

Founded in San Antonio, Texas, in 1993 by Ms. Eleanor "Mama Starks," the 100 Black Women of Funeral Service provides African American mortuary students and funeral service professionals with an excellent opportunity to work together and learn from each other. Its membership has grown to include the United States, Canada, and various African and Caribbean nations. Among the many honors that 100 Black Women of Funeral Service members have received are The President's Award and The Living Legend Award. Networking, sisterhood, scholarship, mentoring, leadership, service, and professional development are the tenets of the 100 Black Women of Funeral Service as it continues to provide support to those entering the funeral service profession.

Every 5 years, the African American Funeral Home Hall of Fame recognizes the important work performed by African Americans in the funeral service industry. This year, 26 funeral homes from across the country were inducted into the African American Funeral Home Hall of Fame. These inductees have been serving their communities for over 100 years and are still operated by third to sixth generation family members. This is truly incredible.

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate the following funeral homes on their recent induction into the African American Funeral Home Hall of Fame: Joseph Locks Funeral Home of Baltimore, Maryland (founded in 1837); Carl Miller Funeral Home of Camden, New Jersey (founded in 1861); JW Wilkerson Funeral Establishment of Petersburg, Virginia (founded in 1874); Gertrude Geddes-Willis Funeral Home of New Orleans, Louisiana (founded in 1879); Berry and Gardner Funeral Home of Franklin, Tennessee (founded in 1882); Charbonnet-Labat Funeral Home of New Orleans, Louisiana (founded in 1883); Rhodes Funeral Home of New Orleans, Louisiana (founded in 1884); Jarnigan and Son Mortuary of Knoxville, Tennessee (founded in 1886); Hutchings Funeral Home of Macon, Georgia (founded in 1895); Grays Funeral Home of Cape Charles, Virginia (founded in 1895); Davenport and Harris Funeral Home of Birmingham, Alabama (founded in 1899); Mrs. JW Jones Memorial Chapel of Kansas City, Kansas (founded in 1899); James E. Churchman, Jr. Funeral Home of Newark, New Jersey (founded in 1899); Cox Bros Funeral Home of Atlanta, Georgia (founded in 1900); Elliott Funeral Home of Albany, Georgia (founded in 1900); Stewart Funeral Home of Washington, DC (founded in 1900); Collins Funeral Home of Jackson, Mississippi (founded in 1903); Diehl-Whittaker Funeral Service of Columbus, Ohio (founded in 1905); EF Boyd and Son Funeral Home and Crematory in Cleveland, Ohio (founded in 1905); Marion Daniels and Sons Funeral Home of New York City (founded in 1905); Larkin and Scott Funeral Home (founded in 1905); Larkin and Scott Funeral Home of Demopolis, Alabama (founded in 1907); Murray Henderson Funeral Home of New Orleans, Louisiana (founded in 1909); Lewis Funeral Home of San Antonio, Texas (founded in 1909); and Scott's Funeral Home of Richmond, Virginia (founded in 1910).

Madam Speaker, as we celebrate the rich history of African Americans in the funeral service profession, I would like to thank the 100 Black Women of Funeral Service and the 2010 African American Funeral Home Hall of Fame inductees for all that they have done,

and continue to do, for their communities and the funeral service tradition.

EXTENDING CONDOLENCES TO VICTIMS OF FIRE IN ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I join my colleagues in mourning the devastating losses Israel suffered in the Carmel fire. It is a human tragedy and an environmental tragedy.

As we pay tribute to those who gave their lives in an effort to save others, we can at least find comfort in the wave of international support and assistance that enabled Israel to extinguish the massive fire within days. The United States is proud to have played a leading role in these efforts by procuring and delivering the massive quantities of firefighting materials that were used in multiple sorties over the affected areas.

We rallied to Israel's side because she is a close ally and friend. And so many other countries eagerly responded as well because, quite frankly—Israel is among the first to offer aid when others are in need.

After earthquakes in Haiti, Chile, Colombia, Turkey, China, Pakistan and Iran, Israelis were among the first to join the rescue missions or send supplies. They have helped Cyprus and Greece in battling forest fires and provided aid in the aftermath of Central American floods, Asian typhoons, and the tragic 2004 tsunami. An Israeli team arrived in Louisiana shortly after our own Hurricane Katrina.

Sadly, one casualty of the Carmel fire is Yemin Orde, a youth village founded in 1953 to accommodate orphans who immigrated to Israel after the Holocaust. Today, the campus is home to more than 500 children from ages 9 to 19 that have been resettled from Russia, Ethiopia, and elsewhere where they lived in orphanages, had no family to care for them, or experienced traumatic life events. While the children and staff were safely evacuated as the fire broke out, more than 40 percent of the village's facilities were destroyed by the flames and many children had to relive the trauma of being suddenly uprooted from their familiar world. I have been to Yemin Orde. I share their sorrow and their conviction to ensure that these vulnerable children and the school's vital mission continue to be cared for now and in the future.

U.S. teams are already on the ground working with Israeli experts to stabilize the area and make sure that the forest can be successfully replanted. Today, communities across the United States are mobilizing through the Jewish National Fund and other organizations to help Israel preserve, replant and restore. The blue box of the JNF was a permanent feature in my parents' home, collecting coins to plant trees in the budding state of Israel and its mission continues in earnest. With partnership and determination we can look forward to a day when the Carmel forest will flourish again.

As Israelis survey the devastation in Carmel, they can take solace that they were not alone at a time of crisis and that they will not be alone in the rebuilding effort.

RECOGNIZING TEXAS WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY JACK AND JO
WILLA MORTON FITNESS CEN-
TER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 9, 2010

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the opening and dedication of Texas Wesleyan University's Jack and Jo Willa Morton Fitness Center. The new fitness center will serve to enhance the quality of student life on campus by providing a place where students can gather and meet friends, while achieving their own personal fitness goals.

Initial support provided by Texas Wesleyan University alumnus, Jack and Jo Willa Morton, was used to leverage additional private funds necessary for construction of the \$3 million, 9,900 sq. ft. fitness center. The facility will include a 2,317 sq. ft. Weights and Cardio Room with free weights, weight machines, cardio machines, treadmills, recumbent bikes, and other resistance machines; two aerobics/dance classrooms that can be used as clinical spaces for the Athletic Training Education Program (ATEP); a front lobby lounge area for student socialization/relaxation; student and staff locker rooms; offices for the Center's staff and faculty of the Athletic Training Education Program as well as a front desk check-in area and various storage and facility management areas.

The new Center will serve the 2,800 undergraduate and graduate students as well as services for employees and alumni. Additionally, the facility will serve over 300 school-age children who visit the campus each summer for Wesleyan's Summer Chemistry Camp and Tex-PREP programs and additional community organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club.

In addition to the improved health and quality of life for the campus students and other communities the Center will serve, the new facility will also be a new resource in recruitment of students to Texas Wesleyan University, retention of current students and as a resource for improved athletic training and preparation for student athletes. The facility will also serve as a significant benefit in enrollment for the Department of Kinesiology and the ATEP and further accreditation by the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM).

It is a great honor to recognize the contributions of the visionaries whose commitment has made the Jack and Jo Willa Morton Fitness Center a reality for the Texas Wesleyan University community. I am proud to represent these visionaries and Texas Wesleyan University in the House of Representatives.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN FANNON

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 9, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor John Fannon for his remarkable service to the town of Hillsborough, California.

John was—and is—never afraid to speak his mind, and that trait has proven invaluable

to the various causes and constituencies for which he has fought. First as a councilmember and then as Mayor of Hillsborough, he has prided himself on promoting precision and efficiency—as all proud Marines do—and always ran city council meetings in a strict and timely fashion. John began his tenure on the board of directors of the Bay Area Water Users Association in 2004, and was elected that body's chairman in 2009. His creativity, leadership, and determination proved vital during negotiations with the City and County of San Francisco on an agreement that dealt with the future of the Peninsula's water supply. He also served as the town's Building and Planning Commissioner during a time in which the municipal code was successfully improved.

It should also be noted that, in spite of his hundreds of hours on the clock working for the people of Hillsborough, John remains a dedicated family man to his charming and spirited wife, Georgeann, his seven children, and his many grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, John Fannon is a fearless and determined public servant, and it is only fitting that this House give him special recognition for his unique contributions to the town of Hillsborough and his 12 years of service on the Town of Hillsborough City Council.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF RUSSELL R. CHARD

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 9, 2010

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Russell R. Chard from the Presidency of the Hollywood Professional Fire Fighters Local 1375 in South Florida.

President Chard has more than 30 years of distinguished service working on behalf of Hollywood, Florida's firefighters, paramedics and local safety community. For the last 20 years, Mr. Chard has served as President of Local 1375, overseeing the welfare of its membership, fighting for the professional standards and ensuring the safe working conditions that are befitting of the service of these men and women.

Known as a coalition builder, President Chard has served a critical role as liaison to all associated areas for the Local, as well as outside groups such as the AFL-CIO, Florida Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics, International Association of Fire Fighters and Paramedics, and Maritime Trade Council.

This commitment to the betterment of the community was second only to his dedication to his brothers and sisters in the Union. He was a powerful role model and mentor for many new recruits over 20 years, always emphasizing the unique bond that all fire fighters share.

In 1980, Mr. Chard was first appointed to the negotiation committee for Hollywood Professional Fire Fighters Local 1375, where he was quickly recognized for his grit and passion. He was quickly elected as a Trustee and has served Local 1375 ever since. His legacy of fierce advocacy, candor and friendship will not soon be forgotten or lost.

I am proud today to honor President Chard's distinguished career and leadership in

the South Florida community and wish him and his family well on their future endeavors.

THE AMERICAN MICROTURBINE MANUFACTURING AND CLEAN ENERGY DEPLOYMENT ACT OF 2010

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 9, 2010

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce "The American Microturbine Manufacturing and Clean Energy Deployment Act of 2010."

This legislation will help Congress continue to address two of our nation's primary needs: creating jobs and promoting clean, reliable energy. My bill would raise the investment tax credit for microturbines from 10 percent to 30 percent, putting it on par with other clean energy innovations. This simple and low-cost change in our tax code will lead to many clean energy jobs, increase deployment of clean energy technologies, reduce harmful CO₂ emissions, and increase American exports.

Microturbines are small, ultra low emission gas turbines that produce usable efficient thermal energy and clean electrical power. They are primarily used in commercial, light industrial, and multi-family residential building but have a wide range of applications, including renewable power, hybrid electric buses, trucks, and cars.

Over 90 percent of the world's microturbines are manufactured right here in the United States by American workers. However, most of these systems are exported because our own incentive structure has failed to encourage domestic adoption. My bill would strengthen a homegrown, domestic industry that will create good jobs while giving us cleaner air.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

DEVELOPMENT, RELIEF, AND EDUCATION FOR ALIEN MINORS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the general goals and ideals of the DREAM Act.

I agree with the principles of giving aspiring students the ability to follow their dreams, complete college, and contribute to our society and economy. Ultimately, America will benefit from their ambition and hard work as they earn their degree and citizenship.

However, I believe passing the DREAM Act outside of comprehensive immigration reform is ill advised.

Our immigration system is terribly broken. As a small business owner and farmer, before coming to serve the people of Oregon's Fifth Congressional District as their Representative, I know the current system does not work for the economic engines of Oregon.

It is not fair to small businesses to ask them to act as the focal point for enforcement; that

is the job of the Federal Government through Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The current system is especially unfair to our farmers, who do not have enough access to legal migrant workers to work the land. I support re-vamping employment verification and the AgJobs bill which, like the DREAM Act are vital to any successful comprehensive immigration reform package but do not work on their own.

In 2008, the Coalition for a Working Oregon released a report prepared by a professor at Oregon State University. The findings suggest the loss of undocumented workers in Oregon would lead to the loss of an additional 76,000 jobs for legal workers in Oregon. This drop in economic activity would cost the State of Oregon as much as \$656 million in revenue and lower small business income by eight-point-five percent. Oregon's economy and state government cannot sustain such losses. We must look at the broader economic impact of policy decisions and do what is best for the United States and the American worker.

Our immigration system needs to be reformed, no question, but reformed in the right way. If we are to approach immigration reform in a piecemeal manner we will actually be making it harder to accomplish comprehensive immigration reform. Adding complexity to a broken system already in need of reconstruction will not make our job any easier.

The problems with our immigration system are so large and significant that they need to be addressed immediately and together. We need to figure out how to address all undocumented people in our country, we cannot cherry pick certain groups and advance them ahead of those who have followed the rules to obtain citizenship. There is a human face to and national interests to address in the problems each group faces.

Border control, employer verification, exit controls, keeping family units intact, protecting our economy and many others are tough issues to resolve effectively and fairly. They deserve our time and attention. I am not interested in just kicking the can down the road by not taking tough votes on immigration reform. My "no" vote is a request for urgency. The whole immigration system needs to be fixed, not just part of it.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAUL REGAN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 9, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Paul Regan for his remarkable 25 years of public service to the town of Hillsborough, California. Throughout every step of his career, Paul has provided strong leadership, insightful financial guidance, and an unwavering commitment to his community and his country.

Through 35 years of thoughtful, diligent work in the field of forensic accounting, Paul has become a world-renowned expert who is widely acclaimed for his skill in researching complex financial scandals and disputes. Most would agree that he is the leading forensic accountant in the United States. He has lent his expertise to the Department of Justice and the Securities and Exchange Commission, and has testified as an expert witness before the