

IN HONOR OF BISHOP H.H. BROOKINS—CONCLUDES A LIFE OF SERVICE

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the African Methodist Episcopal Church's Bishop Hamel Hartford Brookins—widely known as Bishop H.H. Brookins—went to be with his heavenly father on Tuesday, May 22. He died in Los Angeles at the age of 86.

I first became acquainted with Bishop H.H. Brookins as the Board Chairman of my father's organization, Operation PUSH. He was a great preacher with a commitment to civil rights and economic and political justice on a national and international scale. He served in a variety of AME church districts in the U.S. and Africa throughout his distinguished religious career, and was known as an activist, a visionary and a great church leader committed to justice for all. He was an early supporter and played an important role in mobilizing the religious community in my father's two presidential campaigns.

In 2002 former President Bill Clinton joined a host of religious luminaries, elected officials and celebrities in a tribute to Bishop Brookins, the son of Mississippi sharecroppers who rose to become a Los Angeles and international champion of black political empowerment. The former President praised Brookins for his civil rights legacy and reminisced about the days when the clergyman ministered in a country church in Arkansas while he was the Governor.

Bishop Brookins became active politically in the 1950s when, as a clergyman in Topeka, Kansas he helped to implement the 1954 Brown desegregation decision and plan ordered by the U.S. Supreme Court. In 1965 he worked to quell the Watts riots. He was an architect of Tom Bradley's campaigns for Los Angeles mayor and, while working in Africa, was ousted from Rhodesia because of his work on behalf of the Zimbabwe liberation movement. In 1981 Zimbabwe invited him back for its first presidential inauguration.

Bishop Brookins was born in Yazoo City, Mississippi. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Ohio's Wilberforce University and a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Payne Seminary. Prior to his election as a bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Bishop Brookins served as the pastor of the First AME Church of Los Angeles, California leading the congregation through the building of a multi-million dollar cathedral at its present location on Harvard Boulevard in Los Angeles.

Bishop Brookins is survived by his wife, the Rev. Rosalynn Kyle Brookins, pastor of the Walker Temple AME Church in Los Angeles and their son, Wellington Hartford Brookins and two stepchildren, Steven Hartford Brookins and the Rev. Francine A. Brookins. His family and numerous friends were at his bedside when he died.

IN RECOGNITION OF SAKS HIGH SCHOOL LADY WILDCATS SOFTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention to pay recognition to the Saks High School Lady Wildcat's softball team in Saks, Alabama, who recently won the Alabama High School Athletic Association Class 3A State Championship.

Pitcher Taylor West along with her teammates was able to pull off a perfect game to clinch this year's championship title. This is the first State Championship for the Lady Wildcats. They are lead by Head Coach Mike Tucker.

All of us across Calhoun County and East Alabama are deeply proud of these talented young Alabamians. I'd like to congratulate the team, their coaches and Saks High School on this outstanding achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, on May 30, 2012 I was unavoidably delayed due to a mechanical problem during travel causing me to miss rollcall vote No. 296 on H.R. 915, the Jamie Zapata Border Enforcement Security Task Force Act. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT L. TURNER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. TURNER of New York. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 294, I was away from the floor due to a memorial service for first responders at the World Trade Center Memorial in New York. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN DAVIS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a young man who did not wear a uniform, but did lay down his life on behalf of this great Nation. Kevin Davis, of Houston, Texas lost his life on Christmas Day, 2010 at Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan when he was struck by shrapnel from indirect fire. Kevin's chest and abdomen were hit and he later succumbed to his wounds.

Kevin worked as a contracting Warehouse man for DynCorp International, supporting our

troops. He was serving as part of the Army's Logistic Civil Augmentation Program in the southern region of Afghanistan. This civil augmentation program is the Army component of a military effort to engage U.S. companies in providing a broad range of support services for U.S. and allied forces during combat, peacekeeping, humanitarian, and training operations.

These services include supply operations, such as the delivery of food, water, fuel, spare parts, and other items. They provide field operations, such as dining and laundry facilities, housing, sanitation, waste management, postal services, and other operations; including engineering and construction, support to communication networks (IT), transportation and cargo services, and facilities maintenance and repair.

Civilians like Kevin Davis provide critical support for the men and women defending our liberty.

After Kevin graduated from Kashmere High School with honors in 1990, he received a certification in Paint and Auto Repairs from Houston Community College. He worked with the Metropolitan Transit Authority as a bus operator and auto body mechanic for 16 years. After working for the Metropolitan Transit Authority, Kevin worked as a civilian contractor providing support for our Armed Forces.

Kevin was also an active and devoted member of Riverwood Missionary Baptist Church. He is survived by his mother, Francis Murray, his sister, Taniesha Davis, and a daughter, Ashley Milburn. Kevin, like the many civilian contractors who provide support to our military, served an important function in the Global War on Terror and his sacrifice for America will never be forgotten.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION REFORM ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this bill is the result of hard work by our committee. I especially want to thank Chairmen UPTON and PITTS and Ranking Members WAXMAN and PALLONE and I am proud that our committee is setting an example for bipartisan compromise and productive governing.

Contained in the FDA Reform Act is the GAIN Act, a bill introduced by Congressman GINGREY and myself, which is aimed at incentivizing the development of new antibiotics that will fight the serious and life threatening infections that mankind will face in the coming years.

The GAIN Act provisions of this bill represent a careful bipartisan balance that appropriately protects patient safety and responsibly offers incentives to innovative drug companies seeking the cures to our world's most deadly bacterial pathogens such as extensively drug resistant tuberculosis, MRSA, and others that we are currently ill-equipped to treat. Currently, we are unable to manage many significant public health threats posed by these pathogens.

While a widespread public health threat is in our future, some people in this country are

dying today as a result of drug resistance and super bugs. We hear a lot about the challenges of South East Asia, but our health professionals are confronting bacterial infections that are resistant to all currently available antibiotics.

Recently, the World Health Organization Director-General said "things as common as strep throat or a child's scratched knee could once again kill. Hip replacements, organ transplants, cancer chemotherapy and care of preterm infants would become far more difficult or even too dangerous to undertake" due to the rising threat of super bugs.

According to providers I've heard from, drug resistance is already a distinct problem in the front lines of our nation's health delivery.

For example, in one instance, a 15 year old girl got her ears pierced. Her earlobes swelled and got red. She went to the emergency room and was admitted for IV antibiotics. The infection was resistant to the usual antibiotics and she became septic and died.

There are many other cases in which minor injuries and simple procedures produce unexpected complications because of the emerging threat of drug resistance.

Because of the nature of this threat, I urge my colleagues as this heads to the floor and hopefully to conference, that no changes are made to the GAIN provisions to further limit incentives or reduce the list of pathogens. The truth is we do not know what the specific public health threat will be and once it is on top of us it is too late. We have to be prepared and part of this preparedness is getting our drug companies to develop drugs that may not be profit blockbusters but are necessary to help protect us from public health crises.

With the help of Chairman UPTON and Ranking Member WAXMAN, we have struck a careful balance. I strongly oppose any changes to the GAIN Act in an eventual conference with the Senate. I am concerned that any changes could create lopsided incentives that lead to unnecessary drugs or, alternatively, remove incentives and result in too few, if any, drugs.

I believe the GAIN Act as included in this bill, as well as the entire bill, are good policy. The FDA Reform Act deserves to be passed by the House and I strongly urge my colleagues to support it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote Nos. 250, 251 and 252. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote Nos. 250, 251 and 252.

RECOGNIZING DR. SHETAL I. SHAH

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Shetal I. Shah,

MD, FAAP, who this year celebrates his fifth anniversary serving as Legislative Chairman for the Long Island Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Dr. Shah is a lifelong resident of Long Island after his parents, Dr. Indravadan C. Shah, MD, FACS and Dr. Saroj Shah, MD, FACOG emigrated from India over 40 years ago. Upon earning degrees from Princeton, Cornell, Duke and New York Universities, Dr. Shah returned to Long Island as a pediatrician and neonatologist, focusing his work on caring for vulnerable and critically-ill newborns.

In his capacity as Legislative Chairman, Dr. Shah has provided thorough analyses of health care policy proposals and their impact on the welfare of children on Long Island. He has served as a valuable resource on important topics such as immunization policy, research funding for child health, and children's health insurance coverage.

Dr. Shah's expertise was particularly valuable during the 111th Congress as House and Senate committees worked to draft the Affordable Care Act. Guided by the American Academy of Pediatrics, Dr. Shah ably assisted my office in understanding the impact of the various legislative proposals on children's health, providing a local context in which to frame my assessment and support of the final legislation.

In addition to providing intensive care to premature infants at Stony Brook Long Island Children's Hospital, Dr. Shah's immunization research and subsequent advocacy work has resulted in the passage of two New York State laws aimed at protecting newborns from influenza and whooping cough, both of which can be life-threatening to young children. He has been recognized as a "Physician-Leader" by the American Medical Association, is a former Fulbright Scholar, and has been honored by the American Association of Physicians from India.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Shah has been an ardent advocate for our nation's children and I thank him for his contributions to the policymaking process. On behalf of New York's first congressional district, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Dr. Shah on his accomplishments in the field of pediatric and child health and extend best wishes to him and his family on this celebratory occasion.

RECOGNIZING BATTLEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL'S ROBOTICS AND TECHNOLOGY TEAMS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Inspiring Leaders in Technology and Engineering, ILITE, Robotics Team at Battlefield High School in Haymarket, Virginia, for its outstanding performance in winning the FIRST Robotics World Championship.

Ninety thousand students from around the world competed in the FIRST Robotics competition. Battlefield's FIRST Tech Challenge team won the world championship title at the world championship in St. Louis, Missouri, this April, while the First Robotics Competition, FRC, team finished as a quarter-finalist. Both teams won awards at the regional and state

level prior to participating in the world championship.

I was pleased to visit Battlefield High School on May 21, and meet with students from the robotics team after their championship victory. Educating American students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, STEM, is critical to maintaining U.S. competitiveness, and I commend ILITE Robotics at Battlefield High School on their success.

The ILITE Robotics Team is coached by Professor Gail Drake, and is comprised of: Chris Blaylock, Gaelan Dean, Jon Gallion, Aaron Guo, Logan Hambrick, John Hitt, Jacob Hogan, Natalie Jones, Terri Jones, Joel Kaminski, Colin Kauv, Kent Komine, Jakob Kressel, William Lahann, Jaehoon Lee, Daniel Lopez, Jacob Maltbie, Joseph Melir, Alex Missar, Deanna Moser, Matt Moser, Sara O'Malley, Garrett Ormond, Wonsik (David) Park, David Powell, Rainier Rabena, Cary Reese, Melanie Sattler, Erik Seastead, Joanna Senseng, Clayton Shablom, Donny Shaw, Justin Shaw, Jordan Soriano, Evan Teitelman, Michael Toman, Logan Wilding.

ON THE OCCASION OF SUPER-INTENDENT DR. JOANN ANDREES' RETIREMENT FROM THE WEST BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Dr. JoAnn Andrees, as she retires from her position as Superintendent of the West Bloomfield Public School System (WBPS), which she has held since 2008.

Dr. Andrees' tenure in primary and secondary public education exemplifies the passion and commitment of a true public servant. Throughout her time at WBPS, Dr. Andrees has held many different roles in the system from being a special education teacher to Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. She has also served as a guidance counselor, Assistant Principal at West Bloomfield High School (WBHS) and Principal of Abbott Middle School and WBHS. With a career that spans so many perspectives within public education, Dr. Andrees has developed a dynamic and unique perspective that has given her the insight needed to design and implement many programs that have benefited not only the youth of West Bloomfield but also the broader community.

With her knowledge and leadership, Dr. Andrees has overseen the creation of a number of programs within WBPS. One such program that she created while she was Assistant Superintendent was a strategic plan aligning the curriculum of all schools within the WBPS system. Dr. Andrees also used her background in special education to create the Oakland Opportunity Academy, an adult postsecondary education program for individuals with special needs. With an eye toward providing all WBPS students with the environment to excel, she supported programs which have helped minority students close the education gap. Additionally, through partnerships she helped to forge with Ford Motor Company and Henry Ford Health Systems, the students of