

We also come together to remember two other tragic events that devastated the Polish-American community. I stand with the Polish people today at the Katyn 1940 Monument as they commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Katyn Forest Massacre, and the 5th anniversary of the tragic airplane crash that killed 96 people, including the Polish President and other top Polish officials. The Monument, located in Jersey City, is a symbol of the important history of the Polish-American community in New Jersey and the sacrifices of their ancestors.

The Katyn Forest Massacre occurred during World War II in April and May of 1940 while Poland was fighting a war on two fronts. The Soviet secret police brutally killed over 20,000 Poles whose bodies were later recovered in a mass grave at Katyn. Tragically, five years ago as a delegation of Polish officials were traveling to Katyn to commemorate the massacre, their plane unexpectedly crashed in western Russia, killing all aboard.

The Polish people throughout the course of history have been unwavering in their resilience and patriotism in the face of adversity. Their courage is admirable and inspiring, and on this day we stand in solidarity as they commemorate these occasions of great loss.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. KARLA A.
HUTCHINSON-SKEETE

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many individuals who are called to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service; and

Whereas, Mrs. Karla A. Hutchinson-Skeete has answered that call by giving of herself as an educator at Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Elementary Traditional Theme School, and as a beloved wife, daughter and friend; and

Whereas, Mrs. Skeete has been chosen as the 2015 Teacher of the Year, representing Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Elementary Traditional Theme School; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents for the betterment of our community and our nation through her tireless works, motivational speeches, performance through dance and words of wisdom; and

Whereas, Mrs. Skeete is a virtuous woman, a courageous woman and a fearless leader who has shared her vision and passion to help ensure that our children receive an education that is relevant not only for today, but well into the future, as she truly understands that our children are the future; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Karla A. Hutchinson-Skeete for her leadership and service to our District and in recognition of this singular honor as 2015 Teacher of the Year at Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Traditional Theme Elementary School; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim August 21, 2015 as Mrs. Karla A. Hutchinson-Skeete Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 21st day of August, 2015.

IN RECOGNITION OF CANDIDO DE
GUERRA CAMERO

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the extraordinary achievements of the legendary percussionist and innovator of Afro-Cuban Jazz, Candido Camero. Popularly known as Candido, Mr. Camero has literally changed music on a world-wide scale. A jazz artist that has performed and recorded with a long list of distinguished figures across a dizzying array of genres, he holds the distinction of being the most recorded percussionist in the history of Jazz. "Candido" is truly the percussion colossus of Modern Jazz and popular music.

On September 17, 2015, National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master Candido will be honored this year by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) at the 30th Annual Jazz Forum and Concert, during the 45th Annual Legislative Conference (ALC). Dubbed "The Man with A Thousand Fingers," Candido was the first musician to play two or more congas simultaneously, while tuning the drums to add melodic interest to rhythmic complexity. His innovations paved the way for future percussionists in Latin jazz, pop, rock, mambo, salsa and world music. For his many contributions to the development of music, Candido is truly deserving of the 2015 CBCF Jazz Legacy Award.

Candido de Guerra Camero was born on April 22nd, 1921 in Havana, Cuba. He started playing congas and bongos as a young child, and competed in neighborhood parades known as *comparsas*. His earliest gigs were with the CMQ Radio Orchestra for six years, and later with the famed *Tropicana* nightclub for eight years. In 1946 he appeared in a musical revue called *Tidbits* at the Plymouth Theater on Broadway, playing backup for the Cuban dance team, Carmen and Rolando. He made his first U.S. recording with the famed Afro-Cuban bandleader Machito in 1948 on the tune, *El Rey Del Mambo*, and worked with trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie to record three albums, *Afro* (1954), *Gillespiana* (1960) and *The Melody Lingers On* (1966). Candido also appeared on the Ed Sullivan and Jackie Gleason shows.

Gillespie introduced Candido to legendary pianist, bandleader, composer and educator, Dr. Billy Taylor. He played with Taylor from 1953 to 1954. They recorded *The Billy Trio with Candido: A seminal, Latin jazz LP* which spotlighted Camero's amazing and revolutionary conga and bongo playing. Dr. Taylor wrote that, "he had not heard anyone who even approaches the wonderful balance between jazz and Cuban elements that Candido demonstrates." Candido also worked and recorded with Stan Kenton, Tito Puente, Grant Green, Elvin Jones, Wes Montgomery, Tony Bennett, Art Blakey and Randy Weston. In 1979, Candido wrote "Jingo" for the West African percussionist Olatunji and his *Dancin' and Prancin'* LP for the Salsoul Latin-disco label.

Candido recorded over fifteen recordings as a leader, including "The Volcanic" (1956),

"Conga Soul" (1962), "Thousand Finger Man" (1969), "Brujeras de Candido: Candido's Latin McGuffa's Dust" (1971), "The Conga Kings," with percussionists Giovanni Hidalgo and Patato Valdes (2000), and "The Master" (2014). He was named an NEA Jazz Master in 2008, and was featured in the 2009 PBS documentary, *Latin Music USA*.

Candido Camero is a living national jazz treasure, and I encourage my colleagues to honor his tremendous contributions to Jazz.

HONORING CAPTAIN KRISTEN
GRIEST OF ORANGE, CONNECTICUT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding member of our military and recent U.S. Army Ranger School graduate, Captain Kristen Marie Griest. A native of Orange, Connecticut, Captain Griest recently became one of the first women to complete the 62-day combat leadership course—shattering a gender ceiling as she joins the ranks of our country's most elite Army members. Though she will not yet be able to serve in the 75th Ranger Regiment, her hometown community and her state could not be more proud of her accomplishment.

A graduate of Amity Regional High School in Woodbridge, Connecticut, Kristen Griest was known as a quiet leader and a tough competitor, always pushing herself to succeed. A track and softball star in high school, she entered the United States Military Academy at West Point in the fall of 2007. Following her graduation, Kristen went on to serve in the military police because, as her brother, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Michael Griest, an Army aviator himself, said "it was the closest she could come at the time to serving in combat." She was deployed to Afghanistan in 2013 as a military police officer and upon her return took up the challenge of Ranger School.

With courses including phases at Fort Benning in Georgia, on the mountains of northern Georgia, and in the Florida Panhandle swamps in and around Eglin Air Force Base, The U.S. Army's Ranger School is considered one of the military's most difficult courses physically and mentally. Critics of allowing women into the military's most elite units had used the argument that no woman has demonstrated she can keep up with men by passing Ranger School. Along with fellow graduate, 1st Lieutenant Shaye Haver of Copperas Cove, Texas, Kristen has successfully challenged such notions, demonstrating that women should be allowed the same opportunities as their male counterparts to join our military's elite forces.

Kristen recently received her black and gold Ranger tab along with her fellow Rangers, but will return to her previous unit instead of joining her male colleagues in the 75th Ranger Regiment. Perhaps soon we will see that ceiling shattered as well. Today, I am proud to stand today to join her parents, Thomas and Laura; her brother, Michael; her many family and friends, as well as the community of Orange and the State of Connecticut in extending my sincere congratulations to Captain