

RECOGNIZING THE 37TH ANNUAL
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
MEMORIAL BREAKFAST

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 7, 2016

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and reflect on his life and work, we are reminded of the challenges that democracy poses to us and the delicate nature of liberty. Dr. King's life and, unfortunately, his untimely death, remind us that we must continually work to secure and protect our freedoms. In his courage to act, his willingness to meet challenges, and his ability to achieve, Dr. King embodied all that is good and true in the battle for liberty.

The spirit of Dr. King lives on in the citizens of communities throughout our nation. It lives on in the people whose actions reflect the spirit of resolve and achievement that will help move our country into the future. I am honored to rise today to recognize several individuals from Indiana's First Congressional District who will be recognized during the 37th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast on Saturday, January 16, 2016, at the Genesis Convention Center in Gary, Indiana. The Gary Frontiers Service Club, which was founded in 1952, sponsors this annual breakfast.

The Gary Frontiers Service Club will pay tribute to local individuals who have for decades selflessly contributed to improving the quality of life for the people of Gary. This year, William "Billy" Foster and Mozell Hayman will be honored with the prestigious Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drum Major Award for 2016. Additionally, several individuals will be recognized as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Marchers at this year's breakfast, including Tammi Davis, Reverend Chet Johnson Sr., Danita Johnson Hughes, Ph.D., and Reverend Mathew Whittington. Finally, Reverend Curtis Whittaker, CPA, was selected as the 2015 Yokefellow of the Year.

Though very different in nature, the achievements of each of these individuals reflect many of the same attributes that Dr. King possessed, as well as the values he advocated. Like Dr. King, these individuals saw challenges and faced them with unwavering strength and determination. Each one of the honored guests' greatness has been found in their willingness to serve with "a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love." They set goals and work selflessly to make them a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these honorees, as well as the Gary Frontiers Service Club officers, President Oliver J. Gilliam, Vice President James Piggee, Recording Secretary Linnal Ford, Financial Secretary Sam Frazier, and Treasurer/Seventh District Director Floyd Donaldson, along with Clorius L. Lay, who has served as Breakfast Chairman for sixteen years, and all other members of the service club for their initiative, determination, and dedication to serving the people of Northwest Indiana.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 182ND
ANNIVERSARY OF CHERRY HILL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 7, 2016

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 182nd anniversary of Cherry Hill United Methodist Church.

When Cherry Hill United Methodist Church first began meeting in 1834, it consisted of only a few pioneer families in their log cabins on the circuit of an itinerant preacher. In 1848, members of the church raised \$600 to construct the beautiful gothic-style brick building that stands today. Since then, the building has been expanded to accommodate the growth in attendance and to support a full parsonage, but it retains its original structure and colorful stained glass windows.

In its 182 years of existence, the church has been a boon to the Cherry Hill community. Over the years, it has often been the setting for community dinners and social gatherings. Today, Cherry Hill United Methodist Church members serve the community through their dedication to providing low income children with school supplies and winter coats, their work with Habitat for Humanity, and their support for the "First Step" domestic violence shelter.

Thank you, Cherry Hill United Methodist Church for your service, and my sincere congratulations on your 182nd anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO EMILY ANN ROBERTS

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 7, 2016

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, my District spans a large area of East Tennessee, including parts of the Smoky Mountains in the heart of Appalachia.

This region has a rich history of country music.

Recently, one of my constituents, Emily Ann Roberts, rose to stardom on the national stage after placing second on the NBC television show *The Voice*.

Emily wowed judges during her audition with a version of Lee Ann Womack's "I Hope You Dance," earning her the admiration of show host and singer Blake Shelton.

From there, she spent months competing each week with dozens of other contestants.

During the show's run, Emily even made the iTunes Top 10 several times and climbed to 21 on the country Billboard chart for her rendition of The Judds' song "Why Not Me."

I have had the privilege over the years to get to know Dolly Parton. Emily was very excited when Dolly made an appearance on the show to help coach her.

It was certainly a favorite moment for me and East Tennessee viewers.

Emily told the Knoxville News Sentinel, "That's such a once in a lifetime thing. I've grown up surrounded by her influence . . . when she hugged me, she said 'I love my little hometown girl' and then she leaned back and she said 'I'm so proud of you.'"

During the show's finale, Emily stood live in front of millions of viewers and sang with Ricky Skaggs. She was a symbol of East Tennessee graciousness when she hugged her fellow competitor after the results were announced.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt we will hear Emily's beautiful voice for many years to come, and she will find continued success in music.

I call her inspirational journey to the attention of my colleagues and other readers in hopes that it inspires many more young people to reach for the stars.

K-9 ZERO CAMDEN COUNTY
POLICE

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 7, 2016

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of K-9 Officer Zero of the Camden County Police Department for his achievements, contributions, and service to the people of New Jersey.

Zero, a Czech Shepherd, joined the Camden County Police Department in 2007. Zero was instrumental to keeping streets safe and sniffing out illegal drugs, but he became a local legend from his ability to find and rescue missing children. Soon he was a local celebrity, known throughout the community for his powerful sense of smell and his friendly demeanor around kids. His personable attitude made him the poster dog for the police force and an essential part of the force's public relations community outreach efforts.

Alongside his handler, Lieutenant Zsakhieim James, Zero quickly shattered the K-9 record for most criminal apprehensions in New Jersey. By the end of his career, he apprehended 68 criminals. On December 29th, 2015, our local hero died of natural causes in the home of his friend and partner, Lieutenant James.

Mr. Speaker, Officer Zero will be remembered for the lives he saved and the unity he brought to the community. His service sets the bar for all K-9 units and I join Lieutenant James, the Camden County Police Department and the residents of Camden County in thanking Zero for his lifetime of service.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRED EATON

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 7, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fred Eaton for his twenty years of service with Comcast and his commitment to expanding access to media across Southeast Michigan.

A native of Chicago, Fred attended the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana where he majored in Radio and Television. After college, Fred went to work for southern Illinois' Mt. Vernon Register-News, writing articles by day and rewriting them for the evening news by night. It was during this time that Fred pioneered advances in the "Eyewitness News" format.

Fred moved to Michigan with his wife, Mary, and daughter, Virginia, taking up an editor post at the Adrian Daily Telegram. Always generous with his time and expertise, Fred consulted for the Lenawee County Democratic Party before going on to serve the public interest working with Congressman John Dingell. It was no surprise to any when Comcast asked Fred to be their man in Southeast Michigan. As the company has grown, so too has Fred's engagement in the community.

During his time with Comcast, Fred has been involved with numerous community organizations. He has served as a board member of The Guidance Center and the International Association for Organ Donation, as a founding member of Everybody Ready! and as chairman of the Great Start Collaborative for Wayne County. Fred has also served on the boards of the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber of Commerce, the American Arab Chamber of Commerce, and the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Chambers of Commerce. Our communities have been truly enriched by Fred's commitment.

When there was a need some place, Fred was always the first to say "how do we help?" An event didn't feel complete if Fred wasn't there. Most striking was his outlook on life—always smiling, always positive and always seeing the glass half full. He is leaving our community, and his departure will create a hole in many hearts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Fred Eaton for his service to our community. I thank him for his leadership and wish him many years of happiness ahead of him.

COMMEMORATING THE INAUGURATION OF MR. HARVEY GODWIN JR. AS CHAIRMAN OF THE LUMBEE TRIBAL COUNCIL

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 7, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the inauguration of Mr. Harvey Godwin Jr. as Chairman of the Lumbee Tribal Council, which is being held at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke's Givens Performing Arts Center on January 7, 2016.

After his inauguration as Chairman of the Tribal Council, Chairman Godwin has the honor of leading the Lumbee Tribe, which is headquartered in North Carolina's 8th Congressional District. The Lumbee Tribe is the largest tribe east of the Mississippi River with over 55,000 members, and is the ninth largest tribe in the United States.

Prior to his election as Chairman of the Lumbee Tribal Council, Chairman Godwin has been an active member of the Moss Neck community as a business leader and public servant. Chairman Godwin started his own business in the community, Two Hawk Employment Services, and currently serves on the Robeson Community College Foundation Board of Directors and the Lumber River Workforce Development Board. He also has previously served as the President of the Lumberton Rotary Club and was a past member of the Lumberton Area Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors.

This is an exciting moment for Chairman Godwin and the entire Lumbee Tribe as they celebrate the beginning of a new era in the Tribe's already proud history. Since coming to Congress in 2013, I have taken great pride in representing the Lumbee Tribe and I look forward to continuing this close relationship under Chairman Godwin.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Mr. Godwin on his election as Chairman of the Lumbee Tribal Council and wishing him well as he begins this new role.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BIKESHARE TRANSIT ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 7, 2016

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, America is in the middle of a bikeshare revolution: 13 new bikeshare systems launched in 2014 and 11 more launched in 2015, bringing the national total to approximately 80. More than 10 million people rode a bikeshare bicycle last year. Systems are opening in large metropolitan regions like Washington, DC and New York, as well as smaller communities like Dayton and Boise. The increased commercial investment around bikeshare stations and networks drives economic development in these communities.

Some of these existing bikeshare programs received federal monies to get off the ground, but the lack of an established funding source has proved an impediment to other projects across the country. Since the term "bikeshare" is not defined in U.S. Code or described by law as a form of transit, bikeshare systems and transportation officials alike now operate in a gray area. Congress needs to act to clarify that bikeshare projects are eligible for federal funding, providing certainty to investors, business owners, and commuters.

That is why today I am introducing the Bikeshare Transit Act. This legislation will eliminate this gray area by defining bikeshare in statute and making bikeshare systems eligible to receive funding to enhance related public transportation service or transit facilities. They will also be listed as an eligible project under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program.

Additionally, the Bikeshare Transit Act will allow federal funding to be used for acquiring or replacing bikeshare related equipment and the construction of bikeshare facilities.

The Bikeshare Transit Act will remove significant barriers facing new bikeshare projects as well as those existing bikeshare programs applying for federal funding. This legislation underscores that bikeshare programs drive economic development and are an important part of America's transportation system.

IN RECOGNITION OF COMMISSIONER A.J. RIVERS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 7, 2016

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my personal

congratulations and best wishes to an exceptional public servant and outstanding citizen, Commissioner A.J. Rivers, on the occasion of his retirement as City Commissioner of Cordele, Georgia.

When Mr. Rivers was elected City Commissioner in 1972, he became the first African American elected to city-wide office in Cordele. Since that time, he has served his community zealously and with unparalleled commitment.

Commissioner Rivers served our nation with honor and distinction in World War II from 1943 to 1946. He graduated from the Holsey-Cobb Institute in Cordele in 1947. He worked for North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company for 53 years—35 of those years in management and 18 years in agency. He was certified as an Instructor for Insurance Courses by the State Insurance Commissioner's Office in 1983.

Beyond his duties and responsibilities as a public servant, Commissioner Rivers has also dedicated his personal life to serving his community. He has served as a Scout Master; Westside Chairperson of the American Cancer Society; Westside Chairperson of the American Red Cross; President of the 8th District of the Georgia Municipal Association in 2006; President and Corporate Board Member of Big/Brother Big Sister of South Georgia in 2006; and President of the Gillespie Development and Day Care Center for 17 years. He is a member of the American Legion; NAACP; Cordele Community Advancement Council; Crisp County Chamber Executive Committee; and Board of Directors for River Valley Regional Commission, among many other community and professional organizations. Notably, Commissioner Rivers is the Founder and President of the Historical Awards Committee. Always a mentor to those who worked and lived around him, Commissioner Rivers possesses the rare quality of humble leadership.

Throughout his career, Commissioner Rivers has been recognized for his commitment and leadership in the community. His awards and accolades include the 8th District Community Award from the Georgia Municipal Association in 1994; the USDA Rural Development Steadfast Award in 2002; and the Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award from the Cordele Lions Club in 2014.

Commissioner Rivers' Christian faith has always instilled within him a desire to positively shape the community in which he lives. As a lifetime member of Mount Calvary Baptist Church, he regularly incorporates his faith into his commitment to public service.

After retirement, Commissioner Rivers will enjoy spending time with his wife, Vera, and their four children, six grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. Commissioner Rivers has accomplished much in his life, but none of it would be possible without the love and support of the family he cherishes so dearly.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to Commissioner A.J. Rivers upon the occasion of his retirement from an outstanding career spanning 44 years as City Commissioner of Cordele, Georgia.