

Throughout her battle with cancer, Mrs. Bender continued to work tirelessly and contributed in numerous ways to the Fresno Bee. She was known for her kindness and fierce devotion to her friends and family. In the wise words of Mrs. Bender, "Life is precious and while it's easy to ask 'why me?' the most important thing is still family and friends . . . I have a husband and a daughter who love me."

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to honor the life of Mrs. Valerie Bender. Often compared to feminist icon Rosie the Riveter, Mrs. Bender was a source of inspiration for all those she touched. She was a loving mother, wife, and journalist and everyone around her benefitted greatly by having her in their lives.

HONORING NORTH CAROLINA
STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES:
2016 NATIONAL MEDAL FOR MU-
SEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICE

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the North Carolina State University Libraries on receiving the 2016 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. This prestigious award, offered annually by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, is the nation's highest honor given to museums and libraries for exceptional service to their communities.

The North Carolina State University Library system has transformed how libraries involve the community to understand, learn, and participate in a myriad of educational activities. The system strengthens North Carolina's K–12 education pipeline, increases the public's literacy, and prepares tomorrow's researchers with college- and workforce-ready skills.

Through cutting-edge programming at all of their locations, North Carolina State University has built a library system that can support the university's students and advanced research, while also serving as an incubator for Triangle businesses. This library was one of the first to leap into the digital age, and has been a terrific example for other academic research libraries around the world. Their creative recruitment tactics for librarians and their crowdsourcing of ideas from student committees have made this library an invaluable asset to our state.

There are several key spaces for students, faculty, and the community to utilize at the North Carolina State University Libraries. These include digital media editing and production spaces, as well as gaming spaces for creating simulations and virtual environments. Library patrons have access to the D.H. Hill Makerspace, which is equipped with 3D printers, scanners, and laser cutters for users to explore a variety of ideas. There is even an Immersion Theater where students and faculty can display their work on a panoramic screen—I recently had the opportunity to experience a fully recreated historic speech given by John Donne in 1622.

North Carolina State University Libraries are one of just ten recipients of the National Medal

for Museum and Library Service. NCSU Libraries have had a remarkable impact on the entire state of North Carolina. There were approximately 2.25 million visitors to the library last year, with nearly 12,000 registered visitors from 76 countries, 42 states, and 46 counties in North Carolina.

As we congratulate all the libraries' leaders, it is also important to recognize Susan K. Nutter, winner of the 2016 Association of College and Research Libraries' (ACRL) Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. As the Vice Provost & Director of Libraries, Susan has been instrumental in building the innovative library system we see today.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I offer congratulations to the North Carolina State University Libraries—and each of the nine other National Medal winners—for achieving this distinction for their path-breaking innovations and dedication to serving their communities.

HONORING JALEXIS EVANS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable student, Ms. Jalexis Evans.

Jalexis is the daughter of Latoya Lee and Samuel Evans and the granddaughter of Shirley Evans and the late Glenda Nelson. She is a native of Mound Bayou, Mississippi where she attended John F. Kennedy Memorial High School before being accepted into the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science in Columbus, Mississippi. While attending John F. Kennedy she was class president, the founder of the mentorship program, "Girl Talk", and a cheerleader. In her spare time, she volunteers in her community with organizations such as St. Gabriel's Mercy Center, New Life Church, and local nursing homes.

One of the greatest impacts she believes she has made is with the mentoring program she initiated. Girl Talk was created solely to help empower, encourage, and equip young girls in the community. They've done things such as visit nursing homes, make Christmas with kindergartners, and host a tea party for young ladies in middle school to teach proper etiquette.

Jalexis also spends time playing piano and guitar. During her tenure at John F. Kennedy she played the trumpet in the marching band.

A passion of Jalexis is caring for the youth in her community. Though she believes involvement in the community is crucial, she also believes her education will take her far. She works diligently to ensure that her future goals are within her grasp. Attending the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science has granted her many more opportunities to do so. At this school, she receives the best education possible for high schoolers in the Magnolia state while enriching her knowledge on cultural diversity. Jalexis aspires to enroll into Tulane University where she desires to attend the Tulane Accelerated Physician-Training Program and earn her medical degree. She plans to become a pediatric oncologist after attending medical school. She has yearned to be a doctor since the young age of three. Her love for children pushed her to-

wards the field of pediatrics and her grandmother's fight with cancer led to her interest and passion for oncology. It also instilled within her a strong determination to find a cure for cancer.

She pursues success in her everyday life by continuing to be an example and role model to her sisters: SaMaria, Cilyse, and London, and to be helpful in anyway she can while still achieving her goals day by day.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Jalexis Evans for her educational achievements and dedication to other youths.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II
AND KOREAN WAR VETERANS
OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II and Korean War veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C. on June 8, 2016 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II and Korean War veterans the opportunity to visit their memorials on The National Mall in Washington, D.C. These memorials were built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on June 8th answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theater to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorials. I am proud to submit the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

Harold C. Aichholzer, Donald G. Alpers, Sidney R. Anderson, George D. Aurand, O. Robert Baccega, Daniel T. Barker Sr., Richard W. Bernardini, Claude T. Bjork, Julien F. Bloom, Paul Bobolia, Anthony F. Boecker, Robert George Bollman, Joseph E. Borowiak, Richard H. Burns, Thomas Calhoun, Robert G. Callaghan, Libero F. Calzavara, Paul T. Carrano, Charles A. Clark, Fred P. Claussen, John Considine, Donald E. Cramer, Robert E. Cutts, Allan D. Danielson, Charles Joseph Doherty, Robert L. Drennen, William N. Drish, Sr., Milton L. Duehr, Richard Eldorado, Ronald K. Erickson, Jerry R. Forst, Jr., William F. Galambos, Robert M. Gerhold, William Gilkey, Lawrence L. Gurtowski, James Guzzaldo, Donald E. Hahn, Roy L. Halvorsen, Raymond A. Handley, Robert P. Havlik, Albert W. Hellwig, Frank J. Hochman, Robert J. Horn, George E. Jaffke, (Oury L. Johnson, Jr., Thomas L. Kelliher, James M. Kirk, John A. Kotan, Jr., Anthony J. Kowalczyk, Louis F. Kueltzto, Jr., Donald Larsen, Ruel F. Lehman, Jr., Stuart Letchinger, Marvin Daniel Levy, Robert T. Lewandowski, Burton A. Lewis, John H. Lichter, Ronald F. Lotz, Joseph B. Lyznicki, Robert Magnuson, Frank Mangels, Raymond J. Manista, Sherwin Marks, Jon R.