow," stated Mr. Shorter. Since retirement he farms about 160 acres of soybeans and raises about 75 to 80 cattle.

Mr. Shorter has six children. He and his wife, Hazel, reside in Fidler, Mississippi in Issaquena County and are active members of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Cary, Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Mack H. Shorter.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MIKE BANKS

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a great Georgian, Mike Banks.

Earlier this week, Mike lost his earthly battle with pulmonary fibrosis.

Mike's absence leaves a void in several Northeast Georgia circles, ranging from banking and broadcasting to community service organizations and his home church.

Mike's commitment to community service was inspired by Matthew 25:36-40, "whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Among his many outlets of civic involvement, Mike was a founder of the John Jarrard Foundation.

Under the leadership of Mike and the rest of the Executive Committee, the John Jarrard Foundation grew from an annual concert to a

regionally-recognized organization supporting songwriters and a number of great causes.

The Foundation supports a number of wonderful music programs, including a songwriting education program for Georgia students. In addition, the Foundation sponsors songwriting concerts throughout the Southeast.

My prayers and thoughts go out to Mike's family as they mourn a loss that will be felt by many in Northeast Georgia.

HONORING CHARLES E. HANRAHAN RETIRING FROM CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Charles E. Hanrahan, Senior Specialist in Agricultural Policy in the Resources, Science, and Industry Division of the Congressional Research Service (CRS). After a distinguished career of 47 years of federal service, including more than 29 years of service to Congress on agricultural trade and international food aid issues at CRS, Charles will be retiring on January 31, 2014.

Charles Hanrahan's work on international food aid issues has been of enormous value to the Members and staff of the House Hunger Caucus, which I co-chair. He was famous for his "International Food Aid 101" briefings that helped every congressional office understand the importance of our global food assistance programs, how they worked, the challenges they face, and how they might be strengthened and improved. My staff and I relied on his insights and we will miss not being able to pick up the phone or send him an email seeking information and advice.

During his tenure at CRS, Charles has achieved a remarkable record of accomplishment providing invaluable support to the authorizing and appropriations committees and Members of Congress on agricultural trade, global food security, and international agricultural development. Over his illustrious career, he has worked on 10 omnibus farm bills, 3 multilateral trade negotiations, and numerous bilateral and regional free trade agreements, and has been indispensable in congressional consideration of these measures. His unparalleled institutional knowledge on these issues will be greatly missed by Congress.

Charles began his federal career working part-time in the offices of his representative and senator from his native Kentucky and operating an elevator here in the U.S. Capitol while earning his Bachelor of Science at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. After graduation, he volunteered for the Peace Corps and served over 2 years in Guinea, West Africa where he taught agricultural economics and farm management. When he returned stateside, he earned his Ph.D. in 1972 at the University of Kentucky. Before coming to CRS in 1984, Charles worked at USDA's Economic Research Service where he rose to deputy director in international economics, and earlier served at the U.S. Agency for International Development as a senior economist in the Africa Bureau, and as a staff economist at the National Academy of Sciences.

With this wealth of experience, Charles quickly established himself as a leading expert on agricultural trade and international food aid issues at CRS when he arrived in 1984. During his CRS career, he has written more than 200 reports and confidential memoranda and conducted hundreds of briefings for Members and staff, all of which were completed with authoritative and objective analysis and the skills of a masterful teacher. Just over a year after his arrival at CRS, his comprehensive knowledge of world hunger issues were tapped by the Select Committee on Hunger as Charles testified at a public hearing on food supplies in drought ravaged sub-Saharan Africa. His expert testimony at this hearing and his accomplished work in the nearly three decades following have gone a long way in keeping Congress informed on the important humanitarian issues of international food aid and agricultural development.

In addition to his many years of excellent direct support to Congress, Charles has served in acting supervisory and mentoring roles within CRS, including most recently as acting deputy assistant director in his division and as division reviewer of the reports and memoranda of CRS analysts. In these roles, he has earned the great respect of his CRS colleagues for his deep knowledge, fairness in evaluating their work, and his ability to manage challenging administrative problems.

In retirement, Charles plans to pursue his favorite extracurricular pursuits of travel, reading, cooking, dining out and spending time with his beloved family. We wish him the very best in his retirement and thank him for his dedicated and stellar record of service to Congress, the American people, and vulnerable people around the world.

TURNER MONUMENTAL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH DAY

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, Turner Monumental African Methodist Episcopal Church has been and continues to be a beacon of light to our district for the past one hundred fourteen years; and

Whereas, Pastor Jai S. Haithco, Sr., and the members of the Turner Monumental African Methodist Episcopal Church family today continues to uplift and inspire those in our district; and

Whereas, the Turner Monumental African Methodist Episcopal Church family has been and continues to be a place where citizens are touched spiritually, mentally and physically through outreach ministries and community partnership to aid in building up our district; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious Church of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the needy and empowered our community for the past one hundred fourteen (114) years; and

Whereas, this Church has produced many spiritual warriors, people of compassion, people of great courage, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who

have shared not only with their Church, but with DeKalb County their passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Turner Monumental African Methodist Episcopal Church family for their leadership and service to our District on this the 114th Anniversary of their founding; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim October 13, 2013 as Turner Monumental African Methodist Episcopal Church Day In the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 13th day of October, 2013.

HONORING MAGNOLIA WINDSHIELD REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a unique and well established minority owned business, Magnolia Windshield Repair and Replacement.

Magnolia Windshield Repair and Replacement began operation November 1, 2002 in Bolton, Mississippi. There was no office, fax, or landline phone. There was no specific parking lot or driveway to drive a vehicle in for servicing. This dream was birthed with a mobile operation in mind.

Mr. Pelvia Robinson, owner and operator since its establishment, created a business that was completely mobile, allowing for him to complete a windshield repair wherever needed.

Mr. Robinson realized there was no adequate space within the city limits of Bolton, nor any of the other rural surrounding areas, without having to drive at least 20 miles to Jackson for windshield repair. Because Mr. Robinson was born and raised in Bolton, he felt that this type of business would not only benefit the people of the town and the surrounding rural areas, but it also presented a unique business opportunity for himself as an up and coming entrepreneur.

Since its inception, Magnolia Windshield Repair and Replacement has grown from just having private customers to servicing commercial customers, while also acquiring several major contracts. Magnolia Windshield employs one other person to assist in its day to day operation. Even after being in business for nearly 11 years, Magnolia Windshield is still mobile, but its official address and location is 207 Bolton-Brownsville Road, Bolton, Mississippi, at which often times cars are repaired for those customers wanting to bring their vehicles in for immediate repair.

In addition to a location, it also has an office, a fax, and a landline telephone. Mr. Robinson accredits his success as being owner of Magnolia Windshield Replacement and Repair first to God, second to his parents, Henry and Ruth Robinson, and thirdly a strong family support.

Mr. Pelvia Robinson was born January 11, 1964. He is the last child of 9 siblings. His formal education included elementary education in Bolton, MS and secondary and college education at Hinds Agricultural High School and

Hinds Community College, respectively. He is the father of Pelvius Robinson, and grandfather of Pelvius Robinson, Jr. He is married to Paulette Robinson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Pelvia Robinson and Magnolia Windshield Repair and Replacement for his dedication and service as a minority business owner to the citizens of Bolton and surrounding rural communities.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
JUDGE CHARLES B. MIKELL

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Charlie Mikell. Many years ago I was in a Bible study group with a few friends. We met weekly to discuss spiritual matters, the Gospel, and our personal lives. One of the members was a young lawyer named Charles B. Mikell. Although as a group we were at various stages of our lives, Charlie had already served as an Army Intelligence Officer in Vietnam and was with one of the leading law firms in Savannah. One day he made a surprising comment. He said that there had been times in his life when he felt that he should have been doing more for others. As the years went by, I realized exactly what he meant.

Eventually Charlie gave up his very lucrative career in law and was appointed to the State Court of Chatham County. He served as Chief Judge of that court for two years and as President of the Georgia Council of State Court Judges. Later, he was elected Judge of the Superior Court of the Eastern Judicial Circuit in 1992 and was reelected in 1996. In 2000 he was appointed to the Georgia Court of Appeals. He served as Chief Judge of the Georgia Court of Appeals from 2011 until his retirement in August of 2012. Through these activities he realized his potential and ability in serving others and emerged as one of the most respected judges in Georgia. He had a reputation for fairness, clarity, and mercy.

In addition to his outstanding public service, Charlie was also involved in a number of charities and foundations, including the United Way, the Arthritis Foundation, the Boy Scouts, the Devereaux Foundation, the Museum of African History and Culture, the King-Tisdell Cottage Foundation, the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Justice Center, and the National Foundation for Troubled Youth. He was also a member of the vestry at Christ Church, taught Sunday School, and coached basketball at the Victor B. Jenkins Memorial Boys Club. In each of his endeavors, he transcended political and socioeconomic differences. He truly had no enemies and was respected by all.

Charlie passed away on November 4, 2013 after a courageous battle with multiple myeloma. He leaves behind his loving wife of thirty-three years, Dr. Julia L. Mikell, his son Chuck and his wife Isadora, his son John, his wife Jane, and their two sons John, Jr. and James, and his son Sam. I had the privilege of attending church with the Mikell family, and I taught both Chuck and John in Sunday School. I also worked with Sam during his time in Washington. All three kids are brilliant,

polite, and, like their parents, have channeled their remarkable talents into both the pursuit of their careers and to helping others.

America is full of good people, and it's people like Julia and Charlie Mikell who have made America great by handing down wonderful values to their children. They will continue to bless us, and their memory will carry on. I feel honored to recognize the memory of Charlie Mikell, and I was proud to call him a friend. He will be truly missed.

CONGRATULATING CHIEF MASTER
SGT. TAMARA PHILLIPS ON HER
RETIREMENT FROM THE OHIO
NATIONAL GUARD

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chief Master Sgt. Tamara Phillips on her retirement from the Ohio National Guard.

Phillips most recently served as the State Command Chief Master Sgt. for the Ohio National Guard where she worked directly for the Ohio Adjutant General. She also served as the Superintendent of the 178th Force Support Squadron, 178th Fighter Wing, Springfield Air National Guard Base, Ohio where she was responsible for four flights dealing in a wide range of products and services. She also was in charge of mentorship and professional development of all assigned enlisted members.

Chief Phillips first enlisted in the 168th Air Refueling Wing, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska in March 1987 as an Administrative Specialist. She transferred to the 445th Airlift Wing, at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, for 18 months and then enlisted in the Ohio Air National Guard, Springfield Ohio.

She was then a full-time technician with the 162nd Fighter Squadron orderly room and shortly thereafter moved into the Wing Commander's executive administrative position. She also served as the Wing Staff and Operations Group First Sergeant. In 2002, she was selected as the 178th Mission Support Flight Superintendent, and later served the men and women of the 178th Services Flight as well when the two units merged to form the new Force Support Squadron.

Throughout her life Phillips has been unwavering in her service to our great nation and the people of Ohio. I would like to thank her for her dedication.

PASTOR JASPER WILLIAMS, JR.
DAY

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

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

Whereas, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many individuals who are called to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service; and

Whereas, one of those individuals, Pastor Jasper Williams, Jr., has given of himself to lead Salem Bible Church for fifty years; and

Whereas, under the guidance of God he has pioneered and sustained Salem Bible Church as an instrument in our community that betters the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has shared his time and talents for the betterment of our community by preaching the gospel, singing the gospel and living the gospel; and

Whereas, Pastor Jasper Williams is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a man of great courage, a fearless leader and above all a visionary who has shared not only with his church, but with our District and the world a passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Pastor Jasper Williams for his leadership and service for our District as he celebrates his 50th Pastoral anniversary; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim November 10, 2013 as Pastor Jasper Williams, Jr. Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 10th day of November, 2013.

HONORING MR. MILTON LEWIS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man whose life's work is centered around cultivating and harvesting the land, Mr. Milton Lewis.

Mr. Lewis is considered a masterful farmer by many in the small rural town of Bolton, MS. Dating back to as early as the 1960s, Mr. Lewis farmed approximately 10–15 acres of land alongside his mother, Mrs. Ruthie Bell Lewis, as sharecroppers.

Mr. Lewis cultivated a number of crops, such as potatoes, peanuts, sugar cane, and cotton. To fulfill his families sharecropping responsibilities, Mr. Lewis relinquished a portion of his family's harvest to the Gaddis & McLauren Seed and Feed Store, which is located in Bolton, MS.

Ultimately, Mr. Lewis diligently farmed his land for approximately 30 years. Today, Mr. Lewis continues to farm a small portion of land near his home, primarily for his enjoyment and close family members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Milton Lewis for his impeccable cultivator talent.

THE PASSING OF LOU TERRELL

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, on January 3, 2014, San Diego lost a true fixture of our community. Lou Terrell was a devoted educator, a loving family man, and a tireless advocate for the people of his city.

In the 1980's, Lou Terrell served as mayor and councilmember for Del Mar, California.

Since then, he served as a leader in local chapters of Planned Parenthood and the American Civil Liberties Union, where he continued to work to make his city a better and fairer place.

Lou was also a former professor at San Diego State University, and served as chair of the school's Department of Political Science. A scholarship was established in his name to help students of political science pursuing their own careers in public service.

Lou Terrell established and served as the president of the Del Mar Foundation, a non-profit that organizes cultural events for local children and families and works to keep Del Mar's beaches and parks clean and safe. Today, the Del Mar Foundation remains a symbol of Lou's love for his community.

Those who knew and worked with Lou knew him as a kindhearted and generous man who loved his wife and children, and his dogs. Above all, all of us who had the pleasure of knowing Lou remember his positive attitude in the face of anything. It was contagious.

Lou Terrell was a dedicated public servant and a beloved husband and father. His passing is a terrible loss for our region, and for everyone who was lucky enough to get to know Lou. He will be greatly missed.

CONGRATULATING LAURA PARN

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Laura Pam for receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). It is an honor to have such a fine educator in my district teaching this nation's next generation of leaders.

This award is administered by the National Science Foundation on behalf of the Office of Science and Technology Policy. It is given annually to teachers across the country who demonstrate outstanding achievements in teaching science and math to students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Not only do these educators represent the very best in their field and have a true passion for math and sciences, but they instill that passion into their students.

Laura is one of 102 teachers to receive this award in 2013. She is the Assistant Principal at Green Tree Elementary School in Lake St. Louis, Missouri and has acted as an adjunct professor for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Primarily Math program. With funding from the National Science Foundation, she co-created and co-taught two graduate level mathematics content courses for primary teachers. These classes have become staples of the program. She also serves on the 2013 Louisville Regional Conference Committee for the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

I am encouraged that the students of Missouri have educators such as Laura who can help them excel in the important fields of math and science at such a young age. The guidance and instruction of teachers like Laura are vital in producing the world's next leaders of innovative science, and I hope that this Chamber will continue to support the development of exceptional teachers in these fields.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BOB THIELE

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

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

Whereas, over thirteen years ago, Mr. Bob Thiele accepted a calling to serve others by becoming a consultant with the University of Georgia Small Business Development Center (SBDC); and

Whereas, he has served small business clients with great care, concern and professionalism, by inspiring, educating and motivating; giving a much needed boost to the economic backbone of America; and

Whereas, he has shared his time and talents, giving the citizens of our District a friend, a community leader and an inspiring servant, ensuring that economic opportunity is available to all; and

Whereas, Mr. Thiele is a cornerstone in our community enhancing the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and our Nation; and

Whereas, on his retirement from the University of Georgia SBDC, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mr. Bob Thiele and to wish him well in his new endeavors; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim November 21, 2013 as Bob Thiele Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 21st day of November, 2013.

HONORING MR. PRIMUS WHEELER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a long standing black farmer, Mr. Primus Wheeler. He and his family are residents of Tallahatchie County where generations of Wheeler's have been farming since 1936.

The story of the Wheeler family farming does not start with Primus, it started with his Father, Jim Wheeler. Jim started out farming a 40 acre unit rented from the Buford Plantation then later, rented 300 more acres until one day he was financially sound enough to purchase more than 1000 acres of his own. In order to secure his investment, Jim Wheeler invested his life lessons in his sons by teaching them the farming business, what it means to be a black farmer, the importance of having your own money, and family sticking together and staying together.

Primus began learning the family farming business as a farm hand, day supervisor, and even bookkeeper until 1948. These skills he held on to, seeing how his father was able to provide a sustainable and prideful life for the family.

In 1948 when he decided to marry, Georgia, his current wife of 65 years, he knew he too had to provide for his family. So, Primus along-side his wife, Georgia, began farming their first 40 acres of rented land. They grew

cotton, corn, soybeans, livestock, and vegetables. His livestock consisted of 30 to 40 cows and 50–100 hogs. In 1957 they purchased their first piece of land and moved away from the family owned land and farm, “Wheeler Farm.”

Primus along-side his wife grew their farm to 100 acres, which is still located in the Sharkey Road community between Glendora and Tippto, MS. He remembers his first crop in 1957 as his worst but just as he was taught and had seen by working with his father on the family farm, “you take the good with the bad and learn from it but keep going to break through. You just have to make more good crops than bad crops in order to survive.”

He was dealing with bad weather and insects. Over time Primus got better being on his own even increasing the farm from the initial 100 acres to 238 acres at one point then up to 800 acres by renting from local retired farmers. He was able to supplement his income by harvesting cotton and soybeans for other farmers.

Primus Wheeler, like so many black farmers had challenges that would test the soul and belief of any man.

Over the years he dealt with challenges like bad seasons in terms of weather, insects, and certainly government financing for black farmers. For example, he said, more times than not, that he had to lean on hope and prayer that FSA would approve his applications for financing, which often times came in late July or early August. These were emotional and unpredictable times; especially seeing the other farmers planting while he was faces the pitfall of FSA. You see, he relied on this money to purchase seeds and fertilizers. But nevertheless, he withstood them all relying on his father’s teachings.

So, through it all, Primus and his wife was able to educate 9 children on their small delta farm and unlike him, not one of his children had to skip or quit school to stay home and help work the farm. Primus retired and turned the farm over to his son, Michael, who ran it until the late 1990s. Afterwards, Primus, Jr. gained control of the farm and still runs it today. However, in all cases, Primus himself is still involved in the decision making of the farm advising and mentoring his son and future generations. Hat’s off to Mr. Primus Wheeler for hanging in there and maintaining his farm.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring, Mr. Primus Wheeler, a black farmer from the Mississippi Second Congressional District.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, January 7, I was unavoidably detained due to inclement weather. Had I been here for the quorum call (rollcall No. 1), I would have voted “present.”

RETIREMENT OF CHARLES TRAUGHBER

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor one of Tennessee’s hardest working and most thoughtful public servants on the occasion of his retirement.

Charles Traughber stepped down recently after a 30-year career as Chairman of the Tennessee Board of Probation and Parole.

Before assuming that role, he spent 10 years working with offenders as a prison counselor and as a charter member of the parole board.

During his 40-year career, Chairman Traughber served the people of Tennessee with great honor and distinction and always approached each case with the gravity and seriousness it deserved.

I was a criminal court judge in Knoxville for seven-and-a-half years, and during that time I issued thousands of criminal sentences.

There may be no tougher job—with greater potential consequence—than evaluating whether or not a prisoner is ready to re-enter society, and I cannot think of a better person to have had in this role than Chairman Traughber.

During his remarkable career, Chairman Traughber reviewed and voted on more than 145,000 cases.

The most infamous person to come before his board was James Earl Ray, who assassinated the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Chairman Traughber said Ray was denied parole because of the “seriousness of the offense.”

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD to join me in celebrating the exceptional career of a very patriotic American, Charles Traughber. Our Nation is a better place because of his service.

TRIBUTE TO EDNA LOUISE FLINT HOUSE

HON. HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

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

Whereas, one hundred years ago a virtuous woman of God, Edna Louise Flint House was born in Decatur, Georgia on December 7, 1913 to John and Louise Flint; and

Whereas, she was raised up in DeKalb County, Georgia and married Mr. Jesse House and their union has blessed our district and nation ever since; and

Whereas, this phenomenal Proverbs 31 woman has shared her time and talents as a wife, mother and motivator, becoming a Georgia citizen of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all by always advancing the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mrs. House has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; she serves as a Mother at New Beginning Full Gospel Baptist Church in Decatur, Georgia; and

Whereas, Mrs. House along with her pastor, Bishop James H. Morton, her family and friends are celebrating a remarkable milestone, her 100th Birthday, we pause to acknowledge a woman who is a cornerstone in Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. House on her birthday and to wish her well and recognize her for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all; Now therefore, I, HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim December 7, 2013 as Mrs. Edna Louise Flint House Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 7th day of December, 2013.

HONORING THE SMOKEHOUSE GRILL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a budding Minority Business in the Mississippi Delta, The Smokehouse Grill in Marks, MS.

On January 19, 1971, L.C. and Velma Pride welcomed a bouncing baby boy they named Paul Andrew. Paul was the youngest of the eight Pride children. Paul attended Quitman County School District where he received his high school diploma in 1989.

Paul furthered his education at Northwest Community College in 1990 majoring in Computer Programming. He became employed at Sunflower Grocery Store in Senatobia, MS for his first job. He worked there for two years where he learned to become an independent man he is today. He later moved on to a better opportunity at Mood Automotive for eight years where he gained a lot of friends, experience, and skills to be an example for others to follow.

Paul purchased his first home in Marks, MS at the age of 21. It was a huge accomplishment that he was extremely proud of. He later began driving trucks for Ozark Motor Lines where he worked two years. During this time, his daughter, the most beautiful girl, was born on April 14, 2002 and he named her, Japarian Marie Pride. Japarian is now an intelligent, outgoing 11 years old who attends South Panola Schools.

Driving through Marks, MS in March of 2002, Paul had a taste for barbeque rib tips, but there was no “Rib Shack” in Marks. Paul came up with the idea to open a rib shack. “I asked God to show me the way,” stated Paul and two months later, the doors of Paul Pride’s Smokehouse were opened. Smokehouse, as it is commonly called, has been selling rib tips, chopped barbeque, ribs, wings, and fish ever since.

Smokehouse is located at 1075 Martin Luther King Dr. in Marks, MS. Paul stated, “We have a great location here and we are located in an industrial area on Main St. Since opening, Smokehouse has saturated Quitman, Panola, Coahoma, and Tallahatchie counties.” Being from Marks, Paul is no stranger to the area. His father was a part of the Marks Police Department for 40 years. Paul’s roots run

deep in the city of Marks. Eleven years later, he is still on the grill and Smokehouse is still going strong.

Paul is now engaged to Stacy Frost who helps him run Smokehouse. Paul is destined to continue running his business and serving great food to those who eat at and support The Smokehouse Grill. Paul has a bright future that is continuing to blossom on a path to greatness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing The Smokehouse Grill for serving our great community.

IN RECOGNITION OF BUSTER
JOHNSON

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, Today I congratulate Mohave County Supervisor Buster Johnson on becoming president of the Arizona Association of Counties (AACO). Mr. Johnson is the first elected official from Mohave County to serve as the AACO's president. He has already proven his dedication to the people of Mohave County as a leading Mohave County Supervisor, and I have no doubt that his leadership will serve the AACO and all people of Arizona well.

The AACO is an important organization in Arizona. As the only organization that represents all of Arizona's 15 counties and their officials, its purpose is to promote issues important to our counties on the state and federal levels.

Congratulations to Mr. Johnson and the AACO. I wish them much success in serving Arizona.

TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO
ALLOW AGENCIES TO FIGHT
FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE IN
THE MEDICARE PROGRAM

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce two technical corrections to the Affordable Care Act. These two bills provide minor technical corrections to avoid confusion and to ensure that regulators can effectively do their work in combatting fraud, waste, and abuse in the Medicare program. We need to extend the solvency of the Medicare program and to do so, we must ensure that the regulatory agencies are empowered to fully enforce provision to reduce fraud, waste, and abuse in the Medicare program.

The first bill would allow certain physician extenders, including physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists, to document that the face-to-face encounter required by the Affordable Care Act has occurred. The Affordable Care Act currently requires that a physician document that a face-to-face encounter has occurred, even though the law allows the face-to-face encounter to be performed by a physician extender. The face-to-face encounter is an important

tool to combat fraud and abuse in the durable medical equipment context, and it is important to recognize the role that physician extenders play in many instances.

The second bill would correct an error in the ACA that was carried over from an underlying law, which prevents regulators from stopping waste, fraud, and abuse. A provision in the Affordable Care Act intended to allow regulators additional discretion to impose a surety bond on home health agencies based on the volume of payments they received from the Medicare program. However, due to a drafting error in the underlying law that was inadvertently perpetuated in the Affordable Care Act, the bond that regulators can require from home health agencies is essentially capped at \$50,000. For large providers, this amount is too low a sum to have a meaningful impact and directly contradicts Congress' intention to require a higher bond from home health agencies that receive substantial Medicare payments.

We must continue our efforts to extend the solvency of the Medicare program. Fighting fraud is a nonpartisan issue. I urge my colleagues to support these technical correction provisions.

WREN'S NEST HOUSE MUSEUM

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

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

Whereas, the Wren's Nest House Museum, a community institution and National Historic Landmark is one of Atlanta's most engaging historic sites, bringing education and joy to untold numbers of visitors including many from the 4th Congressional District of Georgia; and

Whereas, the Wren's Nest is open to the public year-round sharing the African American storytelling tradition and educating visitors about the life and work of Joel Chandler Harris, one of Georgia's most celebrated journalists and literary figures; and

Whereas, the Wren's Nest is filled with many original artifacts and furnishings that belonged to the Harris family and as a museum is one of the finest examples of 19th century Victorian-era middle class lifestyles in the United States; and

Whereas, in recent years the museum has completed several accurate historic restorations of the property with an eye toward authenticity; and

Whereas, the Wren's Nest was the boyhood home of Julian, a Harris son and Pulitzer Prize winning journalist who in the 1920's courageously fought the Ku Klux Klan in the editorial pages of his newspaper; and

Whereas, the museum has extended its community outreach by encouraging young writers through the Wren's Nest Scribes Program which mentors 5th, 6th and 7th graders to hone their writing skills and become published authors; and

Whereas, the dedicated board, staff and volunteers of the Wren's Nest are today welcoming the community to A Victorian Christmas Open House & Celebration of the 168th Birthday of Joel Chandler Harris by featuring the incredible Wren's Nest Ramblers Akbar

Imhotep, Curtis Richardson, Josie Bailey and Mama Kofu who interpret and present the more than 180 African folktales preserved by Joel Chandler Harris; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to join in the celebration and recognize this outstanding museum and community institution that is uniquely Georgia; Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim December 8, 2013 as Wren's Nest House Museum Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 8th day of December, 2013.

HONORING MR. WILLIAM
"KINGFISH" BYRD

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, this month is August and all this month I rise to honor black farmers. So today, I rise to honor the late Mr. William Byrd of Sunflower County, MS, five miles east of Shaw on Highway 442. He earned the name of Kingfish not because people thought he was a joke but because he became a well-known, respected and honest black business man with money—time frame 1920s to his death.

Mr. Byrd did not get a chance to go to school and get a full first through twelfth grade education, no, in fact, he acquired his education by the means of hands-on hard work, life experiences, and the "Blue Back Webster." Like many laboring migrant black families he moved with his father, mother, and siblings around until finally settling in the Mississippi Delta. The many moves with his family was because his dad, Mr. Shep Byrd, was strong willed on not settling his life as a sharecropper but, rather self-employed and own land.

So, this transmission of self-employment was passed on to Mr. William Byrd, who in turn passed it on to his children, Lonnie "LC" Byrd, Melvin "Jimbo" Whiting, Velma "Red" Whiting, Thelma "Black" Whiting, and Thomas "TL" W. Byrd. His son, Thomas recalls his dad, often saying, "I'll even buy swamp land and make something out of it, if I just get the chance to buy it."

Little by little Mr. William Byrd would work and save his money never forgetting his dream to buy land. He even found a piece of land he wanted to buy and yes, it was under water and thought to be useless. A useless piece of land back then was called "deadening" land because it was swap area and not considered fertile for anything. He would often go there and gaze and dream, and cut down trees wisely clearing the land but telling all those who asked him, "What are you doing. . .?" he would say, "I'm cutting wood for burning."

Many times, the white men would threaten his life and run him home but he kept going back into the "deadening" until eventually he had saved enough money to buy the first of approximately 700 acres of land he would own over the course of his entire life.

The journey of this Black Farmer is that by 1940 he was well established with 20 houses or more on his land for all his workers,

both black and white, although once word got out that white folks were willing to work for him the other whites would run them off.

You see, Mr. Byrd believed in treating people the way he wanted to be treated, regardless of color. By 1955, he had earned enough money and respect as a black business man that he was able to purchase at least ten homes and two restaurants in Shaw, often paying cash each time he made a purchase. By this time, "money was no problem" as his son remembered his Dad saying. In fact, the first house he purchased was a big beautiful brick house which was the home of Mr. Thomas McEvans.

Mr. McEvans was another rich man in Shaw; he owned a clothing store, tailoring shop, and he took the lead in building the 1st colored school in Shaw, and a member of the Board of Trustees among other influences he held in Shaw. In 1959, part of his dream to build a community for blacks began to materialize. Mr. Byrd purchased a building ten miles west of Shaw on Highway 448 and had it moved to its current location of Hwy 442, five miles east of Shaw. That building became a focal point of Byrd's community. He remodeled the building turning it into "Byrd Grocery," and later he added on to the building a restaurant and gas station, changing the name to "Byrd Grocery and Service Station." Byrd's community also had two baseball fields.

When Black farmers were losing their farms in the 1960s for various reasons, Mr. Byrd was never affected or worried because he knew he had planned wisely. Long before automation really took over, he was already using tractors to do the work on the farm, getting away from the mule. But when automation fully came into use, his son, Thomas recalls the day his Dad went to the John Deere place and purchased a brand new top of the line, "John Deere" cotton picker. And because he was able to pay \$25,000 cash for the John Deere, the white salesman surely sold it to him because of the money but after that he refused to have anything else to do with him because it was unheard of and certainly shocking that Mr. Byrd, a black man, was in possession of that amount of cash and no one really knew. You see, his success rested in his belief to "never spend more than you make, keep folks out of your business, and don't be extravagant because a fool and his money will soon part," said, his son, Thomas Lee.

In 1975, Mr. Byrd due to health problems turned the family farm over to his oldest son, Lonnie "LC" Byrd, who died December 17, 1999. Mr. William "Kingfish" Byrd died in July 1980 and is buried in the Strangers Home Cemetery in Shaw, MS beside his wife, Daisy Byrd, who died in August 1981. Thomas Lee recalls his father's last words to him, "Son, I told LC and I'm telling you never sell the farm. I built this for all my children."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring, Mr. William "Kingfish" Byrd, a black farmer from the Mississippi Second Congressional District.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE
ACADEMY NOMINEES FROM THE
7TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
OF PENNSYLVANIA

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the young men and women from the 7th Congressional District of Pennsylvania who have been nominated to attend a service academy. These men and women will honor a commitment to serve in the military for a minimum of five years upon graduation. They have been nominated because they have displayed character traits such as leadership, service and dedication both inside and outside the classroom. I am confident that their parents and teachers have prepared them well for this world-class educational opportunity and extraordinary service to their nation.

The following individuals have been nominated for academy appointment:

Evan Allen, Valley Forge Military Academy, United States Naval Academy; Zachary Assenmacher, Haverford High School, United States Naval Academy; Bret Beebe, Twin Valley High School, United States Naval Academy; Troy Bergwall, Bayard Rustin High School, United States Naval Academy; Nicholas Bologa, Pequea Valley High School, United States Merchant Marine Academy; Matthew Brecht, LaSalle College High School, United States Military Academy; Steven Bushold, LaSalle College High School, United States Military Academy; Julia Clements, Downingtown High School, United States Naval Academy; Cole Drahus, Twin Valley High School, United States Naval Academy; Jonas Fiant, Governor Mifflin High School, United States Air Force Academy; Daniel Geibler, Ridley High School, United States Military Academy; Chasan Hall, Coatesville Senior High School, United States Air Force Academy; William Higgins, Penncrest High School, United States Merchant Marine Academy; Phillip Ianozi, Springfield Township High School, United States Merchant Marine Academy; Matthew Jones, Malvern Preparatory School, United States Naval Academy; George Keating, North Penn High School, United States Naval Academy; Ethan Klabunde, Unionville High School, United States Naval Academy; Heather Laudermilch, Westtown School, United States Air Force Academy; Justin Lee, Upper Dublin High School, United States Military Academy; Kiersten Martin, Cardinal O'Hara High School, United States Naval Academy; Catherine McCarthy, Upper Darby High School, United States Naval Academy; Jacob McCubbins, Methacton High School, United States Air Force Academy; James McWilliams, Haverford Senior High School, United States Military Academy; Ross Obenschein, Twin Valley High School, United States Air Force Academy; Christopher Paolantonio, St. Joseph's Preparatory School, United States Naval Academy; Matthew Prestia, Plymouth Whitmarsh High School, United States Naval Academy; Charles Rossino, Haverford High School, United States Naval Academy; Thaddeus Schlamb, Downingtown West High School, United States Naval Academy; Andrew Schutta, LaSalle College High School, United

States Naval Academy; Zachary Smith, Cardinal O'Hara High School, United States Naval Academy; Olivia Tierney, Villa Maria Academy, United States Naval Academy; George Ulrich, LaSalle College High School, United States Naval Academy; Madeleine Wawrzyniak, Hatboro-Horsham Senior High School, United States Air Force Academy; Kyle Werner, Kennett High School, United States Military Academy; Dalton Wolfe, Oxford Area High School, United States Naval Academy

Again, Mr. Speaker, congratulations to all of these outstanding nominees. I wish them nothing but the best in all their endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT CHRIS
BOHLER

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sergeant Chris Bohler of Willow Spring, North Carolina, who gave his life while defending our Nation on December 17, 2013, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Sergeant Bohler was one of six U.S. servicemembers killed when a helicopter crashed in Zabul Province, Afghanistan. He shall be remembered by all those whose lives he touched as the finest example of altruism, integrity, and patriotism. His life and his sacrifice merit our utmost respect and gratitude.

Chris came from a long line of soldiers. His great-grandfather served in Europe during World War I. One of his grandfathers enlisted in the Army during World War II, and a great-uncle enlisted in the Air Force during the Korean War. His father also served in the Army.

Chris graduated from South Johnston High School in Four Oaks in 2003 and went on to attend Johnston Community College, where he was admired as a man with high aspirations and the tenacity to achieve his goals. Eager to protect his country, he joined the Army in 2007, and was assigned to B Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, 1st Infantry Division in Fort Riley, Kansas. Chris was a humble hero that lived his life the best way he knew how—by serving others.

Chris was serving our country dutifully when his life was taken. He will be missed by his family and friends. He was the son of Deborah and Pete Bohler and the oldest of three children. Although he is now gone, his courage will continue to be an inspiration to us all. He shall be remembered as the finest example of bravery, honor, and public service. May God comfort his family, and may we always remember the life of Sergeant Chris Bohler.

WELCOME BABY VALENTINA
LUCILLE DAY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate my Chief of Staff, Jonathan Day, and his wife Muffy, who serves as Chief of Staff for Congressman

JOHN CAMPBELL, upon the birth of their beautiful daughter. Valentina Lucille Day arrived into the world at 7:12 p.m. on Wednesday, Christmas Day, December 25, 2013, at George Washington University Hospital in Washington, DC. Weighing 6 pounds and measuring 19 inches long, Valentina is the first child for the happy couple. I look forward to watching her grow and have no doubt that her talented parents will be dedicated to her well-being and bright future.

I would also like to congratulate Valentina's grandparents, Wallace and Miriam Lewis of Miami, Florida, and Edward and Margaret Day of Conklin, New York. Congratulations to the entire Day and Lewis families as they welcome their newest edition of pure pride and joy!

MOURNING THE PASSING OF CONGRESSMAN VICENTE "BEN" GARRIDO BLAZ

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I learned today of the passing of former Congressman Vicente 'Ben' Garrido Blaz. Elected to the U.S. Congress in 1984 to represent the Territory of Guam, Congressman Blaz was an exceptional leader for his people. He was also an example of statesmanship to the greater Pacific region, including American Samoa. He will truly be missed.

As a genuine patriot, Blaz first served his country as a Marine and served three tours in Osaka, Okinawa, and Vietnam. He was the first general officer from Guam to serve in any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. In 1977, he became the first Chamorro ever to be promoted to the rank of Brigadier General.

Congressman Blaz served Guam for eight years in the U.S. Congress from 1985–1993 (99th Congress—102nd Congress). As a freshman member and respected leader among his peers, he was also elected as President of his freshman class. I will remember him also as a dear friend who welcomed me as a fellow islander and brother after I was elected to serve American Samoa in 1988.

Congressman Blaz will be remembered for his dedicated service and pioneering spirit. He will also be remembered as a family man: a loving husband to his late wife, Ann Evers Blaz, a devoted father and grandfather. I count myself as one of many who was blessed to share a friendship with this great man and I will hold close to my heart his example of leadership, passion for his Chamorro culture, and immense love for his people.

The people of American Samoa join together to honor our Chamorro brother. We give our deepest condolences to his family, especially his sons, Mike and Tom, and their families, and to the people of Guam as they mourn his passing.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of a great man who represented Indianapolis in Congress for twenty years. After a life of dedicated service to his city and country, former Congressman Andrew Jacobs, Jr. passed away on December 28, 2013.

I was privileged to know Congressman Jacobs from a very young age and considered him family. He served as an invaluable mentor and dear friend to my grandmother, Julia Carson, who he hired to work in his Indianapolis congressional office in 1965. It was Andy's faith and encouragement that inspired my grandmother to run for state representative in 1972, and his support of her never wavered.

At an early age, Andy took an interest in me as well and imparted wisdom while serving as a role model. He continued as a valued mentor, even long after he left office. With Andy's passing, our nation lost a man who was resolutely courageous, both in his service as a Marine in Korea, and in public life.

People will likely recall that he helped strengthen Social Security, fought for civil rights, and was unrelentingly frugal with taxpayer dollars. But his true legacy is that of a man who took the path less traveled, one of principle, no matter what advantages he sacrificed to do so.

While in Congress, Andy never took a donation from a political action committee, he never attacked an opponent, and he never put his name on his office door in Washington, D.C., explaining that "the seat belonged to the people I serve, not to me." He was a selfless public servant, who never cared about station or the trappings of office.

Andy was a man of rapier wit. And though he used it often to hilarious effect in disarming the infrequent angry constituent or political foe, he was never caustic or maligning. He upheld the dignity of all. This is undoubtedly why he forged enduring friendships with, and held the respect of, many across the aisle.

For some time now, Andy has penned a weekly "Thought Bite" for Nuvo, a local Indianapolis newspaper. On December 18, it read: "If there's one thing I hate, its hate." I cannot think of a better self-assessment for a man whose heart had unlimited capacity to see the goodness in everyone.

In sum, Andy was a model of decency, compassion, servant-leadership, thoughtfulness, and civility. I pray that God rests his soul and gives peace and comfort to his wife, Kim, his sons Andy and Steven, and to the countless others for whom Andy is "family."

RECOGNIZING JOE COTCHETT

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an extraordinary man, and a true humani-

tarian, who is celebrating his 75th birthday and his 50th anniversary practicing law in pursuit of justice for all Americans. Joe Cotchett is a Burlingame attorney known for his intellectual honesty, his booming declaration of indignation over the lack of justice for his clients, and an enormous heart that pumps love out to all, especially those in urgent need.

A few examples of his work over the years demonstrate his dedication to the rule of law. This chamber may never have heard of Joe Cotchett, but many have heard of Charles Keating, the former CEO of Lincoln Savings and Loan. Joe pursued Keating through the years until senior citizens who were bilked had received some measure of recompense. He took the case when others considered it a hopeless cause. Not to Joe. Justice is never hopeless in the law offices of Joe Cotchett.

In fact, white collar criminals know the name of Joe Cotchett well, as he pursued them in the interests of swindled investors in companies such as Technical Equities. When banks and securities firms sold Enron's bonds and assured investors that the bonds were sound, they defrauded buyers. Joe Cotchett held the sellers accountable. More recently, the County of San Mateo is likely to receive tens of millions of dollars through a suit filed against Lehman Brothers and the personal assets of its former CEO, Richard Fuld. Public agencies and the human needs that they serve will recover from wrongdoers, thanks to Joe Cotchett.

In the eyes of many in modern day America, civil justice is a rich man's right and a stale leftover due any poor man with the temerity to plead at the doors of a courtroom. In the eyes of Joe Cotchett, justice is an everyday pursuit on behalf of any American who has been wronged and who deserves redress.

Mr. Speaker, there are probably many persons who are alive today who unknowingly owe their economic well-being and peace of mind to Joe Cotchett. In 2000, Consumers Union was hit with a product disparagement and defamation suit. An automaker claimed that Consumers Union had hurt its reputation. Indeed, when the magazine pointed out that vehicles made by the company were prone to rollovers, sales fell. Joe Cotchett successfully defended Consumers Union and the right of investigative, consumer-oriented journalism to spell out the truth to buyers. Lives then and now are saved because this lawsuit and another in 2004 were not successful. The truth about dangerous products will continue to be published.

Most recently, he recovered \$1.5 billion for California counties which had sued lead paint manufacturers for the damage done to children by lead-tainted products. The settlement will go towards removing lead from the homes of low income children throughout California.

He once defended the justices of the California Supreme Court who were sued by various Wall Street interests. Wall Street was a bit unhappy with the court's rules regarding arbitration. The Wall Streeters were unsuccessful, thanks to Joe, and now it is demonstrable that there is justice even for justices but, most importantly, for the public interest that these justices serve.

Joe's work is not merely on behalf of those who can pay. Amerasian children in the Philippines were left in villages after Subic Bay Naval Base closed. Joe mounted a suit on their behalf that resulted in a settlement giving

direct U.S. aid to the children fathered by U.S. servicemembers. Locally, Joe and his law firm are routinely at the top of the list of donors to nonprofits helping the disabled, mentally ill, homeless and many others. It would be difficult to overstate the generosity of Joe towards his many communities, including \$5 million to create an endowment at California State Polytechnic University to promote the teaching of mathematics and science. Joe Cotchett has been “paying it forward” for decades, all with the knowledge that the meaningful legacies of any man’s life are not memorialized in stone but rather demonstrated by the conscientious, continuous replacement of despair and anguish with hope and well-being.

Of course, over 50 years of practice it would be expected that an accomplished advocate would receive many honors and serve in many positions. Joe’s honors and places of service are so numerous that they defy enumeration. Let me name just a few: Service on the board of the San Mateo County Heart Association, the San Mateo Boys and Girls Club, the Peninsula Association of Retarded Children and Adults, the Bay Meadows Foundation, Disability Rights Advocates, Public Citizen, and Earth Justice. He has lectured at the law schools of Harvard, Stanford, the University of Southern California, Georgetown, and U.C. Hastings College of the Law. Among his many honors have been those bestowed by the Anti-Defamation League, trial lawyer associations both state and national, and the State Bar of California. He has been published seven times and is a member of eight professional organizations, including the State Bar of California, and the bar associations of New York and the District of Columbia. He is also admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Joe Cotchett received his B.S. in Engineering from California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo in June 1960, being named an outstanding graduate, and his J.D. from Hastings College of the Law at the University of California in June 1964. He received an Honorary Doctor of Laws from Cal Poly and Honorary Doctor of Letters degrees from Notre Dame de Namur University and the University of San Francisco. He is the author of “The Ethics Gap”, “California Continuing Education of the Bar” and many others. His honors include being named Top 100 Lawyers in California by California Daily Journal in 2011 and the Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America list for 2011.

Do you see the theme here, my fellow members? Starving children. Children being poisoned by lead. Trusting consumers. The Earth in all her glory? Investors who legitimately trusted in free and fair markets? These are the clients of an honest, thoughtful advocate. An honest man is sometimes described as being made of the salt of the Earth. In fact, Joe is a bit salty. He can sometimes be crusty. But he is definitely of this Earth. Joe Cotchett deserves a happy 75th birthday and a warm round of applause for 50 years of service in the interest of justice. America is always strengthened by citizen advocates who see the public’s interest and who defend it unstintingly. This nation should hope that there

are many more years in the life and service of Joseph W. Cotchett, an historic defender of American democracy.

HONORING DAN BILBREY

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of Mr. Dan Bilbrey, a Vietnam War veteran who served in the Air Force and an outstanding leader in the community of Tracy, California.

Dan Bilbrey moved to Tracy, California in 1968 where he eventually served as the Mayor for 12 years, from 1994 to 2006 after a term on the City Council from 1990 to 1994.

At age 68, Mr. Bilbrey died in his home in the early morning on Wednesday, November 20, 2013, after suffering an illness for 7 months.

As mayor, Mr. Bilbrey played critical roles in many key community projects including: the Tracy Outlets, the West Valley Mall, construction of the Grand Theatre Center for the Arts, the Civic Center, renovation of the fire administration building at Ninth Street and Central Avenue, completion of the South County Water Surface Project, and establishment of a city parks system.

The city of Tracy honored Mr. Bilbrey’s long career of service to the community on February 5th by dedicating the plaza at City Hall, 333 Civic Center Drive, in his name.

Dan was a man of strong faith and conviction. He was a loyal, patient man that his family and community have always been proud and blessed to have in their lives. He was of the highest integrity, a man of wisdom and courage, strength and honor, who respected, and was respected by all. He was always there to help, whether it was a boy scout, a teenager, or any other individual.

Mr. Bilbrey gave 100% into all projects; big or small, they were all of equal importance. He was a man of many hats: Mayor, Councilman, Foundation Director, reserve policeman, medic, husband, father, brother, uncle, grandfather, and recently a great grandfather. He was born to Quitman and Lena Bilbrey and had one sibling, Ann Lamb; all have now passed. He has two children, John and Jennifer, three grandchildren, Savannah, Toli Jr. and Rylee, and one great granddaughter, Danni, who was named after him. His sister, Ann, married Spencer Lamb; they have three children, Terry, Sherry, and Elizabeth, who were very close to him. There are many great nieces and nephews, all of whom Dan’s love and life touched.

When Dan had free time, he enjoyed spending it in his garden with his, “sweetie,” Josie and his Boston Terrier. They made many trips to Oregon to visit grandchildren. They have also visited Europe, specifically: Portugal, Ireland, and England. Dan took after-Christmas trips to Hawaii with close friends to bring in the New Year. He took several cruises to the Panama Canal, Central America and Alaska.

Dan made friends everywhere he went and influenced many with his wisdom and kindness. He will be greatly missed by all. His contributions to our lives and community will always be remembered.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Dan Bilbrey for his life and great contributions to his family, community and country.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

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 \$17,306,977,954,400.15. We’ve added \$6,680,100,905,487.07 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GERALD L. BECK

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Gerald L. Beck for more than 38 years of service to educating Idahoans and on the occasion of his retirement from his current position as President of the College of Southern Idaho (CSI).

During his time at CSI, Dr. Beck has been a strong advocate for promoting academic excellence in Southeastern Idaho as well as supporting economic development in the local community. Through Dr. Beck’s work prior to joining CSI—which included starting a small business and working two regional managerial positions—Dr. Beck gained the experience necessary to begin a long and successful career educating those who now contribute to the economic development of Idaho.

Perhaps the most meaningful impact Dr. Beck has made is his role as an educator and administrator. Dr. Beck started his career at CSI as a technical instructor and went on to hold positions as the Coordinator of the Trade and Industrial Division, the Dean of Continuing Education/Summer School, and the Executive Vice President/Chief Academic Officer. In his time at CSI Dr. Beck was able to integrate the higher education curriculum to support economic growth in southeast Idaho which created a mutually successful relationship between the college and local community.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely thank Dr. Beck for his service and commitment to higher education in Idaho I wish him well in the next chapter of his life alongside his wife Barbara, children, and grandchildren.