

IN HONOR OF MR. JAMES H.
GILLIAM, SR.

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize a great philanthropic Delawarean, James H. Gilliam, Sr., as he celebrates his 90th birthday. Jim Gilliam first came to Delaware in 1965 and was one of the only African Americans former Governor Russell Peterson allowed to break the curfew laws as a peacemaker during the Wilmington riots following the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. Jim went on to be a strong activist and is recognized as one of Delaware's finest community leaders.

Jim Gilliam was born in Baltimore, Maryland and received a B.A. in sociology from Morgan State University. He continued his education at Howard University School of Social Work where he earned his Masters in 1950. Jim Gilliam has had a long career of service not only to local communities, but to his country. He won medals of distinction, including the Bronze Star, serving as a captain in the United States Military, and at 40, he integrated the Maryland National Guard.

Jim's leadership skills and activism had an immediate impact when he came to the state of Delaware. He served as president and chairman of the board of Delaware's Community Housing Incorporated from 1974 to 1990, and served as a consultant on a variety of community issues. Jim was a two-term president of the National Association of Non-Profit Housing Organizations in the 1970's. Retiring in 1990, Jim's community activism did not end; a decade ago he founded the Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League. In just three years the Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League won the National Urban League's highest honor, the Whitney M. Young Award, for advancing racial equality. This is a testament to Jim Gilliam's hard work and dedication to the local community.

Jim Gilliam has had a tremendous impact on Delawareans. His selfless service, positive attitude and determined work ethic have impacted countless people throughout our great state. I am honored to represent a state where individuals like Jim Gilliam reside, and I wish him a very happy 90th birthday.

HONORING FANNIE MAE LAWSON

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of one of my constituents, Mrs. Fannie Mae Lawson of Pittsburg, California. Born to James and Onnie Manning in Arkansas on May 27, 1925, Fannie Mae attended the C.S. Woodland School. In 1946 she married George Van

"G.V." Lawson in her hometown of Magnolia, Arkansas. Together they had four children: George, Willie, Sharon, and Audrey. In 1946, Fannie Mae and her family moved to Pittsburg, CA where she began her outstanding service to the community. She began volunteering at her local church, first as a member of the choir, then serving in the Ministries of Convalescent, as well as a Deaconess, and as a Mother of the church. She served the church for 64 years! Fannie was also actively involved in the Pittsburg branch of the N.A.A.C.P. where she served as President for 28 years, and she was also a foster parent for over 30 years and served on the Advisory Board for the Pittsburg Unified School District. At the age of 85, surrounded by her loved ones on July 27, 2010, Fannie Mae Lawson passed away. Sadly, she was preceded in death by her husband, G.V., her son George Earl, and two grandchildren. She will be missed not only by her three children, six grandchildren and many friends, but also by the people of the Pittsburg community whom she helped so much in life.

PITTSBURG ACTIVIST LEFT A LEGACY,
LONGTIME RESIDENTS SAY

[From the Contra Costa Times, Aug. 4, 2010]

(By Rick Radin)

PITTSBURG—The city's residents lost a powerful voice for schools and for social justice with the death of longtime community activist Fannie Lawson last week. Lawson, 87, served as chairwoman of the Pittsburg NAACP for 15 years. She was a leader in promoting equal rights in hiring in Pittsburg businesses and advocating for after-school programs, said Darnell Turner, the chairman of the legal redress committee of the NAACP of East Contra Costa, the Pittsburg chapter's successor. Funeral services were held Saturday at First Baptist Church in Pittsburg, where Lawson was a member for more than 60 years. "She'll be missed," said Curlie Jackson, a former NAACP branch chairwoman. "If you had a problem, she was the one you went to." Lawson and her husband, George Lawson, moved to Pittsburg from Magnolia, Ark., in 1946, and Fannie Lawson took a job in a cannery in Pittsburg, Turner said. The Lawsons were the first black residents of Pittsburg's Bayside Knolls neighborhood in 1951, and Fannie Lawson felt some bitterness about the experience of being a pioneer. "Can you imagine being looked at as too low to live in this place or that place? It was hard," Lawson said in a 2006 interview. "A lot of things were said that hurt my feelings, but you couldn't give up if you wanted a place to live." Lawson took the experience and momentum from fighting for housing rights into a series of other campaigns for low-income residents in Pittsburg and East County. When a release from the Pittsburg PG&E power plant coated homes and cars in Lawson's neighborhood with dust, she worked with the company to make sure the material was tested for toxics, Turner said. "The police blocked off the neighborhood, and a hazardous materials team came in," Turner said. The utility agreed to repaint cars and homes that had been damaged by the release, he said. "(Lawson) continued to work with PG&E after the incident," Turner said. "They created a scholarship program to help underprivileged students get an opportunity to pursue a two- or four-year education."

Lawson was the driving force in the campaign to change the name of Montezuma Street in Pittsburg to Herb White Way, after the city's first black mayor. She also kicked into gear when Pittsburg teachers threatened a strike a few days before the end of the school year in the late 1990s. "She wanted to make sure the students weren't used as bargaining tools, that the graduation wasn't (tainted by a work stoppage)," Turner said. She responded to a cross burning in Brentwood, working with the city to improve communications and promote tolerance, he said. Lawson pushed for tutorial programs for children who were having difficulty in school, said former Contra Costa supervisor, state senator and Pittsburg school board member Joe Canciamilla. "She wasn't shy," Canciamilla said. "She was tenacious when it came to advocating for people."

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CIVILIAN TECHNICIANS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Association of Civilian Technicians, which is headquartered in my district in Lake Ridge, Va.

In 1960, Vincent J. Paterno and twelve fellow New York technicians banded together to establish the Association of Civilian Technicians. Their stated mission was to represent the interests of our country's National Guard Technicians. Today, ACT represents the 48,000 employees of the Air and Army National Guard who are classified as Title 32 Civilian Technicians. A Title 32 Civilian Technician's duties and responsibilities are to maintain the working order of the aircraft, vehicles, tanks, helicopters and supporting equipment needed by the National Guard to carry out its mission. ACT members serve as mechanics, administrative personnel and technical support positions. They enable active duty personnel to keep our nation safe from attack and ensure that our military is always at the ready.

Through vigorous advocacy efforts, ACT has helped secure a number of rights and benefits for civilian technicians. In 1968, President Lyndon Johnson signed into law "The National Guard Technician Act." The legislation established the Technician Program and provided National Guard Technicians with fair and just compensation, employment benefits and access to a retirement system that is equitable to other federal employees. ACT honors the service of our nation's civilian technicians by fighting to deliver the care and consideration they deserve.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Association of Civilian Technicians. For half of a century, ACT has represented the best interests and welfare of America's National Guard Technicians and their families. I

would like to extend my personal appreciation to ACT members for their service and contributions to our national security.

HONORING ST. CECILIA ACADEMY

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize St. Cecilia Academy in Nashville, Tennessee. This year marks a very important milestone in the school's history. For over one hundred and fifty years, St. Cecilia has played a vital role in the spiritual and academic lives of young women in Middle Tennessee.

For a century and a half, St. Cecilia Academy, an all-girl, Catholic, college-preparatory school, has proudly guided young women through their formative years, helping them become confident women leaders of faith. The school was founded by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia, who arrived in Nashville in August of 1860. The Sisters' dedication to the Catholic tradition, as well as passion for education, made it possible for the school to flourish and become one of the educational leaders in college-preparatory education. Most notably, St. Cecilia has been recognized four times by the Action Institute as one of the Top Fifty Catholic High Schools in the United States. St. Cecilia's students have been awarded prestigious scholarships, and the school's seniors are regularly accepted into top colleges.

And so, Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to honor St. Cecilia Academy on its 150th anniversary. As Nashville's oldest private high school, it is an institution that embodies the ideals of excellence, creativity, and leadership development.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting St. Cecilia Academy for its many decades of service toward the betterment of our youth.

A TRIBUTE TO THE 2010 ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2010 recipients of the coveted Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Presented annually by the National Ethnic Coalition (NECO), the Ellis Island Medal of Honor pays tribute to our Nation's immigrant heritage, as well as individual achievement. The medals are awarded to U.S. citizens from various ethnic backgrounds who exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve the richness of their particular heritage. Since NECO's founding in 1986, more than 2,000 American citizens have received Ellis Island Medals of Honor, including six American Presidents, several United States Senators, Congressmen, Nobel Laureates, outstanding athletes, artists, clergy, and military leaders.

As we all know, citizens of the United States can trace their ancestry to many nations. The

richness and diversity of American life makes us unique among the Nations of the world and is in many ways the key to why America is the most innovative country in the world. The Ellis Island Medals of Honor not only celebrate select individuals but also the pluralism and democracy that enabled our ancestors to celebrate their cultural identities while still embracing the American way of life. This medal is not about money, but about people who really seized the opportunities this great country has to offer and who used those opportunities to not only better their own lives but make a difference in the lives of those around them. By honoring these outstanding individuals, we honor all who share their origins and we acknowledge the contributions they and other groups have made to America. I commend NECO and its Board of Directors headed by my good friend, Nasser J. Kazeminy, for honoring these truly outstanding individuals for their tireless efforts to foster dialogue and build bridges between different ethnic groups, as well as promotes unity and a sense of common purpose in our Nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the good works of NECO, and congratulating all of the 2010 recipients of the Ellis Island Medals of Honor. I also ask unanimous consent that the names of this year's recipients be placed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD following my statement.

2010 ELLIS ISLAND MEDALS OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

Ichak K. Adizes, PhD, Adrienne G. Alexanian, Richard F. Ambinder, MD, Cyrus Amir-Mokri, Anousheh Ansari, Rao S. Anumolu, Robert S. Atallah, Mohamed A. Atassi, MD, FACC, Kevork D. Atiniazian, Nancy H. Bailey, Hon. Rosemary Barkett, Samira Kanaan Beckwith, Sarkis Bedevian, Dorothy L. Beeve, RN, Jerold E. Beeve, MD, Suraj P. Bhatia, Carole Black, Chief George F. Brown (Ret.), Richard R. Burey, Jr., Michael Capasso, Dominic Chianese, Hank Hyunho Choi, Yen S. Chou, Jim Lin-Chi Chu, Carl J. Clause, Eugene P. Conese, Sr., John F. Conley, Thomas J. Cook, Edward Cruz, Paul R. Davies, Chief Raymond Diaz, Edward B. Diethrich, MD, Andre C. Dimitriadis, PhD, Borko B. Djordjevic, MD, Thomas J. Donohue, David Du, David B. Falk, Lina Fang, Eric Friedberg, Col. Arnold D. Gabriel, USAF (Ret.), Rod G. Gilbert, Col. David G. Goulet, USMC, E. Bulkeley Griswold, Col. Gina M. Grosso, USAF, S. K. Gupta, Wolf Hengst, Gregory M. Hodge, PhD, Maj. Gen. Karl R. Horst, USA, Hon. Jerry MacArthur Hultin, Chief James Jephthah, Ted Johnson, James Keach, Alan Krutchkoff, Tak W. Kwan, MD, William K. Lee, MD, Robert J. Loggia, Wing K. Ma, Wahid Majidi, Fouad Malouf, James V. Malpeso, MD, MSgt. Chester L. Marcus, Jr., USA, Chief Denis McGowan, Shekhar Mitra, PhD, Mohsen Moazami, Curtis E. Moll, Yasmin Motamedi, Jeremiah A. Mullins, Agneta E. Nilsson, RADM Joseph L. Nimmich, USCG, Sr. Irene M. O'Neill, Bedros S. Oruncakci, Hemant Patel, MD, Francis J. Pearn, Richard R. Pergolis, Timothy A. Phillips, Michael J. Piazza, Hon. Rosemonde Pierre-Louis, Kappana Ramanandan, Maj. Gen. Michael S. Repass, USA, Hon. Edward J. Rollins, Stanley M. Rumbough, Jr., William J. Ryan, Kenan E. Sahin, PhD, Joseph M. Saponaro, John F. Scarpa, Jane Seymour, Faryar Shirzad, John Shu, Esq., Dr. Ruth J. Simmons, Prasad Srinivasan, MD, Bert R. Sugar, Hon. Eugene R. Sullivan (Ret.), Jordan P. Thomas, Annie S. Totah, Suzanne von Liebig, PhD, William D. Walsh, RADM Philip A. Whitacre, USN (Ret.), Morrill Worcester, Mohammad

Yahyavi, Vartkes B. Yeghiayan, Esq., Matt H. Yildizlar, Chang Bin Yim

HONORING McLANAHAN CORPORATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my dear friends and constituents at the McLanahan Corporation on the occasion of their 175th anniversary, which they will celebrate on August 28, 2010. Located in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, McLanahan Corporation has long been committed to service, innovation, and family ownership. From its founding in the 1830s when James Craig McLanahan moved his family to Hollidaysburg, where the company first produced castings used in farm implements, McLanahan Corporation has developed into an international powerhouse as a supplier not only of equipment, but also of process solutions.

McLanahan Corporation is poised to remain a leader well into the future as its customer base has expanded from a small town in central Pennsylvania to reach around the world. Customers have grown to appreciate McLanahan's heavy-duty equipment and outstanding customer service and support. All of this has been done without abandoning its roots or compromising its sound values as the 6th generation of family now assumes a leadership and ownership role.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating The McLanahan Corporation on their 175 years in business.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING THE LIFE OF BRIAN A. PETRONELLA

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, It is with a heavy heart that I rise to mark the passing of a great ally and advocate for working families in Connecticut. Brian Petronella, President of The United Food and Commercial Workers Local 371 in Westport, died suddenly on Friday. He leaves behind a remarkable record of public service and long list of victories on behalf of workers and their families.

Brian was a skilled labor leader who never forgot his beginnings as a member of 371. He believed in decent wages, benefits, safety, and respect for his brothers and sisters and cared deeply about their rights. In his role at Local 371 and in his own life, Brian put these values into practice each day. He held leadership roles on the local and international levels of UFCW and had many successful organizing campaigns under his belt.

In addition to Brian's professional role and successes, he was a vibrant member of the community—one that worked tirelessly to help those around him. He generously raised money for and gave his time to the Leukemia Society, the Women's Network, and after school programs in the area.