

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COLLEGIATE BASEBALL NAMES  
KATY ATHLETE, JON  
DUPLANTIER AS AN ALL-AMER-  
ICA PITCHER

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Katy native, Jon Duplantier, for being named as an All-America pitcher by Collegiate Baseball magazine.

Jon Duplantier graduated from Seven Lakes High School in 2013 and is currently a junior attending the great Rice University. Duplantier has been drafted and picked to pitch for the Arizona Diamondbacks. Duplantier was named the C-USA Pitcher of the week three times, National pitcher of the Week and has faced six nationally ranked teams. Duplantier has displayed great discipline and dedication, we are proud to have such talent representing our Katy community.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Jon Duplantier for his outstanding athletic achievements. We wish him success in his baseball career and look forward to rooting for him in majors. Katy, Texas is proud of him.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES L. KNOTT

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Dr. James L. Knott of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for his interest in the local history of Council Bluffs and Pottawattamie County, Iowa. Dr. Knott wrote two books, *Gateway to the West: A History of Council Bluffs, Iowa and Mecca of the Midwest: A History of Lake Manawa Area*.

Dr. Knott retired in 1993 after 50 years of distinguished service practicing medicine in Council Bluffs and Omaha, Nebraska. He was accustomed to working 16 to 18 hours a day. Dr. Knott's retirement was short lived. He had a passion for history and decided that the only way to learn about Council Bluffs' past was to write a book. For the next 14 years, Dr. Knott researched the history of Council Bluffs and the surrounding areas because he felt there was no "first source" for those interested in the history of the area. The results of his efforts helped him write his two books on the local history of Council Bluffs. These books include local history and information on social, economic, and political events on various levels that has influenced the development of Council Bluffs.

I applaud Dr. James Knott for his dedication and desire to preserve the history of Council Bluffs, Iowa. I am proud to represent him in Congress. I know my colleagues in the U.S.

House of Representatives join me in congratulating Dr. Knott for his interest in publishing and sharing local history with his community. I wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.

HONORING NEW TOWN  
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize New Town Missionary Baptist Church in Charleston, MS inside of Tallahatchie County.

New Town Missionary Baptist Church was built in 1805; therefore the church is more than 150 years old. Like so many Black rural churches the history of New Town Missionary Baptist Church was passed down by word of mouth from members who were slaves. The church was built under the guidance of Spring Hill Baptist Church which was an all-white congregation. However, New Town Missionary Baptist Church (an all-Black congregation) was pastored by Rev. Porter, who was a white minister, until the church was successful in finding a Black minister who could lead. The Rev. Hampton Clemmons was the first Black pastor of the church.

The first building was a one room structure located where the Old New Town Cemetery is now. The following ministers have served as pastor of the church: Rev. Matthew Black, Rev. Neison Harris, Rev. William West, Rev. Willie Penn, Rev. Charlie Johnson, Rev. William Booker, Rev. Matthew Black (re-elected), Rev. P.R. Gipson, Rev. J.T. Brown, Rev. H.C. Jones, Rev. L.J. Jordan, Rev. R.S. Phamphlet, Rev. David B. Curry, and Rev. Derrick Williams, Sr. (current pastor). Some of the deacon members of the church were: Bro. James H. Reed, Bro. Burel Reed, Bro. James H. Bellamy, Bro. Robert E. Pollard, Bro. Nathan Metcalf, Bro. Richard Gray, Bro. Ben Thompson, Bro. Green Hudson, Bro. James Bellamy, Jr., Bro. Charlie Simmons, Bro. B.L. Reed, Bro. John H. Gray, Bro. Barney Willis, Bro. N.A. Boclair, Bro. Charlie Anderson, Bro. Jessie Terry, Bro. Minon Reed, Bro. S.N. Drake, Bro. Grafton Gray, Bro. John Winford, Bro. George Fair, Bro. James Frost, Bro. Roberson Jennings, Bro. Eckles Simmons, Bro. Frank Diltz, and Bro. Erwin Maynew.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the New Town Missionary Baptist Church in Charleston, MS in Tallahatchie County inside of the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE COLO-  
RADO SPRINGS BUFFALO SOL-  
DIER COMMUNITY MEMORIAL

### HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the new Buffalo Soldier Community Memorial in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

In 1866, Congress authorized the establishment of six all African-American units: the 9th and 10th Cavalry and 38th, 39th, 40th, and 41st Infantry Regiments—later reorganized as the 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments. These regiments were instrumental in the taming of the American West. Their primary missions were to protect settlers as they moved west as well as building the infrastructure necessary to support these new settlements. Unsurprisingly, these mandates were expanded upon meeting the realities of the frontier. These servicemen quickly found themselves assisting civil authorities in controlling mobs; pursuing outlaws and cattle thieves; providing protection for stage coaches; delivering the mail longer than the Pony Express; and serving as the first U.S. Border Patrol and National Park Rangers. One lesser known mission they completed was the mapping of the wilderness as the western development progressed.

During their tenure in Colorado, members of the 9th and 10th Cavalry and 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments were stationed at Fort Lyon and Fort Garland. These Buffalo Soldiers assisted civil authorities in peace-keeping efforts and participated in many important military conflicts in Colorado's territorial and early statehood history.

Between 1867 and 1907, 23 Medals of Honor were awarded as well as 40 Certificates of Merit for valor, endurance and courage. Buffalo Soldiers valiantly served during the Native American Wars, in the Spanish-American War, the Philippine-American War, the Mexican Expedition as well as World War I. Most impressively, these units had the lowest desertion rates in the Army.

I want to commend the Colorado Springs Buffalo Soldier Memorial Committee on their years-long quest to establish this Memorial. It is fitting that it will be dedicated during this year's 150th Anniversary of the inception of these units.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUAN  
RAMON GUERRERO

### HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Juan Ramon Guerrero, a resident of my district who lived in Orlando, Florida. Juan lost his life during the tragic shooting

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

at Pulse nightclub on June 12, 2016. He was 22 years old.

Juan Ramon Guerrero was a third year student of finance at the University of Central Florida and worked part-time as a tele-marketer. He is remembered as someone who was loved instantly by anyone who met him. He was always telling jokes and making people laugh. Juan came out to his family not long ago. For his upcoming birthday his family were planning a party, with his mother cooking his favorite foods.

Juan and his boyfriend, Christopher "Drew" Leinonen, lived together and had been dating for nearly two years. The Guerrero family were loving and accepting of Juan and Drew and their relationship. Juan's sister remembers that "They were so in love. They were soul mates. You could tell by how they looked at each other," she said. Juan and Drew were together at the club on the night of the shooting. They loved dancing, which is what brought them to the club that terrible night.

The two died together. Drew was 32.

The two families honored the love Juan and Drew shared with one another in a joint funeral service, a side-by-side farewell.

Juan Ramon Guerrero will never be forgotten in our pursuit of a more just and loving world. His memory, and his acts of kindness will live forever in the hearts and minds of those who knew him.

May his family, relatives and friends eventually find solace and comfort, and may he rest in eternal peace.

IN HONOR OF WANG CHENG-HAN

### HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Wang Cheng-Han, for his contributions and service in assisting U.S. soldiers in the liberation of the Weih sien Internment camp in August 1945.

Mr. Wang was a sophomore at Sichuan University when he joined the military service in December 1944. He was recruited into a telecommunications group where he learned Morse code and completed interpreter training classes.

At the age of 20, the American Office of Strategic Services assigned Wang as translator to a team of U.S. soldiers who were preparing to liberate the Weih sien Internment camp.

Weih sien Internment Camp was created by the Japanese in 1943 to hold westerners and other enemy nationals in North China. Once an American Presbyterian Compound, the Japanese transformed the location into a prison by adding electrified fencing, a moat, and armed security towers. Conditions in the camp were poor. Sanitary conditions were terrible, winters were harsh, and there was little food.

On August 17, 1945 Wang parachuted from a B-24 plane and helped liberate 1,500 Allied civilian prisoners from the camp. The mission was dangerous. Though the Japanese had officially surrendered, it was unknown whether Japanese soldiers in the area had received the order to surrender or would continue to fight.

The soldiers took over the Japanese headquarters building and received warm welcomes from the newly liberated prisoners. Among these prisoners was former New Jersey Assemblywoman Mary Previte. Wang's arrival at Weih sien provided much needed relief to the camp's malnourished prisoners.

Mr. Speaker, Wang Cheng-Han is a great individual who risked his life to save American lives. I join with all of New Jersey in honoring the selfless actions and service of this extraordinary man.

### CARL ROGERS RETIREMENT

### HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my friend Representative Carl Rogers on his 22-year career in the state legislature and congratulate him on his retirement.

Carl Rogers represented Georgia's 29th District from 1995 to June 30, 2016. He served in both parties under 4 governors in the Georgia House, capping off his tenure as a Republican under longtime friend, Governor Nathan Deal.

Carl understood that what he did was not just a job, but a way of life. He put his whole heart into serving his constituents and the state of Georgia. For more than 20 years, he has been a highly respected and the very definition of a citizen legislator.

I would also like to commend Carl's wife, Linda. Linda has played an integral role, serving as Carl's aide and attending countless meetings and functions over the years. I know that Linda is looking forward to spending more, well-deserved, quality time with her husband of 49 years.

Carl and Linda Rogers have two grown children and seven grandchildren, one of whom, Hartley Carter, has served as an intern in both my Gainesville and Washington offices. Like a true Georgian, Carl is looking forward to taking his grandsons hunting and fishing, focusing on being a good father, grandfather, and husband.

I want to thank Representative Carl Rogers for the tremendous work he has done for the state of Georgia. We love you Carl and we wish you the best.

### TRIBUTE TO PHYLLIS AND HAROLD SCHOLL

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Phyllis and Harold Scholl on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Phyllis and Harold were married on June 10, 1956 and reside in Adair, Iowa. Their lifelong commitment to each other and to six daughters, 14 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild truly

embodies Iowa's values. As the years pass, may their love continue to grow even stronger and may they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many more years to come.

I salute this lovely couple on their 60 years of life together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

### HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNAL AUDITORS

### HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) as they celebrate their 75th anniversary.

The art of auditing goes back centuries, but 1941 marked the beginning of concerted efforts to make internal auditing a recognized practice and fixture amongst governing bodies and management. In late 1941, IIA was incorporated and shortly thereafter, 24 internal auditors gathered in New York City to begin what would become a growing success across the decades. Currently, IIA has more than 180,000 active members worldwide, with 63,000 members residing here in the United States. Although the professional association has expanded over the years, the IIA remains committed to their goal of promoting the core principles, best practices, and highest ethical standards of internal auditing.

The words "internal audit" may sound strange and unfamiliar to most people. However, internal auditors play an important role in our society. As I have expressed in the past, auditors are required to tend "the stream," protecting the people by ensuring pollutants—or poor standards and practices—do not corrupt the free-market system. While their work is often unnoticed by the public at large and little thanks come their way, internal auditors' work in public and private organizations throughout the U.S. is integral to a smooth-running, prosperous society that benefits everyone.

It was this spirit of custodianship, dedication, and service that IIA has built and maintained over 75 years.

As a CPA, I understand the vital role that internal auditors play in maintaining accountability and transparency within our federal, state, and public institutions. Internal auditors provide independent assurances that an organization's risk management, governance, and internal control practices are working effectively and ethically. The IIA plays a pivotal part in helping auditors craft these skills through a variety of educational and development opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the achievements and contributions of the Institute of Internal Auditors as they celebrate their 75th anniversary. I wish them continued success moving forward as they mold the next generation of internal auditors.

BECK JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Beck Junior High School of the Katy Independent School District for celebrating their 20th anniversary since the school opened its doors.

Beck Junior High School has been educating students from the Katy Independent School District for twenty years now. The school credits its family-like atmosphere and mentality to the success of both the students and overall school atmosphere. Eight current faculty members also attended the school as students.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Beck Junior High School for providing a quality education for Katy students for twenty years. We thank the school for providing an environment that both teaches and inspires students. We wish Beck Junior High School success in educating our students for generations to come.

HONORING JAYLIN RODGERS

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cadet COL Jaylin Rodgers of Lanier High School who was named the 2016 Jackson Public Schools Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Cadet of the Year.

Cadet COL Rodgers serves as the Battalion Commander for Lanier's 1st Battalion Mighty Bulldogs. He holds a 3.33 GPA and has earned a score of 25 on the ACT. He has taken advanced level courses throughout high school, such as Accelerated English I and II, Accelerated Geometry, and Advanced Placement U.S. History.

A member of the school's National Honor Society, Cadet COL Rodgers is also the recipient of JROTC's Scholastic Excellence Award and was a Leadership Education and Training, Level One top cadet.

Cadet COL Rodgers served on Lanier High School's Battalion staff for three years as the Human Resources Officer, Executive Officer, and now the Battalion Commander. Cadet Rodgers has attended the LeaderSTATE Leadership and STEM Camp and Boys State at Mississippi State University and the Junior Cadet Leadership Challenge at Fort Knox, Kentucky. His plans are to attend Jackson State University, major in Electrical Engineering, and attain a commission into the Army as a second lieutenant.

Cadet COL Rodgers is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry and Tamarrus Rodgers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Cadet COL Jaylin Rodgers.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

SPEECH OF

**HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 7, 2016*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5485) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes:

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this amendment and I thank my colleague, Representative SEWELL, for standing up for consumers.

Time and time again, we hear about hard-working families being exploited by predatory, small-dollar, short-term lenders, such as payday lenders. While these loans are meant to help underserved individuals in need of quick cash, far too many times the borrower ends up trapped in a vicious cycle of rollovers, fees and more debt.

We sell our families short when we accept that high-interest loans are the best we can do for our communities. Payday and auto title loans, with uncapped annual percentage rates, have long enticed families in moments of desperation—offering short-term fast cash at the cost of long-term debt—at rates averaging 500 percent APR.

In my home state of Texas, an average \$500 payday loan costs an astounding \$1,100 or more to repay in a period of just a few months. Moreover, in Texas, payday and auto title lending is a \$5.8 billion industry with over 70 percent of the volume from refinances and fees. In fact, four of every five payday loans are rolled over or renewed within 14 days with the majority of those costing the consumer more in fees than they borrowed, according to a CFPB study.

Thankfully, the CFPB has taken the lead in proposing to rein in these predatory and harmful loans. We should be fighting to eliminate excessively high-interest rates and debt-trap cycles that define much of today's payday and auto title loan lending landscape, rather than fighting against the CFPB's efforts.

Unfortunately, this financial services and general government appropriations bill enshrines the status-quo of debt-traps and mountains of fees for consumers without any protections afforded by the CFPB's proposed rule.

I applaud the CFPB's rulemaking efforts in this area, and I hope it ushers in a new era of responsible lending.

TRIBUTE TO LEISURE WORLD OF MARYLAND

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Leisure World of Maryland's 50th anniversary.

Leisure World was founded in 1966 by Ross Cortese, who observed that the population of

older citizens was growing and thought that their special needs were not being met. His vision was "gracious, carefree, secure living for adults in a self-contained community that provides all the facilities but none of the drudgery of home ownership." His innovative dream created self-contained senior communities, offering rewarding living for older people still interested in leading active and enriched lives.

The first residents of Leisure World of Maryland moved into their new "manors" in August 1966. The available housing options at the time were townhouses called "Berkeleys" and one-story duplexes called "Carvels" near the first Clubhouse and across the street from the 18th hole of the golf course. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Cortese continued developing single family homes, townhomes and duplexes, along with the community's golf course, administrative facilities and medical center, and investing in the community's physical and social infrastructure.

Over the years, Leisure World continued to expand and provide seniors with additional housing options and facilities. In 1980, Cortese teamed up with renowned Watergate developer Giuseppe Cecchi and his company, The IDI Group Companies, to complete the development of the community. IDI reconfigured the site plan in a way that increased density through luxury multifamily condominium structures while preserving parkland, improving the golf course, and adding a second community clubhouse. The final condominium units were completed in 2013.

Today, Leisure World of Maryland continues to be a model for active living. Home to more than 8000 residents aged 55+ and including three voting precincts, Leisure World offers its residents a wide variety of services and amenities, including restaurants, clubhouses, a medical center, an interfaith chapel and an 18-hole golf course. Residents participate in an extensive program of fitness classes, lectures, concerts, trips, and nearly 100 clubs and organizations. Miles of walking trails lead through a beautiful blend of pristine landscapes and natural settings.

Leisure World is a rare gem in Montgomery County and in the State of Maryland. Its residents enjoy an outstanding quality of life and are active and engaged members of both the Leisure World community and the greater community outside its gates. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to Leisure World of Maryland as it celebrates its 50th anniversary and our gratitude and appreciation for its residents' contributions to our community.

HONORING MR. FLOYD HASTINGS,  
2016 MYRA H. KRAFT COMMUNITY  
MVP AWARD RECIPIENT

**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the accomplishments of one of my constituents, Floyd Hastings, who has spent countless hours volunteering with the Southern Maine Agency on Aging's Vet to Vet program.

Mr. Hastings has received a Myra H. Kraft Community MVP Award from the New England Patriots Charitable Foundation for his

work with Vet to Vet, along with a check for \$10,000 for the program. Hastings was one of 26 MVP recipients; a record number of 450 volunteers throughout New England were nominated for the awards this year.

Vet to Vet volunteers, who are all veterans themselves, visit aging or disabled veterans in their homes at least twice a month. The volunteers provide companionship to the veterans they visit and often become close friends. Hastings has worked specifically with three veterans and currently spends several hours each week talking with a group of veterans at the Sam L. Cohen Center in Biddeford.

"Vet to Vet is one of the best things I have ever been involved in," Hastings said. "It is rewarding and helps give meaning to my life. The program enables veteran volunteers, like myself, to enrich the lives of veterans, often severely disabled, in their final days. My visits are the highlight of my week, and I have found this to be true for the veterans I visit."

Mr. Speaker, I truly admire Mr. Hastings for his incredible service and dedication, and would like to thank him wholeheartedly for the difference he has made in the lives of Maine veterans.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR BRENTON  
WEECE

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Major Brenton Weece of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our Nation. Major Weece will soon transition from his current assignment as an Army Congressional Liaison in the House of Representatives to serve as an officer in the Oklahoma National Guard.

A native of Miami, Oklahoma, Brent was commissioned through the Oklahoma State University Army ROTC Program in 2005 and subsequently assigned to the Oklahoma National Guard. Since then, Brent has served in multiple staff and leadership positions in the Oklahoma National Guard, including two deployments with Oklahoma's 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. In 2008, he deployed to Iraq as the aide-de-camp to the commander of the Joint Area Support Group—Central in Baghdad and in 2011 and 2012, he commanded an infantry company in eastern Afghanistan.

During the course of Major Weece's service to this Nation, he has earned awards and decorations including: the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Air Assault Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Combat Action Badge, and Combat Infantryman Badge.

In 2015, Brent was selected to serve as a Congressional Liaison in the US Army House Liaison Division. Army Congressional Liaison Officers provide Members and staff insight and understanding of Army policies, actions, operations, and requirements. Their first-hand knowledge of military needs, culture, and tradition is a tremendous benefit to Congressional offices. His service in the House of Representatives has proven invaluable to both the Department of Defense and Congress. Brent was

especially effective in his service to Members and staff as he escorted them on fact-finding missions to multiple countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work with Major Weece during his time as an Army Congressional Liaison Officer in the House of Representatives. On behalf of a grateful Nation, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service and sacrifice of Major Brenton Weece, his wife, Emily, and their children Lily and Graham. I wish them the very best as they continue to dedicate their lives to the service of our Nation.

DR. VERA WEHRING RETIRES  
FROM B.F. TERRY HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Vera Wehring on her retirement from B.F. Terry High School in Rosenberg, Texas, after serving 22 years.

During Dr. Wehring's time at Terry High School she inspired students first as a math teacher and assistant principal, then later as principal of the high school. Some of Dr. Wehring's greatest accomplishments include being named as a Breakthrough School and when she was invited to participate in the National Principals Association in Cuba. The students of Terry High School have been well served by her leadership in helping ensure a strong education for our students.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations and thank you to Dr. Vera Wehring for her 22 years of service to Rosenberg and the entire Lamar Consolidated Independent School District. We appreciate her service and dedication.

HONORING MR. JAMES MALLET

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a community servant, Mr. James Mallett. Mr. Mallett has shown what can be done through tenacity, dedication and a desire to serve his community.

James Mallett was born in the Carter community to Edward and Ethel Mallett. James' family lived on a plantation called Clark and Cato. He grew up in a small church called Mt. Salem. He learned many life lessons from working on the family farm.

James graduated from Yazoo City High School in 1983. James attended Jackson State University, but returned home to take a job with Yazoo Industries, where he remained for ten years.

In 1990 Chief BJ Wright offered James a job at the Yazoo City Fire Department. Through the years, James also had the opportunity to work under Charles Moore, Mike Woodard, Roy Wilson and Terry Harber.

James credits his wife, Alma, for supporting him as he worked for the Yazoo City Fire Department for 25 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. James Mallett for his dedication and loyalty to Yazoo City.

TRIBUTE TO ALICE AND RICHARD  
OSBORN

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Alice and Richard Osborn of Clarinda, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on May 28, 2016.

Alice and Richard's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

I salute this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CSU—PUEBLO

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colorado State University—Pueblo for its recent designation as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense by the National Security Agency. CSU—Pueblo will hold this honor for the next five years.

Technological advancement has made the modern American economy possible, and we all rely on technology to succeed in today's world. Equally important is ensuring we maintain the technical ability to protect the systems that support the technology we interface with every day, and providing that protection has become more and more challenging. The NSA partners with institutions of higher learning to help research and promote cyber security and defense education to help meet the ever rising demand qualified candidates in the cyber security field.

The National Science Foundation gives students the opportunity to earn scholarships and grants through Centers for Academic Excellence while pursuing a greater education in cyber defense. This CAE designation is very important for the university and its students in Pueblo and the surrounding areas who wish to pursue a career within cyber security.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the work that CSU—Pueblo faculty has done to achieve this prestigious designation. The students enrolled in the program will be receiving the highest quality education in the field. Congratulations to CSU—Pueblo for this accomplishment. I am proud to honor the staff and students that make the university great.

IN TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MICHAEL SMITH OF THE DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I rise today to pay tribute to Sergeant Michael Smith of the Dallas Police Department. Sgt. Smith, along with his fellow police officers: Lorne Aherns, Michael Krol, Brent Thompson, and Patrick Zamarripa died in the tragic police ambush in Dallas, Texas, last week. All of these officers were serving to help facilitate the First Amendment rights of all citizens to freely assemble and express their views. When shots rang out in downtown Dallas on the evening of July 7th and the early morning of July 8th, these officers ran towards the danger and harm's way to keep the citizens safe that they are sworn to protect.

A resident of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, Sgt. Smith lived in Carrollton and was a veteran supervisor officer of the Dallas Police Department (DPD), having joined the force in 1989. Prior to his service as a police officer, Sgt. Smith served all of us by wearing a different uniform—the uniform of an Army Ranger. In both his military and police service, Michael Smith was among the very best of public servants.

Service in uniform was only one of the ways that Michael Smith gave back to the community. He was an active volunteer member for his church, Watermark Community Church, and the YMCA. His lasting legacy will be found in the hearts of the many people whom he touched, served, and protected.

He is survived by his wife Heidi, a teacher at Mary Immaculate Catholic School and a former city employee for Farmers Branch, Texas, and two daughters, Victoria and Caroline.

I ask that all of my colleagues, and the entire nation, honor the life of Sgt. Michael Smith and keep the Smith family in their thoughts and prayers.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH  
PIOPOLIS

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the celebration of the 175th Anniversary of St. John the Baptist Parish in Piopolis, IL.

St. John the Baptist church was established in 1841. The parish operated a school from 1870 through 1964. Precious Blood Sisters came from Burwell, Germany, to teach at the school. Nine sisters arrived on February 28th, 1870. There were Precious Blood Sisters teaching in Piopolis until the school closed in 1964.

The parish is in a farming community; their membership is comprised of 184 families. Because of the strength and character of its members, the parish possesses both a rich history and a vibrant future. They are commemorating their 175th anniversary with a

special mass with festivities to follow on August 21st, 2016. I am honored to recognize such a strong faith community in my district.

I look forward to the continued prosperity of St. John the Baptist Parish in Piopolis for many years to come.

PRESIDENT ERDOGAN'S ASSAULT  
ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE  
TURKISH PEOPLE

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remind our government that the human rights abuses committed by Turkish President Erdogan are grave and ongoing, and to distinguish between the Turkish president and the Turkish people—and to stand with the people.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has in recent years been aggressively violating the human rights of Turkish citizens and undermining the rule of law, in order to root out dissent and consolidate his personal power. The freedom of the press and the rights of common citizens to run schools, businesses, and volunteer associations have come under direct threat.

Since assuming the presidency two years ago, President Erdogan has undermined the independence of the judiciary, jeopardizing access to a fair trial and undercutting government accountability. In 2014, he worked to stack the country's High Council of Judges and Prosecutors with party loyalists, enabling his government to ease arrest procedures and curtail opportunities for appeal. This facilitated the detention of thousands of activists, journalists, and businessmen under the country's overbroad terrorism statute. The President has exploited his growing leverage over the courts: his government's reshuffling last month of 3,700 judges and prosecutors rewarded pliant members of the judiciary while punishing others who ruled against the government or heard cases involving official corruption. A law passed earlier this month dismissed most of the judges on Turkey's highest courts, leaving it up to the High Council of Judges and Prosecutors to reappoint them or pick their successors.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to undermining government institutions, President Erdogan's tightening grip on Turkey is also weakening the vitality of Turkish society. Under President Erdogan's direction, state authorities are undertaking a campaign of retribution against Erdogan's critics. Since Erdogan assumed the presidency in 2014, the government has opened nearly 2,000 cases against people suspected of "insulting the president"—a crime in Turkey.

Professional journalists and major news outlets in particular have incurred the wrath of the President. For reporting that is unflattering to Erdogan, whether on national security issues, the conflict with the Kurds, or official corruption, press outlets have been charged with "supporting terrorism" or have had their entire operations taken over by government-appointed trustees. In one of the most egregious examples, Turkish authorities in March raided the offices of the nation's highest-circulation newspaper, Zaman, and overnight placed it

under hand-picked, progovernment management.

Mr. Speaker, President Erdogan has taken to politicizing the charge of "supporting terrorism"—undermining the serious business of fighting terrorism, one of the gravest threats faced by the Turkish people. One persistent critic of Erdogan's centralization agenda and authoritarian tendencies is Fethullah Gulen, the founder of Hizmet, a moderate, Islamic civic movement dedicated to promoting education, popular piety, and civic engagement. Because of this criticism, Hizmet and its followers have suffered wave after wave of unfounded terrorism charges and forcible government seizures of businesses, universities, and schools. In May, the Turkish Cabinet approved a decision to designate Hizmet a "terrorist organization," guaranteeing that this campaign of political retribution will continue. Gulen's followers have been placed in the crosshairs of the very arbitrary policies they criticize. Yet neither our State Department, nor the European Union, nor any other respected body outside Turkey, has ever characterized Hizmet as a terrorist group or anything like it—the Cabinet's designation is absurd.

Mr. Speaker, in recent months, the Turkish people have been struck by a wave of violent attacks perpetrated by Islamist and Kurdish terrorists—most recently, a triple-suicide attack at Istanbul's international airport by Islamist extremists killed 44 innocent civilians. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those maimed in these attacks, to all those who lost beloved family and friends.

I am confident that the Turkish people—for centuries renowned for their bravery—will never be cowed by terrorists, and that they will equally resist President Erdogan's attempt to undermine their rights, laws, and freedoms. Our government should stand with the Turkish people on both fronts.

HONORING WILLIE "SATELLITE"  
TOTTEN

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Willie Totten, who is a former professional football player and current college football coach. Totten played his high school football at J.Z. George High School in North Carrollton, Mississippi. Totten was a four-year starter quarterback at Mississippi Valley State University from 1981 to 1985, along with Jerry Rice as his target as wide receiver. Totten set more than 50 Division I-AA passing records, and Rice setting many Division I-AA receiving records.

The Delta Devils averaged 59 points a game during the 1984 season, with Totten throwing for a record 58 touchdowns and leading the Delta Devils to the Division I-AA playoffs in 1984. Archie Cooley, who was the head coach at MVSU from 1980 to 1986, was the architect of the pass-oriented offense that utilized the skills of Totten.

Totten played professionally in the Canadian Football League (CFL) with the BC Lions (and Toronto Argonauts before moving on to the National Football League (NFL), as a replacement player for the Buffalo Bills during the

strike-shortened 1987 NFL season. Totten played in the Arena Football League for the Chicago Bruisers, Pittsburgh Gladiators and the New Orleans Night.

Totten earned his master's degree at Grambling State University, and was a graduate assistant on the coaching staff for head football coach Eddie Robinson. Totten returned to his alma mater and served as quarterbacks coach and running back coach during the 1990s before moving on to coach at the high school level for two years. He returned to the MVSU coaching staff in 2000, and was elevated to head coach in 2001. Totten brought pride back to Mississippi Valley State, as he led the Delta Devils to back-to-back winning seasons in 2005 and 2006. Totten resigned after the 2009 season, and took an administrative position at MVSU in 2010. In 2013, Totten became quarterbacks coach at Albany State University in Albany, Georgia for one season before accepting the quarterback coaching position at Alabama A&M University under new head football coach James Spady.

Totten is one of a few college football coaches ever to coach in a stadium named after him. The Delta Devils football team plays in Rice-Totten Field, named for Totten and wide receiver Jerry Rice. He is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame. Totten is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Willie "Satellite" Totten, a professor football player and educator, for his dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

STAFFORD ELEMENTARY'S MS. CAROLINA SIEVERS IS NAMED 2015-2016 STAFFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stafford Elementary teacher Carolina Sievers for being named Stafford Municipal School District Teacher of the year.

Each year Stafford MSD recognizes a teacher with this honor as a reflection of his or her outstanding work and dedication to the students and the entire Stafford school community. Carolina's dedication to her students made her this year's recipient. She is the Bilingual Math, Science, and Technology teacher for Stafford Elementary. She has a Master's degree in Engineering Management from The Catholic University of America and previously taught at two Houston area colleges before becoming an elementary school teacher. She is known for her passion for teaching and instilling reasoning skills in her students that will be valuable to them for life. Stafford students are well served by her dedication to education.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Ms. Seivers for being named Teacher of the Year by the Stafford Municipal School District. We thank her for all that she does for our community and the students at Stafford Elementary.

TRIBUTE TO JIM SORENSEN

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Jim Sorensen of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for his volunteer services at The Center in Council Bluffs. Jim spends many mornings assisting members of The Center, which is a senior and adult facility focused on health and wellness.

Jim was born in Guthrie Center, Iowa in 1942. He graduated from Audubon High School in 1961 and began his career in the auto mechanic industry from which he retired in 2005. Jim and his wife, JoAnn, have been married 54 years and are the parents of two children, Robert and Kimberly, and they have three grandchildren.

Jim became a member of The Center about 10 years ago and started to volunteer his services at the facility. He enjoys helping with the welcome desk, assists with the annual health fair, and helps operate bingo games for the many patrons. Jim said that once he joined The Center, he started volunteering because there were a lot of people who needed help. Jim has been active in the community as a Cub Scout leader and he was a youth group leader at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Jim's trademark is that he always wears a smile and has never met a stranger.

I commend Jim Sorensen for the dedicated service he has provided to The Center and his community. I know my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Jim for his many years of community service. I wish Jim and his family the very best in the future.

MARKING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROANOKER RESTAURANT—A LOCAL TREASURE

### HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, good food at good prices—that's The Roanoker Restaurant's tradition. The Roanoker Restaurant, which opened its doors on July 1, 1941, is a local treasure in the Roanoke Valley. I am honored to recognize owner Butch Craft, and her team, as they mark 75 years of operation.

Regardless of whether you've been going for decades or just trying it for the first time, when you sit down for a meal at The Roanoker, you know you've found the real deal. From homemade biscuits that you won't soon forget or the comfort food that reminds you of your childhood, The Roanoker does not disappoint. I've enjoyed many a good meal there with my family.

Started in 1941 by Crafton Warren and later passed down to his son, E.C., The Roanoker Restaurant has continued to expand under the current owner, Butch Craft, now employing 75 people with room to seat 300 diners. Over the past 75 years, The Roanoker Restaurant has operated in five locations. But despite changes in address, The Roanoker's tradition of good food at good prices has remained steadfast.

Part of the restaurant's success is owed to the loyal staff, including many who have worked there for over 10, 20, even 30 years.

The Roanoker is locally owned and operated, making this restaurant a true cornerstone of the Roanoke community. Church and civic groups, family reunions, and business meetings all find a spot at the table. It is a meeting place for generations to come together. The Roanoker Restaurant also has a rich history of supporting various groups in the community, including its longtime sponsorship of The Roanokers, a Major League Division team in Cave Spring National Little League.

It is an honor to represent the Sixth Congressional District of Virginia, and businesses like The Roanoker Restaurant. Thank you for your continued presence in our community, and for bringing good food at good prices to generations of Roanokers. I wish you many more years of success. Congratulations to The Roanoker Restaurant on this 75th anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to indicate that I inadvertently voted "Yea" on Roll Call 403. I intended to vote "Nay".

HONORING THE LIFE OF AMANDA ALVEAR

### HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Amanda Alvear, a resident of my district who lived in Davenport, Florida. Amanda's life was cut short during the tragic shooting at Pulse nightclub in Orlando, in the early morning hours of June 12, 2016.

Amanda was only 25 years old and had a bright future ahead of her. She was a graduate of Ridge Community High School and worked as a pharmacy technician. She was studying to become a nurse. She had reshaped herself over the last two years, shedding 180 pounds with the help of gastric bypass surgery and daily workouts. Amanda proudly documented her transformation with her phone.

Amanda's brother, Brian, remembers her positive energy and enthusiasm and that, "People got caught up in her wake. Whatever she was doing, that's what they were going to do." Amanda was the aunt who spoiled Brian's daughters, Bella and Zatanna with clothes. "She was a fashionista," he would say, "and she liked them to look good. She wanted my girls—her girls—to look good."

Amanda frequented gay and lesbian clubs because she believed they were places where she could have fun and feel safe being herself. She visited Pulse to enjoy Latin night with a group of friends. One of her closest friends, Mercedes Marisol Flores, also died in the nightclub that night.

Amanda Alvear will never be forgotten in our pursuit of a more just and loving world.

Her memory, the love she had for family and her acts kindness will live forever in the hearts and minds of those who knew her.

May Amanda's family, relatives and friends eventually find solace and comfort, and may she rest in eternal peace.

PAYING TRIBUTE FOR WILLIAM  
"BILL" COORS

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th Birthday of Bill Coors. A resident of Golden, Colorado, he will be celebrating this momentous birthday on August 11, 2016. Bill is the grandson of Adolf Coors, the founder of Coors Brewing Company, a major pioneer in the beverage distribution business.

After graduating with a Master's Degree in chemical engineering from Princeton University in 1939, Bill began his career in the family business. Over the course of 64 years he worked his way up the business ranks, starting as a chemical engineer and eventually earning the title of president of the company. Bill retired from Coors in 2003, at the tender age of 87. When Bill first started with Coors, the company was a mere regional operation. Today, Coors beer is a recognized brand throughout the world. This fact serves as a testament to Bill's determination and hard work.

His management of the Coors Brewing Company had a tremendous impact on the Third Congressional District of Colorado, and it continues to provide jobs in all parts of the production process, from the earliest stages in the barley fields to the delivery trucks that carry Coors products to their final destinations.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Coors' life has been full of incredible accomplishments. As a brewery pioneer, a successful manager for his family's company, and as a lifelong Coloradoan, Bill is truly an inspiration for all. It is an honor to pay tribute to Bill's life and legacy, and I wish him a very happy 100th birthday this year.

TRIBUTE TO LAURIE AND GENE  
JOHNSON

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Laurie and Gene Johnson of Shenandoah, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on June 11, 2016.

Laurie and Gene's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

I salute this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Laurie and Gene on this momentous occasion.

HONORING WANDERERS HOME  
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Wanderers Home Missionary Baptist Church, a remarkable house of worship in Mound Bayou, Mississippi.

The Wanderers Home Missionary Baptist Church has a rich history, which is a legend within itself. At the turn of the twentieth century, a group of Christian leaders and laymen, some early settlers and others who migrated to the town of Mound Bayou, were led by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to come together to organize a church in the year of 1908. Some had acquired land and others sharecropped farms outside of the town limit. There was no church in the near vicinity of their homes, and means of transportation was limited. There had been a yearning for a place to meet and worship, to fellowship and to praise and give thanks unto the Almighty God for His goodness. Coming together in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wash and Kerri Mosley who were early settlers, led to fruitful discussions and plans to lay the foundation for what was to become their own place of worship, the Wanderers Home Missionary Baptist Church located 2½ miles east of the town of Mound Bayou, MS.

Initially, the church was located on the north side of Township Road, but later relocated to the south side of the road where they purchased land and built a church. The land was sold and later, rebuilt back on the north side, its present location.

The late Reverend W.M. Wilson was named the first pastor and began with a small group of faithful members under the most humble circumstances and with lots of faith in God. As the town of Mound Bayou became a major tourist attraction, with the growing population and industrial development, the membership at Wanderers Home grew rapidly.

The pulpit has been graced with some of the most remarkable preachers and ministers. The late Reverend Thornton, Reverend H.H. Humes, Reverend W.M. Stampley, Reverend W.M. Walden, Reverend Richardson, Reverend Zack Pittman, Reverend T.F. Hammond, Reverend C.H. Moreland, (who served as pastor for twenty-six years), Reverend Andrew Hawkins and Reverend Willie J. Jackson (the current pastor), was called as the leader of the congregation in 1991.

Under the leadership of Pastor Moreland, a fellowship hall was added to the church as the need for a place to extend their fellowship beyond the sanctuary. Under the leadership of Pastor Jackson, many accomplishments have taken place: Wanderers Home became the first church in Mound Bayou to have full-time worship services; incorporated 4th Sunday Broadcast Worship Service; started weekly bible class for adults and youths; and organized and increased Youth ministry activities.

The sanctuary was renovated with stained glass windows and new pews. Due to growth in membership the church purchased a van to transport elderly and youth parishioners.

Over the years, the church has reached beyond its walls to support the community, families, other communities throughout Bolivar and

surrounding counties through its Missionary Ministry, as well as its Youth and Adult ministries.

Wanderers Home supported and has been actively involved as a member of the Bolivar County Baptist Association since its organization, as well as a member of the State and National Congress of Christian Education. Many of its members have and continue to serve in leadership roles as leaders, teachers, and auxiliary heads in the organization.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Wanderers Home Missionary Baptist Church for their spiritual enhancements in Mound Bayou, the surrounding communities and the State of Mississippi.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II  
AND KOREAN WAR VETERANS  
OF ILLINOIS

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II and Korean War veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C. on July 13, 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 July 13th answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theatre, 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.

Lido A. Andreoni, Martin J. Baureis, Eugene J. Beausoleil, Joseph A. Brochman, William J. Brown, Howard L. Bruning, Carmen L. Caputo, Frank A. Carbonaro, LeRoy L. Carlson, Louis A. Champa, Gerald Connerty, Jeremiah Coughlin, Walter J. Crane, Domenico D'Alessandro, Fred Nelson Day, Leonard Henry DeMichele, Raymond Devlin, Dominic L. Disandro, Christo M. Dragatsis, George J. Drobney, Russell W. Duller, August J. Edelman, Arthur R. Edelstein, Charles Nathan Elias, Edward E. Fioretti, Frank Flores, Donald L. Forrest, Robert L. Foster, Earl S. Fowlkes, Ernest G. Frantz, Marvin G. Freeman, Harry Freudenheim, Nick Gallo, Donavon D. Gibson, James E. Gryczka, Jerome Lewis Handler, Leonard M. Hansen, Richard Harwood, Clarence R. Hutchison, Robert W. Hynes, Ralph J. Imbrogno, George H. Kallas, Joseph G. Kaplan, Allan L. Kaplan, James R. Keith, Roger J. King, Gerald S. Kramer, Richard Kraska, George L. Kucharchuk, Eugene M. Kukla, Ralph M. Lacy, John R. Lahaie, George J. Lamoureux, Myrtle L. Larrison, James R. Lass, Robert R. Lovati, Francis

H. Lucht, Fred J. Mancari, Charles E. Manis, Francisco Matos, Alfred J. McAndrew, Robert L. Menclawicz, James A. Mervin, Elwood H. Michel, Neil P. Moore, Frederick J. Mundt, Glen E. Myers, James L. O'Brien, Sheldon R. Olsen Jr., Donald P. O'Neil, Lester D. Pauls, Donald P. Perille, Earl N. Pilgrim, Steve J. Pizzello, Walter R. Pollak, William D. Powell, Richard R. Pucin, Herbert G. Richards, Frederick J. Richter, Jonathan N. Rivers, Philip E. Robinson, Stanley D. Russell Jr., Leno Santacaterina, George Martin Schallmo Jr., Joseph Schmieder, Delbert L. Schoenbeck, Bernard H. Shedor, David S. Silverman, Robert L. Sinclair, Sheldon Sonheim, Thomas J. Stacks, Walter E. Stankiewicz, Lawrence J. Steskal, Frederick A. Stevens, Morton Stillman, Donald Stillman, Robert R. Straits, Robert J. Sutphen, George R. Thompson, William G. Vejvoda, Ronald E. Vezina, Gerald L. Wien, George A. Wilkins, William C. Witte, George A. Wolters, Robert O. Yahn, Richard K. Yohnka.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF MARY FRITZ

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in sadness to honor and remember a lifelong friend and colleague, former Connecticut State Representative, Mary Fritz, who honorably served constituents in Cheshire and Wallingford for an impressive thirty-two years and who passed away last week. Mary dedicated her life to serving the people of the 90th district, and will forever be remembered for her fighting spirit and genuine care for constituents. Her strong sense of morality guided her work in the legislature and marked her as a truly exceptional representative.

Before her tenure in the Connecticut General Assembly, Mary studied at Emmanuel College, Boston College, Trinity College, and Fairfield University. She later expanded her role in Connecticut school systems, serving as a Wallingford Public School teacher, the president of the Yalesville School PTA, and ultimately, the Chairwoman of the Wallingford Board of Education. She was an outstanding model for the value of education—a sentiment that translated to her work in the legislature, as she prioritized education policy. Mary also spent years forging the way for new legislation to battle crime and advance health care in Connecticut, while also paying special attention to protecting and serving senior citizens.

I couldn't agree more with Governor Malloy's recent statement, "She was a true public servant who put the priorities of her constituents first and represented her district with distinction." From 1987 to 1994 I represented the citizens of Vernon, Connecticut at the General Assembly alongside Mary. For two years we sat side by side in the House chambers and I enjoyed every minute of her steady commentary on the bills we were working on, the speeches we listened to, and the people who paraded by our seats on the back benches. She had a biting wit and shrewd mind that sized up every bit of action going on—even into the late hours. During those long sessions she brought her quilting with

her, and one time I voted a way she didn't like, she poked me with her quilting needle—with a big devilish grin on her face.

She was focused on two things as a person and a public official. First, representing the voters who elected her. Winning a swing seat sixteen times shows how successfully she accomplished that mission. And second, she was truly devoted to her family—her husband, William, and their children who are all special and successful in their own right.

The positive footprint of Mary's work will be gratefully remembered for years to come. I trust that her legacy will live on through the work of loving family—her husband, six children, and fourteen grandchildren. Her presence and spirit will be greatly missed both in and out of the legislature. I now ask that my colleagues please join me in remembering Mary's full and altruistic life, and in offering our sincere condolences to her friends and family.

TRIBUTE TO SHELLEY KESSLER UPON HER RETIREMENT

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Shelley Kessler, a pillar of the California Labor Movement, as she retires from serving the people of San Mateo County with great distinction and respect, as Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the San Mateo County Central Labor Council.

Shelley Kessler has said that she became involved in the labor movement because social and economic justice struggles are the basis of her life and work. She grew up in Los Angeles, graduated from Sonoma State University and began working rotating shifts at Owens Illinois. Her union career expanded in 1977 at General Motors where she became the first woman elected as a full-time Union Representative of the local UAW. She began her 34 year affiliation with the IAM in 1982 when she began work at Westinghouse Electric. In 1985 Shelley applied for the job of Political Director of the San Mateo County Central Labor Council, a position she held for eleven years. For the past twenty years she has been Executive Director-Treasurer of the Labor Council where she represented 110 affiliated local unions and 70,000 working member families.

On her appointment in 2014 to the California Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation, IAM International President Tom Buffenbarger said "Kessler's unyielding dedication to the working families of California and her community is exemplary. The CHSWC is fortunate to have such a proud advocate for workers' health and safety as a member of its board. "Shelley Kessler's advocacy has been a force for good. She positioned labor as a force in San Mateo County and has been a leader in many organizing efforts. She has served on countless boards and committees to advance workers and unions, and has earned many accolades including the California Labor Federation "Women Labor Leader of the Year" award, and was inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame in recognition of "Extraordinary Achievements and Contributions."

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring a great American woman, pioneer, role model, union leader and workers' advocate, Shelley Kessler, as she retires from the San Mateo County Central Labor Council. We are a stronger nation because she has worked for all of us and we wish her every blessing in her well-deserved retirement.

PRESIDENT OF THE VERMONT RETAIL AND GROCERS ASSOCIATION TO RETIRE

**HON. PETER WELCH**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jim Harrison for his tireless work over nearly three decades on behalf of Vermont's retailers and grocers. After 29 years, Jim will retire at the end of this year from his position as President of the Vermont Retail and Grocers Association and its predecessor organization, the Vermont Grocers Association.

In Vermont, the local grocery or general store is the heart of our small communities. It's a place where locals gather for much more than milk, meat, and produce. Indeed, these small businesses are woven into the fabric of our communities. Each and every one of them has benefitted from Jim's passion and perseverance.

As President Pro Tem of the Vermont Senate and now as a Member of Congress, I have worked closely with Jim over the years. He has been a respected leader in shaping public policy throughout his tenure. He is a tireless and tenacious advocate who, without fail, accomplished his goals in a bipartisan and cooperative manner. He commanded the respect of governors and legislators, and allies and opponents, because he has always been a man of high integrity who cares deeply about the issues that impact the retail industry.

Jim's first job as a teenager was bagging groceries at Landoli's Market in Westborough, Mass. The retail touch he learned in that job served him well over the years in Montpelier and is appreciated by the many businesses he has represented.

He studied business at Nichols College before transferring to Cornell University to study food marketing. After graduating he landed a position in Hannaford Brothers' training program and went on to manage its stores in Rutland and South Burlington. After a stint in Boston, he returned to Vermont in 1987 to head the Vermont Grocers Association, which merged with the Vermont Retail Association in 2013.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Jim's leadership, advice, and friendship over the past three decades. He will be missed, but I have no doubt that his wise counsel will always be available as needed.

I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me and all Vermonters in wishing Jim and his wife, Pat, the best in retirement.

DEBRA HANEY ELECTED ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Debra Haney of Sugar Land, TX for being elected to serve as Associate Superintendent of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

Debra Haney has served as the beloved principal of St. Laurence Catholic School for ten years. Prior to serving St. Laurence Catholic School, Haney was the Principal of John Paul II Catholic School for six years. She has more than twenty three years of Catholic educational experience. Under Debra Haney's guidance, St. Laurence Catholic School has expanded and thrived, adding specialized teachers, new opportunities to participate in the arts and sports, and greater access to new educational technology. Thanks to her leadership, St. Laurence Catholic School has flourished while retaining a focus on spiritual growth and Catholic identity. As the new Associate Superintendent, Debra Haney will reach even more new students in the Galveston-Houston Archdiocese.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Debra Haney for being named the new Associate Superintendent of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. We also thank her for her years of dedicated service to Sugar Land Catholic students.

TRIBUTE TO SANDY HINSLEY

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Sandy Hinsley of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for her volunteer services at The Center in Council Bluffs. Sandy spends many mornings assisting members at The Center. The Center is a senior and adult facility focused on health and wellness.

Sandy is originally from Omaha, Nebraska and moved to Council Bluffs in 1997. She worked many years at the Nestle Company in Omaha and retired in 2002. Sandy and her late husband, Jack, were blessed with four daughters, 14 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Sandy Hinsley can be found assisting Center members at the welcome desk, helping with the ballroom dancing class, and serving as a senior ambassador. She enjoys gardening, adult coloring books, and taking walks with her daughters. Sandy said she loves to volunteer at The Center because she says, "Everyone is so nice."

I commend Sandy Hinsley for the dedicated service she provides to The Center and her community. I know my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Sandy for her many years of service to The Center. I wish Sandy and her family the very best in the future.

HONORING ADJUTANT MAJOR GENERAL AUGUSTUS L. COLLINS

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jackson, Mississippi native, Major General Augustus L. Collins, Adjutant General of Mississippi, who also serves as the commanding General of both the Mississippi Army and Air National Guard.

After 35 years of being active in the Mississippi Army National Guard, Major General Collins announced his retirement, concluding his service at the end of August. His passion for service began when he was invited to attend a National Guard drill, and saw the position as an opportunity to earn extra income. He enlisted in the Mississippi Army National Guard's company B, 1st Battalion 198th Armor Regiment in March 1977, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant July 1980.

After enlisting, General Collins attended the University of Mississippi where he received his Bachelor of Business Administration. Afterwards, he received a Master Business Administration degree from Jackson State University. He also earned a Master of Strategic Studies degree from the United States Army War College.

Collins was appointed the Adjutant General of Mississippi by Governor Phil Bryant in January 2012, and was promoted to Major General in March 2012. He leads a ready force of more than 12,275 Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen. He also serves as the director of the Mississippi Military Department, and oversees the development and coordination of all policies, plans and programs of the Mississippi National Guard in concert with the Governor and legislature of the State.

He refers to his military career as his greatest accomplishment. General Collins commanded 3,000 Mississippi soldiers—the 155th Armored Brigade in Iraq at the time of Hurricane Katrina. Being in Iraq during that time was a memorable experience for him because he witnessed the strength of his troop. He stated, "Twenty-seven soldiers went into combat with me who did not come back. I live with that number. I'll never forget them because they gave everything they had." Troops were forced to place their personal lives on hold to fight for the betterment of the country. Unaware of their living conditions back home and dealing with the grievances of other soldiers, the troops remained focused on the task at hand.

General Collins has won many awards over the course of his military career including the Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Mississippi Longevity Medal.

He appreciates his experience gained while serving his country so the decision to retire was not easy. Though he will no longer be in uniform, he plans to continue working and spending more time with family. I consider General Collins a friend and he was always a consummate professional and there for me and my staff when we needed his assistance. His presence in command will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Adjutant Major General Augustus L. Collins, for his duty to his country, his state, and his troops. Thank you for your service.

tus L. Collins, for his duty to his country, his state, and his troops. Thank you for your service.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MIT/WELLESLEY UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the MIT/Wellesley Upward Bound Program. The program offers excellent teaching and consistent mentoring; and it has proved that young people whose parents have not themselves benefitted from higher education can succeed academically. Each year, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Wellesley College provide year round educational support to 50 low-income and/or first generation youth in grades 9–12, from the city of Cambridge, Massachusetts. The program's goal is to give its participants the skills, confidence, and determination to graduate from high school and succeed in postsecondary education.

MIT/Wellesley Upward Bound provides an intensive six-week summer session, conducted in residence at Wellesley College. Rigorous academic courses are taught by experienced high school teachers and graduate and undergraduate students from MIT, Wellesley College, and other local colleges and universities. Classes stress English and foreign language arts; reading, writing, oral communication, social studies and critical thinking. Plus, quantitative skills, mathematics, laboratory sciences, and the use of computers. Individual tutorials are available on an as-needed basis, and the academic rigor is enriched by cultural activities and field trips.

During the academic year, participants attend supervised study sessions and one-on-one tutorials, for a minimum of four hours per week, at MIT. Participants must meet with program staff regularly to review their academic progress and participation performance. Additionally, the program provides college admissions, financial aid, and career advice workshops to participants and their parents.

About 80–85 percent of Cambridge public school students who participate enroll in postsecondary education. I salute the remarkable success of the Upward Bound Program. For 50 years, MIT and Wellesley students have made an immense difference in the lives of less fortunate young people, and we draw inspiration from everyone associated with this extraordinary program.

IN RECOGNITION OF TOMMY KONO

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the late Tommy Kono for being an American champion. Mr. Kono is the most decorated American in the history of weightlifting. He was born and raised in Sacramento and suffered from asthma, making

him unable to participate in physical activity. At the age of eleven, Mr. Kono and his family were moved to Tule Lake Relocation Center following passage of Executive Order 9066. While there, Mr. Kono began lifting weights and joined a bodybuilding club. This marked the beginning of Mr. Kono's passion for weightlifting.

After three years, Mr. Kono was released and returned to Sacramento, enrolling in Sacramento High School. Despite being known as the "a 98 pound weakling" when he was younger, he entered into local weightlifting competitions and began winning. With the start of the Korean War, Mr. Kono was scheduled to deploy to Asia, but the military allowed him to stay in the United States after learning he was a contender for the 1952 Olympic team.

Mr. Kono was an individual who was devoted to his country; he was a Japanese American who was able to embrace new opportunities after World War II. Mr. Kono won his first gold medal in 1952 and won a silver medal at the 1960 Olympics. Mr. Kono went on to win several bodybuilding competitions, made the cover of national magazines, and earned attention of fellow athletes when he set world records in four weight classes. After retiring, Mr. Kono invested his time coaching aspiring champions, including young lifters in Sacramento and Hawaii, as well as tutoring high school students in Sacramento. Mr. Kono passed away in April in Honolulu.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Tommy Kono for being an American champion, as well as a mentor to young adults in the Sacramento area. While family, friends, and mentees gather together to celebrate Mr. Kono, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring his outstanding work of service to his country as well as his commitment to his community.

CONGRATULATING ALLAN  
WEEGAR ON HIS RETIREMENT  
FROM THE CITY OF HURST,  
TEXAS

### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Allan Weegar, City Manager to the City of Hurst, Texas, on his retirement after thirty-five years of dedicated service.

Allan's distinguished career with the city began in 1981 as assistant to the City Manager. Soon after, Allan was promoted to Assistant City Manager of Administration. In 1997, Allan was selected to serve as City Manager, a role he would excel at for nearly twenty years.

While serving his community, Allan has become a member of the International City Management Association, Texas City Management Association, Northeast Leadership Forum, and is a past-president of the North Texas City Management Association. In addition, Allan currently serves on the board of directors for Texas City Management Association, Northeast Transportation System and the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Economic Development Foundation.

Allan's vision and dedication to his city have brought forward a period of economic develop-

ment and productivity which has revitalized Hurst and the surrounding communities. Allan's dedication to providing excellent customer service to the citizens he serves has set a tremendous example for those in public service. Allan has established a culture of leadership and development within the City of Hurst that has driven its prosperity and success over the last two decades.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize Allan and his outstanding service to the City of Hurst. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Allan Weegar on his well-deserved retirement.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present in the House chamber for certain roll call votes on Monday, July 11th and Tuesday, July 12th for the first vote series. Had I been present, I would have voted 'aye' for roll calls 401, 402, 403, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, and 415 and 'nay' on roll calls 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, and 416.

### SUGAR LAND HOSPITAL EARNS TOP GRADE FOR PATIENT SAFETY

#### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital for earning an "A" for patient safety.

For almost two decades, Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital has been a critical partner in the Fort Bend County community. Twice a year, Hospital Safety Scores are assigned to over 2,500 hospitals across the United States. Developed under the guidance of Leapfrog's Blue Ribbon Expert Panel, the Hospital Safety Score is an elite designation which sets the highest standards for patient safety. Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital was one of less than one-third of those inspected to earn an "A" for patient safety. Fort Bend County residents are blessed to be under the care of some of the nation's best doctors, nurses, technicians, and staff, who provide excellent care for the patients that pass through their doors. I commend all of these men and women for their hard work and dedication.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital for receiving an "A" in patient safety. Thank you for all that you do for Fort Bend County.

### TRIBUTE TO LOU AND PHILIP FUNK

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Lou and Philip

Funk of Avoca, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on May 28, 1966 in Racine, Wisconsin.

Lou and Philip's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

I salute this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Lou and Philip on this momentous occasion.

### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,366,974,554,360.50. We've added \$8,740,097,505,447.42 to our debt in 7 years. This is over \$8.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

### HONORING LEBANON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a resourceful church, Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church.

The Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church had its beginning in 1869, when the congregation worshipped under a "brush harbor" with the Reverend David Adams serving as pastor and founder.

Realizing the need for a structure in which to worship, the pastor and members put forth every effort to design and construct the first church. The building was erected approximately 60 to 70 feet from the old church site.

As we look back over the 147-year history of Lebanon, we are reminded of the loyal devotion of the early pioneers and their steadfastness to the cause of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We attribute any success or progress of this church to their loyalty.

The Reverend David Adams served faithfully as pastor until his death; and the Reverend Riley Russell accepted the call as pastor and served diligently until his death. Some of the early pastors were the Reverends: S.D. Smith; Joe Baskin; Dan Anderson; Connelly; J. A. Johnson; Pleasant Fractions; Jimmy Mines; and J. Carter.

The Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church is recognized as the oldest land grant church in this area. It has served as a torch shining forth "her" brilliant light in this community. This light of hope and compassion has compelled many to come to Christ.

No church can survive without the dedicated cooperation of its members. The long, successful history of Lebanon is due to the dedicated, cooperative efforts of the many pastors, deacons, church mothers, and general congregation.

Some of the early deacons were: Brothers Joe Hodges; Pink Roseby; Ben Friar; C. H. Benson; R. B. Roseby; Richard Epps; Michael C. Smith; George Friar; and Tom Randle.

In 1912, the first church was destroyed by a violent storm. The force of the storm served as the epitome for the rebuilding of the second church, and its completion was the epoch of the old church site.

Some of the pioneer members of the Mothers Board were: Sisters Ophelia Anderson; Mary Benson; Sara Smith; Mary Anderson; Lucy Hunter; Hassie Montgomery; Harriet Craighead; Mattie L. Benson; Martha Ross Benson; and Sallie Epps.

Still moving forward, the Reverend A. W. Jones accepted the call as pastor. He served well until his accepting the call of another church. Following Reverend Jones, the Reverends: C. D. Brown; C. L. Clark; George Harper; Aaron Barron; and Melvin Lewis served as pastor of Lebanon.

Deacons serving under these administrations were: Brothers West Benson; Eddie Donelson; Leslie Hodges; Edgar Waddell; Pinkney Benson; Daniel Mickey; Daniel Kimbrough; Ira Blake; Mack Friar; O. W. Hodges; Mack McKennie; Samuel Friar; Charles Quincy Spurlin; Jessie Harmon; L. B. Hathorn; Alphonso Wright; Jacob J. McClain; and Charlie Benson.

The Mothers Board consisted of: Sisters Harriet Friar, Hallie Donelson, Elmira Horton, Minnie Hodges, Lyda Friar, Mary V. Hodges, Rebecca Kimbrough, Bessie Green, Roberta Blake, Priscilla Benson, Lillie Waddell, Mamie McKennie, Mary L. Friar, Mattie L. Hodges, Paralee McClain, Frankie Hodges, Eula Spurlin, Callie McKennie, Willie Mae Meeks, Ollie Harmon, and Olivia Garnett.

The edifice of the old church underwent many changes such as: lowering the ceilings; modern light fixtures; paneling of the sanctuary; bricking; and the construction of a kitchen and fellowship hall. Sanctuary pews, a communion table, and new pulpit furniture were purchased to enhance the décor of the church. These ventures of improvement were all completed under the leadership of the Reverend Aaron Barron.

Reverend Barron served as pastor for 27 consecutive years. He was a faithful and dynamic minister of the Gospel. During his administration, many souls realized the need for peace in their lives—that peace that surpassed all understanding—and accepted Christ as their personal Savior. Reverend Aaron Barron exchanged mortality for immortality and entered unto eternity in October 1983, while serving as pastor of Lebanon.

In January 1984, the Reverend Melvin B. Lewis accepted the call and served as pastor until 1987. Under the leadership of Reverend Lewis, a pastor's study was constructed, central heat and air conditioning was installed, and an organ was purchased for the sanctuary.

In June 1987, the Reverend J. W. Redmond accepted the call to serve as pastor of Lebanon. The church was blessed with many members, an Inspirational Choir, and Evangelist Quinzola McKennie.

Brothers: Coy Henderson; Leslie McKennie; Charlie Wright; Larry McKennie; and Paul Gilmore were installed as deacons. Installed on the Mothers Board were Sisters: Ola Mae Bailey, Priscilla Anderson, Grace Kimbrough, Rose Gibson, and as Deaconess were Sisters: Minnie McKennie, Sharon Wright, and Annie Gilmore.

Under the leadership of Reverend Redmond, a new roof was installed on the church, the choir stand was elevated and carpeted, floral arrangements and doors were added to the sanctuary. Following the leadership of the pastor, the Lebanon Inspirational Choir dedicated to the church some choir robes, and added mirrors and double doors to the sanctuary, remodeled and refurnished the pastor's study. The Friar and Montgomery families dedicated chandeliers to enhance the entrance of the church.

Reverend Redmond exchanged mortality for immortality and entered unto eternity in January 2000, while serving as pastor of Lebanon Church.

After the death of Reverend Redmond, the Reverend Walter Eskridge, Jr. accepted the call to serve as pastor of the Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church in October 2000.

Under the leadership of Reverend Eskridge, the church has been blessed with many new members and rededications. A new church building was erected on land given to the church by Sis. Earsalean McClain's family, and the doors were opened for the first service on July 4, 2004; new choir robes were purchased for LSC, LIC, and LYC; a television and VCR were purchased through the aid of the Home Mission Society; Discipleship and New Members classes were started; the Fellowship Hall has been named the Earsalean McClain Fellowship Hall in memory of Sis. Earsalean McClain; the Educational Wing has been named the Martha Ross Benson Educational Wing in memory of Sis. Martha Ross Benson; each classroom has been named in memory of: Class Number 1—Deacon Samuel Friar; Class Number 2—Mother Elmira Horton; Class Number 3—Mother Lillie Waddell; Nursery—Mothers Callie McKennie and Roberta Blake; Choir Room—Sister Levirda Dixon and Bro. Eric Friar; and the Business Office in honor of Deacon Jessie Harmon, and the church is growing through his ministry. A new roof "The Red Top" was installed on the church. On June 7, 2015 Bro. Andrew Lee Brown was crowned as Deacon.

The Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church's current Deacons and Trustees Board members are Brothers: Jessie Harmon; Coy Henderson; Lawrence McKennie; Andrew Brown; and Sisters: Lula Friar; Lillie Benson Green; and Earline Wright Hart.

The present Mothers Board members are Sisters: Ollie Harmon and Deaconess, Sister Annie Gilmore.

Through these many years of service to God and mankind, the Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church has survived many trials and tribulations, but are determined that forces of evil will not hinder them nor separate them from the love of God.

The torch carried by the pioneer members of the Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church, cast rays of light across their pathway. This light gives the church hope of a brighter future for the church. Those following will raise that torch high and keep the light burning bright. They will trim their lamps, put on the whole

armor of God, and continue to hold up the blood stained banner.

It is with this same spirit as soldiers going forth to war, accented with Christian love, devotion and dedication to the cause of the Kingdom, which the history of the Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church continues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the historic Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church.

#### HONORING THE STENNIS CENTER PROGRAM FOR CONGRESSIONAL INTERNS

### HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, this summer marks the 14th year in which interns working in Congressional offices have benefited from a program run by the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Leadership. This six-week program is designed to enhance their internship experience by giving them an inside look at how Congress works and a deeper appreciation for the role that Congress plays in our democracy. Each week, the interns meet with senior congressional staff and other experts to discuss issues such as the legislative process, power of the purse, foreign policy, the media, and more.

Interns are selected based on their college record, community service experience, and interest in a career in public service. This year, 30 outstanding interns participated in the program. Most of them are juniors and seniors in college who are working in Republican and Democratic offices in both the House and Senate, including one in my office, Shannon McConnell.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the interns for their involvement in this valuable program. I also thank the Stennis Center and the Senior Stennis Fellows for providing such a meaningful experience for these interns and for encouraging them to consider a future career in public service.

I submit a list of the 2016 Stennis Congressional Interns and the offices in which they work.

Amanda Bennett, attending Bowdoin College, interning in the office of U.S. Senator ANGUS KING;

Max Boyd, attending University of Cincinnati, interning in the office of U.S. Representative PATRICK MCHENRY;

Jack Bryan, attending Mississippi State University, interning in the office of U.S. Senator THAD COCHRAN;

Allie Bull, attending Johns Hopkins University, interning in the office of U.S. Senator BERNIE SANDERS;

Anna Caliandro, attending Smith College, interning in the office of U.S. Senator BERNIE SANDERS;

Maggie Callahan, attending Mercer University, interning in the office of U.S. Representative KEITH ROTHFUS;

Daniel Russell Cheung, attending University of California, Berkeley, interning in the office of U.S. Representative MIKE HONDA;

Nick Descamps, attending Occidental College, interning in the office of U.S. Senator STEVE DAINES;

Matt Dougherty, attending Suffolk University, interning in the office of U.S. Representative ROBERT BRADY;

Maggie Duff, attending Mississippi State University, interning in the office of U.S. Representative STEVEN PALAZZO;

Elina Fisher, attending The George Washington University, interning in the office of U.S. Representative SETH MOULTON;

Emily George, attending University of Idaho, interning in the office of U.S. Representative DAN NEWHOUSE;

Easton Gragg, attending Wake Forest University, interning in the office of U.S. Representative PATRICK MCHENRY;

Gary Haglund, attending Boston College, interning on the House Committee on the Budget;

Katelyn Harris, attending Vanderbilt University, interning on the House Committee on Education and the Workforce;

Kate Henjum, attending University of Colorado Boulder, interning in the office of U.S. Senator MICHAEL BENNET;

Victoria Hill, attending American University School of International Service, interning in the office of U.S. Representative JOAQUIN CASTRO;

Conley Hurst, attending Washington and Lee University, interning in the office of U.S. Representative FRENCH HILL;

Jessica Isler, attending Alma College, interning in the office of U.S. Senator DEBBIE STABENOW;

Jayden Raye Lapin-Tatman, attending University of California, Berkeley, interning in the office of U.S. Representative JANICE HAHN;

Diane Lee, attending Pomona College, interning in the office of U.S. Representative TED LIEU;

Shannon McConnell, attending University of California, San Diego, interning in the office of U.S. Representative ALAN LOWENTHAL;

Anna Perez, attending New York University Shanghai, interning in the office of U.S. Senator THAD COCHRAN;

Tony Rogari, attending University of Notre Dame, interning in the office of U.S. Representative TED LIEU;

Christian Ryan, attending Marymount University, interning on the House Committee on Appropriations;

Jared Sutton, attending Drew University, interning in the office of U.S. Representative MARIO DIAZ-BALART;

Marielle Thete, attending Wheaton College, interning in the office of U.S. Senator ANGUS KING;

Quin Wetzel, attending Michigan State University, interning on the Senate Committee on the Budget;

Stephanie Xiao, attending University of Virginia, interning in the office of U.S. Representative GREGORIO SABLAN; and,

Katelyn Zimmerman, attending Georgetown University, interning on the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

HONORING MS. DONNIE NEELY FOR HER 50 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

### HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donnie Neely for her 50 years of service at Baxter Healthcare Corporation in Mountain Home, Arkansas.

On June 7, 1966, Ms. Neely reported for her first day of work at Baxter's Mountain Home, Arkansas plant which had opened just two years earlier. She planned to work only three months to buy school clothes for her kids. Now 50 years later she is still with the plant. Ms. Neely operates a machine making injection molding parts used in numerous healthcare settings, and the parts she makes are shipped to manufacturing sites around the world. She has always felt pride about the work she does, particularly when seeing those products in action while visiting relatives in the hospital. Ms. Neely is known by her supervisor as the model employee, someone who can be depended on every day, and an employee who works well with all her coworkers.

Ms. Neely's commitments extend to her family. Her daughter now works at the plant as well. She got those school clothes, and much more, thanks to her mom's dedication to Baxter Mountain Home.

I thank Ms. Neely for her fifty years of dedicated and faithful service in Arkansas.

### HONORING CARL JUNCTION POSTMASTER SHARON CLARK

### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carl Junction, Missouri, Postmaster Sharon Clark for her eight years of service as Carl Junction Postmaster and to congratulate her on retirement.

After holding the position for the past eight years, Sharon retired from her position on June 3rd of this year. Since her arrival in February of 2008, Sharon has overseen the post office in its upgrade to "First Class" post office status. During her tenure she has also increased the visibility, and engagement of the post office in the Carl Junction community.

During her time serving as postmaster, Sharon had made many meaningful contributions, including Carl Junction's success in the annual "Stamp out Breast Cancer" campaign. This is a nationwide annual contest each October between post offices to sell the most breast cancer awareness postage stamps to aid in funding breast cancer research. Since Sharon's first year in 2008, the Carl Junction post office has ranked in the top ten for selling these stamps and has won this national competition each of the last three years. This achievement could not have been done without her hard work and determination.

In addition to her role as postmaster, Sharon has been active in the Carl Junction com-

munity. She serves in several capacities including Carl Junction Bright Futures, Habitat for Humanity, Hope 4 You Breast Cancer Foundation, Carl Junction C.A.R.E.S., and the Carl Junction Eastern Star. Sharon also serves on the Carl Junction Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and plans to use her retirement to be "more active" in the community.

Mr. Speaker, Sharon Clark's work as Carl Junction Postmaster has set a great example of public service for the people of Carl Junction. I am proud to recognize citizens like her in Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, and I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on her well-deserved retirement and service.

### RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BRANT LAKE CAMP

### HON. ELISE M. STEFANK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Ms. STEFANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Brant Lake Camp in Warren County, New York. Located in the beautiful Adirondack Mountains, the Brant Lake Camp has served as a summer retreat for boys looking to enjoy their vacations while learning the core values that accompany individual and team sports.

In 1916, three young teachers traveled to Brant Lake from New York City searching for a spot to establish a summer camp. Bob Gerstenzang, Jack Malloy and Joseph "Unc" Eberly decided to buy a plot of local farm land, and had the camp up and running by the summer of 1917. For the next 100 years, Brant Lake Camp has stayed in the hands of the Gerstenzang family. The family's legacy continues thanks to the current camp directors Robert Gersten (Emeritus), Karen Gerstenzang Metzler (Emeritus), Richard Gersten (Executive Director), and Max Gersten, all of whom are descendants of founder Bob Gerstenzang. The camp has grown from the original thirty-two campers during that first summer to the 330 campers now annually hosted. As the camp has grown, directors Dave Cramoy and Andy Berlin, both long-time Brant Lakers, have joined the leadership team.

Brant Lake Camp has four core sports programs along with secondary sport instruction and waterfront activities. The camp fosters the idea of "appropriate competitiveness" in order to instill the benefits of competition while still encouraging a friendly environment. The focus of the camp is not necessarily sporting itself, but the values that come with competing and learning in a safe arena.

All of the activities offered are aimed at fostering the feeling that Brant Lake Boys are a family. For a century now, the tight knit community of Brant Lake Camp has been helping campers to expand their horizons and challenge themselves to push beyond that which they first thought possible.

Congratulations to the Brant Lake Camp on the 100th anniversary of its founding. I want to wish the camp, its campers, and its alumni continued success heading into its next hundred years.

DR. CHRISTAL M. ALBRECHT  
LEADS THE NATIONAL COUNCIL  
FOR WORKFORCE EDUCATION  
BOARD

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Alvin Community College President Dr. Christal M. Albrecht for being appointed as the president of the National Council for Workforce Education. Dr. Albrecht has served on the board for many years, including many roles such as Regional Director, Vice President of Government Relations and Executive Committee Member.

The National Council for Workforce Education serves as the national forum to affect and direct the future role of two-year and other postsecondary institutions in workforce education and economic development. I'm confident Dr. Albrecht will help provide outstanding conferences and offering a forum for practitioners to learn from each other's best practices.

On behalf of all residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I'm pleased to recognize Dr. Christal M. Albrecht and her contributions to the Alvin community as well as helping to improve postsecondary education across America. We are all proud of Dr. Albrecht and wish her the best of luck as President of the National Council for Workforce Education Board.

TRIBUTE TO CONNIE AND GARY  
ALGER

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Connie and Gary Alger of Clarinda, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on May 29, 1966 at Westminster United Presbyterian Church in Clarinda.

Connie and Gary's lifelong commitment to each other, their children and grandchildren truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

I salute this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Connie and Gary on this momentous occasion.

HONORING SWEET CANAAN  
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise day to honor a historic church, Sweet

Canaan Church of God in Christ. It has shown what can be done through the years of dedication of a progressive church.

The historic Sweet Canaan Church of God in Christ, which is the second oldest Church of God in Christ in the World and is located at: 1946 Bellbottom Road in Lexington, MS 39095.

"The first church added to the number professing sanctification was located in Carroll (Holmes) County sixteen or seventeen miles north of Lexington, Mississippi." This statement is from the book: "Fifty Years Achievement from 1906-1956 A PERIOD IN HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST"; By Charles H. Pleas, reprint 1991 p 5. The Editorial note stated: The Historic Sweet Canaan church is located near the Carroll County line but it is actually in northern Holmes County just south of Carroll County.

Sweet Canaan began as a little prayer mission in a wayside house of Professor Allen Taylor. Allen Taylor's property was located on Bell Bottom Road which is located about ten to fifteen miles north of Lexington. During those days Elder Morgan Williams was in charge of the small congregation. In the year 1909, the prayer mission decided to organize itself and the name Sweet Canaan was chosen. Prior to selecting the name Sweet Canaan, the church was known as the "Colored Sanctified Church." It was through continuous fervent prayer that other community people soon joined the early saints.

The present site of Sweet Canaan was once the spot where cattle of Professor Taylor grazed. Professor Taylor donated the land to the church for the sum of twenty dollars (\$20.00), a legal formality.

Although the small congregation did not have seats, the community was blessed. Mr. Isaac Randle was given a few dollars to bring some sweet gum logs to be used as seats in the prayer mission. Recognizing the small congregation's perseverance, Bishop Charles Harrison Mason, Founder of the Church of God In Christ, appointed Elder Jeffery A. Lewis as their first pastor. He was also appointed the first Overseer of the State of Mississippi. At that time, the whole state was under one jurisdiction.

Sweet Canaan is blessed to have had its first three pastors to serve as state overseers; they were Elder Jeffery Lewis, Elder Stephen Rice, and Elder James Henderson. Sweet Canaan is also blessed to have had the jurisdictional supervisor of women for northern Mississippi, Mother Sarah Ann Braggs Gaston, as a member during her youth. Bishop Timothy Titus, Prelate of Northern Mississippi Jurisdiction, preached at Historic Sweet Canaan during his early years as a young preacher. The late Bishop Louis Henry Ford, former Presiding Bishop of the Church of God in Christ, often talked about his experience when he preached at Sweet Canaan, when he was a child and a student at Saint Academy and College in Lexington.

The first State Holy Convocation of the Church of God In Christ was held at Historic Sweet Canaan.

Former Pastors of Sweet Canaan were: Elder J.A. Lewis, Elder Stephen Rice, Elder Fred Winans, Elder W.B. Hedges, Elder D.R. Curry, Elder James Lee, Elder James Henderson, Elder D. Pitchford, Elder J.L. Pleas, Superintendent Fred Wade, and currently Elder Dr. Percy Washington, Sr.

The first deacons of Sweet Canaan were Brother Phillip Blake, Brother Louis Brooks and Brother Charlie Randle, and Mother Abbie Banks was the church mother.

Some of the early saints of Sweet Canaan were: Professor Allen Taylor, Brother Louis Brooks, Brother Willis Randle, Brother Frank Blake, Brother Jessie Banks, Brother Frank Hoover, Brother Ben Simmons, Mother Sara Booker, Mother Ina Jenkins, Mother Ida Wilson, Mother Abbie Banks, Mother Ella Taylor, Mother Emma Brooks, and Deacon Payton Smith.

The present pastor, Elder Dr. Percy Louis Washington, was appointed to serve on May 18, 2003 by Bishop T.T. Scott. Pastor Washington and his lovely wife, Glenda, have five sons and nine grandchildren.

He and the Sweet Canaan congregation have worked hard together to preserve the history of Sweet Canaan by enclosing the whole building inside the Dr. Tyree and Mary Carr Multipurpose Building. The beautiful Carr Multipurpose Building houses not only the entire historic church, but it houses the fellowship hall, residential quarters, office and classroom space.

On July 18, 2013, Bishop Charles Edward Blake, the Pastor of West Angeles Cathedral in Los Angeles, California, and the Presiding Bishop of the Church of God in Christ, Inc., visited Historic Sweet Canaan. They were joined at Sweet Canaan by General Board Members, Bishop Brandon Porter of Memphis, Tennessee, and Bishop Wooten of St. Louis, Missouri. Also joining Bishop Blake were several other bishops and more than half of the Trustee Board of the Church of God in Christ.

Pastor Washington has said many times; "When I went to Sweet Canaan, on my way to the church I saw many cows. When I got to the church I saw a honey bee hive in the back of the church. I knew I was in the right place. For I was in the Land of Milk and Honey—in the land of Canaan—Sweet Canaan."

Sweet Canaan oftentimes invites many to praise and worship with them every Sunday. Their Prayer service begins at 9:00 a.m., Sunday school starts at 9:30 a.m., and Sunday Worship Service starts at 11:00 am.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the historic Sweet Canaan Church of God in Christ.

IN MEMORY OF ERNEST HARRY  
"PETE" DENT SR.

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, July 13, 2016, a funeral service was held for Pete Dent at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Columbia, South Carolina. As a dedicated family man and respected business leader, he will be greatly missed. I am grateful for his service as a member of the U.S. Air Force and I would like to extend my deep sympathy to his family during this time of mourning. He will be buried at Fort Jackson National Cemetery.

A thoughtful obituary was published in The State newspaper on July 12, 2016:

COLUMBIA.—A funeral service for Ernest Harry "Pete" Dent Sr., 82, will be held at

11:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 13, 2016, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Burial will be in Fort Jackson National Cemetery at a later date. The family will receive friends following the funeral service in the Family Activities Building at the church. Dunbar Funeral Home, Devine Street Chapel, is assisting the family.

Mr. Dent died Sunday, July 10, 2016. Born in Columbia, he was a son of the late Arthur Kibler Dent Sr. and Elinor Stiller Dent. He was a member of the U.S. Air Force Class of 55K Bantam, stationed at Spence AFB in Moultrie, Ga. He enjoyed a 30+ year career selling automobiles in Columbia, primarily Chevrolets with Love Automotive and Central Chevrolet. Many of his long term friendships were initiated from his auto sales. In his post-retirement years, he enjoyed his part-time work with Lorick Office Products, allowing him more opportunities to spend time with his son. He was a member of Woodlands Country Club where he enjoyed his weekly rounds of golf with friends and family.

Surviving are his wife, Mary T. Dent; son and daughter-in-law, Harry and Andrea Dent; daughter and son-in-law, Patti and Shawn O'Rourke; grandchildren, Ernest Harry "Trae" Dent III, Aydan Leigh O'Rourke, Ryan Michael O'Rourke; stepson, Tony Ramsay; stepdaughter, Tanya Ramsay Daniels (J. Sam); and stepgrandson, Holt Daniels; first wife and lifelong friend, Nadine Cantey and "husband-in-law", John B. Cantey. He was predeceased by a granddaughter, Ashley Nicole Dent.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Ashley Dent Foundation, 303 N. Woodlake Drive, Columbia, SC 29229-8933, where funds will be directed to organizations participating in Alzheimer's research.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL  
OF THE TOWN OF BRASELTON,  
GEORGIA

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Town of Braselton, Georgia. Braselton is located partially in the Ninth Congressional District, which I proudly represent. The town limits straddle four different counties, and spreads into adjoining districts represented by my fellow Georgians, Mr. WOODALL and Mr. HICE.

The town has a rich history. In 1884, John Oliver Braselton opened a general merchandise store and laid the foundation for what would become the great town of Braselton.

Braselton quickly became a prominent economic and geographic center in Northeast Georgia and prompted town officials to seek legal incorporation on August 21, 1916.

John Oliver Braselton's three sons expanded the original general store to include a bank, a grocery store, and a feed and seed outlet all while maintaining its reputation as a social center of town.

Transformational events paved the way for the growth and prosperity of the town, including the creation of a rail spur and state highways, the continued development of the Braselton Brothers Store, and Governor Ernest Vandiver's decision to route I-85 through the Town. The long term investments and vision of town leaders, the strength of small

businesses, and most importantly the genuine families, all played a large role in creating the community that is Braselton today.

As a sign of its stability and strong family ties, Braselton has elected only 5 mayors in its 100 year history: William Henry Braselton, Lewis Braselton, Henry Edward Braselton, Pat Graham and Bill Orr.

The town's first one hundred years will always be remembered, and have paved the way for its second century of growth and success. I join in saluting Braselton's Centennial Celebration and congratulating its citizens on this wonderful occasion.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JEAN  
CARLOS MENDEZ PEREZ

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jean Carlos Mendez Perez, who lived in Kissimmee, Florida, and was a resident of my district. Jean lost his life during the tragic shooting at Pulse nightclub in the early morning hours of June 12, 2016. He was 35 years old.

Jean moved to Florida from Puerto Rico when he was a teenager. He quickly made friends and built a new life for himself. He was charming, full of life and had a warmth that everyone loved to be around. Jean loved indulging his nieces and nephews with candy and ice cream. He was humorous and fun-loving.

Jean was a salesman at a perfume store. He assisted a customer, Luis Daniel Wilson-Leon, several years ago, who would become his partner in life. Their friends described the moment they met as "love at first sight," and the beginning of their nine-year relationship. The two shared a home, frequented their favorite Hispanic restaurants and loved going to Latin Night at the Pulse club.

Jean and Luis were together at the club on the night of the shooting. The couple died alongside one another that night.

Jean Carlos Mendez Perez will never be forgotten in our pursuit of a more just and loving world. His loving spirit and acts of kindness will live forever in the hearts and minds of those who knew him.

May his family, relatives and friends eventually find solace and comfort, and may he rest in eternal peace.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CAROLYN  
RADCLIFF

**HON. PETER T. KING**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a remarkable woman, Carolyn Radcliff, who passed away peacefully on June 17th. Carolyn was a devoted and distinguished public servant. Many of those years were spent here on Capitol Hill as an Administrative Assistant for myself, my predecessor, Rep. Norman Lent (NY) and Rep. William Royer (CA). Prior to her Congressional service, Carolyn served as a Con-

fidential Assistant to the County Supervisor, San Mateo, CA, and as Legal Secretary to the Assistant District Attorney, San Mateo County.

No one questioned Carolyn's love for life. Her laugh was contagious. Her outlook and positive spirit were unmatched. Yet nothing surpassed her devotion and love for her family, especially her son Tadd and her four grandchildren: Cody, Sam, Laney and Cooper. Every holiday and birthday was a required trip to Janesville, WI.

I extend my condolences to Carolyn's family and the many individuals who were honored to call her a friend. She will be missed but never forgotten.

HONORING THE GILFIELD M.B.  
CHURCH

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Gilfield M.B. Church in Doddsville, Mississippi. The church was founded and built by slaves on the banks on the Sunflower River located on the plantation of United States Senator James O. Eastland in 1894.

The history of the church spans 122 years with records showing three structures as its home, each with its own fascinating and remarkable journey. Early records of the church were recalled and passed down by word of mouth from slaves down to the members of the church which were also relatives. The earliest written record of the church was around the 1980s. Many of the elders and other members were still attending the church, so Ms. Hattie Jordan, a member of the church, volunteered to be the church historian and keeper of the records. She gathered documents, recorded oral stories, researched "leads" of where she could get more information or someone who could corroborate the findings. One source of information she relied on were two cornerstones located on the existing church front in Doddsville. One of the cornerstones was once the original place of the church in 1894, and transferred thereafter to structures one and two.

In 1894 the location of the first church was strategically planned to exist near water. It is believed but not recorded that the location was chosen because the river could be used to secretly baptize members, a practice not openly approved of by plantation owners. Ms. Jordan told the story of how she was baptized in the Sunflower River behind Gilfield M.B. Church in 1953 by Rev. McGee. Gilfield M.B. Church was allowed to exist only because Senator Eastland gave the slaves his approval.

GILFIELD M.B. CHURCH—FIRST STRUCTURE—1894 YEAR: The first pastors of Gilfield M.B. Church at its initial location were: Rev. C.C. Edwards, Rev. Hester, Rev. Hobbs, and Rev. Mose Watson. No written records were kept by slaves. The only source for handing down information was by word of mouth to the younger generation.

GILFIELD M.B. CHURCH—SECOND STRUCTURE—1921 YEAR: The second Gilfield M.B. Church was built a mile down from the first site on the banks of the Sunflower River on

the Eastland Plantation. Rev. Mose Watson was the pastor. He continued to lead the church as he did while pastoring at the first location. After Rev. Watson, the church installed Rev. Issac as the new pastor until his death in 1947. Following Rev. Issac the church was led by Rev. Latson from 1947 to 1952. Rev. Latson left for the church to move to Chicago, IL. Immediately afterwards, Rev. McGee became the pastor in 1952, but separated from the church in 1953. There was a short lapse in pastors because Rev. Fleming did not begin pastoring the church until 1954. Records indicate he was the last pastor of the second structure listed as the home of Gilfield M.B. Church.

GILFIELD M.B. CHURCH—THIRD AND CURRENT STRUCTURE—JULY 24, 1977 YEAR: Rev. Fleming moved with the church to their third home beside the site of the second home, on the banks of the Sunflower River located on the Eastland Plantation. The sanctuary section of the second site was demolished leaving the backside section to be used for church gatherings, of which it still stands today. The pastors of the third site location in order of leadership were: Rev. Fleming, Rev. John H. Williams, Rev. Clarence Tolbert, and the current pastor is Rev. Theauty Winters.

CHURCH MEMBERS (PAST AND PRESENT): Gilfield M.B. Church was founded by slaves, built by slaves, pastored by slaves, and handed to their descendants, of which many are still members. Please know that many of the member's names have yet to be recorded. Ms. Hattie Jordan is still researching the church history and compiling documents to be used in the recordings. Membership records show these individuals as the members: Sis. Hattie Young and family, Sis. Mary Pittman, Sis. Mary Ella English, Sis. Mahalia Jones and family, Sis. Lucy Williams, Sis. Lubertha Williams and family, Sis. Willie Ann Moore and family, Sis. Grace Brown, Sis. Bettie Jones and family, Sis. Louis Pittman and family, Sis. Celestine Wallace, Sis. Mirays Brown, Sis. Eddie Lee Barnes, Bro. Wiley Caples, Sis. Ruth Caples, Sis. Hattie Robinson-Jordan and family, Deacon George Roby and family, Deacon Charlie Edwards and family, Deacon Glay Smith, Deacon David Williams and family, Sis. Susie Bowie and family, Sis. Bessie Williams, Deacon Howard Lawrence and family, Brother Thomas Hudson and family, Brother Joe Henry Pittman and family, Mrs. Hattie Byrd, Sis. Magnolia Wright and family, Sis. Rose Lee Lacy and family, Bro. W.C. Williams and family, Sis. Lillie Bell Robinson and family, Sis. Linnie Triplet and family, Bro. Hays Robinson and family, Sis. Bessie Joiner, and Sis. Deloris Lawrence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Gilfield M.B. Church of Doddsville, MS located in Sunflower County inside of the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

HONORING MICHELLE DENISE BROWN

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Michelle Denise Brown on her re-

tirement from the Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation (CHLDC) in Cypress Hills Brooklyn, NY, where she started more than two decades ago on March 15, 1993.

As a long time community resident and prior to joining CHLDC, Michelle served as President of the P.T.A. at Public School 65 for three years. She was an active parishioner of Blessed Sacrament Church where she served as a volunteer religious education teacher for 6 years. Michelle had been attending Kingsborough Community College pursuing a Business Administration degree when she learned about the CHLDC job opportunity at the new school-based community center Beacon Program. Motivated to return to the workforce after 12 years, she applied for the position and was hired. For five years, she served as the Administrative Assistant at the Beacon School Based Community Center and the Beacon Family Place at IS 302, dividing her time with two programs. She was instrumental in the start-up of these programs which are now neighborhood institutions. Michelle set the tone of safety and caring at the Beacon while establishing intake, health and safety procedures and managing enrollment and scheduling for thousands of young people and their families.

Her exemplary work caught the attention of Ms. Neugebauer, the Executive Director who then promoted Mrs. Brown to serve as her right-hand Senior Administrative Assistant which she proudly did for the past 18 years. In addition to her administrative role, Mrs. Brown also serves as a Liaison with the Board of Directors and as the Coordinator of the Communications Committee of the organization—ensuring that the board members are aware of all CHLDC happenings and that agency's 400-plus staff and 17 offices know each other and the array of programs offered by the CHLDC and Cypress Hills Child Care Corporation.

Michelle has a wealth of knowledge and experience that will surely be missed by all who have had the pleasure to work with her, but I am certain that she is looking forward to this exciting next chapter in her life and will enjoy spending more time with her husband of 37 years, Mr. Beaufus Lee Brown, her three sons, daughter and 11 grandchildren.

I thank Michelle Denise Brown for her community service and longtime dedication to the Cypress Hill LDC community. I wish her all the best and congratulate her on her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO JANET REINERS

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Janet Reiners of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for being selected as the Together, Educators and Administrators Make It Happen Award from the Iowa State Education Association. Janet Reiners has served as the Chief Human Resources Officer for the Council Bluffs Community School District for over 19 years, and will retire from this position later this summer.

Janet Reiners received the Together, Educators and Administrators Make It Happen Award for her outstanding work in human re-

sources with the Council Bluffs Community School District as an administrator who has "worked to create a collaborative, collegial working environment for all staff." Before joining the school district staff, Janet Reiners worked in the private sector and gained valuable experience as an effective human resources officer. Ms. Reiners said she has seen many changes and requirements in education that directly affect classroom teachers and administrators. She said the human resources function and recruitment of teachers and administrators is the lifeblood of the school district. Ms. Reiners noted that, "The most important attribute the school district has is staff committed to helping children learn and grow."

I applaud and congratulate Janet Reiners for earning the Together, Educators and Administrators Make It Happen Award. She is a shining example of how hard work and dedication can affect the future of our youth and their education. I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Janet Reiners for her many accomplishments serving the Council Bluffs Community School District. I wish her continued success and the very best in her retirement.

HONORING DR. JOSEPH HAMILTON AND DR. A.V. RAMAYYA

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Vanderbilt University and two of its physics professors, Dr. Joseph Hamilton and Dr. A.V. Ramayya. Their research with an international team led to the discovery of element 117, tennesine, a new addition to the periodic table.

Their work was a collaborative effort by Vanderbilt, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the University of Tennessee, the Flerov Laboratory for Nuclear Reactions in Russia and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California. The name was chosen to honor the contributions from our region; Tennessee is only the second U.S. state to have a namesake element.

After spending decades studying superheavy element research, the team's discoveries provide new evidence for the "island of stability." Tennesine will join three other newly discovered elements to fill the seventh row of the periodic table.

Drs. Hamilton and Ramayya are the best of the best, and they have made the Volunteer State proud. Their discovery will live forever in textbooks, and they have proven once more that science is a never-ending frontier.

IN HONOR OF EDWARD H. GANT

**HON. DONALD NORCROSS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Edward H. Gant, for his contributions and service in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 351 and throughout southern New Jersey.

Mr. Gant has been a member of IBEW Local 351 since he began his apprenticeship in the Spring of 1974. Mr. Gant served as an apprentice for five years before he became a full-fledged electrician in 1979. Ten years later, at the age of 36, he joined the local union executive board.

From there, he moved swiftly up the ranks and was appointed IBEW Local Union 351 President in 1994. Until his recent retirement he served as the Business Manager and Financial Secretary of the local.

As an example of his commitment to not only improving his immediate community but the state as a whole, Mr. Gant has served as President of the New Jersey State Electrical Workers Association since 2002.

Mr. Gant has served as the Secretary-Treasurer of the IBEW Local 351 Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee to advance opportunities for young people to join the workforce with gainful employment.

Ed Gant is a man who knows what it is to put in a hard day's work with your hands. Building trades jobs are some of the best jobs around but they are not always the safest. Mr. Gant understood that and donated his time to serve as the Director of the IBEW New Jersey State Lineman Safety Fund.

I had the distinct honor and privilege to work with Ed at IBEW Local 351 until my retirement to join this body, and I wish him all the best in his retirement after over 40 years.

Mr. Speaker, Edward H. Gant is a great man whose contributions toward the working men and women of this country will not be forgotten. I join with all of New Jersey in honoring the investment that he has made in his community.

HONORING HAMILTON SCHOLAR  
SARAH HILL

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Seneca High School student Sarah Hill for being awarded the 2016 Hamilton Scholars Award for outstanding academic accomplishments and community service.

The Hamilton Scholars Award is presented nationally by the Alexander Hamilton Scholars, a non-profit organization designed to build leaders of character who improve our nation and our world through their service, innovation, and excellence.

To be considered for the Hamilton Scholars Award, one must be a high school junior who has demonstrated financial need, academic excellence, commitment to community service, and leadership potential. 35 to 40 students are selected each year to complete a rigorous three year program designed to provide them with practical tools for success in college and the post-college world. Students like Sarah who qualify for this incredibly selective honor exemplify top-tier diligence and academic talent.

Sarah has displayed the ability to not only excel in the classroom, but to balance her academics with such extracurricular activities as being president of her Future Business Leaders of America chapter and district, president and founder of her school's Junior State

of America, and her involvement in other such organizations as Student Council, National Honor Society, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sarah for this distinguished achievement and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

PASSMORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
PLACES THIRD AT THE NA-  
TIONAL SEAPERCH CHALLENGE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Alvin, TX Passmore Elementary School Sea Sharks II for placing third in the Obstacle Course Challenge at the National SeaPerch Challenge at Louisiana State University.

The U.S. Navy National SeaPerch Challenge is an underwater robotics competition. The Passmore Elementary School built and operated their own remotely operated vehicles that function underwater and are designed to complete an obstacle course. The SeaPerch Challenge competition judges the students' underwater vehicles in poster and interview first, and then two underwater challenges follow. The first being an obstacle course and the second being an orbs challenge where the students move different sized balls into submerged containers. The students develop problem-solving, teamwork and technical skills through this competition. They were awarded 3rd Place in the Obstacle Course Challenge. We are very proud of what these bright young students have accomplished.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the Passmore Elementary School Sea Sharks II for placing third at the National SeaPerch Challenge. Keep up the great work.

TRIBUTE TO BONNIE AND RONNIE  
EBLEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Bonnie and Ronnie Eblen on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Bonnie and Ronnie were married on June 3, 1956, residing now in Creston, Iowa. Their life-long commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. As the years pass, may their love continue to grow even stronger and may they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many more years to come.

I salute this lovely couple on their 60 years of life together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

HONORING SYKES CHAPEL  
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable historical church, Sykes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Lambert, Mississippi and the great leadership it is under.

Sykes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church was founded in the 1900s by the share cropping plantation families: the Sykes family, the Noble family, the Cox family, and the McCray family. For years, there was no building for worship service. Therefore, the families went from house to house worshipping and praising God. The plantation was first-owned by Mr. Yeager who later gave it to his relative, Mr. E. H. Anderson. Mr. Anderson was more of a God-fearing man who would often attend some of the worship services, sometimes standing in the back or just stopping by one of the homes.

The Sykes family was the oldest and first family on the plantation. Therefore, the families gathered together and sold cakes to raise a little money. Afterwards, they asked Mr. Anderson to allow them to have a spot to build a church. Mr. Anderson allowed them to build a one-room shot gun building and allowed the men on the plantation to provide the labor. There was one wood heater and no air, but the families continued to praise God.

The members along with Mr. Anderson agreed to name the church Sykes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. Afterwards, they selected a pastor to lead them. Minister Richardson was the first pastor selected. He served for a while, and later God called him home. In addition to the church, Mr. Anderson provided them with burial ground, and they called it the Sykes Chapel Cemetery. Some of the members are actually buried there.

Later, the church was destroyed twice—first by storm and later by fire. With the assistance of Mr. Anderson and loyal families, the church was rebuilt twice. After rebuilding the church, they had worship service once a month. The church has been under the leadership of several pastors: Rev. Harry Benimon, Rev. Rollie Lee, Rev. Arthur Lee, Rev. Lloyd Johnson, and Rev. Robert Griffin.

Pastor Lloyd Johnson enjoyed praising God. He encouraged members to attend church every Sunday, and the membership increased. He later had a vision to build a larger sanctuary. In the process of preparing to build a larger church, no deed was found. Several deacons, including Deacon Albert Emerson, Deacon James Lee McCray, Deacon Ollie McCray, and Deacon Eddie Moore went to Mr. Anderson to inquire about the deed, and he sold the land to Sykes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church for \$1.00. In addition to the new sanctuary, a bus and van were purchased; outreach ministries and abstinence programs were started. Pastor Johnson served as pastor for seventeen years, until God called him home.

God sent Pastor Robert Griffin, who served for approximately four years. Under his leadership, the church continued to praise God. The youth ministry flourished, and the church was paid off in one and a half years.

Currently, Sykes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church is under the leadership of Pastor Derell Wiley. He believes that we can truly move mountains through prayer and faith. His established mission for Sykes Chapel is: "Exalting the Savior, Equipping the Saints, and Evangelizing the Sinner." In his vision, souls are saved, minds are renewed, hearts are cleansed, and members are rejuvenated. He emphasizes that the atmosphere will be shifted and a change will occur when we work together and embrace others with love, for God is love.

They are a little country church, but they serve an awesome God, who is able to transform minds, spirits, and lives. Under Pastor Wiley's leadership, they are growing physically and spiritually—studying and standing on the word of God. The following ministries have been started: Youth Ministry, Jail Ministry and Counseling, and the Convalescent Home Ministry. In addition, the church webpage, [www.sykeschapel.com](http://www.sykeschapel.com), was established.

By faith, they are discovering their purposes and trusting God for His promises. As God leads and guides, the future ministries will be developed: family ministries, couple ministries, and single ministries, as we become spiritually and physically prepared for God's kingdom. By faith, mountains are being moved, sinners are seeking Christ, and Christians are being restored.

The Sykes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, believes that the greatest privilege and responsibility is to create disciples for Christ. The members are therefore committed to fulfilling their purpose through worship, fellowship, ministry, and Christian education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sykes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church for its dedication to serving our great community and country.

CELEBRATING THE CITY OF  
DOWNEY'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUCILE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the City of Downey on its 60th anniversary, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Downey and its residents on this magnificent milestone. It is my great privilege to represent this distinguished and dynamic city as part of California's 40th Congressional District.

The City of Downey, home to more than 113,000 residents, is a diverse community with a small-town friendliness located in the middle of an expansive metropolitan area. Downey, named an All-America City in 2013, was incorporated in 1956 after a lively local debate in which residents campaigned for, and ultimately won, self-governance of the formerly unincorporated Downey community.

Since that time, Downey has consistently been known for its quality residential neighborhoods, excellent schools, rich aerospace history, and engaging civic life. From the first Taco Bell restaurant and the oldest operational McDonald's, to the Apollo Space Program and Space Shuttles, Downey embodies its motto, "Future Unlimited."

Like the proponents of Downey's incorporation in the 1950s—many of whom are still ac-

tively engaged in the community—the successive generations of Downey residents have been committed to making Downey the very best it can be. City leaders continuously strive to improve the high quality of life for which the City of Downey is known, by providing the best possible service to residents, businesses, and each other in a professional, ethical, and responsible manner.

Downey has experienced significant developments during the last decade, including the revitalization of its downtown; an arts and culture movement, the city's new branding identity, Discover Downey; and, most significantly, the redevelopment of the former NASA Industrial Plant Site.

Today, the NASA site has been transformed from a vacant and blighted eyesore to a new and thriving community asset. On the northern end of the NASA site, the Downey Landing Commercial Center boasts 375,000 square feet of high-quality retail options for Downey residents. Kaiser Medical Center Downey, a new 352-bed hospital, created approximately 3,000 jobs, and has many environmentally friendly features and new medical offices. Discovery Sports Complex provided Downey residents with its first new public park space in more than 30 years.

The Columbia Memorial Space Center, which honors the crew of STS-107 lost on February 1, 2003, has been named the official national memorial to the Space Shuttle *Columbia* by a joint resolution of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. The center opened its doors in 2009 and is a popular destination for students and educators seeking to learn about space and science.

Most recent is the development of the Promenade at Downey, a 656,000-square-foot shopping center and entertainment district. The Promenade is Downey's newest community gathering spot and tourist destination, merging retail, dining, and entertainment with a one-of-a-kind walk through history.

Close to 60 years after incorporation, Downey remains a special place. Downey's indescribable essence of community is why generations of residents remain there, and why Downey continues to be a beacon to its surrounding cities. The relationships between Downey's individuals and institutions—between its community organizations, schools, local businesses, houses of worship, and residents—mean that Downey is uniquely capable of facing the challenges of the 21st century with the same spirit of vigor and commitment that created the city. This spirit will guide Downey as it continues into the "Future Unlimited," ensuring public safety, encouraging economic growth, supporting environmental responsibility, and building on its illustrious past.

I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating Downey's 60th anniversary, and in wishing the city continued prosperity, growth, and happiness in all the years to come.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS  
ACT, 2017

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5538) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to the Goodlatte amendment, which would jeopardize state efforts to clean up the Chesapeake Bay.

Mr. Chair, in my home state of Maryland, at the center of the Bay watershed, there's a lot of concern about pollution behind the Conowingo Dam. The sediment and nutrients there don't just materialize out of nothing. They come from Pennsylvania, down the Susquehanna River, and are caught by the dam in Maryland. Pennsylvania's water, and pollution, doesn't stop at the Mason-Dixon line.

The Bay states have recognized the need to work together to protect the Chesapeake for three decades. But for most of that time, we haven't made the progress we need because there was no way to make sure that every state was keeping its commitment. That's why the states asked for federal assistance in 2008 and the federal government agreed to act as a backstop, giving every state the confidence to take action because they know they and their partners will be held accountable.

This has been working and has been upheld by the federal courts. The states are not asking for repeal. But this amendment would remove the accountability provisions that have been critical to the plan's success.

If Pennsylvania doesn't meet its responsibilities, Maryland sees the consequences at the Conowingo Dam. If Maryland doesn't do its job, it jeopardizes Virginia's oyster populations. We have a collaborative process in place, and our states have made significant investments and important progress. I urge my colleagues to respect the states' partnership and oppose the Goodlatte amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately on July 11, 2016, I missed roll call vote 401.

On roll call vote 401, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on final passage of H.R. 5602, "To amend title 31, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to include all funds when issuing certain geographic targeting orders, and for other purposes."

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4,

1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Com-

mittee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for

printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, July 14, 2016 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.