

where local leaders can address issues of region-wide importance.

50 years after its creation, NACOLG continues to fulfill its original mission, which was to serve senior citizens in its five county region. NACOLG helps seniors in numerous ways, from getting medical care, to ensuring fair treatment, to finding jobs for area seniors.

In addition to serving senior citizens, NACOLG's role has expanded into economic and community development. NACOLG serves as a conduit for federal dollars to projects as diverse as water and sewer infrastructure to community tornado shelters.

Growing up in this area, I appreciate the significant role that NACOLG has also played in providing economic opportunities to people of Northwest Alabama. The Council's revolving loan program gives smaller municipalities access to capital to purchase land, and construct or renovate buildings to lure new business and jobs to the area.

Currently, NACOLG is led by Keith Jones, and has an excellent staff that makes sure the five county region is well served. On this 50th anniversary of NACOLG, I send my best wishes to all those who work directly and indirectly with NACOLG. I know NACOLG and its member partners will continue to use its strength to work for the people of Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Marion, and Winston Counties.

EZEKIEL REYNA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ezekiel Reyna for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ezekiel Reyna is a student at Standley Lake High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ezekiel Reyna is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ezekiel Reyna for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER THREE TYRONE PINKINS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Warrant Officer Three Tyrone Pinkins.

Chief Warrant Officer Three Tyrone Pinkins was born and raised in Rolling Fork, Mississippi. After graduating high school he attended Tougaloo College in Jackson, Mis-

issippi before joining the Army in June 1996. He went on to earn his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science at the University of Maryland University College while serving on active duty.

Upon enlisting in the Army on June 24, 1996, Chief Warrant Officer Three Pinkins attended Basic Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina followed by Advanced Individual Training at Fort Gordon, Georgia as a Signal Systems Support Specialist (31U). Prior to his appointment as a Warrant Officer, he completed the Primary Leadership Development Course, 7th Army Noncommissioned Officers Academy, Grafenwoehr, Germany; the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Fort Gordon, Georgia; and the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Fort Gordon, Georgia. He received his appointment as a Warrant Officer in 2007 and has completed the Warrant Officer Basic Course, Warrant Officer Advanced Course and the Electronic Warfare Officer Course.

Throughout 21 years of service Chief Warrant Officer Three Pinkins has served in a variety of assignments to include major combat operations. His previous assignments include Signal Support Systems Specialist, 4th Battalion 1st Field Artillery Regiment, Fort Riley, Kansas; Squad Leader, 2nd Battalion 37th Armor, Friedberg, Germany; Section Chief, 2nd Battalion 69th Armor, Fort Benning, Georgia; Platoon Sergeant, 2nd Battalion 3rd Field Artillery Regiment, Giessen, Germany, and Battalion Communications Chief, 1st Battalion 214th Aviation Regiment, Mannheim, Germany. His assignments as a Warrant Officer include Network Security Technician, HQ 1st Armored Division, Wiesbaden, Germany; Brigade S-6 OIC, 10th Regional Support Group, Okinawa, Japan.

Chief Warrant Officer Three Pinkins' deployments include three tours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom where he served in Baghdad, Tikrit and Najaf, Iraq respectively, as well as Operation New Dawn in Baghdad, Iraq.

Chief Warrant Officer Three Pinkins is a recipient of the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal with One Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal with 4 Oak Leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Presidential Unit Citation Award, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Meritorious Unit Citation, Army Good Conduct Medal third award, the National Defense Service Medal, the Iraqi Campaign Medal with service star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon with numeral three, the Army Achievement Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, and the Drivers/Mechanic Badge.

Chief Warrant Officer Three Pinkins is currently assigned as a Presidential Communications Aide at the White House directly responsible for communications and technical support to the President of the United States.

In addition to his role at the White House as Communications Aide and U.S. Army Chief, Warrant Officer Three, Tyrone Pinkins is also the founder of The Pyramid Project, an organization aimed at addressing the lack of business, government and public-sector exposure and development programs for youth at the base of the economic pyramid in the Mississippi Delta.

In an effort to combat these deficits, Warrant Officer Pinkins launched the youth devel-

opment, mentorship and leadership programs: Cultural Exchange & Interaction Initiative (C.E.I.I), Youth Exposure Tour (Y.E.T), Ellevote Girl Initiative (E.G.I.), E.G.I Forum, Ascend Forum and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Tour.

With only a shoestring organizational budget and invaluable volunteers, Pinkins simultaneously created unprecedented partnerships with government agencies, corporations, universities, museums and nonprofit networks and collaborated with middle and high school officials to encourage youth to enter into grade and writing contests as a way of earning opportunities to participate in his programs.

These efforts paved the way for The Pyramid Project to afford the selected students, grades 6-12, to learn firsthand about the government, corporate and community dynamics, history, historical sites and broaden their horizon during once-in-a-lifetime, weeklong tours of metropolitan cities like Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Chief Warrant Officer Three Tyrone Pinkins for his dedication to serving our great country and the growth and development of the youth in the Mississippi Delta.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill, along with Representative ANDY HARRIS of Maryland, that would establish a bicentennial commission to study ways that the federal government might honor and celebrate the life of Frederick Douglass during the bicentennial anniversary of his birth, in 2018.

Frederick Douglass was born into slavery in 1818 on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He learned basic reading skills from his mistress and continued to teach himself and other slaves to read and write despite the risks he faced, including death. After two attempts, Douglass successfully escaped to New York and became an abolitionist and anti-slavery lecturer. He went on to serve in several administrations, including as a close advisor to President Abraham Lincoln, U.S. Marshal of the District of Columbia under President Rutherford B. Hayes, and District of Columbia Recorder of Deeds under President James Garfield. In 1889, President Benjamin Harrison appointed Frederick Douglass to be the U.S. minister to Haiti. He was later appointed by President Ulysses S. Grant to serve as secretary of the commission of Santo Domingo.

Douglass dedicated his life to achieving justice for all Americans. He lived in the District of Columbia for 23 of his 57 years as a free man and his home at Cedar Hill was established as a National Historic Site in Southeast Washington, D.C. The Frederick Douglass statue that stands in his honor in the United States Capitol is a gift from the nearly 700,000 residents of the District of Columbia.

My bill would establish a commission to examine ways the federal government can honor Douglass during the bicentennial anniversary of his birth, including the issuance of a Frederick Douglass bicentennial postage stamp,