

It was initially conceived with the idea of simply being a sports organization for youth focusing on baseball. The organization eventually ceased being active after the death of Mr. Hill in 1991.

In the year 2000, Mr. Cedric Terry revived the organization because the youth in the community didn't have many options for constructive activities and adult mentoring. He took on the task of recruiting children and parent's involvement. Mr. Terry was successful by getting 9 boys excited about playing baseball for the summer and competing. Their team would travel and they would be role models for other youth. Everyone had to pledge to abide by the rules, get good grades in school, and participate in an award ceremony at the end of the season.

Mr. Terry's vision was just what the youth in the community needed to take the Robert Hill Youth Foundation to the next level. It was just what Mr. Hill always wanted the organization to be. The organization grew and became a huge success serving over 10,000 boys and girls. The effort was so well received that it attracted youth not just inside Charleston, but they came from miles outside the area. It now has extended its activities to include education, recreation and arts for youth in the area.

Through their education program they offer: Abstinence Education, After School Tutoring, and Fatherhood Preparation. Their recreation program offers: basketball, football, baseball and track. The arts program includes: praise dancing, dancing and acting classes. Since 2000 through 2015 the organization has been responsible for helping over 500 boys and girls in the area attend and receive a college education.

Their accolades are just as impressive. In fact, there are too many to name them all. A few of them include constructing the first park in Charleston in order to be home based for the youth. All they had to do was walk to the park and "Play ball!" Thanks to the Robert Hill Youth Foundation their work has reached all corners of youth life. In 2011 the Charleston High School Tigers Football Team won its 1st State Football Championship. Almost ninety percent of the players came from the Robert Hill Youth Foundation. In 2012 the Charleston High School Lady Tigers Basketball Team was the runner up in the Girls Basketball State Tournament. And over ninety-five percent of the girls played for the Robert Hill Youth Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today, in recognizing the Robert Hill Youth Foundation, an asset to Tallahatchie County in the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

RECOGNIZING 2016 NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH HONOREE SISTER MARY MADONNA ASHTON, CSJ

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sister Mary Madonna Ashton, CSJ, who has earned the prominent distinction of being named a 2016 National Women's

History Month Honoree by the National Women's History Project. This esteemed honor befits a woman who has dedicated her life to being a leader, advocate and policy-maker in the quest for equal access to health care for all in Minnesota and throughout the United States.

Raised as an Episcopalian, Sister Mary Madonna converted to Catholicism while attending what is now Saint Catherine University in Saint Paul, Minnesota. After graduating and receiving a Masters of Social Work, she became a Sister of Saint Joseph of Carondelet, serving as a social worker at Saint Joseph's Hospital then later as an administrator at Saint Mary's Hospital after earning a second Master's degree. She was named President and CEO of Saint Mary's Hospital and stayed in that role for twenty years until her retirement in 1982.

Sister Mary Madonna's first attempt at retirement was short lived. In 1983, Governor Rudy Perpich appointed her as the State Commissioner of Health. The appointment of the first woman and first non-physician as Health Commissioner was controversial at first. However, Sister Mary Madonna quickly earned respect from critics and supporters alike, by effectively challenging the tobacco industry and leading the state response to the onset of the AIDS crisis. During her two terms as Commissioner, she made Minnesota a pioneer in efforts to combat tobacco use. Our state was among the first to outlaw smoking in places of employment, hospitals and restaurants, a monumental legal and public health victory that would start a national movement. She also led the way in using state funding to combat underage smoking, ultimately leading to the Minnesota Twins removing all tobacco advertisements from its stadium and Northwest (now Delta) Airlines banning smoking on domestic flights.

Since completing her appointment as Commissioner in 1991, Sister Mary Madonna has continued to serve those in need. She led the creation of Saint Mary's Health Clinics in order to provide quality health care for those without insurance. The clinics continue today with the same mission and serve as a reminder that though we have made much progress in making health care affordable and available to all, more work needs to be done.

As a National Women's History Month Honoree, Sister Mary Madonna stands as one of 16 notable women who exemplify the National Women's History Project's 2016 theme of "Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government." Sister Mary Madonna and these other honorees join the company of such female trailblazers as Rosa Parks, Abigail Adams, Eleanor Roosevelt and Billie Jean King.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sister Mary Madonna Ashton, CSJ of Saint Paul, Minnesota and all 16 Honorees for their commitment to public service and advocacy for others. These women stand as shining examples for all women and men for their dedication to the common good.

HONORING CALLAWAY HIGH SCHOOL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Callaway High School that is located at 601 Beasley Road in Jackson, Mississippi. Callaway is one of seven high schools in the Jackson Public School District, the largest school district in the state of Mississippi.

Built in 1966, Callaway was named after the late Robert M. Callaway, a Lafayette County native. He began his career teaching Choctaw Indians in the mountains of McCurtain County, Oklahoma. Before assuming duties as principal of Liberty Grove School, later H.V. Watkins Elementary in Jackson, he taught at Darling in Quitman County and Pocahontas in Hinds County. He was principal at Watkins from 1936-1956.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Callaway High School.

HONORING MARY LOU HOFFMAN

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Mary Lou Hoffman for her 53 years of outstanding service to the educational community. Mary Lou announced that she will be retiring on July 1, 2016 from St. Anthony School in Manteca, California.

Graduating from California State University Chico, Mary Lou had found her passion in education and pursued a profession as a teacher. After college, she spent two years at Annunciation School in Stockton, where she began her lifelong career. For twelve years, she was a teacher at local public schools.

In 2005, Mary Lou became Principal of St. Anthony School, Diocese of Stockton. As the Principal, she made a tremendous impact on the students, families and faculty. The Pastor, Patrick Walker fondly stated, "Our principal, Mary Lou Hoffman, has made significant strides to make St. Anthony's school better in the past decade."

Through her many years of dedicated service, Mary Lou has touched the lives of thousands of children. She is not only an exceptional role model but provides a positive institution of learning to her students. Mary Lou's heart has deeply resided in education and her great accomplishments have demonstrated her tremendous impact.

Mary Lou loved her profession, but she is looking forward to spending time with her husband, three children, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing Principal Mary Lou Hoffman for her many years of service and outstanding contributions to the lives of her students, peers, and our community.