

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 746 for H. Res. 419, I am not recorded because I was absent. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

HONORING FIRST UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, the month of October marks the 50th anniversary of First Union Baptist Church's Christian service in my hometown of Flint, Michigan, which they are commemorating with a celebration: "Honoring our Past, Fulfilling the Present, Preparing for the Future."

Under the faithful stewardship of Rev. Archie Powell, Sr., Union Baptist opened its doors in a storefront on North Street. At this location, Pastor Archie Powell, Sr., Deacon David Sawyer, Mother Tennessee Sawyer, Mother Loread Perry, Mother Lela Lee, Sister Gertha McGhee, and Sister Mary Ann Sawyer Jones met for the first time.

After 25 years of steadfast leadership, Rev. Archie Powell, Sr. was called to rest on November 2, 1986. In the following months, the Rev. Archie Powell, Jr. was installed by Rev. Grandville Smith of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church Flint, Michigan. Like his father, Rev. Archie Powell, Jr. is a dedicated servant to the Lord and recently celebrated 24 years of pastoral care to the congregation of First Union Baptist Church.

In 1996, the First Union congregation had grown too big for the building it occupied at the time and decided to break ground on a new place of worship with room for 450 people at 7004 Fleming Rd., Flint, Michigan. The congregation moved in on April 20, 1997. Under the careful stewardship of Rev. Archie Powell, Jr. the congregation was able to pay off the mortgage in December of 2010.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating First Union Baptist Church on their success and dedication to the Flint community. I pray that the ministers, staff, and congregation of First Union will continue their work and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ for many, many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed Rollcall votes on October 5. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Rollcall No. 747: "yea."

Rollcall No. 748: "yea."

Rollcall No. 749: "yea."

WITH CONGRATULATIONS FOR FRANCIS HALL INSURANCE SERVICES

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Francis Hall Insurance Services of Chester County, Pennsylvania on its 65th anniversary as a continuously family-owned and operated business.

The history of Francis Hall Insurance Services is a long and storied one, extending back to 1946 when Francis A. Hall founded the agency on South High Street in West Chester Borough. In 1947, Francis became licensed to sell real estate and, by 1960, the agency was a prosperous insurance and real estate firm with the top Chester County realtor, Mrs. M.L. Hughes, who had the highest sales record in the County for five straight years.

Over the years, Francis' sons Richard and Robert would join the agency. Upon Francis' retirement in 1962, his sons took up his mantle and maintained a proudly family-owned and operated Chester County business. Today, Francis Hall Insurance Services offers personal, commercial, and financial insurance coverages and custom risk management programs. Through its subsidiaries, it is the leading insurer of fire/EMS services in Southeast Pennsylvania, the second largest writer for municipalities in the Brandywine Valley, and the risk management provider to dozens of municipalities, businesses and manufacturers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating Francis Hall Insurance Services on the occasion of its 65th anniversary and to extend best wishes for the agency's continuing work to meet the needs of the community throughout the 21st century and beyond.

HONORING KEN ESPOSITO

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ken Esposito of Bridgewater, Connecticut. Mr. Esposito passed away on September 30, 2011 after a year-long battle with pancreatic cancer. Ken put up a courageous fight with the support of his wife Ann and his family, including his son Eliot and his mother Catherine.

Mr. Esposito was a lifelong advocate for the disadvantaged and those less fortunate. He got his start as a community organizer in Cleveland, Ohio—where he successfully secured millions of dollars for community development projects. In Connecticut, he worked with the United Church of Christ and with the Universal Health Care Foundation. While at the Universal Health Care Foundation, he played a critical role in the effort to pass Sustinet—the ground-breaking legislation which will increase access to affordable health insurance for everyone. Ken worked diligently for years to see this law pass because he believed that providing universal health care was a moral imperative. Additionally, Ken served

as an invaluable resource for me and other members of the Connecticut delegation during the recent health care reform debate.

An avid bicyclist, Mr. Esposito enjoyed biking through the bucolic hills of New England. His family noted recently that he was always proud when he could ride past younger bikers who were struggling on Connecticut's hills.

Sadly, the survival rate of pancreatic cancer is incredibly low. According to the American Cancer Society and the National Cancer Institute, nearly 75 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within one year and nearly 95 percent succumb to the disease within 5 years. Ken's passing reminds us that we have an obligation to stand up for the most vulnerable in society and that much more work must be done to combat devastating diseases, such as pancreatic cancer.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in celebrating the life of Ken Esposito and the contributions he made to the people of Connecticut.

HONORING STEVE JOBS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Steve Jobs, Apple's co-founder, who passed away yesterday after a lengthy battle with cancer.

In his short 56 years on this planet, Jobs fundamentally changed the way the world communicates, learns, transacts and gets its entertainment. He also managed to make technology fun and widely accessible.

In the early 1980s, I had the pleasure of collaborating with this once-in-a-generation innovator. At the time he was just a young guy. We met on an airplane and got to talking about a shared interest: getting computers, which were then cutting-edge technology, into classrooms.

Job's vision was for Apple to give a computer to every school in the country. I had been interested in projects to improve kids' computer literacy in a world that was becoming ever more technologically sophisticated. At issue was our children's lack of access to that technology.

On our cross-country flight, Jobs explained that he was bumping up against a tax hurdle in his effort to give Apple computers to schools. Donating goods to a school, he found, was not viable for a business because they could only write off the very minimal production cost of the item. This limitation made it financially untenable for Apple, or any other manufacturer, to donate computers to schools. Somewhere over the Midwest, Jobs and I agreed to work together to remove this barrier.

In the months that followed, Jobs came out to Washington and helped me and my staff write legislation to create a charitable deduction allowance for computer donations to elementary, middle and high schools. Senator John Danforth, a Missouri Republican, picked up the torch and introduced the legislation in the Senate.

Our original bill passed the House with flying colors but died in the Senate. In the next Congress, Rep. Bill Archer, a Texas Republican, joined me in the House to champion the

bill that became law in 1984. Passage paved the way for the broad distribution of donated computers to our kids' schools.

Critics questioned whether the donated computers would ever make it out of the boxes they came in because not every teacher was technologically minded. Others called the federal tax credit a waste of money. How wrong they were.

Steve Jobs made technology accessible the world over by putting computers into our classrooms, our homes, and our pockets. In honoring his life, we must remember naysayers' initial doubts about whether computer technology was worth federal investment. As we consider our federal deficit and ways to shrink it, we must not become so rigid as to fail to support innovation. Had we not taken that risk decades ago, our educational system, our communities and our world would be a drastically different place.

TRIBUTE TO MR. GEORGE TIMOTHY EVANS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life and labor of Mr. George Timothy Evans who made his heavenly transition on Sunday, October 2, 2011 at the age of 92. For 27 years, Mr. Evans served admirably as a Court Bailiff for the Illinois Appellate Court and the Illinois Supreme Court. A native of Arkansas, Mr. Evans attended Langston High School in Hot Springs, Arkansas, where he played football with former Illinois Appellate Court Justice Glenn T. Johnson, the second African-American to serve on the Illinois Appellate Court, sparking a close friendship that would be rekindled when they both ultimately moved to Chicago.

Mr. Evans met his wife of more than 60 years, Tiny Marie Evans, who preceded him in death, at the Bethel AME Church in Malvern, Arkansas and was united in holy matrimony on June 2, 1942. To this union was born a son, Timothy C. Evans, the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County, and the first African-American to hold this office and a daughter, Sandra Marie (Evans) Johnson. They relocated to Chicago in 1957, at a time when Arkansas was the epicenter of bitter school integration battles, to seek better opportunities in the North.

Mr. Evans served faithfully as a member of the Greater Institutional AME Church on the south side of Chicago. He was an outstanding and devoted servant of God, who dedicated his life towards making a difference in the lives of all people. Mr. Evans was a shining example of how God can use us to help make this world a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I am appreciative of the life and legacy of Mr. George T. Evans and I want to encourage his family, his sons Chief Judge Timothy Evans and George Evans, daughter Sandra Johnson, sister-in-law Hazel Bailey, his grandchildren and great-grandchildren and his many friends to always remember to look to the hills from which comes all of their help. I am honored to pay tribute to this dedicated public servant and am privileged to enter

these words into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING DR. WILTON CORKERN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Wilton Corkern, a good friend, environmental steward, and community leader who, at the end of last month, retired after serving for 21 years as President and CEO of the Accokeek Foundation. This weekend Wilt will be honored by his family, friends, and colleagues at the Foundation's annual Leadership Salute with its National Conservation Leadership Award.

The Accokeek Foundation, headquartered in my district, is devoted to the interaction between people and the landscape over time. The Foundation stewards 200 acres of the National Park Service's Piscataway Park, along the Potomac River in Prince George's and Charles Counties. The park was established to preserve the viewshed from George Washington's historic Mount Vernon estate.

The Foundation's programs include the National Colonial Farm, a living history museum that preserves heirloom plants, heritage breeds of livestock, and historic buildings of the Chesapeake Tidewater; the Ecosystem Farm, a demonstration of sustainable agriculture; and a number of training programs in organic farming, museum theatre, and related fields. The success and continued growth of these programs are a testament to Wilt's dedication and that of his talented staff and volunteers.

Mr. Speaker, Wilt's accomplishments at the Accokeek Foundation are many and lasting. Through the years, Wilt:

Established the modern organic Ecosystem Farm, with its innovative new farmer training program, and established what is now the Center for Agricultural and Environmental Stewardship as "a national model for research, scholarship, education, and public information about sustainability in general and sustainable agriculture in particular."

Helped to organize and launch the Friends of the Potomac and to secure designation of the Potomac as one of the first "American Heritage Rivers."

Relocated and reconstructed the Laurel Branch farmhouse, constructed the colonial outkitchen, and replaced the Saylor Grove fishing pier.

Constructed a "green" Education Center and demonstration stewardship areas.

Installed "The View from Here: Preservation, Development, and Community in Accokeek, Maryland" interpretive signage for the Foundation's fiftieth anniversary.

Secured Standards of Excellence certification from the Maryland Association of Non-profits.

Reenergized the Foundation's land conservation initiative to focus on the Mount Vernon viewshed, preservation of working landscapes, and stewardship of easements.

Launched the Foundation's Piscataway Cultural Landscape Initiative, an effort to transform the concept of "indigenous cultural land-

scape" into a concrete interpretive experience for the public.

Wilt has made a real and enduring impact on our community—helping us improve our appreciation of the environment, recognize our role in preserving it, and understanding and experiencing our shared heritage as Americans. On a personal note, I have greatly appreciated his friendship and counsel over the years. I wish him the best in his retirement and ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on a job well done.

COMMENDING MSGT. TODD EIPPERLE

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Master Sergeant Todd Eipperle of Marshalltown, IA. On September 20, 2011, MSgt. Eipperle received the Bronze Star from the Army for his actions in July 2011 which are credited with saving the lives of members of his team following an attack from a rogue security officer from the Afghan National Directorate of Security. A proud member of the Iowa National Guard, MSgt. Eipperle was previously awarded the Purple Heart for wounds he received during the attack. MSgt. Eipperle exemplifies the best of our Iowa Guardsmen and the good work they did during their recent deployment to Afghanistan.

In July of this year, only a week before he was scheduled to return home with the 2,800 other Iowa Guardsmen he'd deployed with, MSgt. Eipperle was wounded in the process of engaging a rogue Afghan security officer who had shot and killed two of his comrades, fellow Guardsman Sgt. 1st Class Terryl Pasker of Cedar Rapids, IA and retired Connecticut State Trooper Paul Protzenko of Enfield, CT. Passing through a checkpoint in Panjshir province, the rogue Afghan officer unexpectedly fired at the Iowa Guardsmen. MSgt. Eipperle's quick action in engaging the attacker, despite gunshot wounds to his own hip and shoulder, is credited with saving a number of his colleagues and his own life.

MSgt. Eipperle is home once again, having received the Bronze Star in Marshalltown before members of his community, and being honored with a parade and town proclamation in his honor on September 20. While he's left the war, MSgt. Eipperle is still on active duty, recovering from the wounds he sustained in July. I commend MSgt. Eipperle on his heroism, for a job well done on deployment, and wish him well on his recovery.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MRS. FRANCES REEVES JOLLIVETTE CHAMBERS AND RECOGNIZING HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO MIAMI'S AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mrs. Frances