

A TRIBUTE TO MS. MARIAN
JACKSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS—

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Marian Jackson a resident of Staten Island, NY for over thirty years and an innovative entrepreneur.

Ms. Jackson is currently the President of MJ Kreativity specializing in personal shopping and unique gifts. In addition, Ms. Jackson is a travel consultant with the Our Gang Travel Agency. She is well versed in cruise group venues and has a following of over one hundred dedicated travelers.

Ms. Jackson's businesses have contributed to numerous community organizations including the Universal Temple which supports youth development and education in the arts and heritage awareness on Staten Island.

Prior to starting her own businesses, Ms. Jackson was associated with several entertainment firms such as ARISTA Records, ABC Television, Columbia pictures, and Night Fall Productions as an Associate Producer.

Ms. Jackson has served as Public Relations Chairperson for the National Association of Market Developers and was active in the Democratic political community working with the Obama campaign and other Democratic Party endeavors.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Marian Jackson.

A TRIBUTE TO AL AND VALERIE
BISHOP, NORWOOD, MASSACHU-
SETTS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Al and Valerie Bishop who are being recognized by the Friends of St. Nick organization in Norwood, Massachusetts, for their generosity in helping those in need for over 25 years. The Bishops' planes have been on call 24/7 to assist with organ transplants and charitable flights that would not have been possible otherwise.

Norwood is not in the Second Congressional District, but I feel I must add my congratulations to this fine couple, as their good deeds certainly affect people throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In May of 2007, Carol and Vincent Pietroniro of Feeding Hills, Massachusetts, were trying to help their terminally ill son Michael find a way to realize one of his lifelong wishes—to come to Washington, DC, and see the White House. When contacted about this special request, Al and Valerie Bishop did not hesitate; they supplied the private jet and pilots for Michael and his parents, as well as for 3 physicians and an ICU nurse to make the trip.

Needless to say, the trip was so special for young Michael. Sadly, Michael passed away a few short weeks later. I know that the kindness and generosity of Al and Valerie Bishop will forever be in the hearts and minds of Michael's parents, family and friends. Knowing

that their son did get to realize his dream is so comforting to both them.

I commend the Friends of St. Nick on selecting Al and Valerie Bishop as their Couple of the Year for 2009, and I add my congratulations, best wishes and appreciation for all that they do.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. BETTIE L.
JONES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS—

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mrs. Bettie L. Jones who has retired after devoting over 25 years as an Associate Director and Human Resources Business Partner for Global Operations, Foreign Exchange Sales & Trading and Fixed Income Trade Support for a leading Investment Banking and Securities firm on Wall Street.

Mrs. Jones was responsible for administrative management, staffing, coaching and employee relations. In this capacity, she delivered, facilitated, and conducted motivational presentations about in-person job readiness workshops, seminars and panels.

During her professional career Mrs. Jones was an active member of several Business Advisory boards such as the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, Department of Education Virtual Enterprise Program, JOB, Inc., National Business Disability Council, the New York Academy of Finance, and a member of the Urban Financial Services Coalition.

She was commissioned to facilitate multiple workshops, panel discussions, seminars and focus groups with diversity organizations, including CUNY Graduate Center, Baruch College of Economics and Finance, Academy of Finance, Hunter College, Mission Society Hope Program, National Mentoring Program, Boys and Girls Clubs of America and the New York City Department of Education.

Mrs. Jones partnered and maintained relationships with several non-profit organizations including the Mayor's and Governor's offices resulting in receiving the "NYS NDEAM Regional Employment Alliance" award and the "Governor's VESID Placement Consortium" award in recognition of her dedication and commitment to hiring individuals with disabilities. In addition, Mrs. Jones was awarded the New York City Department of Education Virtual Enterprise "Partner in Leadership Award" in recognition of assisting High School students in career development.

Currently Mrs. Jones is a volunteer consultant with the Workforce 1 Center in Harlem conducting career-readiness workshops for the community training and Employment Resources program.

Mrs. Jones is married to Robert Jones and they have one daughter, Kenya, and two grandchildren, Ejaaz and Amani.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Bettie L. Jones.

HONORING CALVIN BRIGHT

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Calvin Bright for his tremendous contributions to promoting housing and development in the Central Valley. Mr. Bright is being honored at the Greater Yosemite Council Boy Scouts of America's Annual Distinguished Citizens Dinner on October 28, 2009, in Modesto, California.

Calvin Bright was born on September 17, 1920, in Beggs, Oklahoma, to Ed and Cora Bright. He was raised on the family farm with his three siblings and a cousin. He spent his childhood in school or working on his family's farm where they raised farm animals, grew row crops, and farmed a large family garden. He graduated from Beggs High School having lettered in football and participated in the 4H Club. He joined the National Guard when he was 14, but due to a hip injury, he was unable to go overseas and fight in the war. Instead, Mr. Bright attended Oklahoma A&M and graduated with a degree in horticulture.

In 1940, Mr. Bright married his high school sweetheart, Marjorie Hensley. They attended Oklahoma A&M together and moved to California in 1942. Upon arriving in California, Mr. Bright built and managed a five-unit apartment complex in Hayward. This was his first California building project. In 1956 Mr. and Mrs. Bright founded Bright Foods in Turlock, which manufactured pre-prepared frozen foods, such as pies and TV dinners. Bright Foods was the first pre-prepared food processing plant of its type west of the Rockies. Bright Foods operated 24 hours a day and employed approximately 400 full-time employees.

Mr. Bright established Western Fruit Packers in Brigham City, Utah, in 1959. The company was a cherry packing plant and provided fruit for his cherry pies manufactured in Turlock, California. The following year he founded C.S.C. Refrigeration, a company that froze and stored the product, and Mistletoe Express, a trucking company that delivered the finished frozen product to 11 western States. In 1966, Bright Foods and FM Stamper Company merged to create a national distribution system. The new company was named Banquet Foods and was sold to RCA in 1969. When Banquet Foods sold, Mr. Bright left the food processing industry and entered the housing industry, full time.

In 1968, Mr. Bright founded B&H Manufacturing, an international company that designs and manufactures high-speed, roll-fed labeling machines that place labels on containers for major companies, such as Coca-Cola, Pepsi, Clorox, and other household products. In 1971, he incorporated Bright Development in Modesto and began to build single family homes, townhomes, and apartment projects throughout the Central Valley. Bright Development has also been active in the construction of commercial office buildings. Woodside Management Group was also established in 1971 by Mr. Bright to professionally manage the apartment projects built by Bright Development. Mr. Bright has been named "Builder of the Year" by the Building Association of Central California, twice. He has been a member of the Building Industry Association of Central

California since 1979 and he served over 20 years on the board of directors and is a past president. In 1994 he was honored by the California Building Industry Foundation for his contributions to the professionalism of the industry and has been inducted into the California Building Industry Hall of Fame.

Mr. and Mrs. Bright established the Bright Family Foundation in 1987 for the purpose of making a contribution to the health and well-being of youth and families in the Central Valley. Over the years the foundation has provided grants to sponsor the Nature Series on KVIE, medical internships at the University of California Medical Center, Hospice, the Children's Crisis Center, and scholarships for students from local high schools to attend Modesto Junior College, University of California, Merced, and California State University, Stanislaus.

Mr. Bright has been associated with the Yosemite Area Council of Boy Scouts for over 20 years. He has served on the board of directors and has been honored with the Silver Beaver Award in 1994. He was also honored by the Boy Scouts of America in 2004.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Calvin Bright for the impact that he has made on the building industry in the Central Valley and the State of California. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing him continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. DANNY KING

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS-

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Danny King, an exemplary community leader.

Mr. King is a 22 year veteran of the New York City Police Department, Board Member of the Central Brooklyn Coordinating Council Inc., Chairperson of the Neighborhood Advisory Board, Board Member of the New York City Department of Youth Community and Development, to name a few. In addition, he served 8 years as the President of the Atlantic Avenue Housing Development Fund Corporation and served 2 years on the USA Women's Shelter Board. He was a member of the Bedford Avenue Boys and Girls Club for over eight years with great memories and many stories to tell.

As President of Youth on the Move Victory over Violence, he continues to support scholarships and awareness programs to combat violence. He humbly received several leadership awards from company employees such as the 2009 Man of the Year Award, 2008 Exemplary Community Award from New Life Center of Truth, a citation as 2007 Distinguished Humanitarian Award from Senator John Sampson's Office, Cambridge Who's Who 2007, Thomas R. Fortune Exemplary 2004 Service Award, 2003 Martin Luther King Spirit of New York Award, Beacon of Hope Award, Wayside Baptist Church Senior Program Leadership Award and many other awards and achievements.

Mr. King currently serves as the CEO of the Federation of Multicultural Programs Inc., and the Federation of Multicultural Programs of New Jersey, Inc. This company is a service

provider of intermediate care group homes, individualized residential alternative homes, community residential homes and programs that include Day Habilitation Programs, a Respite Program, and a Medicaid Service Coordination Program, with services spreading throughout the Boroughs of Brooklyn, Bronx, Manhattan and Counties in the State of New Jersey.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Danny King.

A TRIBUTE TO THE SACRAMENTO JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE, THE MATSUYAMA SACRAMENTO SISTER CITY CORPORATION, TERI TAKAI AND RANDELL IWASAKI

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Sacramento Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, the Matsuyama Sacramento Sister City Corporation, Teri Takai and Randell Iwasaki for their contributions to California, Sacramento, and their leadership to Japanese-Americans across the nation.

The Sacramento JACL was formed on October 31, 1931, after the Sacramento Chapter of the American Loyalty League reorganized itself to become the Sacramento Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League.

Through their programs, the Sacramento JACL is dedicated to advancing the civil rights of all Americans, deterring hate crimes across the Nation, and helping to lead the Japanese-American community for social and economic advancement. At their annual dinner on November 19th, they will honor two outstanding individuals and one fine organization, Teri Takai; Randell Iwasaki; and the Matsuyama Sacramento Sister City Corporation.

On December 6, 2007, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger announced the appointment of Teri Takai as chief information officer for the State of California. As a member of the Governor's Cabinet, she advises him on the strategic management and direction of information technology resources as the state works to modernize and transform the way California does business with its residents and visitors.

Teri also currently serves as practitioner chair of the Harvard Policy Group on Network-Enabled Services and Government. Before serving in the State government, Teri worked for Ford Motor Company for 30 years, where she led the development of the company's information technology strategic plan.

Randell Iwasaki currently serves as the director of the California Department of Transportation, which employs 23,000 people and has an operating budget of \$14 billion.

Working for CalTrans for almost 25 years, Randell spearheaded a number of transportation engineering innovations in California including the use of old tires in rubberized asphalt, the installation of LED red lights saving the State taxpayers more than \$2 million a year in power costs, and the conversion of the CalTrans equipment fleet to clean burning fuels.

A licensed civil engineer, Randell also serves on a number of national transportation panels and committees helping to develop transportation strategies and innovations such as pavement technology that reduces highway noise.

The Matsuyama Sacramento Sister City Corporation was formed on August 17, 1981, when then Sacramento Mayor Phil Isenberg and Mayor Tokio Nakamura of Matsuyama, Japan, signed the historic sister city agreement.

Since 1981, various organizations from Sacramento and Matsuyama have formed inter-continental relationships for social and economic prosperity. Most notably, the Boy Scout exchange program is one of the Sister City's most successful programs where Scouts from Sacramento visit Matsuyama in even years and the Matsuyama Scouts visit Sacramento in odd years.

Other than a short pause just after September 11th, the Matsuyama-Sacramento Boy Scout exchange program has taken place each year since 1981. Sacramento plans to send its next delegation to Matsuyama in 2010.

Madam Speaker, I hereby recognize and honor the Sacramento Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, and the people and organization they are honoring Thursday night: the Matsuyama Sacramento Sister City Corporation, Teri Takai and Randell Iwasaki. Their contributions to the people of California have been immense. I ask all my colleagues to join with me in wishing them continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO MS. JOAN HEVONY LAWRENCE CRAWFORD

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS-

OF NEW YORK

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Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Joan Hevony Lawrence Crawford who was born in Costa Rica, Central America.

In her young life, Ms. Crawford made the decision to immigrate to the United States with her husband and two young children in order to provide a better life for their family. While in America, she was determined to be a successful educated black woman and she continued her education by completing her high school diploma at the "Boys and Girls" High School in Brooklyn, New York. After receiving her high school diploma she then went on to Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC) to further her studies. While in school, she discovered that she has a passion for helping her community and decided to pursue a career in medicine.

Ms. Crawford's passion and dedication was shown everyday of the thirty-five years she worked at Coney Island Hospital. She was always a hard worker and cared very much for her patients. While at Coney Island she received many promotions and eventually retired as a medical/surgical technician.

Even though she retired in 1996 from Coney Island Hospital, her life did not slow down. After retirement, she became very active in her religious life at East New York Seventh-day Church (ENYSDA). At ENYSDA she is a