

your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

An organized and intentional government is essential for any country to thrive and run efficiently. However, in my opinion, the government can easily overstep its bounds and become a catalyst for persecution and oppression. It is clear that the founding fathers were very skeptical of—after years of debate—creating a centralized government. They realized that the very thing they fought and died to rid themselves of can easily creep back into the delicate balance of true democracy, actively nullifying their painful sacrifices. When they finally had the chance to establish their vision of a perfect government, they immediately focused on the concept of a small central government to give the power back to the people. With the terror of absolute rule fresh on their minds, knowing the potential of a sovereign government, these men realized what government's role truly should be. Because of this, the founding fathers are the most influential figures in my view towards the government's role in my life and the lives of those around me. I believe that the subsidies and programs that accompany a large and powerful government are far outweighed by its potential to take all those things away in an instant. If we allow the government to provide everything for us, then we truly have no freedom because we are ultimately bound to the large government that provides everything we need. Although this is extreme, it accurately portrays the dangers of a large central government. Therefore, I firmly believe that local and state governments should adopt a larger role in the lives of the citizens within their jurisdiction, coupled with a central government that focuses on foreign affairs and large international issues. On the contrary, the necessity of a central government can easily be witnessed throughout history and, therefore, cannot be overlooked. In the United States' establishment, the absence of a central government led to turmoil, violence, and an obvious lack of organization. The balance between local, state, and federal government is fragile and difficult to set, yet it is vital to the well-being of a nation. Therefore, I believe that although governments may have good intentions, ultimately governments lose sight of true freedom, and because of that reason, a government should never have the ability to micromanage my life or limit my Constitutional freedoms.

HONORING THE CAREER OF J. MICHAEL CRABTREE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the long, distinguished career of one of my good friends, J. Michael Crabtree, who will be retiring this spring.

Michael has been a hardworking and respected member of the education community for more than 40 years. The time and dedication he devoted brought about significant positive change to the students and community of Southern Nazarene University. Not only the students, but professors, community members, parents, and alumni greatly benefited from his work. Michael's different positions at the university over the years allowed many to experience his diverse skill set and leadership qualities. One of his recent accomplishments was his helping to complete the nine million dollar

Campaign for the Science effort for the J.D. & Mary West Science Laboratory.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Michael for many years. His recent positions at the university demonstrate his ability to maintain strong relationships and enhance school programs. Michael is retiring as Associate Vice President for University Advancement where his main focus was endowment development and planned giving. He maintained and enhanced relationships with donors as well as donor programs. His other roles at the school included assistant to the president, Vice President for University Advancement, and executive director of university advancement among others.

Michael also spent considerable time volunteering. He spent countless hours with organizations and groups throughout the community such as the Bethany Arts Council, Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Foundation, and Oklahoma City Civic Music Association along with many others. He received the Manager of the Year award in 1988 from Southern Nazarene University and "Service recognition for 35 years in higher education" in 2008.

I want to thank Michael for his time and devotion to better the school that I attended as an undergraduate. His career will be remembered for years to come by everyone involved in the school and community.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize the career of J. Michael Crabtree. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating this milestone in his remarkable life.

RECOGNIZING THE OPENING OF THE LIVE4LALI CLINIC

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Chelsea LaLiberte and Jody Daitchman, as well as the other hardworking volunteers, on the opening of the Live4Lali clinic in Arlington Heights, Ill.

In the Chicago suburbs, somebody dies of a heroin overdose every three days. Cheaper than cigarettes and more accessible than alcohol, heroin has become a plague on our suburbs. Ms. LaLiberte and Ms. Daitchman recognized that our community and suburbs across the country are struggling with this epidemic, and they have taken bold and courageous action to prevent people from falling victim to drug abuse.

Their efforts have already saved countless lives and the Live4Lali clinic will undoubtedly save countless more. I offer my deepest thanks for their work in helping to strengthen our community, and I urge the Members of this House to help us empower these agents of change by getting drug abuse prevention programs the funding they need.

HONORING MARGARETTE PURVIS

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Black History Month to recognize the

important contributions made by African-Americans across the nation. African-Americans have made countless contributions to our country and made many great sacrifices for this great nation, and nowhere is the power, heritage, and vibrance of this community more visible than in New York City. It is with great pleasure that I stand before you today to honor one of our local champions, Ms. Margarette Purvis, for her many years of advocacy and work to better the lives of families across our community.

Ms. Purvis leads Food Bank For New York City, the country's largest food bank serving one out of every five New Yorkers. In this role, Ms. Purvis has led the strategic vision for all of Food Bank's operations, philanthropy and programming, including the organization's city-wide food distribution system and member network of over 1,000 charities and schools. In addition, Ms. Purvis, who has more than 20 years of experience in services to our nation's most vulnerable, was selected by Governor Andrew Cuomo to chair the New York State Anti-Hunger Task Force, where she's leading the drafting of recommendations for better coordination of hunger relief services and policies throughout the state.

Ms. Purvis has held numerous prestigious positions before assuming her current role. She was CEO and Principal of PCG Services, an Atlanta-based firm. PCG developed and implemented social and philanthropic programming and branding strategies for businesses, notables, nonprofits and government agencies. She was also the Vice President of National Programming at Points of Light Foundation, leading the launch and implementation of its multimillion dollar programs and civic engagement units while overseeing large-scale disaster initiatives in response to Hurricane Katrina. Prior to each of these Ms. Purvis served her first term at Food Bank as the organization's Vice President of Programs and Services where for five years she developed national award-winning programs, including the Education Institute and Kids Café programs.

The common thread through all of Margarette Purvis' professional endeavors is a strong passion for others; particularly, a passion for prioritizing the needs of our community's most vulnerable individuals who are not always able to advocate for themselves. This allegiance to fighting the good fight for those who are unable to fight for themselves is precisely what makes Ms. Purvis such a remarkable leader. I am honored to help serve a community that counts such a fierce advocate as an ally, and look forward to continuing to work with Ms. Purvis to serve those in need.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Ms. Margarette Purvis for her tireless effort and devotion to helping our community.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL MORMAN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Michael Morman for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Michael has the determination and talent to be successful in all that he does, and his work with Shive-Hattery Inc. is a testament to that commitment. As an Architect and Project Manager for Shive-Hattery, Michael is able to pursue a personal passion of his in his professional life. He maintains an active schedule outside work, volunteering for numerous organizations, including the Habitat for Humanity.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Michael in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Michael on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

CONGRATULATING JOHN SUTTON

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate 8th district constituent, John Sutton of Worthington, Indiana and former Army Specialist 4th Class. Mr. Sutton was awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroically rescuing a fellow soldier from the burning wreckage of their downed helicopter on September 3, 1969. Even though Mr. Sutton was seriously injured, he and the surviving co-pilot bravely returned to the burning wreckage to pull the pilot, who lost both of his legs in the crash, to safety.

The Soldier's Medal is the highest medal awarded to enlisted Army personnel for non-combat related acts of valor. Mr. Speaker, I join my fellow Americans in thanking Mr. Sutton for his act of true bravery and selflessness. He is well deserving of this high honor.

HONORING EDDIE WILLIAMS, SR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mr. Eddie Williams, Sr.

Before joining the clergy nearly 35 years ago, the Rev. Eddie Williams, Sr. already was a trailblazer in the Port City and had dedicated his life to helping others.

Born July 21, 1931, on Dent Street, in Greenville, Mississippi, Mr. Williams would go

on to become his native city's first black radio announcer.

He attended Sacred Heart Elementary School and Coleman High School before continuing his education at the Greenville Industrial College.

After graduating, Williams in 1951 enlisted in the U.S. Army and served as a medic in Korea.

He was honorably discharged in 1953 and briefly lived in Detroit where, he said, he first saw a somewhat integrated world. "It was a northern city, so it was definitely better there." Williams said, "At the time here, we had black and white waiting rooms."

Still, Williams returned to his hometown and went to work at the newly opened Greenville Mill. In 1958, Williams switched careers, hiring on with the new community radio station WESY as its public relations director, which put him on the air.

As an on-air personality, Williams guided Delta residents through the Civil Rights movement, from the sit-ins by college students in Montgomery, Ala., the March on Washington to the Magnolia State's own Freedom Summer in 1964 and the integration of Mississippi schools in 1970.

"At that time, Dr. (Martin Luther) King was working, and I would do everything Dr. King was doing," Williams said. "He was fighting for us, for the right to vote, and I was trying to keep our people informed of what was going on. When I got the news, I would hit the air with it."

Through his post at WESY, Williams became active in community affairs and won numerous civic commendations, including the Elks Serene Lodge No. 567's Outstanding Citizen Award in 1973 and its Man of Year award in 1974. In 1975, Williams was included in the annual Who's Who Among Black Americans and made the list of Community Leaders and Noteworthy Americans of 1976.

In 1980, after nearly three decades with WESY, Williams embarked on a spiritual journey and became pastor of Greater Springfield MB Church.

"The radio was entertaining and fun, but the church is a completely different thing," he said. "I feel like I was led to help people become the people that God would have us all to be."

In 1989, Williams became the pastor at Victory Temple Baptist Church on Alexander Street, where he has been since. For the past two years, he has told his parishioners about the rich history of current and former black "Green-villians" and urges the next generations to build on those achievements.

"Certainly we have made progress, but we still have a long way to go, and we've all got to work toward that goal," he said. "All of us, particularly black people, have got to put more effort into getting to where we need to be. We need to have more than Black History Month and start having Black History days and Black History years."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Eddie Williams, Sr. for his dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PATENT ACT CELEBRATION

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on April 10th we celebrate the 225th anniversary of President George Washington signing into law the Patent Act of 1790. We honor the wisdom of our founding fathers in creating the first patent system to recognize by law the inherent right of an inventor to have protection over their inventions and innovations. Our Constitution grants Congress the power "to promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries." With the creation of the Patent Act came the ability for Americans to be rightfully credited for the use of their talents to progress our nation.

The United States Patent and Trademark Office has issued over nine million patents. These patents demonstrate the creativity and foresight of the American people and their outstanding contributions enhance lives worldwide. We celebrate the first Patent Act, and salute the men and women who have promoted the progress of science and arts to make America a technological, economic, and cultural leader among nations.

I applaud the Patent and Trademark Office for its continued efforts to encourage innovation and strengthen the nation's competitiveness in the global economy. We must recognize the critical importance of intellectual property. It is critical that Congress continues to acknowledge the need for effective patents, trademarks, and copyrights while upholding the vision of our Nation's founders. Today, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Patent and Trademark Office—the model for managing patent systems around the world—for its stewardship of the patent system and for inspiring independent inventors, entrepreneurs, and small businesses to be innovators.

CONGRATULATING CINDY BOURLAND

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my longtime friend Cindy Bourland, who was named by Texas Governor Rick Perry to fill a vacancy on the Third Court of Appeals. She's a perfect fit to handle this important responsibility.

I've known Cindy since she was a young girl in my Sunday school class. She was an intelligent, kind, and motivated young lady who everyone knew had a very bright future. That she has achieved great things surprises no one.

I was excited that she decided to pursue a career in the law. She later practiced before my court and showed herself to be a skilled attorney who understood both the letter and spirit of the law while never losing sight of its impact on people.