

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA PUTNEY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor the life and legacy of Martha S. Putney, of Washington D.C. Mrs. Putney passed away December 11, 2008, at age 92.

Mrs. Putney was one of the first black women to serve in the Women's Army Corps during World War II. She is also a renowned historian and made strong contributions to the African American history literature.

Martha Settle was born in Norristown, Pa. She attended Howard University in Washington D.C. from which she earned a bachelor's degree in 1939 and a master's degree in history in 1940.

Martha encountered racial barriers when trying to start a teaching career. Unable to find a job, she entered the government's War Manpower Commission as a statistical clerk. In 1943 she was one of the first black women to join the Women's Army Corps, then less than a year old. In the Army, she experienced segregation and racial discrimination.

In 1946, Martha Putney left the women's Army Corps with the rank of first lieutenant. She married William M. Putney in 1948. She eventually began her dreamed teaching career after earning a doctorate in European history from the University of Pennsylvania in 1955. She became a history teacher at Bowie State College in Maryland, where she chaired the history and geography department until 1974. She then taught at Howard University in Washington D.C. until 1983.

Dr. Putney wrote "Black Sailors: Afro-American Merchant Seamen and Whalemans Prior to the Civil War," in 1987 and "When the Nation Was in Need: Blacks in the Women's Army Corps During World War II" in 1992. She also published a number of scholarly articles on African American history.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Putney was an outstanding mother, soldier, teacher and author. I know the Members of the House will join me in expressing our sincere condolences to Mrs. Putney's son, William M. Putney Jr. On behalf of Congress, I thank Mrs. Putney for her great contributions to our nation and for her role in educating our children.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE
MR. ROBERT C. PETTY SR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Mobile and indeed the entire state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory.

Robert C. Petty Sr. was a musical legend in Mobile.

As the senior member of Mobile's Excelsior Band, Mr. Petty spent more than 50 years with the band, performing its Dixieland and conventional jazz in local Mardi Gras parades, at many Mobile weddings, and other special city events.

Anyone who knew Mr. Petty knew he loved playing the trombone. In addition to the Excelsior Band, which has marched the streets of downtown Mobile for over 100 years, he had been the lead trombonist with the E.B. Coleman Orchestra and the C.T. Jazz Ensemble. He was a longtime member and former president of the Musicians Federation Union as well as a veteran of the U.S. Army, where he also played in the band.

Mr. Petty was a 1937 graduate of Dunbar High School and received his Bachelor of Science degree in history from Morehouse College in 1950. While he was at Morehouse, he played the trombone and was awarded the Morehouse Service "M" in band for his outstanding performance. Mr. Petty was also a retiree of the U.S. Postal Service.

Madam Speaker, the Excelsior Band—and Mobile Mardi Gras—will not be the same, and I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering this talented man. Robert C. Petty Sr. will be deeply missed by his family—his wife of more than 50 years, Gloria; his seven children, Phyllis McArthur, Robert Petty Jr., Cynthia Taylor, Sharon Kuttner, Minda "Carol" Petty, Kenneth Petty, and Wendell Petty; his 14 grandchildren, and his two great-grandchildren—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

HONORING MAJOR SHELIA FLOWERS FOR HER PROMOTION TO
LIEUTENANT COLONEL IN THE
UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a fellow Georgian, Major Shelia Flowers. Major Flowers hails from Robersonville, North Carolina. In 1987, she graduated from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. After graduating, she was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and attended the Adjutant General Officer Basic Course at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana.

Major Flowers has held numerous challenging positions throughout her 21 years of service in the Army Reserve. Her assignments as a drilling reservist have included: (1) Serving as a Civil Affairs Officer with the 407th Civil Affairs Company at Fort Snelling, Minnesota; (2) Platoon Leader with the 342nd Adjutant General Postal Company in Rome, Georgia; (3) and a Lanes Training Observer Controller with the 1st Battalion of the 347th Regiment located at Fort Gillem, Georgia. While in her last drilling assignment, Major Flowers earned a Master of Science degree in Conflict Resolution from Kennesaw State University.

In 2003, she was mobilized in support of Operation Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom and has spent the last six years of her career on active duty. Her parent command is the U.S. Army Reserve Command Headquarters at Ft. McPherson, Georgia. While mobilized to active duty, she served in the G-1 Directorate in support of Operation Noble Eagle as a Crisis

Action Team Leader, Equal Opportunity Officer, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program Manager, and Staff Action Officer.

Major Flowers was assigned to directly support Operation Enduring Freedom upon her transfer to OARDEC in November 2007. She has performed myriad tasks with ease including ARB Case Research Officer, CRO, Lead Case Research Officer, and Tribunal Recorder.

Major Flowers' professional military education includes the Adjutant General Officer Advance Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, and Command and General Staff College. She has applied to the Naval War College. Her military decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal and the Army Achievement Medal.

In keeping with one of the tenets that sustains the Reserve Component, Major Flowers serves her community as a member of a 100 year old service organization, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She is an 18-year employee of Lockheed Martin Corporation. She is married to LTC Eric Flowers, who is currently deployed to the Horn of Africa, and they have one daughter.

Major Shelia Flowers is being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel today, and I would like to extend her my congratulations on the floor of the United States Congress and thank her for an exemplary record of service to our nation. The United States—and my home state of Georgia—are proud of Lieutenant Colonel Flowers' commendable professional competence, sound judgment, and total dedication to duty. She has reflected great credit upon herself and upholds the highest traditions of the United States Army Reserve. I wish Shelia and her husband all the best in their future endeavors, and I thank them once again for their leadership in serving our nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 57, I was absent from the House. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

HONORING THE MEMORY OF ALA-
BAMA STATE SENATOR W.H.
"PAT" LINDSEY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor Alabama State Senator W.H. "Pat" Lindsey and pay tribute to his memory.

Considered by many to be a living legend in Alabama politics, Sen. Lindsey was one of the most powerful members of the Alabama Senate. At the time of this death, he held the second longest active tenure in the state Senate.

Born in Meridian, Mississippi, Sen. Lindsey graduated from Choctaw County High School, where he was a five-year letterman in football,

basketball, and baseball. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in geology from the University of Alabama. He served in the U.S. Army and Army Reserves from 1958 until 1963 and in the Alabama Army National Guard's 156th Military Police Battalion from 1963 until he retired with the rank of captain in 1972. In 1963, he graduated from the University of Alabama School of Law and, just three years later, was elected to the Alabama Senate and served two terms until 1974.

Sen. Lindsey returned to the Alabama Senate in 1990 and was reelected in 1994, 1998, 2002, and 2006. He was a longtime member of the Senate Judiciary Committee and was well known for questioning his fellow lawmakers on how their bills would affect everyday people. With his background in geology, Sen. Lindsey was regarded by his colleagues as an expert on oil and natural gas exploration and was often sought out by his colleagues for his advice on related legislation.

Described by the Choctaw Sun-Advocate as a "champion of education," Sen. Lindsey was well-known for his "staunch support, both financial and otherwise, of K-12 and the college level education." He played a key role in securing funds for the construction of the library and adult education center at Alabama Southern Community College in Gilbertown. At the opening of the W.H. "Pat" Lindsey Library and Adult Education Community Center in March of 2005, Sen. Lindsey told the crowd, "There are two things that I have a passion for: kids playing ball and libraries. I've had other things named for me in other places, but this means more because this is home."

Beginning in 1993, Sen. Lindsey served for 12 years on the board of trustees of the University of South Alabama and, in that capacity, he was instrumental in helping to improve the university's academic and healthcare missions. He was a member of the Alabama Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the Choctaw County Chamber of Commerce, and the University of Alabama Alumni Association. Sen. Lindsey had also represented both the Choctaw County Commission and the town of Butler as chief legal counsel since 1965.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout Alabama. Senator W.H. "Pat" Lindsey will be dearly missed by his family—his son, Patrick Lindsey; his daughter, Lori Champion and her husband Jamey; his sister, Kay Kimbrough; and his two grandchildren, Kate and Sophie—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

CREATING AWARENESS ABOUT HEART DISEASE

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, In an effort to create awareness about an issue that hits close to home, I want to share with you that February 7-14th is National Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week.

It is a little known fact that the number of children affected by heart disease is higher

than those affected by Autism or Down Syndrome. According to the March of Dimes, congenital heart defect is the number one birth defect. In the U.S. alone, more than 25,000 babies are born each year with a defect, many of which are undetected and life threatening.

Chances are that you or someone you know, including my family, has been affected by a similar circumstance. Although it is a difficult and fearful process, there are a lot of families in our community who have been through it and are willing to offer their support. In South Florida, we are fortunate to have the Holtz Children's Hospital, where our son Cristian was treated for a serious heart condition, among other incredible hospitals. While good medical care is critical, it is also important to have a strong support group. Hospitals often offer guidance in getting families in touch, and there is also the Angel's Pediatric Heart House, which focuses on helping the entire family cope with the diagnosis. Families affected by heart disease do not have to feel alone, because they are not.

OREGON'S NATIVE AMERICANS DURING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF OREGON

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, on February 14, 2009 we will mark the 150th anniversary of Oregon's admission to the Union. We have much to reflect upon and celebrate since Oregon became the 33rd state. As we commemorate this occasion, I would like to highlight the role of Indian tribes in Oregon.

We must not forget the original inhabitants of what we now call Oregon. Native Americans have been living in this region for well over 12,000 years. During this time tribes developed strong cultures and economies, many of which were well documented first via oral histories, and later by white settlers. Many of the tribes were formally recognized by the United States when treaties were signed in 1855, four years before Oregon became a state.

We must not attempt to overlook the loss of lives, culture, and well-being that tribes have experienced during the last several hundred years. However, what we can do, and must do, is remember and celebrate the first Oregonians; their history before Oregon; and their cultural, economic, and political contributions during the last 150 years.

Nine federally recognized tribes exist in Oregon. Each tribe has its own history that is interwoven with the history of Oregon. Today many tribes are experiencing economic development and cultural revitalization through self-determination. For others, more work needs to be done. Poverty in Indian country continues to be greater than in the rest of the United States. But as we move into the next 150 years of Oregon's history, it is my hope that the federal government, the state of Oregon, and the tribes can work together to improve the lives of tribal members and others in their communities.

So on the occasion of Oregon's sesquicentennial, I recognize the Indian tribes for their historical, cultural, political, and economic contributions to the state of Oregon.

CONGRATULATING GEORGE WERNETH ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM MOBILE'S PRESS-REGISTER

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with both pride and pleasure that I rise today to honor George Werneth on the occasion of his retirement from Mobile's Press-Register.

Over the course of his career, George has played an influential role in honoring the service and actions of our nation's servicemen and women. After nearly four decades of reporting issues ranging from maritime operations to military news, George has become the trusted voice for the news of Alabama's veterans.

In honor of his efforts, George was recently made an honorary member of the Marine Corps League at the American Legion Post 88 in Mobile. One of George's latest accomplishments was a series of stories he wrote profiling a veteran from Eight Mile, Alabama, who struggled to receive disability care after having been "waterboarded" in a 1975 Navy survival course. Due in large part to George's spotlight highlighting the oversight, the veteran soon received his benefits.

Madam Speaker, George Werneth's distinguished career in journalism has provided a great service to the people of southwest Alabama, and I know his colleagues, family, and friends join with me in praising him for his years of hard work.

George will surely enjoy the well deserved time he now has to spend with family and loved ones. On behalf of a grateful community, I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, AND UNREGU- LATED FISHING ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2009

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, today I have introduced a bill to strengthen enforcement mechanisms to stop illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing. The difficulties of managing fish stocks that migrate across political boundaries are exacerbated by the increased fishing power now available as a result of modern technology. While the United States is recognized for its commitment to domestic fisheries conservation and as an international voice in science-based ocean conservation, the failure of other nations to adopt similar approaches has both economic and conservation implications for U.S. industry and management. Additional action is needed from Congress if we are to be successful in combating IUU fishing and the depletion of fish stocks worldwide.

Recent reports have documented that IUU fishing accounts for between 11 and 19 percent of the reported global fish catch, or \$10-25 billion in gross revenues each year (MRAG, 2005, Sumaila et al., 2006 and