

IN HONOR OF CAROL HARTUNIAN
GIRVETZ

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Carol Hartunian Girvetz of Santa Cruz, California. Carol Hartunian Girvetz passed away on July 4th, 2010. Carol will be remembered always as a loving mother, loyal wife, and dedicated citizen committed to her community.

Carol Hartunian Girvetz was born in Hollywood in 1946 to Armenian immigrant parents. She spent her early years as a young adult studying Art and English at UC Santa Barbara. After college, she began her career as a teacher and quickly changed paths upon taking a job with Pan American as a flight attendant. During this time, she worked on many R&R flights tending to soldiers from the Vietnam War as they traveled to meet their loved ones back at home, and then returning them back to the battlefield.

After her days of traveling with Pan American, Carol returned to California to begin her new life as a wife and mother. Carol and her husband George raised their two children, Evan and Shyla in the small town of Freedom in Santa Cruz County. Her connection with the community was immediate as she became enmeshed in the community's needs. She served on the Women's Commission and along with several women, started the first shelter for female victims of domestic violence. This achievement would be the first of many in her thirty years of service to Santa Cruz County. Carol most recently retired from the position of Assistant County Administrative Officer, where I had worked with her for years. Carol was known by her colleagues for her strong work ethic, great sense of humor, and devotion to public service. She was an extraordinary person and public employee who will always be remembered and missed by her colleagues.

In addition to her work in public service, Carol was also heavily involved in local fine arts in Santa Cruz. She played a large role in the development of the McPherson Center for Art and History. She also served as a board member for such organizations as United Way of Santa Cruz County and Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History, among others. Her hard work has given the community and future generations the opportunity to be immersed in fine arts. Her life is a testament to how the commitment of public service can leave a lasting impact on a community.

Madam Speaker, I ask members of the House to join me in honoring the life of Carol Hartunian Girvetz, and extend our nation's deepest gratitude to her thirty years of service to her community. Carol lived sixty-four years of life filled with the love of her family, passion for public service and the arts, and will be greatly missed.

ON THE BIRTH OF CAMERON ROSE
DONAHUE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Brian Donahue and his wife Julie on the birth of their new daughter Cameron Rose Donahue. Cameron was born on Monday, July 26, 2010, at 3:34 in the afternoon at Arlington, Virginia, with a full head of gorgeous red hair.

Cameron Rose Donahue is 6 pounds of pride and joy to her grandparents, R. Scott and Claudia Horner of New Jersey and Marilyn and Francis Donahue of Florida and New Jersey.

I am so excited for this new blessing to the Donahue family and wish them all the best.

HONORING GEORGE B. VASHON

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor George B. Vashon, a 19th century Pennsylvanian who distinguished himself as an African-American educator, abolitionist, poet, and activist, and who earlier this year was posthumously admitted to the bar 163 years after he first tried to break this barrier. Vashon was born in Carlisle, PA in 1824 and raised in Pittsburgh, the son of John B. Vashon, a leading anti-slavery crusader, businessman, and veteran of the War of 1812. Both John and George Vashon were active in the western Pennsylvania abolitionist efforts of the time, helping escaped slaves on the Underground Railroad and organizing Pittsburgh's black community in several anti-slavery gatherings. Frederick Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, and Martin Delany were among the Vashons' closest associates and family friends.

Growing up as a student of the abolitionist crusade, George B. Vashon became the first black American to graduate from Oberlin College and soon turned his focus toward the law as the means by which he would effect change. In 1847, after studying under the Honorable Judge Walter Forward, later a U.S. Treasury Secretary, George Vashon applied for admission to the Pennsylvania bar but was denied because of his race. In 1838, a revision of Pennsylvania's constitution restricted the practice of law to white men. Shortly after he was turned down in Pennsylvania, Vashon applied for and passed the New York bar and became the first black lawyer in that state, where he later went on to become the first black person to run for office in New York. Vashon would later also be admitted to the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court. After he gained this achievement, he again sought admission to the Pennsylvania bar, but was denied for a second time.

George B. Vashon's career was mostly spent in education: as one of the first black college professors in this country, an official in Pittsburgh's public school system, a founder and the first black professor at Howard Univer-

sity, and the President of Avery College in Pennsylvania. He helped lead many anti-slavery conventions, was active in the lobbying efforts to pass the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments to the Constitution, and was a contributor to Frederick Douglass' newspaper, *The North Star*.

Madam Speaker, George Vashon's life was dedicated to bringing equality to African Americans and he broke many barriers in trying to do so. Not surprisingly, however, he also faced significant discrimination and his being denied admission to the Pennsylvania bar thwarted his hopes of practicing law in his home state. His many accomplishments and lifework are inspiring and continue to stand as impressive for a person of any color.

In an attempt to remedy what was denied George B. Vashon in his lifetime, his great grandson Nolan Atkinson, a prominent Philadelphia attorney and constituent of mine, was joined by his nephew and Vashon's great, great grandson, Paul Thornell, in petitioning the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on behalf of their ancestor. On May 4, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court righted a wrong in the history books when it posthumously admitted Vashon to the Pennsylvania bar. In doing so, the Court issued the following order: "In acknowledgement of Mr. Vashon's credentials and achievements, this Court hereby admits George B. Vashon to the practice of law in the Courts of this Commonwealth posthumously."

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to share this notable achievement of an outstanding, if lesser-known American—George B. Vashon. It is also a privilege to recognize the important efforts that resulted in his becoming the first African American to gain admission to legal practice in Pennsylvania.

**HONORING THE CROSS PLAINS
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the Cross Plains Fire Department.

Since 1910, the Cross Plains area has been under the responsive and watchful eye of the Cross Plains Fire Department. Fire departments play an essential role in any community, and the Cross Plains Fire Department is no exception. Their steadfast vigilance of the area is a reflection of the tight-knit community which they safeguard and the outstanding bravery of the men and women of the Cross Plains Fire Department over the last 100 years is praiseworthy.

The establishment of the Cross Plains Fire Department in 1910 actually predates the incorporation of the Village of Cross Plains. Today, Fire Chief Dale Lochner and his staff operate out of a single fire station, protecting over 41 square miles and almost 4,000 residents. In addition to providing service to the Village of Cross Plains, the station also serves the Townships of Cross Plains and Berry. Whether it is fighting fires, search and rescue, or saving lives as first responders, firefighters are essential to our communities.

Volunteer firefighters risk their lives everyday for the people of their communities and

the livelihood of our great Nation. These true heroes provide every citizen with a feeling of security and safety, something that cannot be taken for granted. Every year, in towns all across Wisconsin and the United States, volunteer firefighters like those of the Cross Plains Fire Department provide a vital public service without requiring a single dime in compensation. Their selflessness and willingness to give back to the community is inspirational.

The motto of the Village of Cross Plains is, "Famous for Friendliness," and this ideal is personified by the volunteer staff at the Cross Plains Fire Department. Every day since 1910, the residents of the Cross Plains area have enjoyed the service and protection provided by the department. Today, I join the residents of the Village of Cross Plains and the towns of Cross Plains and Berry, the residents of Wisconsin, and all citizens of the United States in recognizing, honoring, and sincerely thanking the Cross Plains Fire Department for their tireless work and commitment for the past 100 years.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF U.S.
MARSHAL RICHARD J. O'CONNELL

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Marshal Richard J. O'Connell for his outstanding service to this country.

In June of 2003, President Bush appointed Dick the U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Arkansas and for the last 5½ years he has worked to uphold justice and initiate programs to make our streets safer.

Dick was instrumental in establishing a Sex Offender Task Force, a multi-jurisdictional group of law enforcement officers working to keep our kids safe. In the first 14 months, task force officers arrested 1,047 people.

In 2006, the city of Fort Smith aggressively campaigned to be the home of the U.S. Marshals Museum and Dick served as steering committee cochairman. Under his leadership, the city was chosen to be the site of the U.S. Marshals Museum.

I have had the privilege to work with Dick during his time serving as U.S. Marshal. I appreciate his friendship and example. I am honored to have had the opportunity to have worked with such a great man, and thank him for his service.

HONORING MATTHEW LANE

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Matthew Lane for his heroic lifesaving efforts in reviving his coworker from cardiac arrest. Matthew is a 19-year-old employee at Wicker Park in Manchester, Connecticut, and a resident of nearby Colchester. On June 19, during cleanup for an event held earlier in the evening, Matthew found his coworker Stephanie Lee in cardiac arrest. During

the weeks prior to her collapse, Stephanie had undergone several medical tests on her heart and had received a heart monitor to help diagnose her condition. As soon as he realized the severity of the situation, Matthew quickly called 911 and carefully followed the dispatcher's instructions to perform CPR. Matthew, who had received instruction on CPR several years earlier in preparation for a camp counselor position, was able to successfully revive Stephanie.

Stephanie, a 22-year-old resident of Vernon, was quickly taken to a nearby hospital, where doctors were able to diagnose her with a rare condition called catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia (CPVT). Doctors implanted an internal cardiac defibrillator to help prevent future collapses. Thanks to the quick actions of her co-worker, Stephanie will be able to return to the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy in Boston, where she will be a fourth year pharmacology student. Matthew will be returning to Central Connecticut State University as a sophomore this fall.

This lesson in heroics brings attention to the importance of CPR training and exposure to basic first aid education. In honor of Matthew's heroic actions, the city of Manchester's Board of Directors will present him with an official citation during their August 3rd meeting. I ask all members of the House to join me in honoring Matthew Lane for his undying sense of service and commitment to the people of eastern Connecticut.

HONORING REV. DR. MARK
ANTHONY JONES, SR.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, Christ Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church will celebrate the installation of Rev. Dr. Mark Anthony Jones, Sr., as their new pastor on Sunday, August 8 in Flint, Michigan.

Rev. Dr. Mark Anthony Jones, Sr., is the son of Leora Yvonne Jones and the late Rev. Dr. Charles William Jones. He was licensed at the age of 16 and ordained the following year. He was the pastor of a church in Alabama when he took over his father's church in Chicago, the Mount Union Missionary Baptist Church. In what he considers one of his greatest accomplishments, Reverend Dr. Jones and his wife, Valda, founded the Mount Union Missionary Baptist Church of Grand Rapids in 2007. A nationally known evangelist, Reverend Dr. Jones has preached across the United States and in Seoul Korea.

In addition to his ministerial work, Reverend Dr. Jones found time to earn his associate of arts in religious education degree, his bachelor of arts in theology degree, his master of divinity degree and his doctorate of divinity degree.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Rev. Dr. Mark Anthony Jones, Sr., and Christ Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church as they celebrate this milestone. Christ Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church has been bringing the reality of God's love and His plan for salvation through Jesus Christ to the people of Flint since the 1920s. Continuing in this tradition, the congregation may rejoice in the work they

have already accomplished and under the leadership of Reverend Dr. Jones embark upon a new era of enthusiasm and spiritual growth. I pray God will bless and guide him as he brings the message of God's assurance of eternal life to the people of our community.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION
EXTENSION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I strongly, resolutely, and steadfastly support this bill to extend critical unemployment benefits for our citizens through the end of November. This bill will provide vital assistance to over 137,600 Illinoisans, and to the 2.5 million Americans, who lost their benefits between June 2nd and July 17th. This bill helps address a national emergency resulting from one of the worst economic recessions in our country's history.

Unemployment insurance is not a theoretical concept to these citizens. Unemployment is a very real lifeline. It allows mothers and fathers to buy food for their children. It allows people to help keep a roof over their families' heads. I have received so many tearful calls from my constituents who call to beg for my help. They are disheartened by their continued unemployment despite active and prolonged efforts to find a job. They are embarrassed that they cannot support their families, and they are frightened that their children will suffer from their inability to feed, clothe, or provide housing. When they learn that their government allowed these lifeline benefits to expire and failed to reinstate them for almost 8 weeks, they are shocked. They worked and paid taxes for years with an understanding that government would help them in a time of need. Yet, this assistance was not there.

I think it is unfortunate that Republicans have delayed this critical financial assistance for so long. To add insult to injury, while proclaiming that our government could not afford \$33 billion to help our citizens who are suffering during an economic emergency, the Republican leadership confidently asserted the position that we want the government to lose over \$650 billion for the wealthy. This is approximately 20 times the cost of this critical unemployment assistance. This is the same leadership that had no difficulty spending a trillion dollars for two wars and giving tax breaks to the wealthiest of the wealthy.

The extension of the aid for 99 weeks is an important first step in helping our citizens who are struggling to find employment. I promise to continue to work with the Democratic leadership to push for ways to help those who remain unemployed beyond the 99 weeks. Long-term unemployment is an unfortunate reality for Chicago and for my constituents.

Passing this bill today tells our citizens that we are working for them. Further, passing this bill today reinforces their confidence in their government—confidence that they will help care for them in the lean times. For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote for its passage.