

First settled in 1829 upon the Kalamazoo River, the city's namesake, the city was incorporated in 1885, midway between Detroit and Chicago.

Over the past 125 years, Kalamazoo has made a name for itself as a pioneer in the health sciences, industry, and higher education. The city is the birthplace of many classic American icons, such as Gibson Guitars, Shakespeare fishing rods, and Checker taxicabs. As a leader in the medical field, Kalamazoo is also home to the Upjohn Company, the longtime pharmaceutical manufacturer, and Stryker Corporation, a global leader in the development of medical implants, equipment, and technologies. While many changes have come to the region over the years, hard work and innovation remain hallmarks of the local economy.

More recently, Kalamazoo attracted national recognition for the groundbreaking "Kalamazoo Promise," a pledge made by a group of anonymous area donors to pay the tuition for graduates of Kalamazoo's public schools to attend any of the state's public colleges or universities. This philanthropic model has since been adopted in states across the country with great success.

Kalamazoo is home to Western Michigan University, the fourth largest higher education institution in our state as well as Kalamazoo College, one of the nation's oldest and most respected higher education institutions dedicated to the liberal arts. Kalamazoo Valley Community College has distinguished itself as a national leader in the development of alternative energy and other important technologies.

Over the years, Kalamazoo has also earned a reputation as a community passionately dedicated to the arts, a reflection of its cultural diversity and exceptional level of community engagement. Kalamazoo has also produced and attracted its share of national celebrities, including New York Yankees' Derek Jeter, Green Bay Packers' Greg Jennings, Seattle Seahawks' T.J. Duckett, and American Idol favorite Matt Giraud.

Despite the great economic challenges faced by our state, the people of Kalamazoo have continued to work together, as they always have, for the benefit of their entire community. This has been the secret to the city's long success and an example for other communities to replicate.

Again, it is my honor to stand today in recognition of the City of Kalamazoo for its rich 125 year history. Here is to the next 125 years.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY BUXTON WARD

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mary Buxton Ward, a woman of valor and commitment who died on Tuesday, March 2nd in Princeton, New Jersey. She is mourned by her daughters, Shelley Rhodes and Heather Ward, her two grandsons, Justin and Shane Rhodes, and all who knew her and admired her life of service.

After serving with the State Department in Libya, Panama and Hong Kong, Mary returned

to the United States and eventually settled in Princeton in the 1960's. For 16 years she served as the Executive Director of the Princeton Art Association, before leaving to work with the Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament as Secretary and Assistant Director for six years. She retired in 2004 from the University Medical Center at Princeton after 20 years of service in various capacities.

But it was for her role as a volunteer and activist that Mary Ward deserves to be remembered. Never one to sit back and watch, Mary made her presence and her ideals felt. She was arrested several times for demonstrating in support of civil rights, withdrawal from Vietnam, and nuclear disarmament. Her protest against nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site in 1986 resulted in a 5-day jail sentence. She was never afraid to fight for what she believed was right.

Mary Ward was a life-long advocate for justice. During her years in Princeton, she served on the boards of Nuclear Dialogue, Coalition for Peace Action, Federated Art Associations of New Jersey, Teamwork Dance, and as a volunteer member of the court-appointed Child Placement Review Board of Mercer County. She also volunteered with Centurion Ministries, an advocacy group for those unjustly imprisoned.

Mary Ward was not a famous woman, but she was the kind of principled, committed citizen that makes America stronger. The world is a better place because of her.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BERTEL WACHTER HERZ

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Bertel Wachter Herz, an extraordinary woman who overcame war and the death of loved ones to become a successful entrepreneur in Memphis, Tennessee. She was born to Pepi and Bernhard Wachter on January 4, 1907 in Stolberg, Germany.

Bertel Wachter Herz was the eldest of seven children, and the first to emigrate to the United States. Mrs. Herz first arrived in New York in April of 1939, and subsequently moved to Memphis with her husband, Arthur Sauerbrunn, at the request of Arthur's cousin, Phillip Belz. After settling in Memphis, Bertel worked to bring four of her siblings to the United States, providing refuge from the destruction of World War II and, thus, preventing the tragic fate that had already taken her parents and eldest brother.

Mrs. Herz, being accustomed to the working realm, found life for women in 1940's America unsatisfying. Realizing she had a natural talent for retail, Bertel opened a shop on Union Avenue called Trousseau, a shop that still continues to provide sophisticated, European-style lingerie and linens. Her elegant pieces appealed to many brides, mothers and families, which furthered Bertel's reputation for her exquisite taste and distinguished vision. Devoted employees and loyal customers alike always had nothing but the best to say about Mrs. Herz, who worked tirelessly until her retirement at age 95.

Bertel Herz was known as a woman who lived by a code of integrity, loyalty and love for

her family. Her persistence and indomitable spirit served as an inspiration to her daughter and granddaughters to be strong, independent, assertive women. Even today, the third generation of women in her family continues to manage Trousseau, which will be celebrating its 61st anniversary this year.

On March 14, 2010, Mrs. Herz passed away at 103 years of age. She is survived by her daughter, Eden, two granddaughters, Amy Friedman and Peshia Izenberg, and her sister, Regina Farber. Mrs. Herz will be remembered by her fellow Memphians for her hard work, dedication and service to Memphis.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS AND THEIR 18TH ANNUAL "STAMP OUT HUNGER" FOOD DRIVE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lone Star Branch No. 132 of the National Association of Letter Carriers as they prepare for their 18th annual "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive.

During the "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive, letter carriers collect nonperishable food donations along their routes for the North Texas Food Bank and food pantries. Last year they collected more than 73 million pounds of food in one day, and by so doing, they helped to feed some of the neediest people in North Texas. Their hard work is greatly appreciated, and I extend my sincere thanks for their efforts.

Often considered America's "hidden" epidemic, hunger is a problem that affects numerous individuals across the country. In 2008, roughly 49 million Americans were food insecure, meaning that they were unsure as to whether or not they would have access to food. Additionally, it is important to note that African-American and Hispanic households experience food insecurity at a much higher rate than the national average. For this reason, events like the "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive are incredibly important in helping end this tragic problem.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my fellow colleagues to join me today in recognizing the efforts of Lone Star Branch No. 132 of the National Association of Letter Carriers for their efforts in helping to end hunger in North Texas and across the country.

A TRIBUTE TO LANCE CORPORAL TYLER OWEN GRIFFIN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, today I rise in tribute to an American patriot and fallen Connecticut son. A native of Voluntown, Lance Corporal Tyler Owen Griffin was killed on April 1, 2010 while supporting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He was 19 years old.

Tyler attended Griswold High School where he played on the football team. Shortly after graduating with the Class of 2008, he achieved what he considered his lifelong goal of becoming a Marine, joining the Marine Corps the following August. After completing boot camp, Tyler was assigned as a rifleman to 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 7, Marine Expeditionary Brigade—Afghanistan. In March 2010 he deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

To appreciate the impact that Tyler had on his community, one only had to point to his funeral service in Voluntown. Flags and banners of support lined the streets as thousands gathered to pay their final respects. All who knew him spoke both of his pride in fulfilling his dream of becoming a Marine and of his respect and compassion for others. Clearly, Tyler was a young man of exceptional character who touched many lives.

I had the honor of meeting Tyler's mother Susan and stepfather John last Tuesday and was moved by the courage they showed in the face of their tragic loss. His mother emphasized to me that he died doing what he always wanted to do, and that they were able to gain some degree of comfort from that fact. It is clear to see how such a fine family could raise such an honorable son.

In a manner befitting a true American hero, Tyler was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery yesterday in a moving ceremony attended by his family, his friends and his fellow Marines. My wife, Audrey, was honored to attend and join in honoring this young man. There, he has taken his place alongside so many others who paid the ultimate price for the freedom and security we enjoy as United States citizens. Tyler was a remarkable young man, eager to accept the noble task of protecting his Nation on its frontlines, wherever they may be. While his smile may no longer brighten the lives of those around him, the memory of his life shall always endure.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Lance Corporal Tyler Griffin and his service to our great Nation. Tyler and his sacrifice will forever be remembered by me, a mourning Connecticut, a grateful Nation, and family members who will never forget him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. GONZALEZ. Madam Speaker, a personal matter prevented my presence in the House this past Thursday, April 15, 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" during Rollcall vote 211 on final passage of the Continuing Extension Act of 2010 (H.R. 4851).

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF COLUMBIA PIKE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I am on the floor today to acknowledge the

200th anniversary of the creation of Columbia Pike and commend the Columbia Pike community for its achievements as a vibrant and visionary community.

"The Pike," as it is known more commonly to the citizens of Arlington, dates back to April 20, 1810, when Congress chartered a company to begin construction on the toll road. This legislation, which was signed into law by President James Madison, allowed the incorporation of a company for making certain turnpike roads in the District of Columbia.

Columbia Pike began as a privately owned toll road providing westward access from Long Bridge, situated near the current 14th Street Bridge, into Northern Virginia. The road was not paved, however, until 1928.

Columbia Pike has seen significant change in its two centuries of existence. In fact, the road became essential for military purposes during the Civil War. Several forts were built in Arlington to protect the federal city from attacks, and the Pike served as a means of transportation between the forts and district. It is likely that President Lincoln travelled on the Pike to Bailey's Crossroads in 1861 to attend the historic review of federal troops. I feel the road has had great historical significance not only for transportation, but also for communication and housing. The first cross-Atlantic radio broadcast was sent in 1915 from towers in the Penrose neighborhood, in the eastern Columbia Pike community, to the Eiffel Tower in France. In addition, during periods of rapid growth, such as the New Deal era and after World War II, the Pike became home to thousands of Federal employees. To accommodate the influx, garden and low-rise apartment buildings were constructed along Columbia Pike.

Today, the road continues to be of great importance and several organizations, including the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, have dedicated themselves to improving and revitalizing the Pike area. Currently, Arlington County is working to establish a new transit system along Columbia Pike to improve the area surrounding the Pike through advancing redevelopment and increasing and improving local land use.

Columbia Pike has a long and rich history. I wish Columbia Pike and its residents a heartfelt 200th anniversary.

THANKING DONNA OLIVER FOR HER SERVICE TO THE CLINTON REGION

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise to thank Donna Oliver for her service as CEO of Mercy Medical Center in Clinton, Iowa. Donna has led Mercy for the past 5 years. She is a passionate advocate for her community and her contributions to the Clinton region will be appreciated for years to come.

During Donna's tenure, the Mercy team has fulfilled its mission to assure excellent, cost effective health care services accessible to all persons. Donna has strengthened partnerships with other health care providers and schools training future caregivers. She has made the health and wellness of her cowork-

ers and the broader community a top priority. And despite unprecedented economic hardships, Donna has maintained Mercy's support for programs that enhance the cultural and economic vitality of the Clinton community.

Donna has been a principled and effective advocate for health care reform, especially during the recent months of debate. She has consistently spoken publicly about the urgent need for Medicare reimbursement reform so physicians and hospitals in places like Clinton can meet the health and wellness needs of their community.

Madam Speaker, please allow me in thanking Donna Oliver and her team at Mercy Medical Center.

HONORING WALTER "MISSISSIPPI SLIM" HORN BLUES LEGEND

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the life of Walter "Mississippi Slim" Horn, a Mississippi Blues legend.

Known for his trademark bright colorful hair and extravagant costumes, in addition to his popular performances and contributions to the blues genre, bluesman Walter "Mississippi Slim" Horn was born in Shelby, Mississippi, August 13, 1943 and grew up in Greenville, Mississippi.

Mississippi Slim, worked on a plantation during the day and sang the blues at night in local juke joints. Eventually, he decided to pursue performing full time and left the Mississippi Delta and joined other blues musicians for the "big city lights" of Chicago, Illinois. In 1974, "Mississippi Slim", also known as the "8th Wonder of the World," recorded Crying In The Arms of Another Love on Sunflower label.

Having traveled all over the United States, Mississippi Slim returned home in 1994, to be with his ailing mother. Upon his return, he teamed up with musical forces John Horton, Ricky Taliaferro, Albert Folks and Kenny Morris and continued to perform in and around the Mississippi Delta. "Mississippi Slim" performed at southern festivals and played on the Mississippi Blues and Heritage festival. A main attraction, he partnered with festival organizers to participate in the Arts In Education: "Blues in Schools" project to promote and enhance learning about the culture of the blues.

After releasing a few singles throughout the 1970s, Mississippi Slim recorded a CD, Miracles in 1998, You Cant Loose the Blues in 2008 and recently recorded Cotton Candy Love.

Although we mourn the loss of a prominent Mississippi blues figure, his legacy will live on through his music and legendary performances."

Please join me in saluting the life and legacy of Mississippi bluesman, Walter "Mississippi Slim" Horn.