

Originally founded in the former Capitol Hill townhouse of Frederick Douglass, the museum was first opened by my friend Warren Robbins on June 3, 1964.

Over the ensuing decades, the museum has come to take a greater role in furthering cultural development in our Nation's capital. In 1979, it joined the Smithsonian Institution, and it relocated to its current location on the National Mall in 1987.

As the only national museum in the United States dedicated to the arts of Africa, it plays an important role in elevating the knowledge and understanding of visitors and academics alike. As a repository of stirring and thought-provoking artifacts, and a place for evocative performances and dialogues, it serves as a source of inspiration so many of our artists—luminaries like the late Maya Angelou who was a tireless advocate for the museum.

This museum has come a long way over the past 50 years, to play an important role in the Smithsonian Institution, in the Washington, D.C. community, and in the cultural life of our Nation and the world.

I congratulate them on a wonderful 50 years, and I wish them another flourishing 50 more.

HONORING MS. BLANCHE BURTON-
LYLES

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of the great pianist Ms. Blanche Burton-Lyles, a native of South Philadelphia, whose dedication to music and service has left a lasting mark on Philadelphia.

Ms. Burton-Lyles attended the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music, on the recommendation of her mentor Marian Anderson. There she studied under Madam Isabella Vengerova, one of the founders of the Curtis Institute, and Leo Ornstein, Sr., world renowned composer and pianist. Ms. Burton-Lyles also received a music degree from Temple University. She worked as a music educator in the Philadelphia Public School System for many years. A recipient of many performance awards and humanitarian honors, Ms. Burton-Lyles is the first African-American woman to perform in Carnegie Hall with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra and played a number of times in the personal home of Marian Anderson. In January of 1998, she received Anderson's historical residences, which are now international attractions for visitors worldwide. Ms. Burton-Lyles is the Founder and President of the Marian Anderson Historical Society, Inc. and maintains the Marian Anderson residence and museum. Ms. Burton-Lyles will be honored by the Marian Anderson Historical Society on May 31, 2014.

It is a privilege to recognize a person whose leadership and commitment have inspired and supported so many in our region. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Ms. Blanche Burton-Lyles for her lifetime of service and dedication to Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

IN RECOGNITION OF LUPUS
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lupus Awareness Month. As co-chair of the Congressional Lupus Caucus, I am honored to help raise awareness of lupus throughout the month of May.

Despite affecting an estimated 1.5 million Americans—approximately 90 percent of whom are women—lupus is not very well known. And for those who have heard of the disease, it is much more widespread than most realize.

Lupus is a chronic illness that can affect any organ in the body. It occurs when the immune system is out of balance, damaging the body's organs and tissues. Most puzzling, no two lupus patients experience the same symptoms. Thus, a variety of medications are used to treat the disease since its manifestations vary dramatically between cases. Many symptoms of Lupus mimic those of other illnesses, and can change over time, making diagnosis difficult. Consequently, diagnoses of Lupus can take up to four years and require visits to more than three physicians.

My goal in founding the Congressional Lupus Caucus was to raise awareness and help further research efforts in regard to this little understood, life-threatening disease. Researchers are working to better understand the disease's complexity and are making great strides in finding effective treatments. Today, there are more than two dozen potential drugs for lupus in the development pipeline. Because of research, initiatives such as Lupus Awareness Month, and other grassroots efforts, more and more people with lupus are leading healthier lives and living longer than at any time in history.

I am proud to report that in my home state of Massachusetts, excellent resources are available to those affected by lupus. These resources include a support group at the Bourne Council on Aging and a state-of-the-art Lupus Program at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Despite local successes, Federal funding for advocacy and research remains critical. Increased funding will lead to improved knowledge of the disease and earlier and more accurate diagnoses, helping to improve disease management, diminish adverse effects, and increase quality of life for individuals living with lupus. I pledge to continue to raise awareness and do what I can to secure the resources needed to build upon the steady strides already achieved in lupus research and development. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to continue to support lupus research and treatment and to help spread the word about this disease.

RECOGNIZING MR. AMR NASSAR

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize one of my constitu-

ents, Mr. Amr Nassar, for his acceptance to the People to People World Leadership Forum in Washington, DC. Mr. Nassar was selected for his academic excellence, leadership potential and exemplary citizenship.

The People to People mission is to bridge cultural and political borders through education and exchange. To this end, People to People offers domestic and international educational programs that promote cooperation, cross-cultural understanding and leadership. It is my hope that Mr. Nassar benefitted greatly from his participation in the World Leadership Forum, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

ANN MILLER TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ann Miller. Ms. Miller is the Executive Director of Unlimited Learning, Incorporated, in southwest Colorado.

Ms. Miller has been working with refugees and minority groups on educational and occupational issues such as providing English language instruction, life skills training and cross-cultural classes since the mid-1970s.

Since 1990, she has been Director of the Adult Education Program for Montezuma and Dolores Counties in southwest Colorado, and in 2001 founded Unlimited Learning and is currently serving as the institution's Executive Director. Unlimited Learning is a nonprofit educational organization, primarily focused on distance education programming. They ensure that Native Americans, rural area residents, and adults seeking a GED have access to adult education, college level education courses, and degrees. Unlimited Learning serves in partnership with the College of Eastern Utah, which is part of the Utah State University system, to provide educational services to over 5,000 square miles spanning Colorado, Arizona, Utah, and Alaska.

Ms. Miller is driven by the desire to provide innovative ways to reach and educate rural, low-income, and minority citizens, so that they have an opportunity for a better life—socially, economically, and physically. She truly has made a great difference in the lives of many people.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Director Ann Miller. I rise today to thank her for her work on behalf of the citizens of Montezuma and Dolores Counties.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE
TRANSITIONAL CARE ACT OF 2014

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing The Medicare Transitional Care Act, which will address continuity of care problems. This legislation will provide high-risk Medicare beneficiaries access to evidence based transitional care services that are provided by an eligible transitional care entity,