

debilitating diseases like lupus. Through this initiative, we can work on disease prevention and reduce the amount of risks in the drug development process. We hope that the partnership will stimulate investment in new effective treatments and help improve the quality of life of the millions of people worldwide living with lupus and other recurring diseases.

Lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease that affects an estimated 1.5 million Americans. Approximately 90 percent of those with lupus are women, but men and children can also develop lupus. Lupus strikes without warning, has unpredictable, sometimes fatal effects, and has no known cause and no known cure. Lupus is also difficult to diagnose, and on average it takes an individual four years and three doctors to get an accurate diagnosis. Traditionally, there has been a lack of investment in research of this debilitating disease. This partnership is a strong step in the right direction. As co-chair of the Congressional Lupus Caucus, I applaud this important initiative, and I have confidence that is a step in the right direction toward finding a cure for this disease.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Accelerating Medicines Partnership and in thanking these tireless advocates for their persistence and dedication to improving the lives of millions in the United States and around the world.

HONORING WENONAH HIGH SCHOOL ALABAMA'S CLASS 5A STATE GIRLS BASEKTBALL CHAMPIONS 2014

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Wenonah High School Lady Dragons on winning the State of Alabama title in the 5A State Basketball Championship on Saturday, March 1, 2014. On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, I pay tribute to the Lady Dragons for their exemplary athleticism and teamwork as well as the outstanding leadership of Head Coach Emanuel Bell and his coaching staff. We are extremely proud of these young ladies for their stellar performance!

Wenonah's championship victory came at the end of an extraordinary season of 27 wins and 7 losses. Coach Bell's longstanding motto for his team is "hard work pays off." He not only commands the best from his team, he commits his personal time year-round to molding the young ladies he leads. The 20 year veteran coach has been a driving force in producing winning teams and leading the Lady Dragons to multiple state titles. The 2013–2014 season was no different.

The Lady Dragons faced Sylacauga High School to clinch the state title on March 1, 2014. The rival squad was favored to win due to having one of the top scorers of the season but Coach Bell believed in his team. In a Birmingham News article, Coach Bell boldly expressed his confidence in the Lady Dragons. "Everybody kept asking, 'What are you going to do about that girl?'" said Coach Bell. "Hey,

I've got eight girls. I've got 12 girls. If she can run with us, we've got a problem."

During the championship game, the Lady Dragons forged ahead with three players who contributed double digits in scoring. The group effort would sustain the Lady Dragons as they worked to contain their opponent's scoring powerhouse.

Wenonah took the lead in the opening minute of the game and trailed briefly late in the first half. However, the Lady Dragons went into halftime with a five point lead. With 5:28 left in the game, both teams were tied at 36 before Wenonah pulled away with a 6–0 run to secure their 57–46 victory. Jameka Holmes led the Lady Dragons with 25 points, followed by Aja Cumbie with 12 points and 11 rebounds, and 10 points from Kaitlyn Rodgers. Holmes added 15-of-21 free throws and had six steals.

As the daughter of a high school basketball coach, I know this decisive victory is also the result of the tremendous efforts of both the players and coaching staff of Wenonah High School. The exemplary leadership and dedicated support from the coaching staff was a major factor in the success of the Lady Dragons. I commend Head Coach Emanuel Bell for his program of excellence.

Mr. Speaker, the Lady Dragons of Wenonah High School are another fine example of the "champions" we breed in Alabama's 7th Congressional district. On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the accomplishments of the Wenonah High School Girls Basketball Team for their victory in the Class 5A Alabama State Championship.

Congratulations. Go Lady Dragons.

IN HONOR OF CHEF DARRYL E. EVAN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a great man and close friend, Chef Darryl E. Evans. Sadly, Darryl passed away on Wednesday, February 26, 2014. A home-going celebration in his honor will be held on Saturday, March 8, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at New Birth Missionary Baptist Church in Lithonia, Georgia. Interment will take place on Sunday, March 9, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at Green Acres Cemetery in Columbus, Georgia.

A Columbus, Georgia native, Darryl was a graduate of Carver High School Class of 1979. In 1986, he graduated from the American Culinary Federation (AFC) apprenticeship at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia.

One of the very few executive chefs of color in the hospitality industry, he achieved national recognition and earned numerous awards and accolades throughout the years. He was the first African American to compete in the International Culinary Olympics in Frankfurt, Germany, where he won three gold medals and

one silver medal in 1988 and 1992. He is a three-time recipient of the AFC Chef of the Year Award and was named Chef and Culinarian of the Year by the Greater Atlanta Chef's Association in 1991, 1993, and 1996. He has served as visiting Chef for numerous functions held by the United States Congress and various state governments.

Throughout his career, Darryl trained and mentored generations of culinarians. He made a living from feeding others, but he truly fulfilled his calling by helping to feed the hungry through organizations such as Taste of the Nations, the 1993 World Cooks Tour for Hunger in Johannesburg, South Africa, and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, as well as through his church, New Birth Missionary Baptist Church, where he served as the Chef of the church for many years.

Darryl loved his life's work. He knew that food was much more than just for sustaining one's body. He strongly believed that food was an important part of history and culture—whether as part of signing a peace treaty, blessing an event or ceremony, or by simply bringing a family together.

Darryl has achieved numerous successes in his life, but none of this would have been possible without the grace of God and his loving wife, Deborah; two sons, Brandon and Bradford-Michael; and the rest of his devoted family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 700,000 people of the Second Congressional District salute Chef Darryl Evans for his numerous remarkable achievements. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to Darryl's family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

IN RECOGNITION OF NANCY OATES

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Nancy Oates upon her retirement after thirty-one years of service to her community.

In April 1983, Ms. Oates was first elected to serve the town of Duxbury as Town Clerk. She has since been re-elected ten times, and has honorably served her community during her thirty-one years in office. During her tenure, Ms. Oates has supervised many town, state, and federal elections, and she has provided invaluable assistance to the citizens of Duxbury every day. She has long been known as a kind and trusted figure within the town, and her many accomplishments have been invaluable to the people she has served.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pride to honor Ms. Nancy Oates upon her retirement. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Ms. Oates for her many years of public service.