

well that “if you don’t want to hear the truth, don’t ask her a question.”

Most important to Mrs. Simpson is her sturdy and enduring relationship with the Lord. She has been a member of Greater Little Rock Baptist Church for over 60 years. She has served on the Mother Board Association, Choir, Deaconesses, Food Bank, Women of Flow Ministry, and Kitchen Ministry.

The race of life isn’t given to the swift or to the strong, but to those who endure until the end. Mrs. Simpson has run the race of life with grace and dignity and God has blessed her over her lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mrs. Simpson for her 85 fruitful and productive years of life.

RUBY MARIE SINGS LANGFORD
JOHNSON

HON. HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction: Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman . . . who has given of herself in order for others to stand; and

Whereas, Mrs. Ruby Marie Sings Langford Johnson’s work is present in DeKalb County, Georgia for all to see, being an advocate for the youth, the elderly, the poor and ordinary citizens like you and me; and

Whereas, this remarkable woman gave of herself, her time, her talent and her life; she never asked for fame or fortune to uplift those in need, she just wanted to do what was right; and

Whereas, Mrs. Johnson led by doing behind the scenes, front and center for the state of Georgia, DeKalb County, her church, Beulah Baptist Church and for the DeKalb County chapter of the NAACP; this virtuous Proverbs 31 woman was a mother, grandmother, a daughter and a friend; she was our warrior, our matriarch, a woman of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of our community until her end; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional recognition on Mrs. Ruby Marie Sings Langford Johnson for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens in Georgia and throughout the Nation; a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction; now therefore, I, HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 113th Congress that Mrs. Ruby Marie Sings Langford Johnson of DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this “Congressional Honor” Mrs. Ruby Marie Sings Langford Johnson U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 28th day of June, 2013.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ARIZONA
STATE UNIVERSITY BIODESIGN

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2013

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Arizona State University president Dr. Michael Crow on the impressive progress that ASU has made since Dr. Crow began leading there in 2002. I would like to recognize the Arizona State University Biodesign Institute, which I was able to visit and tour on July 11th.

The Biodesign Institute is an outstanding example of success in transdisciplinary research, with the Institute’s technologies and fields of research coming together to address national and global challenges with “bio-inspired” solutions in: new vaccine discovery and delivery; early detection and treatment of cancer and infectious diseases; techniques for detecting and removing contaminants from air and water and the application of nanotechnology for biomedicine and electronics.

Arizona State University Biodesign researchers generate an average of 50 invention disclosures and patents annually and have fostered more than a dozen spinout, startup companies. In 2009, the institute won Arizona’s “Excellence in Economic Development Award” for its innovative contributions to the state’s economic growth.

The Biodesign Institute embodies the guiding principles of the New American University, as defined by Arizona State University President Michael Crow. ASU is a comprehensive metropolitan university that has become the largest in the U.S. and recently ranked among elite 100 world universities. ASU ranked #17 in the country for research expenditures at a university without a medical school. The Wall Street Journal asked corporate recruiters which schools produced the best qualified graduates in the country and they ranked ASU #5. There has been significant progress at ASU.

Congratulations to Dr. Crow and to the Arizona State University Biodesign Institute for successfully fusing intellectual disciplines to conduct use-inspired and impactful research which are advancing our country’s technology development and economy.

HONORING FATHER MICHAEL
O’MARA

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2013

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute a remarkable Hoosier, Father Michael O’Mara. Father O’Mara is a true leader in his community and the Hoosier state. I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for his leadership and service to his country, his community, and the State of Indiana.

Father O’Mara grew up in Greensburg, Indiana and was ordained on June 18, 1988 in the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul in Indianapolis. Father O’Mara has served dutifully to the church for many years and presided over

many congregations over the years. He was appointed as pastor of St. Pius X in Indianapolis in 1990. From 1993 to 1999, he was appointed as pastor and/or co-pastor for the parishes of St. Philip, St. Bernadette, St. Patrick, and St. Mary all in Indianapolis as well as the St. Paul Catholic Center in Bloomington, Indiana. Since then, Father O’Mara has been reappointed as pastor to St. Mary in 2004 and 2011. On July 3, 2013, he was appointed as pastor to the St. Gabriel Parish in Indianapolis.

The commitment that Father O’Mara has made has not stopped at serving the church, but to the community as well. He has also been greatly involved with the Hispanic community in Indianapolis. He immersed himself in the Spanish language and took classes through Indiana University in order to become bilingual so that he could preach to all members of the congregation.

He has committed his life to the church and has served the church for 25 years now. That kind of commitment is not made lightly. Committing your life to the church is one of the greatest sacrifices a person can make and Father O’Mara had to have put in a lot of time, thought, and prayer before deciding to commit himself fully to the church.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE
OF AN ORGANIZED WORKFORCE
AND LABOR UNIONS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of an organized workforce, and the critical role that labor unions play in the building of a robust and diverse economy. The United States has benefitted greatly from the labor movement, and protecting workers’ rights is more important now than ever before, particularly for African Americans.

Labor unions have provided a range of benefits for working men and women throughout our history, many of which we take for granted as being a normal part of life in the workplace. Simple concepts such as weekends and paid vacation time are thanks to the efforts of labor unions. More complex protections such as workplace safety standards and anti-discrimination laws also are the result of an organized and informed workforce coming together to resist unfair demands by employers.

Within the African American community, labor unions have provided a pathway to greater income equality and fairness in the workplace. While African American union workers can earn up to \$10,000 or 31 percent more than non-union members, workers across all races enjoy better wages when they are a member of a union. More simply, organized labor enables fair wages, safe working conditions, and equality in the workplace.

Mr. Speaker, as our economy continues its recovery, it is important that we preserve a sense of decency and respect among our workers. Fifty years ago, the March on Washington was as much a civil rights movement as it was a labor movement. Labor unions have fought to protect working men and women across all races, and I encourage my colleagues to continue this legacy by standing

up for the rights of all working men and women across our great nation.

HONORING MONICA NINO

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2013

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Monica Nino, former Stanislaus County Chief Executive Officer, and to thank her for her leadership and dedication to the citizens of Stanislaus County.

After 25 years of devoted service to Stanislaus County, she is now San Joaquin County's new Chief Executive Officer. In her short 18 months as CEO for Stanislaus County, Nino proved herself a very competent executive, providing the thorough information needed for the five elected supervisors to make good decisions, especially on budget matters.

Ms. Nino was born and raised in Stanislaus County. She earned her Associate's degree from Modesto Junior College, her Bachelor's degree in Accounting from California State University, Fresno and her Master's degree in Public Administration from California State University, Stanislaus.

In 1988, Monica started as an accountant in the Stanislaus County's Auditor-Controller's Office. She joined the executive office in 1991. She helped oversee the budget during heavy cuts to deal with reduced income resulting from the housing crash of the past half-decade and related economic woes.

Ms. Nino was appointed Stanislaus County Chief Executive Officer in January 2012. Prior to her appointment as CEO for Stanislaus County, she had held the position of Assistant Executive Officer with Stanislaus County since 2005. Nino is the first woman and first Latina to hold the permanent post.

As Chief Executive Officer with Stanislaus County, under the direction of the Board of Supervisors, Ms. Nino oversaw all aspects of Stanislaus County government, which included 26 County departments, an operating budget of \$891 million, and over 3,700 employees.

Ms. Nino also sat on the Stanislaus County Animal Services Agency, Joint Powers Agency, Stanislaus Regional 911, and Doctors Medical Center Governing Board.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Monica Nino, former Stanislaus County Chief Executive Officer, for her numerous years of selfless service to the betterment of our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DONOHO SCHOOL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to honor an extraordinary college preparatory school in my district. The Donoho School, founded in 1963, will celebrate its 50th anniversary this month.

The Donoho School was founded in 1963 as a secondary school and was called the Anniston Academy. In 1976, the name was changed to The Donoho School in recognition of Mrs. Harriet Wallis Donoho, a founder of the school. The Lower Division of the school was founded as The Episcopal Day School in 1961 as an independent elementary school. Housed originally in the facilities of the Church of St. Michael and All Angels, the school moved into Grace Episcopal Church in 1967. In 1976, The Episcopal Day School merged with The Donoho School and became the Lower Division.

The Donoho School currently enrolls more than 400 students in Pre-K through 12th grade. It is an active member of the Alabama Association of Independent Schools, Alabama High School Athletic Association, College Board, National Association for College Admission Counseling, National Association of Independent Schools, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Honor Society and Southern Association of Independent Schools. The school will celebrate its 50th anniversary with an awards ceremony on September 16th.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating The Donoho School's achievements and thanking them for their dedication to providing Anniston's children with a quality education.

CONGRATULATING CHAD RUSSELL

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 9, 2013

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and congratulate Turlock High School Agriculture Department Chair Chad Russell, upon being awarded the "Instructor Sweepstakes Award" by the California State Fair for a fifth year. This award is a tribute to Mr. Russell's professional accomplishments in the field of education, as well as his dedicated commitment to his students and the art of welding.

Chad Allen Russell was born on May 23, 1982, in Turlock, CA to Bev and Tom Russell. He grew up in Turlock, CA, the second largest city in Stanislaus County, which has a population of 68,549. It is home to California State University, Stanislaus, and has earned the title "Heart of the Valley" for its extensive agricultural production.

As a child, Mr. Russell attended Mt. View-Chatom Schools and from 1996–2000 Mr. Russell was a standout FFA student at Turlock High School, mentored by several renowned agriculture instructors including Dale Pollard, Joe Digrazia, and Lori Marchy. While at THS, Mr. Russell was an active participant in FFA and distinguished himself by winning several awards including the State FFA Star Agribusinessman Award and, in his senior year, Outstanding Project at the CA State Fair.

Mr. Russell's facility with welding led him after high school to a job in that industry, where he worked for three years. Although Mr. Russell's salary as a welder was nearly double what a teacher earns, he felt called to this new profession and moved back to Turlock to begin attending Modesto Junior College, where he earned an A.A. degree in Agriculture. After MJC, Mr. Russell transferred to

California State University, Fresno, where he majored in Ag Mechanics. While at Fresno State, Mr. Russell subcontracted for GEA Niro, who flew him around the country on weekends to weld.

With degree in hand, Mr. Russell was hired by Turlock Unified School District in 2006 as a part-time ROP welding instructor and eventually worked his way into a full-time position as an Agriculture teacher. Alice Pollard, former Principal of Adult and Career Education at Turlock Unified School District has praised Mr. Russell's devotion to his students, "Chad selflessly gives up his weekends, his spring and winter breaks, as well as spending more hours than you want to know during the summer helping his students." Cindy Young, Director of Yosemite ROP in Stanislaus County, relayed her awe at his commitment to his students, "When I visit his classroom, I see more than a classroom, I see a business. His students are involved and engaged. They are committed to excellence. They are respectful and he is respectful of them. Mr. Russell is building tomorrow's workforce."

It didn't take long after starting his career at THS for Mr. Russell to make a reputation as one of the foremost Ag Mechanics instructors in the State as his students began to win award after award at the Stanislaus County and California State fairs. In 2009, Dominic Agresti-Assali, one of Mr. Russell's stand-out welding students, custom-made two 54 foot almond trailers that went on to win 1st place in the State Ag Mechanics over-\$10,000 division, earning Best in Division and Best in Show honors along with two other corporately-sponsored awards.

That same year, eight other THS students earned first place and Best of Show honors at the State Fair. Most recently, in 2013, Mr. Russell earned his 5th Instructor Sweepstakes award at the State Fair based on his students' outstanding performance and THS junior Trey Smith won a Golden Bear Award, the fair's highest honor. Mr. Russell's students are highly sought after for welding jobs at local businesses due to the reputation he has established in the community as a result of his students' extensive accomplishments.

Based in part on his students' numerous accomplishments and his own stellar record as a welding instructor, Mr. Russell was recently awarded the Yosemite Regional Occupation Program (YROP) Teacher of the Year award from Stanislaus County Office of Education. ROP is a program designed to prepare students for a career by providing a wide variety of specialized career education programs for high school students. The goal is for students to develop marketable skills, abilities, attitudes and work habits so that they can secure jobs, upgrade skills, and prepare for advanced careers.

For the past five years, Mr. Russell has served as the Department Chair of the THS Agriculture Department and has overseen its expansion to five teachers. He has been instrumental in helping to secure University of California approval for many of the agriculture courses at THS, allowing students to participate in a Career Technical Education program while maintaining four-year college eligibility. Mr. Russell's long-term plans are to pursue a Master's in Agriculture and continue to build the THS Agriculture Department into one of the premiere programs in the State. With his outstanding commitment to THS students and