

continues to be a major share of the company's sales.

As part of the company's expansion efforts, it diversified its product offerings to include pet products. Seeing increased opportunity in the pet segment, VSI purchased LA Pet, a primary pet food distributor, in 2001. With the acquisition, VSI became a one-stop supply option for all pet items needed by any retailer. VSI also expanded its efforts internationally when it teamed with a Chinese customer, Alix Co., to establish ASI, Animal Supplies International, which imported products into the U.S. VSI then became the owner of ASI and its sister company, JC Logistics, JCL—a freight forwarding company which moves containers for importing and exporting. With involvement in ASI and JCL, VSI became internationally connected.

In 2004, Dr. Woodward passed away, and John Scheuber succeeded him as the President and CEO.

The focus on innovation by VSI's founders established a solid foundation for the company, as well as a culture for success that remains today. The company not only supports the growing agricultural industry, but it has established a standard of employee relations which has greatly contributed to the company's success and positioned it for strong growth in the future. The four original stockholders established a company that thrives because of its successful strategy to retain talented employees. It introduced an innovative and motivational Profit Sharing Plan in 1972; and in 1991, it developed an Employee Stock Ownership Program, which enables each employee to own corporate stock.

Today, at 52 years strong, VSI and its 220 employee-owners continue to provide quality products and customer-driven service for all segments of the animal health industry. VSI continues to be a strong supporter of the community, as well as a leader in the agricultural industry.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in praising VSI, Veterinary Services Inc., for their significant contributions to agriculture and to the people of our local community.

HONORING MS. SYLVIA JONES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable young woman, Ms. Sylvia Jones. Sylvia was raised in Belzoni, Mississippi, by her parents, Marvin and Timaka Jones.

Sylvia has always strived for excellence. Her committed determination has earned her the Principal Scholar awards. Her high school grade point average is 3.70, putting her at the top of Humphreys County High School Class of 2012, and earning her the title of Valedictorian.

Sylvia has worked hard and has been active in different sports and organizations since she was in elementary school. During her high school years, she played basketball and served as a leader among her peers. She also played, softball, tennis, and ran track, which led to many athletic awards including the Coach's Award, Best Offensive Player, mem-

ber of the All-District team throughout the Delta, and named the #2 player in the Delta. Sylvia is a member of the Senior Beta Club, Student Council Association, and Students Making a Change (SMAC). In August 2012, Sylvia plans to attend Jackson State University and major in Mathematics.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Sylvia Jones for her determination and strive for excellence in education and leadership.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TWIN LIGHTS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Twin Lights Historical Site in Highlands, New Jersey on the occasion of their 150th anniversary celebration. The current structure, built in 1862, was commissioned by the United States Light House Board in the 1850s to provide the waters surrounding New York Harbor with a more permanent structure and to replace the existing structures which had fallen into disrepair.

Prior to the 1820s, the only lighthouse in the area surrounding New York Harbor was the Sandy Hook Lighthouse. However, with the completion of the Erie Canal in 1825, Congress realized the need for an additional structure in the area of New York Harbor to ensure ships had an additional tool they could use to safely navigate the treacherous waters off Northern New Jersey. In 1828, two structures were constructed on the current site of the Twin Lights, but in the 1850s, the U.S. Light House Board realized there was a need for a more permanent structure in the location of Highlands, New Jersey. In 1862, the permanent structure as it stands was completed. The Twin Lights, named for the dual Fresnel lenses which were placed in two adjacent towers, began to emanate light from the hillside of Highlands, New Jersey.

In addition to its significance as a navigation tool for ships in the New York Harbor, the site was also home to several important and historical moments in U.S. history. In 1893, the site was chosen for the first reading of the pledge of allegiance. In 1898, the south tower of Twin Lights was electrified, and became the only on-shore lighthouse in the U.S. to have its own generator. Guglielmo Marconi in 1899 tested his telegraph technology at the site, where it became evident that this new form of communication would revolutionize the way people communicated. By the 1930s and 1940s, the role of Twin Lights began to diminish, as new technologies began to emerge. However, during the 1940s, Twin Lights was chosen by the U.S. government as the primary location to test radar technology, something which played a pivotal role in helping the U.S. and its allies obtain victory in World War II. In 1962, the Twin Lights Historic Site was transferred to the authority of the State of New Jersey, and is currently on the State and National Registry of Historic Places. Although the towers of Twin Lights were decommissioned in 1952, the light of the south tower still shines today as a navigational tool for private navigators.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in leading this body in celebration of the Twin Lights Historic Site's 150th anniversary celebration. The Twin Lights Historic Site has played a pivotal role in American and New Jersey history, and it is with great pleasure that I am able to join them in their celebration.

HONORING THE PUBLIC SERVICE WORKS OF MRS. NORMA SIAS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a resourceful and ambitious woman, Mrs. Norma Sias. Mrs. Sias is a living testament to what can be done through hard work, perseverance and dedication.

Born July 24, 1943 to parents Leodis and Ukele York in Leona, Mississippi, Mrs. Sias is a graduate of Jordan High School in Carthage, Mississippi and current resident of Rolling Fork, Mississippi.

Norma obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Literature in 1966 from Jackson State University after which she began teaching at Henry Weathers High School in Rolling Fork. After four years of teaching English, Mrs. Sias became Librarian at Henry Weathers in 1970 and then later returned to Jackson State University to continue her studies in Library Science.

After completing her work at Jackson State University, Norma then ventured on to receive her Masters in Library Science from Delta State University, to shortly thereafter become Librarian of Anguilla High School, until she retired after 34 years of service in 2004.

In addition to her work as Librarian, Mrs. Sias serves as the president of the South Delta Retired Education Personnel office, secretary of the Issaquena Credit Union and secretary of St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church.

She is also an active member of Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. where she continues to work as a civil servant, participating in countless public service activities.

Mrs. Norma Sias has been married to Mr. Melvin Sias for 41 years to their union they have one daughter, Melanie.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Norma Sias for her dedication to serving our great her community and Sharkey County Schools.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. BRIAN ROTHSCILD

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Brian Rothschild on his receipt of the 2012 Prince Henry Society Award. On October 20, he will be recognized for his contributions to the maritime and fishing industries.

Dr. Rothschild has long dedicated his life in pursuit of better science and instruction. He

currently serves as Co-Director of the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Institute at the School for Marine Science and Technology at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth.

His contributions to the marine fisheries industry extend from studies of population dynamics and biological oceanography to fisheries management and natural resources policy. This is not the first time his expertise has been recognized. In 2004, he received an Outstanding Achievement Award from the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists and in 2008 he was recognized by The Standard-Times as the "South Coast Man of the Year."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Dr. Rothschild on his receipt of the 2012 Prince Henry Society Award. We thank him for his role in marine sciences and eagerly anticipate his continued contributions to the field.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND MICHAEL
SNIFFEN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Reverend Michael Sniffen, a man dedicated to serving God, his family, and the community.

Rev. Michael Sniffen was ordained in 2007 and went to The Church of St. Luke and St. Matthew in 2010 after serving as Assistant Rector of St. John's, Lattingtown, NY. Since arriving at The Church of St. Luke and St. Matthew, Fr. Michael has created a full time Artist-in-Residence program, opened the church to the community more than ever, expanded programs for children, built relationships with youth in detention and attracted a growing and diverse congregation.

As part of linking the church and the neighborhood, Fr. Michael won a grant of \$287,000 from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection to undertake a major green infrastructure project in the churchyard that will help the environment as well as create a new public greenspace on the block. In 2011 NYC chose The Church of St. Luke and St. Matthew to launch ChangeByUs—a program linking neighbors together to build a better city.

Fr. Michael holds a B.A. from W.V. Wesleyan College and a Master of Divinity degree from Drew University. He is a candidate for a Ph.D. in Homiletics and Liturgical Studies. A member of the American Academy of Religion, a visiting member of the Academy of Homiletics and the North American Academy of Liturgy, Fr. Michael has won awards in Pulpit Oratory and Manner, as well as pastoral leadership and innovative ministry. For the 2011/12 academic year he was a Luce Fellow of the Center for Christianity in Global Contexts. He is currently Secretary of the board of Episcopal Response to AIDS.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the Reverend Michael Sniffen for his commitment to economic and social justice in Brooklyn and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Reverend Michael Sniffen.

HONORING MR. TYRONE DAVIS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable blues artist, Mr. Tyrone Davis.

Tyrone Davis was born as Tyrone Fetteson on May 4, 1938, in Greenville, Mississippi. Through his blues career, he was first known as Tyrone the Wonder Boy, then later as Tyrone Davis.

Tyrone moved with his father to Saginaw, Michigan, before relocating to Chicago, Illinois in 1959. He then became a valet/chauffeur for blues singer Freddie King. He befriended the likes of Bobby "Blue" Bland, Little Milton, and Otis Clay, among others, and began to pursue his own singing career in the clubs on the city's West and South Sides. While working for King, he started singing in local clubs where he was discovered by record executive/musician Harold Burrage. This became the start of his career as a blues singer called "Tyrone the Wonder Boy".

His records for small labels under "Tyrone the Wonder Boy" did not bring him much success. In 1968, a successful Chicago record producer Carl Davis signed him to a new label, Dakar Records, that he was starting as part of a distribution deal with Atlantic, and suggested that he use the stage name Tyrone Davis. A Texas DJ flipped his first release over and started playing the B-side, "Can I Change My Mind."

Teamed with producer/arranger Willie Henderson, who masterminded "Can I Change My Mind", Tyrone Davis capitalized on his breakthrough with a string of orchestrated hits that emphasized his new, smoother style, and helped point the way for Chicago soul into a new decade. "Is It Something You've Got" reached the R&B Top Five in 1969, and it was followed in 1970 by the sublime "Turn Back the Hands of Time." It was his second R&B number one, and also his biggest hit on the pop charts with a peak at number three.

Tyrone Davis hit the R&B Top 40 with steady regularity over the next few years, including the Top Tens . "Could I Forget You," "I Had It All the Time," "Without You in My Life," and "There It Is." In 1975, he scored his third number one R&B hit with "Turning Point," but left Dakar for Columbia the following year.

Tyrone Davis' ballad mastery was a main selling point for Columbia, which made his backing orchestrations even lush than before, but he also made the occasional concession to contemporary dance trends, which informed his debut Columbia hit "Give It Up" a number two R&B single from 1976. Further successes followed in "This I Swear" (1977), "Get On Up" (1978), and the slinky ballad "In the Mood" (1979). Tyrone Davis recorded his final album for Columbia in 1981, then switched to Highrise, where he promptly landed a Top Five R&B hit—his last, as it turned out—with "Are You Serious" in 1982. Short stints with Ocean-Front and Prelude followed before Tyrone Davis settled in with Future for the latter half of the 1980s. He spent the first half of the 1990s on retro-soul label Ichiban, recording several albums, and then moved to Southern soul imprint Malaco in 1996 for an

equally productive stay that lasted into the new millennium. Tyrone Davis continued to release new albums every year or two, and toured the soul/blues circuit as restlessly as ever. Tyrone Davis suffered a stroke in October of 2004 and remained hospitalized until his death in February of 2005.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Tyrone Davis, a great blues legend from Mississippi's Second Congressional District.

HONORING MR. LEONARD JAMES
CANTY, JR.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exceptional life of Mr. Leonard James Canty, Jr., community stalwart and entrepreneur, co-founder of the 100 Black Men of the Bay Area, Inc. and founder of the Black Economic Council, BEC. "Len," as he was known, was a trailblazing businessman committed to supporting and promoting minority- and women-owned businesses. Known as a hard-working and talented visionary, a passionate advocate and a man of great faith, Mr. Canty has left an indelible mark on Bay Area communities. With his passing on September 22, 2012, we look to Len Canty's legacy and the outstanding quality of his life's work.

Born on April 26, 1945, to Leonard James and Elisabeth Canty, Len was part of a large family growing up in Atlanta, Georgia. A U.S. Air Force veteran during the Vietnam War, Mr. Canty moved to Oakland, CA, upon his honorable discharge in 1968. There he met his loving wife and lifelong partner of 42 years, Kyra. Mr. Canty worked for United Airlines and in real estate, until launching his own mortgage brokerage firm, Canty & Associates, in 1984.

Throughout his entrepreneurial success, Mr. Canty never lost sight of the needs of his community. Among his many career milestones, he was a founding member in 1988 and an eventual President of the 100 Black Men of the Bay Area, Inc. A tireless champion for African American equality and opportunity, he was Chairman of the 1993 African American Economic Empowerment Conference and a lecturer in the African American Entrepreneurship program at California State University, East Bay. In the early 1990s, he founded a private equity venture capital fund for small, minority- and women-owned businesses. And, in 2005, after a decade of investment banking, he founded the Black Economic Council, a national 501(c)(3) headquartered in Northern California.

Today, the BEC celebrates its Second Annual Game Changers and Bridge Builders Awards in tribute to its founder, Len Canty, who epitomized the qualities of positive change and collaboration. As an organization facilitating local business development, economic sustainability and job creation to advance the economic platform of Black Americans and underserved communities, BEC is a leading advocate in promoting the equity and self-sufficiency of Black communities through stronger economic infrastructure.