

the First National Bank of Andalusia, was first elected to the Alabama State House of Representatives in 1978.

Since that time, the speaker has been regarded as truly one of the most effective leaders ever to serve in the Alabama House of Representatives. Not only has he earned bipartisan respect from his colleagues in the Alabama House, but organizations such as the Business Council of Alabama and the Alabama Rural Electric Cooperatives, to name just a few, have time and again called upon Seth for his calm leadership and sound judgment.

During his time in office, Speaker Hammett has become a fierce proponent of higher education. For over a decade, he served Lurleen B. Wallace Community College as its president. Additionally, his efforts have earned him many awards, including the Courage of Conviction Award given by the Higher Education Partnership, The Legislative Leadership Award given by the Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools and the Legislative Award given by the Alabama Association of School Boards.

Due to his strong convictions and commitment to serving the State of Alabama, Speaker Hammett has also been the recipient of the Children's Hero Award given by the Alabama Department of Human Resources and the Meritorious Service Award given by the Montgomery Advertiser. In addition to these honors, Seth was named Citizen of the Year for the city of Andalusia and a Guardian of Small Business by the National Federation of Independent Businesses.

Speaker Hammett also had the honor of serving as chairman of the 16-State Southern Legislative Conference as well as president of the National Speakers Conference. He is currently a member of the Executive Committee for both conferences.

In his business life, he also serves the vice president of business development for PowerSouth Energy Cooperative and as president emeritus of Lurleen B. Wallace Community College.

Madam Speaker, in addition to his undying commitment to his community, Speaker Hammett is an equally devoted father and husband. He and his lovely wife, Nancy, have been blessed with a wonderful family that includes adult children and grandchildren. He is also an active member of the First United Methodist Church of Andalusia.

Speaker Hammett has been the epitome of a servant leader and has represented the great State of Alabama with unprecedented devotion. Over the years, he and I have had several occasions to work on economic development projects that have proven important to the State of Alabama and while it is with genuine sadness that I watch my good friend leave office, it is also with great gratitude that I thank him for his incredible life of service to our beloved Alabama.

HONORING THE LATE LORRAINE BERRY, FORMER MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late Lorraine L. Berry,

who made her final transition on July 19th. She was born on St. Thomas on November 15, 1949, the eldest of nine children. Her mother, Emelda, and father, Joseph, provided their children with a sense of responsibility and commitment to their community.

Lorraine developed an interest in politics as a teenager, inspired by the riveting and profound words of Dr. Martin Luther King in his "I Have a Dream" speech during the August 8, 1963 march on Washington, DC. His remarks made an indelible mark on Lorraine and she never wavered in her zeal to someday make that dream a reality.

Lorraine got her feet wet as the president of the PTA of Joseph Sibilly Elementary School (formerly known as the Robert Herrick School). Her aggressive agenda and her assertive and dedicated commitment to the improvement of the school so impressed the late Governor, Cyril Emanuel King, that he encouraged her to get involved in politics and join his party, the Independent Citizens Movement. She took his advice to become politically active, but because of the strong impression she had established in the community, she was drafted by then Senator Earle B. Ottley and political activist, Roy Gottlieb to serve on the Democratic Party Territorial Committee.

During her political career, she founded Virgin Islanders for Democratic Action Club (VIDAC) to raise the community's consciousness and provide the basis for political and legislative initiatives and promoted responsible and responsive political leadership. Her most recent symposium was on the "Responsibilities of Political Leadership" and she encouraged women to become involved in the process and run for public office.

Virtually from the time she entered the labor force, Lorraine has been a dedicated public servant. She served in several governmental posts including Manager of the St. Thomas District Office the Virgin Islands Delegate to Congress, Ron de Lugo. In 1982, she successfully ran for a seat in the St. Thomas District of the Virgin Islands Legislature.

Senator Berry gained vast experience in her service as the Chair of the Committee of Government Operations in the 15th Legislature; Chair of the Committee on Finance in the 17th, 18th and 23rd Legislature; Majority Leader of the 18th Legislature; Chair of the Committee on Health in the 19th and 20th Legislatures; President of the 22nd and 26th Legislatures; and Vice-President and Chair of the Committee on Public Safety, the Judiciary, Homeland Security and Justice in the 25th Legislature.

In her twenty-four years as a lawmaker, Senator Berry's courageous leadership shepherded passage of landmark legislation that critically impacted on the political, economic and social fabric of our society. The initiatives she enacted provided much needed support for families, economic development incentives for investors, public safety of the community, business opportunities for residents, employment opportunities and public sector employment for Virgin Islanders.

Over the years, one of the most challenging issues was the state of the health care system. Senator Berry supported the establishment of semi-autonomy for our hospitals, and the use of Tobacco Settlement funds for a cancer center on St. Thomas and the cardiac center on St. Croix, both of which are fully operational and successful facilities today pro-

viding services that Virgin Islanders would have to go off island to receive.

In 1986, Senator Berry sought the Democratic Party primary bid for Governor of the Virgin Islands, along with her running mate for Lt. Governor, Senator St. Clair Williams. She fostered a progressive platform that included mandatory education for the children of the Virgin Islands as a birthright. She waged war against the "four horsemen of the apocalypse"—fiscal irresponsibility, corruption, cronyism and rampant waste. Although, she did not prevail, she remained committed to establishing a government that provided services to its citizens, while remaining fiscally viable.

Because of her strong advocacy for women and the obstacles in sexism she had endured over her lifetime, she agreed to join gubernatorial candidate Judge Edgar Ross to run in the 2006 Democratic primary. She wanted to raise the political bar for women in the Virgin Islands. She felt that the Executive Branch had eluded women for far too long, and it was her obligation to enter the race to stimulate women's interest in running for higher office. Although the Ross-Berry team was defeated, their message was positively received by the public and to this day, have a core group of loyal supporters that remain committed to the principles that they ran on.

As she battled with her illness, Senator Berry was unwavering in her concern for the lack of women in the political process and the welfare of our young people. She believed that no future Legislature should be without women. Women make up more than 55% of the population, but over the past 10 years, there has been only one woman in the Senate. She felt that women must encourage and support women in and out of public office if the issues of women, children, and families are to be adequately addressed.

Lorraine leaves behind a legacy that will be difficult to match. The entire Virgin Islands community owes a debt of gratitude to her.

To her husband, Richard, and her children, Roxanne and Curt, thank you for giving her the support as she fought for the Virgin Islands. As you struggle to adjust to Lorraine's passing, please find comfort in knowing that many of us remain dedicated to ensuring that she will never be forgotten.

On behalf of the 111th Congress, my staff and my family we offer our heartfelt sympathy. May her soul forever rest in eternal peace.

RECOGNITION OF THE MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF LYNRYD SKYNYRD

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, in the music world, it is challenging enough for a band to record one hit song, much less become a voice for an entire region and a true icon. That is why Congressman CONNIE MACK and I are pleased to jointly recognize the accomplishments and patriotic spirit of the legendary Lynryd Skynyrd.

From humble beginnings, Lynryd Skynyrd has become one of the most revered and accomplished bands in the history of music, having sold nearly 30 million records worldwide in

the last four decades. Through their live performances and the music and songs still played on radio stations around the world every day, the members of Lynyrd Skynyrd have established themselves as timeless artists who transcend any one musical era or generation.

As validated by their induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2006, Lynyrd Skynyrd has had a seminal impact on the development of rock and country music and a profound influence on the career development of many artists who followed in their creative footsteps.

Through their collective voices, the band has become a beacon for regional identity and pride in the American South. This is perhaps best epitomized by the song "Sweet Home Alabama," an anthem so universally identified with the state of Alabama that it is the official motto displayed on license plates.

Since their start in Jacksonville, Florida in the late 1960s, Lynyrd Skynyrd has been a spokesman for the everyday working man and woman, the friends and neighbors of their formative years. Their ability to capture a unique part of the American spirit has given their music emotional meaning to many fans and built a legacy that continues to grow year after year.

Amid triumph and loss, these sons of the south have evolved from band to close-knit family. A tragic airplane crash in 1977 claimed original members Steve Gaines, Cassie Gaines, and lead singer Ronnie Van Zant, but Ronnie's brother Johnny carried on the tradition as the new vocalist. Devoted fans cherish the contributions of Bob Burns, Ed King, and Artimus Pyle and remember the legacy of Allen Collins, Leon Wilkeson, Billy Powell, and Ean Evans. Today, led by core members Johnny Van Zant, Gary Rossington, Rickey Medlock, and Michael Cartellone, Lynyrd Skynyrd continues to share an unbreakable bond with the fans they count as family as well.

Lynyrd Skynyrd has been a generous supporter of our men and women in the armed forces for many years. The band has long understood that our military personnel bravely and unselfishly stand guard over our everyday security and freedom. They have enthusiastically raised money for military families and played countless shows for our service members in uniform. Their song "Red, White, and Blue" was written as a tribute to the men and women who serve in the defense of freedom.

As representatives of timeless American values and champions of working class heroes, Lynyrd Skynyrd continues to entertain and inspire millions of fans across the world. Along with Congressman MACK, I find it highly appropriate that the people's House takes time to recognize this classic band for lasting contributions not just to the world of music, but to American popular culture as a whole.

LEXINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA—
THE BARBEQUE CAPITAL OF THE
WORLD

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, we call Lexington, North Carolina, the Barbeque Capital

of the World. On April 29–30, 2011, the eyes of the barbeque world will be focused on Lexington as it hosts the Inaugural BBQ Capital Cook-off.

The Cook-off, which hopes to become an annual competition, will not only feature the tastiest food in the world, but will aid in the restoration of downtown Lexington. With people coming from all over the east coast and midwest, hotels will be utilized, food will be eaten, gas will be pumped, and most importantly, people from all over the United States will come to celebrate the heritage and history of world-famous, Lexington-style barbeque.

Uptown Lexington, Inc., has spearheaded the restoration of Lexington and is continuing that goal by hosting the cook-off. The organization has also applied to the Kansas City Barbeque Society for event sanctioning and has asked Governor Beverly Perdue to proclaim the event as a North Carolina State Barbeque Championship.

On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District, we congratulate Uptown Lexington, Inc., for sponsoring the Inaugural BBQ Capital Cook-off. We extend best wishes for a rousing success in the Barbecue Capital of the World.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THAT THE UNITED STATES PROMOTE
RESPECT FOR AND FULL
APPLICATION OF THE PROVISIONS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS
DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS
OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES,
CONSISTENT WITH U.S. LAW

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution for the United States to promote respect for and full application of the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, consistent with U.S. law.

That Declaration is a landmark instrument outlining the rights of the world's 370 million indigenous peoples in 70 countries. A non-binding text comparable to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples sets out the individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples, as well as their rights to culture, identity, language, employment, health and education.

The United States was one of only four member states of the United Nations to vote against the declaration in 2007, while 143 voted in favor. Three of the four states who initially voted against it have already reversed their opposition to the Declaration or are in the process of doing so. Meanwhile, the U.S. Government has launched a formal review of the Declaration to determine whether the United States will change its stance.

Today, indigenous peoples face disproportionate discrimination, inadequate health care, violent crime, poverty, unemployment and environmental degradation even as they struggle to maintain their own institutions, cultures and traditions.

The United States has taken great steps to improve the condition of indigenous peoples,

including hosting a historic meeting of nearly 500 tribal leaders last year and President Obama's issuance of an Executive Order on Consultation and Coordination with Tribal Governments. Yet, as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice has said, "far more must be done—at home and abroad—to tackle" the challenges facing indigenous peoples.

The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples provides an important framework for addressing indigenous issues globally. To further U.S. leadership in improving the conditions faced by indigenous people, the United States should promote respect for and full application of the provisions of the Declaration as soon as possible.

I urge all my colleagues to join me and Representatives ELLISON, BARBARA LEE, CHRISTENSEN, GRIJALVA, HASTINGS, DELAHUNT, HONDA, JOHN LEWIS and GEORGE MILLER in supporting this resolution and moving it toward speedy adoption.

CHRISTOPHER BREWER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Christopher Brewer who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Christopher Brewer is a 10th grader at Ralston Valley High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Christopher Brewer 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 once again to Christopher Brewer for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN DERON
BERTHOLD

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Deron Berthold, who has virtuously served the United States and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

After 20 years of dedicated service, Captain Berthold will retire from the Kentucky State Police. However, he leaves behind a great legacy and is an example for all current and future officers.

Captain Berthold earned his degree from the University of Louisville and went on to graduate from Police Academy on November 23, 1981, receiving the Commissioner's Commendation Award.

Throughout his career, Captain Berthold demonstrated exemplary dedication and outstanding leadership, working his way up