

A native of Sharkey County, Mr. Jones is an active member of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, where he served as Deacon. Mr. Jones and his wife of 59 years, Clementine Jones, are the proud parents of 4 children, 16 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Fred Jones, Jr. for his tireless dedication.

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOUISIANA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise with every member of the Louisiana House delegation to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Louisiana Municipal Association. On January 28, 1926, the first Louisiana Conference of Mayors was held to adopt their Constitution, and elect Mayor F.J. Foisy of Alexandria the first president of the organization. That group would eventually become what is known today as the Louisiana Municipal Association. Since its inception, the LMA has tirelessly served municipalities of our state, thereby improving the quality of life for the citizens of our cities, towns, and villages. Today, the LMA zealously represents the interest of its 305 members, including 127 villages, 112 towns, 64 cities, and 2 parishes. It is my honor to commend this great organization for its non-partisan commitment to legislative advocacy, education, technical assistance, and a myriad of member services that enable municipal governments to run efficiently and effectively. One of the great advantages of the LMA, is that it provides a forum for municipal leaders to meet and assist each other in solving problems common to all municipalities.

To help fulfill its three-fold mission of education, advocacy, and service, the LMA has created a variety of initiatives. The LMA holds several events each year; an annual convention, a Mid-Winter Conference, ten district meetings, a Municipal Day during the state's legislative session, and 15 or more annual webinars. 2016 has been deemed the "Year of Education" to launch the initiative for enhanced education benefitting municipal entities and their employees. It will be a year-long celebration commencing with the LMA's Mid-Winter Conference in February.

The LMA has staff dedicated to state and federal legislative advocacy, an effort that has been successful on both fronts. On the federal level, the LMA played a critical role in the enactment of the Homeowners Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 by joining forces with the National League of Cities and other coastal state municipal leagues to lead the charge in lobbying Congress to enact critical reforms to the Biggert Waters Act of 2012, thereby facilitating affordable homeowner flood insurance in Louisiana and across the country. On the state level, the LMA has been a strong voice for Louisiana municipalities in efforts to fight blight, promote law enforcement, maintain funding, and enhance economic growth.

To provide excellent member services, the LMA has formed two wholly-owned subsidiaries: Risk Management, Inc., which manages

a self-insurance fund that addresses the insurance and liability needs of members; and the Louisiana Municipal Advisory and Technical Services Bureau, Inc., which provides outstanding and economical operational support programs to its members. In addition, the LMA boasts two political subdivisions: Unemployment Compensation Fund and the Louisiana Municipal Gas Authority. Other notable services, affiliate organizations, and advisory organizations include: the Computer and Internet Technology Assistance Program, which provides municipalities with free computer equipment and internet access to link them to the digital world; the Municipal Employees Retirement System; Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police; Louisiana Conference of Mayors; Louisiana City Attorneys Association; Louisiana Recreation and Parks Association; Louisiana Municipal Clerks Association; Louisiana Association of Tax Administrators, Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association, Louisiana Airport Managers and Associates, Louisiana Municipal Black Caucus Association, Louisiana Rural Water Association, Louisiana Association of Municipal Secretaries and Assistants, and the Building Officials Association of Louisiana.

The Louisiana Municipal Association's Executive Board is currently under the direction of President Mayor Carroll Breaux of Springhill. President Breaux's Executive Committee is composed of First Vice President Mayor Barney Arceneaux of Gonzales; Second Vice President Mayor Lawrence Henagan of DeQuincy; Immediate Past President Mayor David Camardelle of Grand Isle; and District A Vice President Mayor Jimmy Williams of Sibley. The Executive Director is Ronnie Harris, former mayor of Gretna for 28 years.

From its humble beginnings consisting of only 29 forward-thinking mayors seeking to empower their communities, the LMA has evolved into an exemplary organization earning the esteem and trust of local, state, and federal elected officials.

The LMA exemplifies the enthusiastic cooperation that is necessary to achieve a better and brighter Louisiana. For 90 years, they have advanced with technology, all while maintaining the core values that drive their success. Let's all send our warmest congratulations to the Louisiana Municipal Association for 90 years of excellence in the State of Louisiana.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. ALEX MOIR

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Dr. Alex Moir, who passed away on December 19, 2015, at the age of 53. Dr. Moir was an extraordinary individual and he will always be remembered as someone who lived his life with purpose and great dedication to his family, patients, and community.

Dr. Moir attended the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he received a bachelor's degree, prior to attending the University of Miami, where he received his medical degree. Upon graduating from the Univer-

sity of Miami, Dr. Moir completed his residency in Family and Community Medicine at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Fresno and joined the faculty after graduating.

Among his many contributions to the Valley, Dr. Moir focused his work on rural and small communities, the education of resident medical students, midlevel providers in the practice of full scope family medicine, and Latino and medically underserved health care. Dr. Moir also taught and practiced rural medicine in the Selma area for twenty years, serving as the Director for Selma Pathway from 1995 until he took on the role of Chief at UCSF Fresno. Furthermore, he was active on the medical staff of Selma Hospital (now Adventist Medical Center, Selma), previously serving as Chief of Staff and Chief of Medicine.

Throughout his career, Dr. Moir received many teaching awards and was recognized by the Adventist/Central Valley Network with the Physician of the Year Mission award. He received this award for his commitment in providing physical, mental, and spiritual care to his patients, something for which he was well known. As an advocate of health awareness, Dr. Moir frequently spoke to high school and college students about healthcare and medically underserved communities. Furthermore, he was also a member of the American Academy of Family Medicine, the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, the American Medical Association, the Children's Medical Associates and the Fresno-Madera Medical Society.

Dr. Moir's contributions to the people he touched will be his legacy. He clearly was a patient's doctor and was viewed as an excellent teacher and well-respected practitioner of medicine by all his peers. While he administered to his patients, he also found joy in teaching his students. More important, while he could have taught and practiced medicine in many places, he chose to be where he was most needed, in our Valley. He is survived by his wife Elise Hallowell Moir and their sons Taylor and Alden Moir.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Dr. Moir. Dr. Moir touched and aided so many throughout his much too short life. His loving nature and genuine character will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

TRIBUTE TO T.A.D.A.

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

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

Whereas, this year we celebrate the 104th anniversary of the Republic of China, the National Day of the Republic also known as Double Ten Day; and

Whereas, the Taiwanese American Diversity Associates for the past ten (10) years have continuously assisted new Taiwanese American immigrants in our community through domestic support, cultural support, technical assistance in education, business, government and daily activities; and

Whereas, the Taiwanese American Diversity Associates are working with a coalition of

business, political, educational and community leadership to foster economic development in the metro area of Washington, D.C., at its community service center; and

Whereas, through the work of the Taiwanese American Diversity Associates, our community has been educated and strengthened, and the lives of many Taiwanese Americans have been touched, and their spirits uplifted; and

Whereas, the board, staff, supporters and friends of the Taiwanese American Diversity Associates have gathered today to celebrate the 104th year of the Republic of China and the 10th Anniversary of this essential organization; and

Whereas the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia wishes to honor and recognize the Taiwanese American Diversity Associates for their long history of outstanding service to our Community; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim October 10, 2015 as: Taiwanese American Diversity Associates Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 10th day of October, 2015.

RECOGNIZING AMANDA HALLMAN

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amanda Hallman of West Chatham Elementary School in Pooler, Georgia, for winning the 2017 Savannah-Chatham County Teacher of the Year Award.

Ms. Hallman is a 10 year teaching veteran and has been teaching math and science to 5th graders at West Chatham Elementary School for 3 years. Ms. Hallman says she was inspired to be a great teacher after her grandmother and co-teacher died within two days of each other last year.

Ms. Hallman's inspiration is certainly noticeable in her enthusiastic commitment to motivate as well as educate using funny accents and dressing up in costumes while teaching classes. She explores almost any avenue to help her students learn. On February 11th, Ms. Hallman was recognized at the Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools Teacher of the Year Gala at the Savannah International Trade Center during which she was presented the Teacher of the Year Award.

Competition for the award is fierce since the award is presented a year in advance due to the time consuming and rigorous selection process. Fifty-five of the top teachers from the Savannah-Chatham County area wrote essays, were observed in the classroom, and were personally interviewed by community leaders and former Teachers of the Year. Ms. Hallman was also presented with a flag of Liberty and Learning which will be flown above her school, given the opportunity to lead the Professional Senate, and will now compete for the Georgia State Teacher of the Year Award.

I am thankful to have Ms. Hallman teaching in Georgia's First Congressional District and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

HONORING MR. CLEVELAND PEPPER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a multi-talented gentleman, Mr. Cleveland Pepper, owner of Pepper's Upholstery and More.

Mr. Cleveland Pepper is a resident of Cary, Mississippi. He graduated in 1959 from N.D. Taylor High School located in Yazoo City, Mississippi.

He started upholstery in October of 1986 under the leadership of Mr. Fritz Johnson of Hamilton, Michigan. He worked as a trainer for two years and was able to pass all requirements receiving a Certificate in Upholstery in 1987.

Mr. Pepper is a good steward of the community and enjoys learning new information and techniques. He attended a government program at Mississippi Christian Family Center.

He taught upholstery classes through the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) to assist the unemployed to seek employment and become employable through training and assistance. In 2003 he decided to open Pepper's Upholstery and More in Rolling Fork, Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Cleveland Pepper for his hard work, dedication and a strong desire to achieve.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MR. JACOB CHAPMAN BELIN, JR.

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Representative MCCARTHY and Representative VALADAO, rise today to congratulate Mr. Jacob Chapman Belin, Jr. on his well-deserved retirement as President of Kern Oil & Refining Co. He deserves to be commended for his tireless work within the petroleum industry and for his outstanding work with Kern Oil for the past forty-four years.

Mr. Belin was born in Port St. Joe, Florida on March 31, 1948 to Jacob Chapman Belin, Sr. and Myrtle Fillingim Belin. As a young student, Mr. Belin was actively engaged in his studies and was well-known for his passion for basketball. He attended Port St. Joe High School where he was recognized as Florida's second-leading scorer in basketball, served as President of his senior class, and graduated as valedictorian in 1966.

Upon graduation from high school, Mr. Belin attended North Carolina State University (NCSU) where he graduated in 1970 and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Sciences and Applied Mathematics, with a dual minor in Engineering Mechanics and Economics. While at NCSU, Mr. Belin was also a member of Phi Kappa Phi, one of the nation's oldest multidisciplinary collegiate honor societies. Mr. Belin went on to attend Georgia Institute of Technology from 1970-1972 in pur-

suit of a Master's Degree in Industrial Management.

During the summer of 1972, Mr. Belin began to work at Charter Oil Company in Jacksonville, Florida. While at Charter Oil Company, Mr. Belin had the opportunity to work with different Charter Oil Company subsidiaries, which included Kern County Refinery (now known as Kern Oil and Refining Co.). The work that Mr. Belin did with Kern County Refinery led him to accept a job offer at the Kern County Refinery office in Cerritos, California in April of 1974. Mr. Belin worked in the Refinery's crude oil and products supply marketing department until 1977.

While pursuing his career in the petroleum industry, Mr. Belin married the love of his life Betty Grace Phillips on June 29, 1974. Together they had one son, Phillip Andrew Belin who was born on October 5, 1977. Mr. and Mrs. Belin always ensured that Phillip was involved in sports and recreational activities. Furthermore, Mr. Belin was very active in young Phillip's Little League baseball program, was a manager of several of Phillip's youth baseball teams, and coached his youth basketball team for several years alongside his good friends, Tom Jensen and Ed Lassiter. Phillip married Marie Milligan and has blessed Mr. Belin and Betty with four grandchildren, Simon, James, Whitney and Serena. In addition to being a family man, Mr. Belin is a man of faith and has been heavily involved in faith-based activities within the communities he lived in over the past years. These activities include serving as an adult Sunday school teacher at Champion Forest Baptist Church and being a member of Rolling Hills Covenant Church as well as Peninsula Community Church.

By mid-1977, Mr. Belin had opened a crude oil, products and LPG trading office for Kern County Refinery in Houston, Texas. He served in the Houston office until 1984 and was then relocated back to Long Beach, California to what was known as Kern Oil and Refining Co. It was in Long Beach, in 1985 that Mr. Belin was promoted and became President of Kern Oil and Refining Co.

Mr. Belin received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences at NCSU in 1993. Furthermore, Mr. Belin was a huge factor in the growth of Kern, transitioning the company from a 10,000 barrel per day plant to the safe, competitive, and compliant, 27,000 barrel-per-day small and independent California refinery that it is today.

Over the past forty-four years, Mr. Belin has been a great leader and extremely dedicated to Kern, which has ultimately brought the company to success. In Mr. Belin's words, "I gave everything I could to Kern; as one might say in the game of basketball, I left it all on the court! My career goals were simple: work hard; ask others their opinion/thoughts; listen to them; be decisive; show others the respect they deserve; and defend Kern."

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that we ask our colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in paying tribute to the career of Mr. Jacob Chapman Belin, Jr. We thank him for his service and lasting contributions to California's petroleum industry.