

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 Concourse.

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

teenager. And if that's not enough, he is always offering to perform at charity events to help small communities raise money throughout the Delta.

So, after migrating from his birthplace in Homer, Louisiana, after getting an early start on his Blues career when he moved to Chicago in 1953, and recording his first number one hit eighteen years later in 1971, with six decades of singing the Blues, Bobby Rush has settled on his Mississippi roots in Jackson, Mississippi in 1983. His great-grandmother and grandfather were from Jackson, Mississippi. And I am glad to be working on his behalf as well.

When Bobby Rush is not out of state touring or participating in a charity event, you just might catch him performing for fun and entertainment at a local night club somewhere in Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a humanitarian and blues musician from the Second Congressional District of Mississippi, Mr. Bobby Rush.

RECOGNIZING BROOKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S 12TH ANNUAL VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to recognize Brooks Elementary School's 12th annual Veteran's Day Program in Fayette County, Georgia, on November 9, 2012. This is a momentous event for the 3rd district, and I am proud to help honor the service and sacrifice of our nation's brave veterans so that we may live free.

This is the 12th consecutive year that the Brooks Community has invited Veterans to their school to honor their service to our country. The annual program includes a breakfast for these brave men and women and the school uses the occasion to express their gratitude and appreciation. The breakfast is followed by a program presented by the elementary students and the Sandy Creek Color Guard. Lastly, there is a parade with the Veterans and their families around the town of Brooks featuring the Whitewater High School Marching Band.

In the past, more than 120 veterans have attended the program and this year they are expecting even more. This program is a testament of Brooks Elementary School's mission to strive for excellence by creating an environment that is focused on improving academic performance, and providing opportunities that develop responsible citizens and lifelong achievers. I know that this program has taught the students of Brooks Elementary the value of patriotism, which is an essential part of each American's education.

I would like to thank all of our Veterans and the Brooks community that have continually made the Veteran's Day Program a success. It is vital that students everywhere are taught the importance of our history and national service firsthand, like the students of Brooks Element in Fayette County, Georgia.

PLAINS SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Paul Gosiewski, James Jesikiewicz, Stephen Krushnowski, Heather Susek, and Alfonso Zangardi for their induction into the Plains Sports Hall of Fame in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Plains Sports Hall of Fame recognizes local athletes who demonstrate a lifelong commitment to athletics and have excelled in sports both during and after high school and college.

Mr. Gosiewski graduated from Plains Memorial High School in 1957 where he served as a starting guard for the Red Raiders. After graduation, Mr. Gosiewski served in the United States Marine Corps for 12 years and competed as a member of the Marine Corps wrestling team.

Mr. Jesikiewicz graduated from Coughlin High School in 1983 where he was a member of the golf and basketball teams. During his time on the basketball team, James scored 1,069 points and recorded 624 assists for the Crusaders. He was named a Wyoming Valley Conference All Star in 1982 and 1983.

Mr. Krushnowski graduated from Coughlin High School in 1990 where he was a varsity letter-winning member of the football, wrestling, and basketball teams. Mr. Krushnowski continued his wrestling career at Mansfield University and was a three-time place finisher in the NCAA Division II national qualifier.

Ms. Susek graduated from Coughlin High School in 2007 where she was a member of the soccer, track and field, and field hockey teams. As a member of the Syracuse University field hockey team, Heather was selected to the Big East All Conference Team in 2010 and was named Co-Offensive Player of the Year in 2011.

Mr. Zangardi is a graduate of Seton Catholic High School where he participated in golf, basketball, and baseball. As a member of the Plains American Legion baseball team, he received the Rookie of the Year Award in 1995 and the Coach's Award in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, today it is with great pleasure that I commend Paul Gosiewski, James Jesikiewicz, Stephen Krushnowski, Heather Susek, and Alfonso Zangardi as they are inducted into the Plains Sports Hall of Fame.

HONORING MR. FRED FLOWERS

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 remarkable gospel singer, Fred Flowers. Mr. Flowers was raised in Shelby, Mississippi by his parents Mr. Nathaniel Flowers and Mary Pippins.

Mr. Flowers attended church regularly and sang gospel songs at the request of his grandmother Ms. Mary Hall. Upon graduating from Shelby High School he attended Rust College in Holly Springs, Mississippi where he enjoyed listening to the renowned Rust College

Acapella Choir. It was during this time he developed a love for Acapella singing. After graduating from Rust College with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Biology, he furthered his education at Coahoma Community College, graduating with a Certificate in Practical Nursing. He also attended Mississippi Delta Community College graduating with an Associate Degree in Nursing, and Delta State University where he received a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Nursing. Mr. Flowers has worked 16 years as an Emergency Nursing specialist. His colleagues tell stories of Fred singing gospel songs to his patients which calms their fears.

After marrying Ms. Kerrin Williams and moving to Ruleville, Mississippi, he joined Delmar Avenue Church of Christ and made a decision that he was going to do more than sing privately in his car, at home or to his patients. Fred began to take the lead role singing church songs. He enjoys singing at church because his singing provides encouragement to the hearts and souls of the congregation. His singing has impacted his four sons, Darrell, Deracius, Fredarian and Justin so much that they enjoy harmonizing with him during their family activities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Fred Flowers as an inspirational gospel singer.

HIGHLY QUALIFIED PROVISION ATTACHED TO H.J. RES. 117, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION OF 2013

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2012

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Representative HINOJOSA submit the following: Educational success depends on well-prepared, qualified, and effective teachers, leaders and other support professionals. We believe that establishing and continuing to improve programs that train, develop, and support these professions must be integral in elementary and secondary education.

Unfortunately, we know that in too many states and districts across the country, students with the greatest needs are being taught by teachers with little or no training, including those enrolled in alternative route teacher preparation programs. That is why we are glad H.J. Res. 117 requires the Department of Education to provide to Congress—and the Nation—comprehensive information on the extent to which our highest-need students, including students with disabilities, English learners, students from rural communities, and low-income students, are being taught by teachers-in-training who are enrolled in alternative route programs, disaggregated by state and district, as well as by student subgroups. The data that will be included in this report should be made public and disseminated to parents and other interested parties so that it is understandable and actionable.

Specifically, the provision requires the Secretary of Education to submit a report to Congress by 12/31/13 that provides a comprehensive picture, with state-level and LEA data, on the extent to which the following categories of