

It's no wonder that under Warren's leadership Cal Poly has been recognized as one of the best public universities in the United States for 17 consecutive years by U.S. News and World Report.

Educational advancement is a central priority for Warren, even in his private life. He is one of the longest serving members of the California Council for Science and Technology. He also co-chairs the Business Higher Education Forum's Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) initiative that is responsible for two significant reports on K-12 science and math education. Additionally, Warren co-chairs a California STEM education planning initiative and is a member of the Board of Governors of the U.S.-Mexico Science Foundation, which promotes programs in technology, research, science, math and engineering education for both countries. President Ronald Reagan appointed him to serve on the National Science Board and the U.S. Agency for International Development Board for International Food and Agricultural Development.

Dedicated to serving his community, Warren's leadership at California Polytechnic State University will be sorely missed and difficult to replace, but his well-deserved retirement will give him the ability to spend more time with his wife Carly Fitzsimons Baker, their family and their friends. Warren's level of dedication to higher education continues to be exemplified through his commitment to remain active at Cal Poly and in the California State University System. I commend his service in San Luis Obispo, and I know that Warren will enjoy this next chapter of his life.

HONORING AMY R. TAYLOR FOR
HER SERVICE TO TENNESSEE'S
SIXTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Amy Taylor and thank her for her tremendous service to Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District. After serving as my executive assistant for 4 years, Amy is leaving for a new position on Capitol Hill.

Amy first came to my office as a summer intern in 2005 when she was still an English major at Middle Tennessee State University, my alma mater. It was clear to me and to my staff that she was bright, capable and eager to learn more about the inner workings of Congress.

When her internship ended, we didn't forget her skill for the work of the congressional office and her loyalty to her Middle Tennessee roots. When a position became open in the office around the time Amy was graduating, I was happy she accepted and made the move to Washington. Throughout her time here, she has brought remarkable capability, talent and good humor to a challenging job.

Madam Speaker, I simply can't say enough about the outstanding job Amy has done while working in my office. Her knowledge of the district has been a great asset, and her positive attitude has enabled her to have a good

and quick rapport with constituents, her coworkers and virtually anyone she meets.

It's been a pleasure having Amy on our staff. While my staff and I are sad to see her go, we're fortunate that she won't be going far. Amy will be moving on to the office of my colleague Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District, where she also has family roots. I hope Mr. DAVIS and his staff appreciate how lucky they are to have her.

Amy, I thank you for your hard work and good advice, and I wish you all the best in your continued service to the Volunteer State.

HONORING THE NAACP ON ITS
101ST ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 242, Honoring and Praising the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the occasion of its 101st anniversary. I would also like to commend Representative GREEN, the sponsor of this resolution, for his commitment to recognizing the accomplishments of this historic organization. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution praising this venerable institution.

In 1905, a group of Jewish and African-American leaders came together to discuss the injustices faced by African-Americans and possible solutions. The group led by renowned scholar and sociologist W.E.B. Du Bois was known as the Niagara Movement. Du Bois said at that time that, "[t]he problem of the twentieth century is the problem of the color line". The goal of the Niagara Movement and its successor the NAACP was to erase that color line.

In its earliest years the NAACP fought against the racist Jim Crow laws of the south and campaigned for equal access to voting, housing, and education. The organization's dedication to overturn the "separate but equal" doctrine culminated in the unanimous 1954 Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, which declared state-sponsored segregation of elementary schools to be unconstitutional. During the Civil Rights era the NAACP's unrelenting appeals for voting reform culminated in the signing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Civil Rights Act into law.

Some critics of the NAACP now see the organization as unnecessary and ineffective in today's post-racial world. I respond to that criticism with these words: the color line that W.E.B. DuBois fought against 101 years ago, still exists today. Yes, we are living in a time when our country has its first African-American president; but we are also living in a time when African-Americans are on the whole underrepresented in governmental leadership positions. We also live in a time in which African-Americans account for nearly 51 percent of all new HIV/AIDS cases. Progress has clearly been made, but we have a lot of work to do and the NAACP continues to champion better life for all citizens.

Mr. Speaker it is imperative that we recognize this landmark organization for its contribu-

tions to this country. Many of us would not be here without their efforts. For 101 years the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has consistently and effectively pressed for total racial equality and inclusion and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and recognize the 101st anniversary of the NAACP.

A TRIBUTE TO VERNART JENKINS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS-

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Vernart Jenkins for his dedication and service to his faith and community.

Vernart Jenkins was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. He was educated in the New York Public Schools and graduated from Tilden High School and New York Technical College.

Mr. Jenkins is the oldest of three sons to Eddie and Victoria Jenkins; his two brothers are Curtis and Ronald Jenkins. He is married to the love of his life, Althea Walls Ronald Jenkins, and he is the father of two daughters, Zetorea and Aleshia.

Mr. Jenkins was born and raised in the Berean Baptist Church and has been a member for fifty years. He has been a member of the Sunday School Department most of his life, and is presently the Superintendent of the Adult Department. He has been a part of the Usher's Ministry for almost fifty years. He is presently a Supervisor of the Junior Usher Board. Additionally, for the past five years, he has served as one of the worship leaders at the Berean Gardens Wednesday noonday prayer service.

He has spent 15 years in finance and loan companies. He has been employed by the New York City Transit Authority as a conductor for 23 years. In 1998, he was ordained as a deacon at the Berean Church.

Finally, he accepted Jesus Christ into his life and began to travel a road less traveled, committing himself to be a good husband and father and follow his favorite verse, Proverbs 3:5, 6.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Vernart Jenkins.

RECOGNIZING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF MARSEILLES, IL

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the city of Marseilles, Illinois as it celebrates its 175th Anniversary this month. Marseilles, founded in 1835 by settlers on little more than a dream and a few acres of land, commemorates a history of growth and prosperity that has turned it into the beautiful community that it is today.

The city's history began in 1835 when a man named Lovel Kimball saw the great potential of the city, naming it Marseilles after the city in France that embodied the industrial

center that he wished to establish. Founded on the banks of the mighty Illinois River and later near the Illinois Michigan Canal, the early settlement was full of promise with the capacity to become a center of manufacturing and industry. Today that same river still plays an integral part in the industrial and recreational life of Marseilles.

Always a center for innovation and promise, the men and women who have called Marseilles home have gone on to make great contributions to their country and their fellow man. Solomon Bell, the inventor of the original reaper that transformed the agricultural industry worldwide, began his career in Marseilles and today this community is well equipped to nurture the next generation of inventors, scientists and leaders.

The people of Marseilles have a rich history of service to their country. Soldiers and war heroes from nearly every major war in the past century have spent their time in Marseilles and many have found their final resting place here. Mothers and fathers have sent their sons and daughters to fight for our country's freedom for generations and the community of Marseilles has shown a unique dedication to honoring our veterans and remembering our fallen heroes.

On June 19th, 2004, Marseilles became home to the Middle East Conflicts Memorial Wall. This Wall is the only memorial in the United States dedicated solely to honoring the servicemen and women who have lost their lives fighting in wars in the Middle East since 1979. As an ardent supporter of all veterans, I am especially proud of Marseilles for this fact.

Since its founding 175 years ago, Marseilles has become a community that takes pride in its schools, its beautiful churches, its hard workers, and its atmosphere of friendliness and family. This character is what brings Marseilles into its 175th year as a thriving, vibrant community and I am confident that it will continue to carry on this legacy for many years to come.

STANDING IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to express my strong support for the State of Israel, adding my voice alongside that of the millions of Americans who support the State of Israel.

On May 31, Israeli forces took military action and boarded six ships in a flotilla that was attempting to break the Israeli blockade of Gaza. No matter how regrettable the loss of life may be in this incident, it does not change the underlying fact that Israel has a right to defend herself, and in this case was exercising it.

When Hamas seized control of Gaza, this terrorist organization used it as a base of operations from which to commit acts of terrorism against Israel and her citizens. In re-

sponse, Israel imposed a blockade of Gaza to prevent weapons from reaching the hands of terrorists to be used to maim and kill innocent Israeli citizens. By implementing this policy and stemming the ability of Hamas to carry out acts of terrorism, Israel not only saved lives in Israel, but also has saved lives in Gaza.

Had this flotilla truly been about providing humanitarian aid to Gaza, why did they not accept Israel's offer to let the ships dock at an Israeli port, be inspected, and then proceed over land to Gaza? Based on the flotilla's actions, it seems the political mission of attempting to break the Israeli blockade was of higher priority than the humanitarian mission of providing aid to Gaza.

The State of Israel is one of the United States' staunchest allies, and our two nations have enjoyed a special relationship since the founding of the State of Israel over sixty years ago.

Over the course of this relationship, the United States has proudly and unwaveringly stood by our friend and ally, Israel. We should and must continue to do so now.

CONGRATULATING BALLET MEMPHIS ON THEIR PERFORMANCE AT THE KENNEDY CENTER

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ballet Memphis for their invitation to perform as part of "Ballet Across America II" at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. on June 17 and 19, 2010. This will be Ballet Memphis' debut performance at the Kennedy Center and it will be the first Tennessee dance company to perform on the main stage. Ballet Memphis joins eight notable dance companies from around our nation to take part in the second installment of this week-long production.

Dorothy Gunther Pugh founded Ballet Memphis in 1986 as Memphis Concert Ballet and currently serves as Artistic Director. Ballet Memphis began as a company with two professional dancers and an operating budget of \$75,000. Now in its 23rd season, it employs 16 dancers, trains 700 students, tours local schools and has an operating budget of \$3.3 million. The company performs at various venues in Memphis including the Orpheum Theatre, the newly renovated Playhouse on the Square and their own award-winning studio in East Memphis.

Ballet Memphis has had the distinct honor of performing at various festivals around the world. They have performed as part of the Inside/Out Series at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in Becket, Massachusetts, Spring to Dance in St. Louis and the Joyce Theater in New York. Ballet Memphis has performed in productions in Paris and Quebec as well. Recognized by the Ford Foundation as a "national treasure," the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded Ballet Memphis a grant to explore

opportunities for redefining midsize ballet companies in the nation. Ballet Memphis' performance this week at The Kennedy Center will bring nationwide attention to dance companies of similar size and talent.

Ballet Memphis will take to the Kennedy Center main stage performing their 2007 original piece "In Dreams" choreographed by Trey McIntyre and set to music recorded at Memphis' Sun Studio by Roy Orbison. Mrs. Pugh's choreographers reflect the musical and literary history of Memphis and merge both rock-and-roll and soul music to bring to the forefront the importance of all humanity living together. Mrs. Pugh stated "this is a really good piece for us to perform because it sets us apart in terms of the different ways we create work to reflect the community."

Through their commitment to hard work and outstanding performances, Ballet Memphis has built a distinguished name of which they can be justly proud. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Ballet Memphis for their many accomplishments and for being invited to perform in "Ballet Across America II."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE EBENEZER MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH FAMILY LIFE CENTER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Dedication of the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church Family Life Center.

Located within the predominantly African American "Stop Six" Neighborhood of Southeast Fort Worth, the Center will help meet challenges in relation to social, educational and cultural service needs of the community. The new 15,000 square-foot structure is named to honor two former Pastors of the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, Reverends Houston and Lockett, and will serve as a multi-purpose center. With the efforts of non-profit organizations, the Center intends to develop programs to address challenges such as illiteracy, job assistance programs and health needs such as the high infant mortality rates and other needs faced by the surrounding community.

The Family Life Center will help improve the quality of life across a multi-generational spectrum. The area's children will find education in Art, Music and Dance. Seniors will find it a place of assistance, and families as a whole can participate in recreational activities to enjoy quality time together.

I am honored to congratulate Reverend Bruce Datcher and the Congregation of Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church for their new addition and commitment to South East Fort Worth. It is my pleasure to extend my best wishes for success in their mission as they seek to meet the physical, mental, social and emotional needs of the community.