

United States, tracing their roots back to 1838. Under the leadership of director Jim Rice, the band of nearly 80 members recently kicked off their weekly summer concert series, which will feature eight performances with historical themes.

In spite of the down economy and tight city finances, the band members and leadership have continued the tradition without pay, while the community has supported the band through financial donations.

Community bands are an American tradition, and for decades, the Adrian City Band has offered a fine example of this civic pastime. The Adrian City Band will continue to entertain and impress with a series of eight concerts this summer at the Trestle Park bandshell, and they deserve recognition for their dedication and sacrifice in bringing entertainment to Southeast Michigan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 18, 2012, I was unable to vote due to a conflicting obligation in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on rollcall No. 379, "yea"; on rollcall No. 380, "yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION HEALTH GROUP'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) Health Group as its employees gather to celebrate its 100th anniversary. VNA Health Group members continue to exemplify outstanding dedication to the promotion and restoration of the health status of community individuals. Their service is truly worthy of this body's recognition.

The Visiting Nurse Association Health Group was established in 1912 in Lincroft, New Jersey. Within its first decade, the organization completed a study of mentally handicapped children in public schools, launched child welfare programs and established a mobile health clinic to assist constituents throughout Monmouth County, New Jersey. The organization adopted the name Monmouth County Organization for Social Services (MCOSS) in 1918 and maintained their focus on improving healthcare needs for women and children. The agency acquired the Visiting Nurses Association in Middlesex County in 1988 and expanded their services to include the constituents of Middlesex County; later that year, the New Jersey hospice care program was certified by Medicaid and served more than 1,500 patients and their families.

In December 1993, the organization adopted the name Visiting Nurse Association of Central New Jersey; the new name allowed for the establishment of a governing board and the ability to raise funds on behalf of the

organization. VNA of Central New Jersey later joined with other organizations, including the Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services and Essex Valley Visiting Nurse Association, and partnered with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital to continue expanding their service area. In 2011, VNA of Central New Jersey affiliates and partners unified under the title Visiting Nurse Association Health Group to better reflect the organization's growth. Today, the organization and its employees continue to personify compassionate, caring and patient-centered services to constituents throughout New Jersey.

VNA Health Group is New Jersey's largest non-profit community health provider of home health, hospice and community services. Today, the VNA remains a volunteer organization that assists over 100,000 individuals throughout New Jersey each year. VNA Health Group is accredited by the Community Health Accreditation Program, Inc. and continues to provide outstanding in-home services including certified home health aide services, pediatric care, rehabilitative therapy, palliative care, tele-health monitoring, geriatric care management, companion homemaker services, and nutritional counseling. As a result of their outstanding efforts, VNA Health Group is the proud recipient of the New York Times Tribute to Nurses Award and the New Jersey Hospice and Palliative Care Association Award, among others.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating the Visiting Nurse Association Health Group's 100th Anniversary. The organization has provided exquisite services to constituents throughout Monmouth County and New Jersey.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on June 18, 2012, I was unable to vote on rollcall vote 380. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on passage of S. 404.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCES PRESTON

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am joined by my colleagues Congressmen STEVE COHEN, JIM COOPER, MARSHA BLACKBURN, JERROLD NADLER, HOWARD COBLE, LAMAR SMITH, BARNEY FRANK, and JOHN CONYERS to honor the life and memory of one of the First Ladies of American music, Frances W. Preston, the former president and Chief Executive Officer of Broadcast Music Inc. (BMI).

Frances Preston was a trailblazer who opened up doors of opportunity for a new generation of female executives in the music and entertainment industries. No barriers stopped Frances in advocating for songwriters' rights, and on Capitol Hill, her tireless advocacy was critical in protecting the music industry. Her counsel was indispensable and we sought it often.

The business acumen of Frances Preston was exceeded only by her charisma and charm, and by the respect, affection and admiration her colleagues and peers had for her. She was lauded for her empathy and for the gracious manner in which she treated every person, from the hottest star to the humblest worker. She was an exceptional executive, leader, role model and friend.

With Frances at its head, BMI grew to represent over 300,000 American and foreign songwriters, composers and music publishers in licensing music, and collecting and distributing royalties from play on radio and in television, films, ads and other media. Its artists represent all types of music and its catalog contains 4.5 million works. During her 18 years as president, its revenue grew more than three times to more than \$625 million.

BMI has become an internationally respected leader and a unique success story as the entertainment industry has been transformed by digital technology and globalization. Sensitive to the changing world of music, Frances focused on domestic licensing, foreign performing rights, legislation for fair compensation for writers and publishers, and copyright protection.

Frances joined BMI in 1958 after working in music and broadcasting in Nashville. She opened BMI's regional office there, and led her company to preeminence in the South, signing writers and publishers with roots in both country and other types of music.

In 1964, the year the Nashville BMI building opened on Music Row, Frances became a vice president of BMI—reportedly, the first woman corporate executive in Tennessee.

She has often been called a trailblazer in the music business but Frances was also a trailblazer among women. She was the first woman Rotarian in the State of Tennessee. She was the first woman to work with the National Chamber of Commerce. She was one of the first four women—and the first businesswoman—to be invited to join the Friars Club in New York and the first woman to serve on their board of governors.

Frances was an industry pioneer and a compassionate humanitarian who touched the lives of many people, and she will be sorely missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker on rollcall No. 310, I was absent due to a family matter. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

EXPRESSING REGRET FOR PASSAGE OF LAWS ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE CHINESE IN THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 683. This

resolution expresses the regret of the House of Representatives for laws that unfairly targeted the Chinese community in the United States, specifically the Chinese Exclusion Act.

I want to thank my good friend from California, Ms. CHU, for her hard work and determination in bringing this important resolution to the floor, and I am proud to join her as the lead cosponsor of this historic effort.

America's strength has always been derived from our commitment to the principles of our founders. And although we do not always succeed in living up to those ideals, we continually strive to do so, and we become stronger in the process.

Today, we have the opportunity to take another important step by recognizing one of the great—yet often overlooked—injustices in our shared history.

One-hundred and thirty years ago, just thirteen years after the last spike was driven into the first transcontinental railroad, the Congress of the United States strayed from the path laid by our founders and implemented the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882.

This ten-year ban on Chinese immigration and naturalization targeted Chinese immigrants for physical and political exclusion, and its passage was driven by an unfortunate mix of racism, jingoism, and intolerance.

In subsequent years, Congress expanded and hardened these laws, making it impossible for legal Chinese workers to reenter America, apply for citizenship, and reunite with their families. And it wasn't until the U.S.-Chinese alliance of World War Two that Congress finally repealed these laws and restored the rights of Chinese-Americans.

Since that time, this body has passed many reforms. Yet, over 100 years later, this chamber has yet to acknowledge its own misguided actions. Today, we have the opportunity to do just that and reaffirm our shared commitment to equality.

Mr. Speaker, I also would like to thank Linda Yang, the Director of the Xilin [SI-LIN] Asian Community Center in Naperville, Illinois, whose advice and input has helped to drive this resolution to the floor.

It was she who told me about the individuals in our own community whose parents and grandparents were impacted by the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Unfortunately, many of these victims are no longer with us. But for those who remain, it is critical to address this issue now, before the opportunity is lost forever.

With that in mind, I urge all of my colleagues to support this important resolution. Through it, let us acknowledge the past, express our regret, and promote a greater appreciation for the challenges that past generations of Chinese Americans have bravely overcome.

IN HONOR OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. THOMAS AQUINAS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 90th anniversary of St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Church in Bristol, Pennsylvania.

St. Thomas Aquinas Church was built in 1922 as a place for working men and women of Southeast Pennsylvania to gather to pray. Funded by the generosity of the local community and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Fr. Nolan founded this parish to unify the communities of Croydon, Bristol, and Bensalem.

St. Thomas Aquinas Church was named after the 13th century Sicilian theologian. A prominent member of the Dominican Order, St. Thomas Aquinas revolutionized philosophy, modern political theory, and ethical morality. Many consider his most notable work, *Summa Theologica*, to be one of the foundations of the Catholic faith and modern theology. His contributions to intellectual thought have allowed him to become the patron saint of academics and Catholic schools.

Although St. Thomas Aquinas Church has struggled through some setbacks in the past few years, the current pastor, Fr. Mike Davis, has made it his mission to unify the community. By recommitting his church to its original mission, Fr. Mike has rallied his parishioners to persevere through the recent closing of their elementary school, and unveil a major renovation effort to improve their facilities. Completed solely by the parishioners themselves, the new refurbishments not only update the facility's technology, but also display beautiful religious paintings and depictions from history.

As we look back on the past 90 years of commitment and service to the communities of Bristol and Croydon, I only hope that the future continues to bring more prosperity to St. Thomas Aquinas Church. I am proud to stand with Fr. Mike, his parishioners, and the members of my district in celebrating the 90th anniversary of St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Church.

HONORING MRS. LUCILE JOHNSON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Lucile Johnson on her remarkable 100th birthday, June 19, 2012. Lucile has lived in Atlanta for all 100 years of her wonderful life—she was blessed with 65 years of marriage to her late husband Earl Johnson, and she is the proud and loving mother of 6 children, grandmother of 15, great grandmother of 20, and last but certainly not least: great great grandmother of 1.

Lucile has been a driven and caring person her entire life and worked diligently at the Biltmore Hotel in Atlanta for many years to provide for her family. As a passionate member of her community, Lucile graciously chose to volunteer with her church missionary group in feeding the homeless of Atlanta for decades. Lucile is the matriarch of her ever-growing family and has helped to raise many of her grand children and great grandchildren. The comfort and advice she provides to her family is truly treasured and matchless.

Mr. Speaker, Lucile Johnson is an outstanding member of the community in my District and has served as an exceptional role model for her family and many others. I am delighted to join her family, friends and many

admirers in wishing her a very happy 100th birthday and continued good health and happiness for years to come.

RECOGNITION OF THE D.C. DIVAS FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the D.C. Divas Football team for their eleventh season and on returning to the Women's Football Association for the 2012 season. This year marks the 40th Anniversary of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which protects people from discrimination based on gender. Passage of Title IX has helped to make it possible for teams like the D.C. Divas to accomplish great success and serve as a role model for young girls.

The D.C. Divas were established in 2000, with the first season beginning in the spring of 2001. They have been a strong team with nine winning seasons and eight division titles. The D.C. Divas are currently celebrating as the 2012 Division Champions. The team won the NWFA Championship in 2006 after completing a perfect season.

Not only have they been strong on the field, but they are actively involved within the D.C. and Maryland communities. Members of the team have participated in Recess by the River since the program began, helping educate kids on active living to prevent child obesity with kids from Ward 8. The team has also supported the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence, the Northern Virginia Ronald McDonald House, and the Special Olympics of Northern Virginia. These are only some of the many organizations in which the D.C. Divas are actively involved.

I congratulate the D.C. Divas for their accomplishments on and off the field over the past twelve years. This is a great team that provides an athletic outlet for the people of Washington, D.C. and the surrounding areas. I wish them the best during the rest of their season and the many seasons to come.

TO RECOGNIZE THE 2012 LORDS AND LADIES FAIRFAX

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a dedicated group of men and women in Northern Virginia. For the past 28 years, each member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has selected two people from his or her district who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to our community. Since the program's inception in 1984, nearly 500 individuals have been recognized as a Lord or Lady Fairfax by their representative on the Board of Supervisors. I was pleased to take part in this annual ritual and recognize many outstanding community volunteers during my 14 years on the Board.

Individuals recognized as Lords and Ladies of Fairfax have made significant contributions