

MR. MARSHALL S. JACOBSON, ESQ.
AND MRS. APRIL JACOBSON

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Marshall S. Jacobson, Esq. and Mrs. April Jacobson, who are being honored by Temple B'nai B'rith for their service to the temple and the community.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson have served as exemplary community leaders. Mr. Jacobson has been affiliated with the Wilkes-Barre law firm of Rosenn, Jenkins, and Greenwald since 1968 and became a partner in 1973. They have three sons and four grandchildren.

Mr. Jacobson earned his bachelor's degree in 1959 from the Pennsylvania State University and his law degree from the Dickinson School of Law in 1962. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson first met while they were employed by the Internal Revenue Service in Washington, DC. They married in 1966 and relocated to the Wilkes-Barre area in 1968.

Mr. Jacobson has had a distinguished career serving individual, corporate, charitable, and non-profit clients for over 40 years. He is dedicated to his community and has served as a member, officer, and director of numerous organizations including Temple B'nai B'rith, Temple Apartments, United Cerebral Palsy, Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen, and Kiwanis Club of Mountain Top.

Furthermore, Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson are both deeply admired for their strong faith and continual devotion to family. Together, they have served our community loyally.

Mr. Speaker, today, Mr. Marshall S. Jacobson, Esq. and Mrs. April Jacobson stand as leaders in Northeastern Pennsylvania. I commend them for their years of admirable service to our community and country, and I wish them continued success in the future.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOLOMON SCHECHTER DAY SCHOOL OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Solomon Schechter Day School of Metropolitan Chicago, on the occasion of the school's 50th anniversary.

For five decades, Solomon Schechter Day School has served Jewish children and families in the Chicago area, integrating Judaic studies with general education. Founded in 1962, the school was founded with the vision of helping students understand their Jewish and American lives as an integrated whole. Solomon Schechter Day School continues to provide an extended community where students and families are encouraged to explore their Jewish identity in a positive environment.

From the first 27 students who enrolled in 1962, more than 2,500 graduates of Solomon Schechter have gone on to play leading roles throughout the Chicago area and across the world. The school currently serves 550 chil-

dren from 30 communities in the Chicago area. Today, Solomon Schechter Day School of Metropolitan Chicago is a pre-kindergarten through eighth grade Jewish day school, with an Early Childhood Center located in Skokie, and a K-8 school in Northbrook. Students at Solomon Schechter Day School attend over 40 synagogues, and come from families with roots in the United States, Israel, Chile, Argentina, Russia, Ethiopia, and more.

As a member of Congress, it has been my privilege to welcome Solomon Schechter students to Washington for many years. I have been consistently impressed by the maturity, knowledge, and inquisitive spirit of the students I have met. They are students who want to make a difference in their community, their country and the world. Solomon Schechter Day School gives them the education, support, and resources to do so.

For fifty years, Solomon Schechter Day School has empowered students to think critically, while also teaching them to live Jewish values and honor timeless traditions. It is my great privilege to join the Solomon Schechter Day School community in celebrating the fifty years of serving Jewish students and families in the Chicago area, and I look forward to many exciting years to come.

HONORING MRS. BERNITA "BERT" DIXON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman with an angelic voice, Bernita "Bert" Dixon.

Bernita Dixon is a lifelong resident of Copiah County, Mississippi. She was born on October 14, 1952 in Georgetown, Mississippi to the late Rev. Earl Carver Dixon and Lena Mae Cathchings Dixon. She graduated from Holtzclaw Memorial High School in Crystal Springs, Mississippi. Bernita attended Utica Junior College in Utica, Mississippi where she majored in Pre-Nursing.

She began singing at the early age of five. She would often sing at church, in the cotton field and any other place people would listen. She quickly became known for her strong voice. However, her stardom came with a price. She started to get tired of everyone wanting her to sing, so she blurted out; "I'm tired of always having to sing". Shortly thereafter Bernita was diagnosed with laryngitis and couldn't talk. She then prayed "Lord, please give me back my voice, I will sing for you for the rest of my life". Her voice returned more powerful and deeper than before. Later her brother decided to form a singing group with her and the rest of their siblings, "The Dixon Singers". The Dixon Singers have performed with several nationally known artists. Also, the Dixon Singers were the first group to ever record a double volume live album in the state of Mississippi.

Bernita is married to Gene Robinson. She is the mother of three, Derrick, Kenmantel and the late Ronrico. Bernita has worked as the Office Manager at Dixon Body & Auto Sales, Inc. in Hazlehurst, Mississippi since 1993. She is a member of New Hope M. B. Church in Georgetown, Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Bernita "Bert" Dixon for her dedication and desire to share her voice with us.

HONORING JOHN GREENWOOD

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of John Greenwood who died on October 11, 2012 at the age of 67. Born on January 9, 1945, John earned a bachelor's degree in Mathematics and Political Science from the University of California, Riverside, and a master's degree in Political Science from the University of Michigan. John had a 45-year career as an educator and civic leader in the South Bay and Harbor Area. John was first elected to the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Board of Education in 1979, where he served for eight years as both a member and its president advocating for quality education.

Long active in community affairs, John served as Chair of the City of Los Angeles Citizens' Oversight Commission for Proposition Q managing a \$650 million Fire and Police renovation program and was the founding President and a board member of the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council. Several years ago, while on the Los Angeles City Council, I had the pleasure to appoint John to head up a task force charged with studying the Ponte Vista housing development. He was the founder and later served as President of the Gang Alternatives Program that strives to enhance the lives of the young people in our community. John served on the boards of numerous community organizations including the San Pedro Boys and Girls Club, the San Pedro Rotary Club, and as Vice President of the Board of Directors of Angels Gate Cultural Center.

At the time of his death, John was President of Coro Southern California. His involvement in Coro spanned more than 40 years. Through the years, John received many awards. He was particularly pleased to be honored as Community Builder by Habitat for Humanity and to receive the Founders Award from the Southern California Leadership Network.

John is survived by his wife, Caren and daughter, Liz, and his brother Roger (Peggy) Greenwood, sister Marilyn (Savin) Ungaro, sister Kathy (Tom) Jefferies, mother-in-law Martha Matthews, sister-in-law Darlene Allenthrop. I consider myself incredibly lucky to have known John and to have considered him a close friend.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LONG BRANCH FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY CHAMPIONS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the five individuals being honored by the Long Branch Free Public Library on the

occasion of its Champions Dinner. A Library Champion is committed to the success of the library. They frequent programs held by the library, encourage others to visit and use the library, and are concerned about issues that may affect the library. Mr. John Pallone, Mr. John (Jack) Kearns, Ms. Marsha Cohen, Mr. Emmanuel Itzol and Miss Ashley Pape are truly deserving of the Library's Champion distinction.

Born and raised in Long Branch, New Jersey, John Pallone is an active member of the Long Branch community. In addition to serving as a Trustee of the Long Branch Free Public Library, John is a member of the Amerigo Vespucci Society and is involved with the Holy Name Society at Christ the King Parish. He is also a Long Branch City Councilman and a board member of the Long Branch Urban Enterprise Zone.

Jack Kearns worked in the telecommunications industry for over 30 years, serving as a Division Manager at AT&T before his retirement. Following his career with AT&T, Mr. Kearns pursued teaching, working as an adjunct professor with Boston University, the University of Colorado at Denver and Georgia Institute of Technology. Mr. Kearns also taught project management programs to manager-level individuals in government and the private sector. Most recently, Mr. Kearns is working as a local news journalist. He is also active in his community, serving as a member of the Long Branch Rotary Club and President of the Board of Trustees of the Long Branch Concordance.

Marsha Cohen and her family have been residents of Elberon, New Jersey for 15 years. In addition to raising her family and working in sales, Ms. Cohen is devoted to the arts. She recently exhibited her paintings at the Elberon Branch of the Long Branch Free Public Library and also offered art classes at the library. In addition to sharing her work with the library patrons, Ms. Cohen frequents the library weekly with her 6 children and 3 grandchildren, passing along her passion for reading.

A lifelong resident of Long Branch, New Jersey and a 2009 graduate of Long Branch High School, Emmanuel Itzol currently attends Brookdale Community College. His love for education is evident in the volunteer opportunities he undertakes with the Long Branch Public Schools and he has carried this passion into college, majoring in Elementary Education. Not only does Mr. Itzol like helping the community through volunteer projects, he also enjoys entertaining them and performs as a DJ at events.

The youngest of the Champions, Ashley Pape is a 7 year old 2nd grader with a love of stories. She is an avid reader and enjoys visiting museums to learn more about the subjects that interest her, including spiders, mummies and Egypt. Ashley also enjoys spending time at the beach and the pool, riding her bicycle, and drawing, among others. She is currently working toward becoming a Brownie within the Girl Scouts organization. Ashley hopes to one day be a scientist and President of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, once again please join me in congratulating John Pallone, Jack Kearns, Marsha Cohen, Emmanuel Itzol and Ashley Pape for their contributions to the Long Branch Free Public Library.

HONORING MR. BOBBY RUSH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a philanthropic and blues musician in his own rights, Mr. Bobby Rush, born Emmitt Ellis, Jr.; however he prefers to be called "Bobby Rush" in a one syllable pronunciation. The decision to change his name came simply out of respect for his father, Pastor Emmitt Ellis, Sr.; because Emmitt Ellis, Jr. wanted to be a Blues entertainer.

I could talk only about his career as a Blues artist and leave out the humanitarian side of Bobby Rush but I would be, as my mother used to say "short changing," him. Blues is his "love", but his compassion is people.

Bobby Rush started singing at an early age, around six, when he made his first instrument, a guitar, out of a broom. He started entertaining around ten years old, and formed his first band around age thirteen. Here are three eyebrow raising interesting facts about Bobby Rush. One, with his father being the pastor of perhaps at least two churches, he never sang in the choir but he certainly sang from his seat. Second, although his parents were devout church goers and gospel listeners, they never discouraged Bobby Rush from singing and performing the Blues. And, they never saw him perform but he said, "Every time I went home they had all my music already so I'm sure they kept up with me." And third, in getting started he often would role play himself performing and entertaining. Trying to mimic after other entertainers, he would ask his uncle about who was old enough to visit the clubs and watch them perform. He said he would add his own personal touch, of course.

Many people may not be aware of this but in 1951 he recorded his first song with Chess Records. Not only was he making history at Chess Records with other artists like Bo Diddly, Buddy Guy, Jimmy Rogers, Lowell Fulson, Memphis Slim, and others but he actually broke the color barrier around 1951 or 1952 when he became the first black entertainer to play on Bourbon Street on Chicago's Southside.

As a teenager, in 1953, he moved to Chicago with his family and began performing on the local blues scene. He also formed his own band. But it was in the 1970s when his career really started to take off with his first hit "Chicken Heads" on the Galaxy Record label. Bobby Rush has sold over 259 records on the Southern "Chitlin' Circuit."

Bobby Rush, like all other southern blues artist, could take a life-time telling stories about the highs and lows of his career. I'm sure he can tell you about how he faced racial issues, menial pay, his efforts to break the color barriers while out on tour in order to make a living so he could provide for his family, and even the disparaging work conditions he endured, to say the least.

Nevertheless, this veteran of the Blues has definitely established a name for himself among such great entertainers as, BB King, Howlin' Wolf, Solomon Burke, Ike and Tina Turner, Muddy Waters, Bobby Blue Bland, Etta James, Red Foxx, Otis Rush, Little Milton, Dick Gregory, and Sammy Davis, Jr. And by the way, many of these he performed with

and apprenticed under as well. He has sang in night clubs, at festivals, at charity events, and in concert halls all over the world—Chicago, Cleveland and Clarksdale Mississippi, Detroit, the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Poland, Japan, China, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Canada just to name a few places—and he is still traveling the world and performing.

In an interview back in the 90s with Stanley Booth, he said, "Until a few years ago, nobody knew I exist. Not really. I'm probably the only one livin' who have did as well as I've done, and nobody know nothin' about me." One of the reasons is because Bobby Rush has always been his own manager, never taking on anyone to manage him, answering his own phone calls, and booking his own shows and then showing up to perform—no imposter there! When I asked him about that comment, he said, "I'm just a Blues singer, I am just I am, the people's Blues singer. I never wanted to get too high where they couldn't reach me but I wanted to be high enough to be able to help them."

After a lifetime of achievement, in April 2000, the Mississippi Senate passed Resolution 43 honoring Bobby Rush for his musical career. Then in 2003, he started his own record label, Deep Rush, on which he cut his CD "*Undercover Lover*" while performing live at club Ground Zero in Clarksdale, Mississippi. He is also the owner of Rush Productions, Inc. Also in 2003, he was featured in Richard Pearce's documentary film "The Road to Memphis," which was part of the Martin Scorsese's film series "The Blues." His awards and recognitions include but are not limited to: *Best Live Performer of the Year*, *Best Blues Entertainer of the Year*, *Best Soul/Blues Album of the Year*, and the *James Brown Heritage Award*.

Mr. Bobby Rush is still breaking barriers in the last decade because he has finally crossed over to white audiences; race is not the face of entertaining any longer but rather—whether or not the artist is good at what he does, and that he is.

Like he said back in the 90s, nobody knew he existed a few years earlier. But, I want to help make sure people know there is more to Bobby Rush than a Blues song. I stated earlier, "Blues is his 'love', but his compassion is people."

Throughout his career, he has met people with circumstances that have reminded him of himself. For example, at one time in his Blues career he was too poor to afford health insurance, so as a result, his wife and three children died of sickle cell anemia. So, because of that he is always giving to support sickle cell anemia research. Blues in the Schools Program is a program he started because he wanted to help the Blues stay alive through our children! You can certainly make a living singing the Blues and be able to help someone in the process. Computers in Schools is another program he supports; once, he donated all the proceeds from an event to buy thousands of dollars worth of computers for West Tallahatchie County School District in Tallahatchie County, MS.

And his humanitarian journey continues. Bobby Rush travels the country putting on a pulse racing—finger popping Annual Red White and Blues Jam for Veterans. He mentors other artists, just like Albert King, Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, and Little Milton took him under their wings and mentored him as a