

for citizens in DeKalb County and beyond with excellent service, providing employment opportunities and providing a product that “keeps America moving”—contributing to the local and national economy; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia is officially honoring, recognizing and congratulating Mr. Tony Royal and Chick-fil-A at Turner Hill on their tenth (10th) anniversary as a business anchor in our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim November 1st, 2011 as Chick-fil-A Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 1st day of November, 2011.

HONORING ZELLA GHARAT

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Zella Gharat, who after 33 years as a member of the Stanislaus County Board of Education, has announced her plans to retire effective December 13, 2011.

A retired legal assistant, Gharat was first appointed to the County Board of Education on June 6, 1978. Throughout the years, she has worked with four county superintendents, including Neal Wade, John Allard, Martin Petersen and the current superintendent, Tom Changnon. She’s seen many changes in education since 1978. “Special education programs were fairly new when I started, and I’ve watched the Head Start program grow over the years,” said Gharat. “I was on the Board when we purchased our current Outdoor Education site and was there for our first county Academic Decathlon and our first Youth Entertainment Stage Company performance. I also remember the important vote to purchase SCOE’s administration building at 1100 H Street,” she said.

Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools Tom Changnon praised Gharat for her invaluable contributions to the Board. “Zella always has the best interest of students in mind,” said Changnon. “She is an advocate for children and a valuable member of the Board. We will miss her.”

“I’ve seen a lot of changes over the past 33 years, and I’ve also seen opportunities for students expand,” said Gharat. “From charter schools to specialized academies, there are a multitude of programs in place to ensure that every student can succeed,” she said. “I’m proud of all that we’ve accomplished over the years.”

Through its role of long-range policy development and other critical functions, the County Board works with the Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools and staff to offer the most effective education programs and district support services. The County Board of Education has responsibility for approving the annual county office budget, adopting policies governing the operation of the Board, acting as the appeals board for student expulsions, acting as the appeals board for inter-district transfers, acting as the appeals board for Charter School petitions, establishing the County Superintendent’s salary, and may serve as the landlord and owner of property.

The Board also encourages the involvement of families and communities and is a vehicle for citizen access to communication about SCOE’s programs and services. Regular meetings of the Stanislaus County Board of Education are open to the public and are held on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 8:30 a.m. Meetings are generally held at the Stanislaus County Office of Education, unless otherwise announced.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Zella Gharat for her 33 years of dedicated service as a member of the Stanislaus County Board of Education.

A TRIBUTE TO LCG COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the LCG Community Services, Inc. for its mission to provide client-centered services to low-income individuals with one or more special needs to constituents in my district of Brooklyn, New York.

LCG Community Services, Inc. (LCG) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit community based organization that began operations in 2006. LCG offers their services to individuals that have special needs, such as homelessness, mental illness, and developmental disabilities, the elderly, chronic illness, HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, and victims of domestic violence. LCG serves over 5,000 consumers per year from many different nationalities and ethnicities.

LCG recognizes that a home is the foundation necessary to begin addressing other critical individual needs. As such, LCG takes particular pride in their housing programs. LCG provides transitional and permanent housing in congregate and scatter-site settings. LCG, through its HAC division, also operates a group home for orphaned children in Haiti. The group home established in December 2010 is a place for adolescent orphan boys to grow up in a safe, supportive environment after the earthquake.

LCG believes that educating consumers is the most effective method of advocacy. Through health fairs, dinners, and various other programs, LCG provides workshops, seminars, and educational materials to the community at-large.

LCG has found that integrating celebrity entertainment with education can be a very powerful tool in reaching out to children and young adults. LCG organizes an annual, summer, Children’s Health Awareness Day, with famous entertainers that are attended by over 2,500 families. Every Thanksgiving, LCG Community Services hosts over 500 seniors for Thanksgiving dinner at Boy’s and Girl’s High School, in Brooklyn. These are individuals who have found themselves alone during the Thanksgiving holiday. They also provide mental health professionals, and staff from medical clinics that speak to the seniors and who are available to answer questions.

LCG also has a comprehensive guardianship and court evaluation program, United Guardianship Services of New York (UGSNY). UGSNY was formed to assist the elderly, many of whom are no longer capable of mak-

ing their own health and financial decisions. UGSNY’s goal is to provide the highest level of care, through the use of dedicated legal, financial and social service personnel. UGSNY works closely with the New York State Court system, Adult Protective Services and other city and state agencies to provide comprehensive assistance with the respect and dignity that our elderly deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize LCG Community Services, Inc. for their continued involvement with the less fortunate.

IN COMMEMORATION OF TED TRAMBLEY’S CYCLING CAREER ON HIS 60TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize a dedicated and gifted athlete on his 60th birthday, Ted Trambley.

In commemoration of his birthday, I want to honor him and his achievements as an exceptional cyclist, culminating this year with a truly inspired race to the top of Mount Haleakala in Hawaii this summer in record time.

Born in 1951, Ted Trambley grew up in Pleasant Hill, California and graduated College Park High School in 1969 and California State University, Hayward in 1975 where he was a gymnast and avid cyclist. It was in college that cycling became one of his true passions in life and he began a career in racing that has spanned over four decades.

Ted has belonged to several racing clubs over the years, including the Diablo Wheelman, Strada Sempre Duro, and his current club, Taleo.

Of the many races he has finished over his career, one of his most memorable was the Davis Double Century, a 200 mile race in a single day. In 1974, early in his career and at the height of his competitive peak, he was barely edged out of the lead and finished second. He continued this race annually for four years.

He also participated in the Death Ride through the Sierra Nevada Mountains in California, racing 129 miles and climbing over 15,000 feet of elevation. A race not for the faint of heart.

Since 1986, Ted has been competing in the annual Mt. Diablo Mountain Challenge, a 10.8 mile race climbing 3,249 feet, where he regularly finishes among the fastest and at the very top of his age group. Drawing between 800 and 1,100 riders each year, this is one of the premier races in the San Francisco Bay Area.

These races are just a sample of his long and storied career, but it was this year, in 2011, at the Cycle to the Sun in Hawaii, on the island of Maui, that Ted Trambley truly demonstrated the strength and endurance that has defined his character for so many years.

This race is one of the most difficult bike races in the world, climbing over 10,000 feet of elevation and travelling over 36 miles while its gradient sometimes reaches 18%. As a comparison, the famed Mont Ventou in the

Tour de France is only a 5,336 foot climb over 13.6 miles.

Ted Trambley won his age group with a time of 3 hours, 43 minutes, and 39 seconds and finished 35th overall. A tremendous achievement, he should be proud knowing he has conquered the sun.

He has mentioned retirement from the racing circuit, but I truly doubt that he will hang up his cleats. It is near impossible to give up a lifelong passion.

Although he has accomplished these amazing feats of athletic endurance over four decades of training and dedication, he could not have done so without the tireless support of his wife, Mary Ann, and his two sons, Sean and Kyle.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring a truly remarkable athlete, husband, and father, Ted Trambley.

RECOGNIZING GEORGIA OLIVE FARMS

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Georgia Olive Farms for successfully harvesting the first olive crop in the eastern United States in nearly 125 years.

An Italian vacation inspired Jason Shaw to envision olives being grown in, of all places in the world, South Georgia. To make his vision a reality, he partnered with his brother Sam Shaw and cousin Kevin Shaw and the trio planted their first olive orchard near Lakeland, Georgia in 2008. They later established a cooperative association with George Hughes and Berrien Sutton of Homerville, Georgia to create Georgia Olive Farms.

Georgia Olive Farms was organized in 2009 near Lakeland, Georgia to establish and develop the innovative agricultural venture of mechanical olive harvesting. In September, they successfully harvested approximately three tons of arbequina olives to be processed into high quality extra virgin olive oil. This harvest marks a milestone in southern agriculture, as this was the first harvest of olives in not just the south, but in the entire eastern United States since the late 1800s. In addition to harvesting, they are a distributor of olive trees and offer grower contracts for others who may wish to expand this historical venture in order to introduce olives as a new viable cash crop for southern farmers.

Georgia Olive Farms' innovative techniques and information sharing have potential implications for some of our country's great problems. Georgia Olive Farms has developed a new market which will create a new revenue source for farmers, create new employment opportunities, and expand agricultural innovations and inspirations. Moreover, the new market for olives will increase the production of olive oil made here in America. As such, American-made olive oil can finally be a significant and healthy alternative to the standard cooking oils that are correlated with the high rates of obesity and health concerns plaguing this country. Georgia Olive Farms now exists as a reminder that the innovations and visions of small businesses do in fact provide the answers to many of our country's great ques-

tions and that we must obligate ourselves to supporting them.

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR REACHING THE NCAA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT'S SWEET SIXTEEN

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of Richmond men's basketball team for a remarkable 2010–2011 season, which culminated in an Atlantic 10 Conference Championship as well as a berth to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament.

The University of Richmond, which is located in the heart of Virginia's Seventh Congressional District, boasts a long tradition of excellence on the basketball court. Since 1984, the Richmond Spiders have earned an impressive 9 bids to compete in the NCAA Tournament and have reached the Sweet Sixteen on two of those trips.

This past March, along with cross-town rival, Virginia Commonwealth University, the Spiders captivated the entire City of Richmond as one of two teams advancing to the Sweet Sixteen—a feat matched by only two other cities since 1980.

The 2010–2011 season was one full of accomplishments for the Spiders—setting a school record for number of wins, 29, and points scored, 2,577. On several occasions, the Spiders defied the odds to beat top-tier programs. In November, the Spiders pulled off the upset by shocking the then-8th ranked Purdue Boilermakers by a score of 65-54. After gaining a berth to the NCAA Tournament, the Spiders carried their seven game win streak into a game against the fifth seed, Vanderbilt, and proceeded to knock off the favorite in the opening round of the tournament.

Several Richmond players took home individual honors this past season as well. Senior guard Kevin Anderson—the 2010 Atlantic 10 Player of the Year—continued to pile up individual accolades, garnering both First-Team All-Conference honors as well as being named the 2011 A-10 Tournament MVP. Senior forward Justin Harper also earned First-Team All-Conference honors and subsequently was drafted 32nd overall in this past June's NBA Draft. Kevin Smith, a senior forward, also was named to the A-10 All-Defensive team.

The Spider's success on the basketball court should come as no surprise. Led by head coach Chris Mooney, the University of Richmond has established itself as not only a leader in the A-10 but also one of the nation's elite. Mooney's Spiders have reached the NCAA Tournament in back-to-back years, and have also finished inside the Top 25 of the ESPN/USA Today Coaches poll the past two years. The Spiders have shown that they do not shy away from competition—having won seven of their last ten games against ranked opponents.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending the Richmond Spiders men's basketball team, Coach Mooney, President Ed Ayers, and the entire community at the University of Rich-

mond for a spectacular season and I wish them well this season.

IN MEMORY OF PASTOR CHARLES HENRY WILLIAMS

HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter a statement into the record on behalf of my constituent, Reverend Aaron Wheeler:

"Pastor Charles Henry Williams has been a pillar of strength and love to his flock at the Morning Star Baptist Church and to the good people of the 2nd Congressional District of Virginia for more than 40 years. He has labored in the vineyard as a pastor and leader to all who knew and loved him, and his accomplishments are truly remarkable.

From the moment Dr. Williams was called to the ministry in 1967, he embraced feeding the poor and seeking the lost for the Lord.

Pastor Williams served on too numerous boards and committees to mention. Some of the organizations he served in as a faithful member and in leadership positions were the Virginia Beach Minister's Conference, Sharon Missionary Association of Suffolk and the Tidewater Metro Minister's Conference. And on a lighter note, Pastor Williams was honored by the Virginia Beach Afro-American Cultural Council as an "Honorary Cowboy" in 1999.

This man of God was bestowed with an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Norfolk Seminary in 1997. The former Mayor of Virginia Beach acknowledged that December 4, 1994 was officially, "Pastor Charles Henry Williams Day" in the city of Virginia Beach.

It is evident to all those who interacted with Pastor Williams just how much this humble man truly loved his family.

The people of the 2nd Congressional District of the State of Virginia give honor to Pastor Charles Henry Williams, as his untimely leaving is our loss but heaven's gain.

The Bible rang true for his service to this world in the scripture of 2 Timothy 4:7–8: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge will give to me on that Day."

SENIOR VETERANS HOUSING ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2011

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, we must ensure that the men and women who bravely served our country have access to affordable housing. My bill, the Senior Veterans Housing Assistance Act, seeks to make sure that government regulations do not pose an impediment to achieving this important goal.

This issue came to light because of conflicting rules and regulations between the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Veterans Affairs. In Dayton, Ohio, the St. Mary's Neighborhood