

and private firms. From the White House to the halls of Congress, FIU students have also been an integral part of the executive and legislative branches of government. As the faces of FIU in D.C., interns and fellows learn about federal policy and expand their professional network. I am sure that my colleagues agree when I say our congressional FIU interns are Worlds Ahead.

Blocks away from Capitol Hill, FIU's new office will bring together ideas, connections and solutions through speaker series and research seminars. Local alumni and visiting faculty will connect and learn in the brand new 3,500-square-foot space that includes classrooms, conference areas and a multi-purpose tech center.

Under the leadership of President Mark B. Rosenberg, FIU has seen exponential growth in both the student body and its facilities. In promoting a strong alumni network, he has ensured FIU's future is as bright as its students. I am especially proud of the work the FIU faculty and administration do to promote exceptional learning and professional development.

The opening of this D.C. office is a testament to FIU providing ladders of opportunity to graduates and others. Congratulations on the new office and I look forward to FIU making an even greater impact in our nation's capital.

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HONORING DIANTHIA FORD-KEE

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dianthia Ford-Kee, who is a director, leader, and educator.

While at Fayetteville State, Ford-Kee competed in basketball and softball. There she was a member of the 1979 CIAA Women's Basketball Championship Team and the 1982 CIAA Softball Championship Team. Ford-Kee earned several All Conference and Tournament Team honors and was selected MVP of the 1982 Softball Championship Tournament. In 1982, she was selected Fayetteville State University's Athlete of the Year and was the youngest inductee into Fayetteville State University's Athletic Hall of Fame (1997).

After earning her Master of Arts degree in Public Affairs from Northern Illinois University, Ford-Kee joined Shaw University as the Lady Bears' head volleyball and softball coach and assumed the role of Senior Woman Administrator (SWA).

She guided her volleyball program to a Tournament Championship in 1995 while earning four CIAA Softball Championships (1993, 1994, 1996, and 2003). Among several other accolades, Ford-Kee was a two-time Volleyball Coach of the Year (1995 and 2001) and four-time Softball Coach of the Year (1993, 1994, 1996, and 2003).

In 2004, Ford-Kee became Shaw University's Associate Athletics Director. During that time, she was named the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletic Administrators (NACWAA)—2006 NCAA Division II Female Athletic Administration of the Year.

Ford-Kee served five impactful years (2008–13) as the Director of Athletics at Lincoln University (PA) where she was credited with the improvement of retention and graduation rates

of student-athletes. She successfully headed the transition from NCAA Division III to Division II and the return of Lincoln University to the CIAA.

Ford-Kee was honored by the Black Women in Sports Foundation for her accomplishments at Lincoln University and in the field of athletics with the Legends Award. She has received several honors in the state of North Carolina; she was a 1998 inductee in the Wake County Academy for Women for Athletics and a 1999 nominee of the Governor's Distinguished Woman Award for Athletics.

In October of 2009, she was honored as the recipient of the Northern Illinois University's College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Golden Anniversary Alumni Award. Ford-Kee was one of fifty alumni who have distinguished themselves in the careers that have contributed to the worlds of education, science, scholarship, business, law, medicine, community leadership and engagement, philanthropy and government service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Dianthia Ford-Kee, a Director, Leader and Educator for her dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American Community.

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IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT D. DEAN, FOUNDING CHAIR LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY'S MAN & WOMAN OF THE YEAR CAMPAIGN GREATER SACRAMENTO AREA CHAPTER

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2016*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Robert D. Dean, Founding Chair of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Man & Woman of the Year campaign for the Greater Sacramento Area Chapter. As 2016 marks the 20th anniversary of this important event, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Dean for his leadership and commitment in the community to raising awareness and vital funds in the fight against blood cancer.

In 1997, in the aftermath of losing his son Bobby to leukemia at the age of 19, Mr. Dean set forth to honor his son's memory by founding an annual event that would unite adults, students, families, businesses, schools, and organizations from throughout the Sacramento region to partner with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society to raise funds for blood cancer research, and to provide patient services for those suffering from the disease. Over the past 20 years, the Man & Woman of the Year event has brought together hundreds of volunteers, many who themselves are cancer survivors, to work towards finding a cure.

In great part due to Mr. Dean's dedication to this cause, nearly \$5 million has been raised, which has helped to fund breakthrough research and lifesaving therapies that have dramatically increased survivorship in both adults and children. In taking a stand against blood cancer, Mr. Dean has continued to honor his son in the most meaningful way—by giving hope to others.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Robert D. Dean, Founding Chair of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Man & Woman

of the Year campaign, as he celebrates the 20th anniversary of this important community event. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring his exemplary volunteerism on behalf of cancer patients and families, as well as his ongoing dedication to the fight against blood cancer.

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TRIBUTE TO GERMAINE COLES

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2016*

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 destined to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service; and

Whereas, Ms. Germaine Coles has answered that call by giving of herself as an Educational Support Specialist at Dunaire Elementary School, and as a mother, sister, daughter and friend; and

Whereas, Ms. Coles has been chosen as the 2016 Educational Support Professional of the Year, representing Dunaire Elementary 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, unyielding support and words of encouragement; and

Whereas, Ms. Coles is a virtuous woman, a courageous woman and a fearless leader whose unequivocal vision, talents and passion, help to ensure that our children receive the support and education that is relevant for today, and well into the future; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Germaine Coles for her leadership and service for our District and in recognition of this singular honor as the 2016 Educational Support Professional of the Year at Dunaire Elementary School; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim May 11, 2016 as: Ms. Germaine Coles Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 11th day of May, 2016.

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HONORING LUCILLE SHIRLEY

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Ms. Lucille Shirley.

Lucille Shirley was born February 23, 1948 to the late George and Margaret Shirley, in McComb, Mississippi. She completed her public education in the McComb Public Schools, graduating high school in 1967.

Lucille decided to join the military and enlisted January 25, 1968, completed Basic Training in Fort McClellan, Alabama and received advanced training at AIT in Fort Benjamin Harris, Indiana. Her military experience