

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
DEATH OF SIR WINSTON  
CHURCHILL

**HON. MAC THORNBERRY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 22, 2015*

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, January 24, marks the 50th anniversary of the death of Sir Winston Churchill. Few leaders in history made such a mark during their lives, and very few have attracted such study and admiration after their deaths.

Even now, 50 years after his passing at age 90 and 75 years after his "finest hour" when Britain and Churchill stood alone against the Nazi menace, new books and articles about his life and leadership pour forth.

The Churchill Centre is a growing international organization with a mission to "foster leadership, statesmanship, vision, courage and boldness among democratic and freedom loving peoples worldwide, through the thoughts, words, works and deeds of Winston Spencer Churchill."

The Churchill Centre and The George Washington University here in Washington are building a National Churchill Library and Center. Hillsdale College is publishing all remaining volumes of The Churchill Documents.

The list of activities related to Churchill is long, even 50 years after his death. And, as one measure of popular interest, there are few historical figures who are more regularly misquoted or falsely quoted on the Internet than he.

I think there are many reasons that Sir Winston continues to fascinate and inspire.

In part, there are his monumental achievements, for few statesmen did as much to shape the world in which we live. Were it not for his vision and his willingness to stand up to the conventional wisdom of his day, history could have had a far different outcome.

In part, it is his oratory. Just as his words inspired his nation and the world to stand up to evil then, they still inspire us today.

In part, there are his writings, which continue to be studied and referenced as Churchill the politician was a leading figure throughout the first half of the twentieth century, and Churchill the author helped shape our understanding of those momentous times.

I also believe that the continuing interest in Winston Churchill stems in substantial measure from the many ups and downs of his career. We all draw inspiration from someone who perseveres through higher accolades and lower derision than us will ever experience.

Finally, Churchill the person remains a dazzling personality, fully of humor and eccentricities adding to the interest of new admirers.

The qualities that he exhibited are timeless—qualities such as courage, patriotism, hard work, loyalty, and love of family.

And, many of the principles for which he stood and fought are timeless as well, such as the need to recognize and confront evil and to nurture and protect freedom.

He believed that the values of Western Civilization are a force for good and that the English-speaking peoples had unique contributions to offer the rest of the world on freedom, democracy, and the rule of law.

As one who was half American by blood, he appreciated America.

That appreciation has been returned by millions of Americans over the generations.

His bust has been added to the U.S. Capitol's Freedom Foyer, where it continues to inspire visitors and those of us who work here, thereby continuing to serve as a major link in the "special relationship" between the United States and the United Kingdom.

The lives of great leaders are always worth remembering and studying, and as long as freedom is cherished, I am confident that Sir Winston Churchill will be studied long into the future.

CONGRATULATING THE 2014–2015 ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

**HON. RODNEY DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 22, 2015*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2014–2015 Illinois State University football team on an outstanding season.

The Redbirds made it to the FCS National Championship game for the first time in school history.

While they ultimately fell short with a heart wrenching 37 seconds to go, they made us very proud.

The team captured their first conference title since 1999 and broke 16 school records. Those included most points in a season, total offense, rushing touchdowns, passing touchdowns, and most wins in a season.

A number of individual Redbirds also received Missouri Valley Football Conference recognition. Head coach Brock Spack was named Coach of the Year, Marshaun Coprich was named Offensive Player of the Year, and Tre Roberson was named Newcomer of the Year.

As a future Illinois State University Redbird dad, I look forward to the opportunity to watch these young players continue in their careers.

Bloomington-Normal and all of Illinois are proud of the effort the team put forth this season. We look forward to their success next year. Go Birds!

HONORING BILL KORTUM

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 22, 2015*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, we rise today in honor of William (Bill) Kortum, who passed away on December 20, 2014, following a battle with cancer. As a pioneering conservationist, Mr. Kortum championed many successful campaigns and brought lasting environmental protections to Sonoma County and the State of California, and his passing leaves a void that won't soon be filled. Considered by many to be the father of the environmental movement in Sonoma County, Mr. Kortum was known for his strength of conviction and tenacity for protecting the environment. Always kind, always polite, Mr. Kortum knew how to motivate others towards positive change, and he is singularly responsible for instituting many

lasting environmental protections, though he would never claim responsibility for them.

As a native of Petaluma, California, Bill Kortum grew up on his father's poultry ranch at a time when Sonoma County's open spaces were unmarred by urban development. Mr. Kortum went on to graduate from the University of California at Davis Veterinary School, serve his country in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps, and establish the successful Cotati Veterinary Hospital.

By the early 1960's, Bill Kortum saw how a rapidly growing population would increasingly threaten the natural landscape of Sonoma County. He and his wife, Lucy, opposed unregulated development and fought to pioneer an alternative path. One of the first of many significant environmental victories that Bill Kortum and his allies achieved in Sonoma County was to prevent the planned development of PG&E's nuclear power plant at Bodega Head.

In 1972, Mr. Kortum fought to pass Proposition 20, a measure that established the California Coastal Commission, which continues to guarantee public access to the California coastline. As a visionary leader, he went on to establish Sonoma County Conservation Action, an organization that mobilized voters to secure urban growth limits around all nine cities in the county. He helped to create the Sonoma County Open Space District and championed other key institutions and causes, such as the Sonoma Land Trust, the SMART train, and public access to Lafferty Ranch.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Kortum's many accomplishments and dedication to preserving our nation's natural resources for future generations illustrates the substantial impact that one individual can have on making the world a better place. Mr. Kortum will not soon be forgotten, and his legacy in Sonoma County and along California's rugged coast will continue for years to come. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to him today and express our deepest condolences to his wife, Lucy; children, Frank, Julie Groves, and Sam; grandchildren, Mark Kortum, Holden and Dylan Groves, Will and Grace Kortum; and many nieces and nephews.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR RONALD H. ROBERTS

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 22, 2015*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to California and the City of Temecula are exceptional. Temecula has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Mayor Ronald H. Roberts is one of these individuals. At a celebration on January 27, 2015, Mayor Roberts will be honored as he retires after many years of City Council service to the Temecula community.

About one month after the City of Temecula's incorporation, Ronald began working on the city's first "Traffic Committee" in January of 1990. In October of the same year, Ronald was selected to serve on the city's first

Traffic Commission. In November of 1992, Ronald began his service on the Temecula City Council, dedicating his time, talents and efforts to his local community. Throughout his tenure, the main objective of Mayor Roberts was to ensure the quality of life for all Temecula citizens continued to thrive, an objective he continued to champion throughout his twenty two years on City Council. Additionally, during his time as Mayor, he has played a pivotal role in the political landscape of the Temecula community, region and state.

Prior to his work on the City Council, Ronald served his community during his time with the California Highway Patrol, retiring after twenty nine years of valiant service. Ronald also freely gives his leadership and experience to many organizations, serving and chairing many boards at the community, regional, and state levels. These organizations include Habitat for Humanity Inland Valley Board of Directors, Temecula Balloon and Wine Festival, City of Temecula Traffic & Transportation Commission, Western Riverside Council of Government Executive Committee, Southern California Association of Governments, Southern California Association of Governments Transportation & Communications Committee, Riverside County Transportation Commission, Riverside County Transportation Commission Budget & Implementation Committee, Southern California Regional Rail Authority, Southern California Regional Rail Authority/Metrolink Operations Oversight Committee, SCAQMD Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee and National League of Cities Transportation Infrastructure & Services Committee.

As the longest standing City Council Member for the City of Temecula and as a man who has devoted over two decades to this great city, it is only fitting that he be honored as he retires from public service. Mayor Roberts' tireless passion for public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our region and the state and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he retires and moves onto the next phase of his life.

COMMUNITY LEADERS: URBAN  
LEAGUE OF MORRIS COUNTY  
AND WILLIAM D. PRIMUS

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 22, 2015*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Urban League of Morris County, located in Morristown, New Jersey, and to remember the life of its founder, William D. Primus, and his many achievements.

The Urban League of Morris County is one of 110 affiliates of the National Urban League, and one of the most active branches in the country. Having served over 4000 families each year, the multi-racial League's self-expressed mission is to "enable African Americans and other minorities to secure economic self-reliance, parity and power, and civil rights; and to provide assistance to any resident desirous of improving their quality of life."

In 1910, Morristown native Ruth Standish Baldwin and Dr. George Edmund Haynes

founded the Committee on Urban Conditions among Negroes, which would grow exponentially to become what is known today as the National Urban League. As early as 1919, various organizations in Morris County embraced the National Urban League's mission of social justice for African Americans, and by 1944 a multi-racial group of concerned citizens formed a local affiliate, the Urban League of Morris County.

As the first organization of its kind in Morris County, the Urban League set the standard for serving minorities in the community. It was the first organization in the Morris County community to act as a liaison between African Americans and industry, securing employment opportunities with major corporations for minorities. The League's efforts paved the way for the hiring of qualified minorities into management positions at these corporations. It was also first to coordinate with local high school guidance departments, encouraging African American students to pursue higher education. Moreover, the League was the first to advocate the need for low-income housing in Morristown, resulting in a project for affordable family housing now known as Manahan Village.

Today, the Urban League of Morris County continues to serve citizens of the community in multiple areas, with programs ranging from corporate internships to housing advocacy, from computer training to English as a Second Language classes.

This past week, this incredible organization suffered a great loss, as William Primus, former chairman and CEO of the Urban League of Morris County, passed away. Over the course of his life, Bill Primus, a longtime friend of mine, was instrumental in various accomplishments for the advancement of social services to minorities in the region.

In 1970, Mr. Primus became the first African American member of the Madison Volunteer Fire Department and in 1980, he was the first African American elected to the Madison Borough Council. During his term, Mr. Primus served as vice chairman of the Board of Health and chaired Madison's Housing Authority. As chair, Mr. Primus implemented policies that would lead to the construction of the Rex Tucker Senior Housing Complex in Madison and the town's first affordable public housing.

Over his 14 years of working with the Urban League, Mr. Primus was instrumental in transforming the Urban League into one of Morris County's most active and influential organizations. When Mr. Primus first began working with the organization, it had a budget of \$95,000 and only one full time employee. By the time he retired, it had a budget over \$1 million and 14 full time employees.

Mr. Primus constantly focused on providing affordable housing for the Morris County community. In 2001, he took control of the Morris County Fair Housing Council and transformed it into the Urban League's Fair Housing and Assistance Program. Through this program, the Urban League was able to improve the county's efforts by addressing discrimination and promoting fair practices for housing.

Additionally, Mr. Primus established the Urban League's youth program, offering both educational and employment services. He created the Summer Work and Youth School Outreach Programs and facilitated the awarding of over 90 academic scholarships during his tenure with the League. Furthermore, Mr.

Primus helped me establish the Urban League's Washington intern program that has given so many young men and women from Morris County an opportunity to learn firsthand how Congress works. The Urban League of Morris County handpicks these students and sends them to the Capitol in the summer to serve as interns in my Capitol Hill office.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Urban League of Morris County and celebrating the life of William D. Primus.

RECOGNIZING FORMER IOWA  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE ED  
SKINNER

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 22, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of former Iowa State Representative Ed Skinner who passed away on January 12, 2015 in Des Moines at the age of 78.

Mr. Skinner served the people of Iowa and Polk County as State Representative from 1968–1972 and spent many years as the Altoona and Pleasant Hill city attorney. During his time in the legislature, Ed was instrumental in the creation of one of Des Moines' biggest tourist attractions, Living History Farms.

Throughout his life Ed demonstrated a constant and legendary commitment of service to his family, community, state, and nation. He graciously volunteered his time to a number of organizations including the Altoona Lions, the Altoona Chamber of Commerce, and The Iowa Democratic Party, which recognized Ed with their Outstanding Supporter Award in 2013.

"He has been a strong advocate for eastern Polk County and has helped mentor generations of Democratic leaders throughout his life," the party said in a news release at the time.

Mr. Skinner was dedicated to mentoring and helping generations of leaders in Iowa and our nation because he believed in, and lived his life, serving others and working tirelessly for what he believed in.

It was a great honour to have known Ed and worked with him. I know that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the accomplished life of Ed Skinner and offer our thoughts and prayers to his family and friends.

HONORING ANTHONY HO

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 22, 2015*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office's Deputy Director of the Congressional Liaison Division, Anthony Ho. Anthony has served in that important office for more than 10 years. He has played a large role in promoting friendship between the people of our two great nations during his two tours here in Washington, DC.

Anthony earned his B.A. at the National Taiwan University and his Master's degree in