

Mr. Speaker, it is with deep pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the "Diamond Anniversary" of one of Los Angeles' great neighborhoods, New Chinatown. We are a better America today because of the visionaries and pioneers who fought to survive the tough times and because of the generations that followed who continue to make our City and our country the home of the American Dream.

TRIBUTE TO THE DAVID LLOYD MITCHELL FAMILY C/O MS. CHARLOTTE MITCHELL, CHAIRMAN FAMILY REUNION 2013

### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 17, 2013*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, family Reunions are very important events and activities in the lives of all people, especially for African Americans in this country who have gone through the experiences of being snatched from their homelands, taken from their tribes, brought to another country, survived hostile environments, experienced discrimination and still stand tall, achieves greatly and is an integral part of American life.

Your family, the decedents of Mr. David Lloyd Mitchell have much for which to be proud. Since his arrival in this country you all have continued to move forward and I commend you for the great research and record-keeping that someone has done. To trace one's family back to the Reconstruction Period in this country is a feat in and of itself. There has obviously been a great emphasis placed on education as evidenced by the presence of more than thirty attorneys, medical doctors and Ph.D.'s, more than 200 Master Degrees, 500 plus Bachelors and I are sure that there is a great assortment of other achievements and accomplishments made by members of your family.

I congratulate the family of Mr. David Lloyd Mitchell, commend you for your outstanding accomplishments and wish you well as you continue to reach new heights each and every day.

Welcome to Chicago and enjoy your family reunion on July 26–28th.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRED SERGEANT MAJOR HOWARD BAKEMAN

### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 17, 2013*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to praise a true American hero, retired Army Sergeant Major Howard Bakeman, who passed away on June 1, 2013, at the age 95.

A veteran of World War II, Mr. Bakeman survived the attack on Pearl Harbor while serving as a staff sergeant at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. Remarkably, two of his brothers were also stationed at Pearl Harbor during the Japanese attack and all three survived. After the war, he remained in the Army through peace-time and was again called to action in 1950 to serve his country in the Korean conflict.

In 1959, he was promoted to Sergeant Major, serving nine more years before fulfilling his obligation to Uncle Sam.

After completing his active duty tour, Mr. Bakeman moved to Mobile in 1968 where he worked for two years as an Army ROTC instructor at Citronelle High School. During his time in Citronelle, he was recognized for having the largest number of Army cadets to enlist from any of the schools in Mobile County.

Mr. Bakeman's dedication to duty was typical of many who served during what is often described as "the greatest generation." He loved what he did and looked at his time served as an adventure. In an interview early last year with Mobile's Fox 10 television, he observed, "I didn't have to pay for anything. It's not every employer that pays you to go to these exotic countries."

Mr. Bakeman also offered some advice on life and patriotism. "Be respectful. Remember where you came from. Remember where you are living. Respect authority and respect the flag. Now if they can't do that, they better pack and haul it. There's absolutely no excuse."

Mr. Bakeman hailed from a family of dedicated servicemen—along with his father and two brothers—the Bakeman men served a combined total of 123 years in the armed forces. What's more, even well into his 90's, Mr. Bakeman was a familiar presence at local events honoring our veterans. He always wore his uniform proudly.

On behalf of the people of Alabama, I wish to extend heartfelt condolences to his niece, Elizabeth Lynch, and his entire family and many friends. We will forever be indebted to his heroism and his service to our nation.

MELVIN DOW

### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 17, 2013*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the fine career and outstanding community involvement of a great Houstonian, a devoted public servant and my friend, Melvin Dow. Melvin is retiring after 62 years of service to our community. It is an honor for me to recognize Melvin, not only for his numerous professional accomplishments and many contributions to our community, but also for his service to our country.

After graduating from Rice University, Melvin earned his law degree from Harvard Law School where he graduated magna cum laude and served as editor of the Harvard Law Review. Melvin began his career and service with the United States Army, where he was commissioned as a First Lieutenant, in the Army General Counsel's Office in the Pentagon. Following his service in the Army, Melvin moved back to Houston to begin his legal career in Harris County.

Melvin's extensive knowledge of the justice system and his incredible work ethic quickly gained him respect from his colleagues in the law profession. Over his career, Melvin was routinely recognized for his expertise and contributions to the legal community. He was included in the Best Lawyers in America for 28 consecutive years and was listed as a "Super Lawyer" by Texas Monthly Magazine for multiple years. In addition, Melvin serves as a

member of the Harvard Law School's Board of Overseers' Visiting Committee.

In addition to his notable recognition for his work within the legal community, Melvin has also earned acknowledgements for his work within the Jewish-American community. Melvin is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and Melitz, and Melvin serves on the Advisory Boards of the University of Texas Hillel Foundation, the Rice University Jewish Studies Program, and Congregation Beth Yeshurun of Houston. Melvin previously served as National President of AIPAC, trustee of the Jewish Publication Society, President of Congregation Beth Yeshurun, Vice President of the Jewish Federation of Houston and on the Board of Trustees of St. John's School. The list of this model citizen's accomplishments is impressive and well-deserved. Melvin's service to his city, state and nation as well as his faith will have an enduring positive impact.

A dedicated family man, Melvin has been married to his wife, Frieda, for 55 years. Together, they are the proud parents of five sons and grandparents to nine granddaughters and three grandsons.

I have had the opportunity to travel with Melvin and Frieda to Israel and observe firsthand their dedication to Israel's Absolute Right to Exist and to be a free democratic Republic.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas, I commend this remarkable Texan for his exemplary service and dedication to Harris County and to the State of Texas. Thank you, Melvin, for a lifetime of remarkable achievements within the legal community and for your steadfast commitment in helping to better your community.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM FRANCIS HARTNETT, JR.

### HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 17, 2013*

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute a remarkable individual, William Francis Hartnett, Jr., who passed away on July 15, 2013. I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for his leadership and service to our country.

Mr. Hartnett attended St. Michael's College, Middlebury College, and Cornell University. He was also a graduate of Fordham University School of Law. After earning his J.D., he practiced law in both New York City and Port Washington, New York.

Mr. Hartnett had a servant's heart. For four years he served our nation as an officer in the United States Navy and continued to serve Americans as a Special Agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Hartnett also served his community as Assistant to the Vice Chairman of the New York Housing Authority, Counsel to the Board of the New York City Board of Higher Education, and as East Meadow School Board President. Mr. Hartnett served on numerous boards, including St. Francis Hospital, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, the Chicago Public Library, Chicago Catholic Charities, and many more. Mr. Hartnett also served on the Board of La Lumiere School in La Porte, Indiana.

Mr. Hartnett was the Founder of both William F. Hartnett and Associates and Hartnett-Shaw Development Corporation. He developed many commercial, residential and industrial real estate projects across the country, including Lake Point Tower in Chicago, United Nations Plaza in New York, Williams Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Century City in Los Angeles.

Mr. Hartnett was a family man who is survived by Lorranye, his loving wife of sixty-three years, four children, seventeen grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. William Francis Hartnett, Jr. was a man truly committed to his family, his community, his faith, and his country. America is a better nation because of Bill Hartnett, and I am lucky to know his family—his best achievement. He will be truly missed. Thank you and rest in peace, Mr. Hartnett.

TRIBUTE TO WINTHROP M. HALLET, III, PRESIDENT OF THE MOBILE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 17, 2013*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Winthrop M. Hallett, III, as he leaves his post as President of the Mobile Area Chamber of

Commerce on July 31, 2013. For decades Win has been a strong advocate for our community and his positive influence will be felt for many years to come as our economy continues to expand and prosper.

A native of Mobile, Win attended Vanderbilt University and graduated with a bachelor's in economics. Soon after graduation, he was faced with leading his family's building materials business after the sudden death of his father. He rose to the occasion and continued to serve as owner and operator for 20 years. In 1991, following the good advice of a close friend, he opened a new chapter in his life by going to work for the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce.

Known for putting others above himself, Win quickly took to the role of building a better Mobile. He focused on polishing Mobile's image as an ideal place to do business and raise a family. Due in no small part to his steadfast efforts, Mobile received the coveted All-America City award in 1995. His tenure was marked by one success after another, bringing in new commerce and industry and helping to transform Mobile into a true business destination.

In particular, I would like to point out that Win was instrumental in helping to recruit major transformational businesses to our region, including Mobile Aerospace, Austal, ThyssenKrupp and Airbus. It was an honor to work with him on these and many other economic development efforts to benefit South Alabama.

Continuing to use his keen business mind for the good of others, Win also served with the United States Chamber of Commerce as chairman of the Chamber Committee of 100. He was also a member of the Board of Directors and Board Nominating Committee and Chairman of the Accrediting Board and the Bylaws Committee. He also served as Chairman of the Metropolitan Cities Council and is a member of the ACCE's Board of Directors. Win has also held leadership positions in various organizations around Mobile, such as the Rotary Club of Mobile, the Mobile YMCA, the Alabama Wildlife Federation, and Leadership Mobile.

Win's love for Mobile can be seen in his involvement in numerous local organizations. He is the Vice President of the Coastal Land Trust and the Vice Chairman of the Alabama District Export Council. He is a member of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program Executive Committee and the Aerospace Alliance. And he achieved the honor of graduating from Leadership Alabama and the Center for Creative Leadership.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Mobile and my colleagues in the Alabama Delegation, I would like to extend my personal appreciation, gratitude and highest regards to Mr. Winthrop M. Hallett, III, for his untiring, selfless service to Mobile and South Alabama. I wish him and his entire family the very best in their future endeavors.