

of the pre-eminent organizations in my district and beyond. The association is much more than a group of lawyers looking out for the interests of their profession. The association is now over 1,000 members strong and out of its membership over the years have emerged some of the most outstanding lawyers and jurists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. For a century and a half the association has been a proven leader in providing legal assistance for the poor, educating the public on our legal system and seeking improvements in our courts.

The Hampden County Bar Association plays a significant role in providing Pro Bono services and access to justice, as well as community outreach programs to the local community. Such programs include a legal clinic, a lawyer referral and information service, and providing for Lawyer for a Day Programs, in its Housing, Probate and District Courts. This volunteer organization of lawyers provides professional support and education to its members and advocacy on behalf of lawyers, the judiciary and the public at large. Its members have continued to provide an unwavering commitment to the legal profession, to each other and to the people they serve. One of the many noteworthy services provided by the Hampden County Bar Association occurred following the June 1, 2011 tornado, which impacted Springfield and its surrounding communities. The Bar Association served as the base and primary liaison to coordinate efforts to assist victims of the tornado, including setting up a hotline for the public as well as a FEMA hotline. Members of the Association attended various town meetings to assist property owners with legal issues resulting from the tornado devastation. This service also included representing individuals who were facing condemnation hearings because of the significant property damage to their premises. In addition, the Hampden County Bar Association maintained the FEMA hotline a few months later in 2011 when flooding from Hurricane Irene affected Franklin and Berkshire Counties, knowing that their bar associations did not have the resources.

I urge all citizens to take note of the good work of the Hampden County Bar Association as it begins its next 150 years of public service.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SANTA BARBARA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT NEWS-PAPER, THE FORGE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Santa Barbara High School student newspaper, The Forge.

Published on October 16, 1914, The Forge is the oldest existing high school newspaper in Santa Barbara County and the second oldest high school newspaper in the state of California. The Forge published its first edition as a letter-size, four-page weekly paper with a staff of twelve and since then has developed

into a respected student run publication, delivering news and creating discussion among students and the entire Santa Barbara community.

Not only has The Forge built a reputation within the Santa Barbara community, but also on a state and national level. As a pioneer of high school publications, The Forge earned charter memberships in the National Scholastic Press Association, the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, and the Quill & Scroll International Honor Society. Unlike many other high school newspapers, The Forge has continuously published in print so as to keep the long standing tradition since its' first issue in 1914.

I am honored to represent Santa Barbara High School and am proud of The Forge for being an innovative leader within the institution of high school newspapers. Thank you for bringing to light the issues that matter most to the students of Santa Barbara High School then, now, and in years to come.

Today, I congratulate members, alumni, and supporters of The Forge newspaper on 100 successful years of providing a voice for the Santa Barbara High School Dons and for making history. I look forward to watching this esteemed organization and its members grow and have no doubt that they will continue to play a prominent role in our community.

THE PASSING OF JOHN DOAR

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memoriam of John Doar, who passed away at the age of 92, this past Tuesday, November 11th, 2014.

A courageous advocate, a brilliant legal mind, and a remarkable public servant—Mr. Doar will remain an inspiration to everyone who has made and who will make the pursuit of justice their life's work. His accomplishments are such that they cannot seem but exaggerations—but because they are not—I feel the need to stand before you and recognize a colleague who did so much for so many.

As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, I was fortunate to have worked with Mr. Doar many times—first during his time as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Justice, and later when he served as Special Counsel during the investigation and impeachment in the House of President Nixon.

I remember Mr. Doar as someone of fierce determination and true integrity. A Lincoln Republican—he served two Democratic Presidents and impeached a Republican one—without ever changing his party affiliation.

But more than an adviser, he was an active participant in making history. He was a firm defender of our national ideals, and he fought their perversion with every tool at his disposal.

As one of the architects of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, he helped ensure that every American had the opportunity to fully participate in our society and our democracy.

As an attorney and advocate for the American people, he fought to integrate the University of Mississippi, and secured the first conviction of white persons for violent crimes against black persons in the history of Mississippi.

As a believer in law and the power of non-violence, he stood between protesters and police on the edge of confrontation in the wake of Medgar Evers funeral.

In every action he brought credit to his profession, to the government, and to the promise of our nation.

It has been my privilege to have worked with Mr. Doar for so many years, and it has been America's privilege to have had his service. His example will serve as a benchmark for generations of public servants to come.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I extend my sincere thanks and condolences to his family and loved ones.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 512–515 due to a family emergency.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on #512, “no” on #513, “yes” on #514, and “no” on #515.

HONORING R.D. SIMPSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Chief R.D. Simpson, a native of Jackson, Mississippi.

Chief Simpson began his professional fire service career in 1993 with the City of Jackson Fire Department. Chief Simpson is well respected among firefighters in the City and the County for his professionalism and his ability to build strong relations between career firefighters and volunteers.

In his 20 years of service, he has held the following positions: Firefighter, Lieutenant in the Emergency Service Division, Captain/Emergency Medical Technician in the Emergency Service Division, Division Chief of Training, and Deputy Chief of the Emergency Service Division.

Chief Simpson's educational background includes: a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Jackson State University and a master's degree in Occupational Safety and Health from Columbia Southern University. He has served as the Public Information Officer for the Jackson Fire Department for the past ten years.

Chief Simpson resides in Jackson, Mississippi with his wife and their five children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Chief R.D. Simpson for his dedication to serving others.