

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
SWEENEY CIVIC CLUB

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, on April 29, 2012, the Sweeny Civic Club, the oldest female civic service organization in Brazoria County, Texas, will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its founding by six Texas women whose goal was to form an organization "to do good works and charitable deeds." I am pleased to congratulate the members of the club on their century of service to the community of Sweeny, Texas.

The Sweeny Civic Club led the effort to create the Sweeney public school system and the Sweeney Public library. Supporting education remains a passion of the Sweeny Civic Club to this day. The club's work to ensure the children of Sweeney obtain a first-class education alone makes them worthy of commendation. However, the Sweeny Civic Club's contributions are hardly limited to education. The Sweeny Civic Club has played a vital role in making sure the people of Sweeny have access to quality health care by working to build and support the Sweeny Community Hospital. They also played a key role in building the Sweeny Cemetery. These are just some of the many ways the members of the club have worked to fulfill their objective "to promote civic and social improvement through organized efforts and to promote the interests and improvement of the City of Sweeney."

The highlight of the 100th anniversary celebration will be the unveiling and dedication of "Lady Civic," a life-sized statue of a woman in 19th century fashion. "Lady Civics" symbolizes the Sweeny Civic Club's founders, and is the club's latest gift to the city of Sweeney. This statue is a fitting tribute to all the women who have worked with the Sweeny Civics Club, freely dedicating their time and talents to improving the lives of their fellow residents of Sweeny.

The Sweeny Civic Club's 1900 years of service to their community stands as a shining example of how citizens acting together can better their communities. The Sweeny Civic Club's many accomplishments should serve as model and inspiration to us all. It is therefore my pleasure to offer my congratulations to the Sweeny Civic Club on their centennial and extend my best wishes for many more years of service to the people of Sweeny.

HONORING CARNELL EDWARD SMITH, 54TH ILLUSTRIOUS POTENTATE OF OMAN TEMPLE NO. 72 OASIS OF FLINT-DESERT OF MICHIGAN

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carnell Edward Smith on the occasion of the Oman Temple No. 72 Annual Potentate Ball on May 5, 2012 where Shriners in my hometown of Flint, Michigan will celebrate the esteemed Illustrious Potentate Smith.

The Shriners of Oman Temple No. 72 of the Ancient Egyptian Arabian Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine have a long and distinguished 54-year history of charitable work and community outreach that has been a Shrine Organization tradition since 1893. Educational scholarships, illiteracy programs, medical research, anti-drug programs, crime prevention and the fight against the Sickle Cell disease and diabetes are just a few of the contributions Shriners across America have made throughout their long history.

Illustrious Potentate Carnell Edward Smith, who received his Master of Business Administration in 2007, is currently enrolled in a program of applied management and decision science leading to a Doctorate of Philosophy. He has been a dedicated Mason for more than 10 years and it is fitting that this talented community servant is being honored as Oman Temple No. 72 58th Illustrious Potentate.

Carnell Edward Smith serves my constituents on a daily basis as a skilled Internet, data and hardware technology specialist with the City of Flint. Over the years he has been involved in numerous charitable activities benefiting the American Diabetes Association, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Meals on Wheels and providing Thanksgiving dinner for needy families in his community. Working with a local community group, Illustrious Potentate Smith helped adopt a classroom at Carpenter Elementary School to provide financial support for students. Carnell Edward Smith is a remarkable and accomplished leader and an exemplary model for Shriners and all of us who value community service and civic dedication.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Illustrious Potentate Carnell Edward Smith, a distinguished leader from my hometown of Flint, Michigan who is being honored at the Oman Temple No. 72 Annual Potentate Ball.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for rollcall vote No. 152, I would have voted "yes."

BOROUGH OF DUNMORE,
PENNSYLVANIA

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Borough of Dunmore, Pennsylvania, which celebrated its 150th anniversary of being incorporated as an independent borough on April 10, 2012. Dunmore is a vital part of Northeastern Pennsylvania, and it has a proud history.

Although Dunmore was incorporated as a borough in 1862, its roots date back as far as 1783, when founder William Allsworth first settled in the area. Allsworth opened a tavern that served the subsequent settlers and travelers. Like many other communities in the region, Dunmore underwent a great change

once anthracite coal became a major source of energy used to power our nation. During the Industrial Revolution, immigrants from Europe settled in Dunmore in hope of starting a new life. In the process, they built a strong community that would last for future generations.

Over the years, Dunmore's men and women have defended this nation in times of conflict. In fact, Dunmore resident, Carol Ann Drazba, was the first female casualty of the Vietnam War when her helicopter crashed in 1966. Dunmore's youth need only to look to NASA astronaut, Paul Richards, who graduated from Dunmore High School in 1982, for inspiration to see what is possible when they are determined to succeed. Rising to the occasion is what Dunmore's residents do every day through their hard work and dedication to improve their community.

Although the trolley cars and steam engines may be gone, many Dunmore establishments have stood the test of time. Financial institutions like Fidelity Deposit and Discount Bank and the First National Bank of Dunmore have served customers from their locations on Dunmore Corners for more than 100 years. Also, Dunmore High School, though newly renovated, has remained in the same statuesque building since 1937. In addition, Holy Cross High School resides in the former Bishop O'Hara High School and Dunmore Central Catholic buildings, which were built in 1964. The high school continues to educate students from throughout Lackawanna County under the Diocese of Scranton.

Mr. Speaker, today, Dunmore remains an important community in Northeastern Pennsylvania due to both its history and future. I commend Dunmore's residents for their 150 years of being a vital part of our region, and I wish them continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF HOUSE PARLIAMENTARIAN JOHN SULLIVAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of John Sullivan upon the completion of his exemplarily service as Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives. For 25 years Parliamentarian Sullivan's unsurpassed knowledge and dedication to the integrity of his office has proven to be an indispensable asset to the work of this institution.

It is clear that Parliamentarian Sullivan cares deeply for this country. Before becoming Parliamentarian, Mr. Sullivan had served in the Office of the Parliamentarian for seventeen years. He also acted as counsel to the Armed Services Committee, as well as Judge Advocate in the U.S. Air Force for seven years.

Parliamentarian Sullivan has earned the admiration of many through his demonstrated ability to provide essential and unbiased advice which few others could provide. In a town often divided along partisan lines, Parliamentarian Sullivan has faithfully served as the rare voice of independence which has garnered respect from both sides of the aisle. His commitment to his post and colleagues has ensured that the office which he is leaving is sufficiently capable of maintaining his high standard of performance.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues please join me in recognizing the career of House Parliamentarian John Sullivan and wishing him and his family all the best in the future.

HONORING THE SISTERS OF
LORETTO

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary and continued legacy of the Sisters of Loretto upon their 200th Anniversary and Jubilee. With a current global reach in education ministry spanning multiple continents, the Sisters of Loretto and their extended network spend each day on a spiritual mission to promote peace and justice, environmental stewardship, and, above all, high-quality education for children everywhere.

On April 25, 1812, the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross came to fruition through the humble and steadfast commitment of three American frontier women in central Kentucky named Mary Rhodes, Ann Havern and Christina Stuart. With the long-time counsel and support of local pastor, Father Charles Nerinckx, the women dedicated their lives to communal living and prayer. Little did they know at the time, that their lifetime commitment to teaching local poor children and housing orphans would spur a global movement.

The women's selfless work under extreme frontier conditions inspired scores of other women to join the religious order. In a model of faith and service, the Sisters made their special purpose the education and instruction of girls and young women of every faith and economic means, including those still enslaved under the law. Over the next two decades, membership grew to 130 women overseeing nine frontier schools in Kentucky and Missouri. And over the next century, they founded 99 additional schools in territories that would become 13 different states.

The Sisters of Loretto continued to expand the work of education westward, first by steamboat to Missouri and Louisiana. Then, by wagon train to New Mexico, mail coach to Colorado, and by train to Texas, Arizona and California. Ultimately, the order contributed to burgeoning systems of American education in more than 40 states. In one chapter of Sisters of Loretto history from 1898 to 1922, the visionary leadership of Superior General Mother Praxedes Carly SL brought greater emphasis to women's higher education goals. Mother Praxedes was one of the first leaders of her time to insist that Loretto Sisters would need master's- and doctorate-level educational training for their teaching. In 1916, a time when universities were almost exclusively off-limits to women, Mother Praxedes erected Loretto College for women in St. Louis, Missouri (now known as Webster University).

From being among the first invited women participants at Vatican II to moving toward greater, independent social peace and justice efforts in the 20th century, the organization has had a presence in China (as early as 1923), Europe, South and Central America (Guatemala, Bolivia and Peru), as well as in recent years, Uganda, Pakistan and Ghana, where they co-opened Blessed Trinity Leader-

ship Academy in 2009. The Sisters of Loretto have formed amazing partnerships with local organizations on the ground and have galvanized a network of co-member volunteers. To name a few of its many roles, the Loretto Community NGO has consultative status at the United Nations and comprises a Loretto Hunger Fund, as well as a Committee for Racial Justice. The Sisters have also built memorials for victims of slavery as well as those who have died from AIDS.

Clearly, the trailblazing roots of this frontier organization, have persisted and flourished over the last 200 years. Altogether, the Sisters of Loretto and their colleagues have founded nearly 300 U.S. schools, colleges, centers and service programs, supporting the education and growth of close to one million American citizens. And, as a proud former student of the Sisters of Loretto at St. Joseph School in El Paso, Texas, and 2002 recipient of their Mary Rhodes Award for peace and justice, I know firsthand what their movement for quality women's education has done for our nation, and the world. They planted the seeds for my work for peace and justice. And for that, I am deeply grateful.

Therefore, on behalf of California's 9th Congressional District, I salute the Sisters of Loretto and thank them for their immense service. I congratulate all of you upon this incredible milestone, and join you in looking ahead toward centuries' more work from the Sisters of Loretto in pursuit of education, enlightenment, peace and progress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the House on April 16, 2012 due to important commitments in my district.

On rollcall 152, had I been present I would have voted "yea" on H.R. 3001, the Raoul Wallenberg Centennial Celebration Act.

On rollcall 153, had I been present I would have voted "yea" on H.R. 4040, providing for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Jack Nicklaus in recognition of his service to the Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LATE
HONORABLE DONALD M. PAYNE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the late Honorable Donald M. Payne, so that we may commemorate his extraordinary life of dedication and commitment to service.

Born in 1952 in Newark, New Jersey, he graduated from Seton Hall University and pursued post graduate studies at Springfield College. A former English and social studies teacher, he also coached football at Malcolm X Shabazz High School, which was then called South Side High School. He was Vice-President of Urban Data Systems Inc. as well

as an executive at Prudential Financial. In 1970, he became the first African-American president of the National Council of YMCAs.

Representative Payne entered public life in 1972 when he was elected to the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Ten years later he was elected to the Newark Municipal Council where he served three terms. In 1988, Donald became the Representative of New Jersey's 10th Congressional District, and the first African-American to represent New Jersey in Congress. As Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, he was a relentless defender and supporter of education related issues. He was an inspiration and a friend.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Hazel Johnson, and is succeeded by son Donald Jr., daughters Wanda and Nicole, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues please join me in sending our condolences to the family and friends of Donald M. Payne who so faithfully cared for and served his community.

HONORING THEODORA J. KALIKOW

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Theodora J. Kalikow on the occasion of her retirement as President of the University of Maine at Farmington.

Since Dr. Kalikow's arrival at the University of Maine at Farmington in 1994, the university has gained national recognition as one of America's top public liberal arts colleges and is a superior model of educational excellence and academic opportunity.

As President, Dr. Kalikow has overseen the addition of many new degree programs and has presided over the construction of new campus facilities, including a community arts center, an education center, and a residence hall. She has also focused on expanding student opportunities for internships and undergraduate research.

Another of Dr. Kalikow's notable accomplishments at UMF has been her tireless pursuit of high environmental sustainability standards. Under her leadership, the University of Maine at Farmington is now recognized as one of America's "Top Green Colleges" by the Princeton Review. Dr. Kalikow's environmental efforts earned her the Green Building Leadership Award from the Maine Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council in 2007.

Dr. Kalikow has received recognition within the state of Maine for her contributions to the community of Farmington and to the state at large. In 2001, she was inducted into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame. She has also been the recipient of the University of Maine's Maryann Hartman Award and the University of New England's Deborah Morton Award.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Dr. Theodora J. Kalikow for her many years of dedication and service to the state of Maine.