

the compromise reflected in this legislation. The Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge is strong and sturdy and made of steel, just like Stan Musial and the veterans who risked their lives to keep us free.

HONORING MR. JAMAL BROCK

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding young man making a difference in his school, Charleston High School in Tallahatchie County, MS, Mr. Jamal Brock.

At the age of thirteen, Jamal started his own tutoring program right in his backyard called, "Jamal's Backyard Tutoring." He had the help and support of Ms. Gerline Garvin a well respected mother and grandmother also in the community. He said it was tough but felt the biggest need of this community was to education the children, feeling it was their only hope to change the community and individual lives.

Jamal's tutoring program taught basic life skills, in addition to helping students with homework. The program operated year round that included summer and holidays. During the holidays he would work the students on community projects of giving back, sowing the seeds of community and support. While in school, Jamal is just as active as the Senior Class President. They plan and carryout fundraising activities to pay for planned projects and trips. Jamal is currently in the process of spear heading active participation in the community relations project for racial reconciliation with the William Winters Institute. I am proud to have Jamal Brock as a citizen of the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Jamal Brock for his current active role as a student making a difference.

SMITHSONIAN FREE ADMISSION
ACT OF 2013

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Smithsonian Free Admission Act of 2013 to reinforce 170 years of consistent Smithsonian Institution policy of admitting the public to all permanent exhibits without charge. This policy has served the nation well. Families come to Washington, D.C. to learn about their country through its public monuments and sites. While the private amenities here can be costly for the average family, Americans have looked forward to the free museums and other official offerings for generations. The Smithsonian's free admission policy reflects the intent of its founder, John Smithson, whose gift to the federal government carried the condition that the Smithsonian be established to increase the knowledge of the public, free of charge. The bill establishing the Smithsonian, introduced by Senator William C. Preston on February 17, 1841, stat-

ed explicitly that the Smithsonian would "preserve and exhibit with no fee" all works of art and science. This intent and tradition was interrupted by the Smithsonian's Board of Regents, which, without notice to Congress, said casually that it would charge an admission fee for a permanent exhibit for the first time in its history, and on January 29, 2007, the Smithsonian instituted a fee for admission to the National Museum of Natural History's Butterfly Pavilion. Congress, of course, not the Board of Regents, should decide so basic a policy, especially when it departs from long-standing public policy. This admission fee sets a harmful precedent for future permanent exhibits, making it difficult to deny the other Smithsonian entities that right and may encourage other Smithsonian entities to structure their exhibits to fit the Butterfly Pavilion model.

The Butterfly Pavilion opened on February 14, 2008. Although the Smithsonian had previously charged fees for films and shows, such as IMAX films, the National Air and Space Museum's Planetarium, and the National Zoo's Christmas Lights special, the \$6 admission fee for the Butterfly Pavilion marked the first time an admission fee was charged for a permanent exhibit. My bill requires a report to Congress in advance of any proposed fees and requires the Secretary of the Smithsonian to submit a plan for funding the Butterfly Pavilion without an admission fee.

The Smithsonian Modernization Act, which I am also introducing today, addresses the Smithsonian's fundraising capacity by restructuring and expanding the Smithsonian's Board of Regents, from a board almost half of whose members are public officials to a board consisting solely of private citizens, who have greater experience and fundraising capacity than public officials. The fundraising ability of the Smithsonian was clear in the opening of the National Portrait Gallery, for example, where, according to a Congressional Research Service (CRS) report (RL 33560), donors contributed funds for the new auditorium and roof over the courtyard of the National Portrait Gallery. This private fundraising capability would be enhanced by my bill.

The Smithsonian Modernization Act and similar measures, not admission fees, provide the most realistic vehicles to raise funds for the Smithsonian without cost to the government or to the public. Admission fees can bring in only token amounts. According to CRS, the Smithsonian has long prided itself on "free access." Admission fees are not the answer for taxpayers, who have already paid through the federal government's 70 percent contribution to this public institution's annual budget. Federal taxpayers do not expect to pay again through an admission fee to a federally financed institution.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL
WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join the rest of the country in observing National Women's Health Week during the week of May 12th through the 18th. As the

well-being of all Americans is important, our women have been and will always be the backbone of this country. We must continue to protect and encourage women in their efforts to stay healthy.

National Women's Health Week was initiated by President Barack Obama in 2012 as a result of the Affordable Care Act, which I proudly sponsored. The President believes in honoring women by demanding gender equality in the health arena. Reportedly, women pay higher health insurance premiums than men. The Affordable Care Act prohibits discrimination against women, including making it illegal for insurance companies to deny coverage for women who have preexisting conditions such as cancer or pregnancy.

I encourage all women to make their health a priority this year and schedule professional, health care visits for regular check-ups and preventative screening. Many times, women are often caring for others that they pay less attention to their health—physically, mentally, and emotionally. I commend organizations that provide women with preventative services, such as New York's own Harlem Healthy Living and Community Healthy Network.

We must recommit ourselves to caring for the well-being of women everywhere. This year, I stand with my fellow colleagues in Congress to continue providing services that protect and secure women and their well-being.

HONORING DONOVAN MITCHELL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Donovan Mitchell, a dedicated student, who is making the difference in his community.

Growing up in Holmes County, one does not usually hear many success stories involving education; however, there are some exceptions. Donovan Mitchell is one of them.

Education has always been one of the most important things in his life, mostly due to the fact that he was raised by a family of educators. His grandparents, mother, aunt, and uncle have all served as teachers in elementary and/or high schools. From a young age, they made sure that he understood the importance of obtaining a good education.

Throughout elementary and high school he received stellar grades. He even went so far as to score the highest mark on the ACT test out of his entire graduating class. At that time, his grandmother worked for the Community Students Learning Center. After noticing Donovan's constant educational success, she suggested that he volunteer as a tutor at the center. As a result, Donovan spent the majority of his senior year tutoring younger students in mathematics. Eventually, the center established a division where he specifically tutored students who were preparing to take the ACT test. The tutoring sessions were very beneficial by improving their ACT scores and positioned students to attend their colleges of choice. Also while volunteering, Donovan participated in various community service events. The most notable event was his portrayal of the former Rep. Robert Clark in a play about his life. He continued working with the center

until he graduated. Afterwards the Community Students Learning Center hired him to assist in teaching mathematics for their summer program. He spent the entire summer working with the center, and positioned himself to be the recipient of a scholarship from the Congressional Black Caucus.

Donovan attends Jackson State University where he is a senior political science major. While in college he has continued his educational success. He has received numerous awards such as Most Outstanding Student in Political Science both his sophomore and junior year, and being recognized on the Dean's List every year. Last summer, Donovan was accepted to study public policy at Princeton University in the Public Policy and International Affairs program. Upon completion of this program, he received many scholarships to Ivy League schools such as Harvard and Princeton. Donovan is currently finishing his last semester and will be obtaining his B.A. in Political Science. He has also received a scholarship to attend the University of Mississippi School of Law. After graduation, he will be pursuing a career as an attorney.

Donovan owes all of his success to how his journey began. Coming from a small town, and being humbled through his volunteer service has made him the person he is today. He loves to tell his story in hope that it will motivate other young people traveling down a similar path.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Donovan Mitchell, for his humble dedication and determination in making a difference in his community.

RECOGNIZING THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of Olympic National Park located on the Olympic Peninsula in the great State of Washington. Seventy-five years ago, on June 29, 1938, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed legislation that established the Olympic National Park. In the intervening years, the Olympic National Park has become one of the most beloved and visited national parks in the country.

In establishing Olympic National Park, Congress defined the park's purpose as to: "... preserve for the benefit, use and enjoyment of the people, the finest sample of primeval forests of Sitka spruce, western hemlock, Douglas fir, and western red cedar in the entire United States; to provide suitable winter range and permanent protection for the herds of native Roosevelt elk and other wildlife indigenous to the area; to conserve and render available to the people, for recreational use, this outstanding mountainous country, containing numerous glaciers and perpetual snow fields and a portion of the surrounding verdant forest together with a narrow string along the beautiful Washington coast."

The park combines three different communities into one—an extensive old-growth rain forest, mountains topped with glaciers, and miles of untarnished Pacific Ocean coast. In

recognition of these areas, the World Heritage Convention named Olympic National Park as a World Heritage Site, and the United National Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization heralded the park as an International Biosphere Reserve.

Olympic National Park has something that both tourists and scientists alike can marvel at—more than 650 archeological spots detailing 12,000 years of human life.

The Olympic National Park stands as a testament to the diverse heritage of America. As it has been for the last 75 years, Olympic National Park will be protected and preserved for generations.

Mr. Speaker, our country is a better place because of the special landscapes like Olympic National Park. I commend the work of M. Sarah Creachbaum, the Superintendent of Olympic National Park, park staff, National Park Service, and all fellow citizens who have dedicated time, resources, and energy to protect and preserve this biological and historical treasure. I am pleased today to recognize the Olympic National Park in the United States Congress.

HONORING ALBERT RAMSEY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Albert Ramsey has led the Yonkers Department of Veterans Services since 2000 modernizing an office and bringing new services to help the approximately 18,000 veterans and their dependents in the City of Yonkers. And today I am proud to join with Yonkers in honoring Albert Ramsey as a veteran who served 28 years in the United States Air Force.

Our nation's freedom has been preserved by members of the Armed Forces, and they continue to do so today. As a Member of Congress, I have consistently supported veterans and our servicemen and women. They deserve no less from us. We owe the preservation of our freedoms and our way of life to the veterans who proudly served their country.

Albert Ramsey advocates for and assists veterans and their families helping them to access services and benefits and to receive their deserved recognition. He strives to educate the community about veterans' needs and their many contributions to and sacrifices for our nation.

Prior to his joining the City of Yonkers, he was a Service Officer at the New York State Division of Veteran's Affairs and a board member of the Veterans Coalition of the Hudson Valley. His work was recognized by the New York American Legion who awarded him their Service Officer of the Year Award.

He joined the Air Force upon graduating from high school. He earned three Associate Degrees and completed both the Non-Commissioned Officers Academy and the Senior NCO Academy during his service. He retired from the USAF in 1990 and graduated with Distinction from Nyack College with a G.P.A. of 3.86 in 1995. He lives with his wife of eleven years Charlene.

I am proud to join with the City of Yonkers in honoring Albert Ramsey on Veterans Appreciation Day for his service to his country

and his outstanding work in helping his fellow veterans and their families.

HONORING MS. BRENDA LASHAY TURNER-BUCK

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Brenda Lashay Turner-Buck, a remarkable worker, who is changing her community.

Brenda Lashay Turner-Buck was born September 30, 1966 to Rev. and Mrs. Percy Turner. She is the second of three children. Brenda does have an older brother, Vincent, and a younger sister, Tammie. Brenda learned the importance of independence since she was a middle child.

Brenda graduated from Jefferson High School as Salutatorian of her class in 1984. She enrolled at Alcorn State University in Agriculture Economics and received her B.S. in 1987, followed by her Master's in 1992.

Throughout Brenda's entire life, she has truly lived and breathed the importance of "community." Being a "Preacher's Kid," it was hard not to be surrounded by people with so many needs and the opportunity to gain extended family. During high school she took on the role of President of the FFA and helped to coordinate many outreach projects. College was not different because it was an opportunity to spread her wings and learn more to bring back to the community.

For over a span of 18 years, Brenda worked at Alcorn State University in different capacities. She started as a recruiter for the university in 1988 and served as Director of the Center for Rural Life and Economic Development until 2006. She feels that God led her to her alma mater to serve as a beacon of light for many young people and families. During her tenure at the university, she was able to recruit hundreds of students and become one of the founders of AG-HOPE (Agriculture—Helps Our People Earn). The program allowed over 275 young people from rural America the opportunity to see the other side of Agriculture, Food Science, and Technology.

Today, many of them are outstanding employees of Fortune 500 companies and the USDA. In 2000, the late President Clinton Bristow, Jr., made an administrative appointment and named Ms. Buck as Director of the Center for Rural Life and Economic Development and Executive Director of Traceway Community Development Corporation. This appointment took her to another stepping stone in her career. Being a part of the Institutional Advancement, Planning and Research under the leadership of Dr. Franklin Jackson, Brenda was part of writing over 3 million dollars in grants for outreach in Southwest Mississippi. Many of the dollars provided better living conditions for families and spurred economic growth through small business development.

For years, Brenda prayed that God would show her true calling and purpose. Little did she know that she was already living it every day by making a difference in the lives of those that were less fortunate.