

HONORING MOUNT OLIVE  
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 2013*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an irreplaceably important architecture of worship in the town of Bolton, Mississippi. For 143 years, the Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church has served as a beacon of spiritual light for so many in the community.

The beginnings of Mount Olive were formed through a coordinated effort among a group of God-fearing, Christian individuals who regularly gathered to conduct Sunday worship service beneath a small bush harbor in the late 1800s. The group subsequently established the Forkey Hill Missionary Baptist Church, located at the intersection of Mount Olive Road and Joe Hall Road. In 1883, the congregation decided to move and build a new sanctuary; in doing so, the church was renamed to Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church.

In order to finance the construction of the new sanctuary, Brother John H. Jones and his wife, Earnestine Jones, allowed the church to use their home as collateral to have the new church built. Once financing was achieved, the church was built and continued to grow in number. One notable pastoral leader was Reverend Augustus Harper. Under his leadership, the church became debt-free by completing the terms and payments on the mortgage for the sanctuary in November 1971. The church also purchased 8 acres of prime farmland from Sister Alma Reuben and family, of which 2 of the acres were designated for the church cemetery and 3 acres were designated for the church parking lot. Through additional contributions made from Sister Reuben, the church was also able to construct the first lighted outdoor recreational facility for children of the community.

The construction and establishment of the Mount Olive community park encouraged other members of the congregation to spearhead the church's first athletic program, softball, and baseball teams. With so many positive advancements occurring within the congregation and the community, the Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church saw it necessary to construct a larger sanctuary to accommodate the growing membership. By September 2010, the membership performed a ribbon cutting ceremony, officially opening the new sanctuary.

In addition to acquiring a new sanctuary, the church was blessed with many other new amenities from members of the congregation, including a new refrigerator, a new stove, cabinets, dishes, a hot water tank, and a kitchen vent. Amongst all of the additions and changes came a revelation that Reverend Harper would honorably resign as pastor of Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church in 2002. The following year, Reverend Wayne C. Moore became pastor and established numerous new ministries and goals for the church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church for being an inspiration for change, growth, and unwavering spiritual unity for its congregational members and local community.

RECOGNIZING MS. PATRICIA  
PARKER

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 2013*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, A virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Educational System; and

Whereas, Ms. Patricia Parker began her educational career in teaching thirty-eight (38) years ago, and this year she retires from teaching at Dunaire Elementary School in Stone Mountain, Georgia, she has served the DeKalb County School District well and our community has been blessed through her service; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents as a Teacher, Educator and Motivator, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader, a devoted scholar and a servant to all who want to advance the lives of our youth; and

Whereas, Ms. Parker is formally retiring from her educational career today, she will continue to promote education because she is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Patricia Parker on her retirement from the DeKalb County School District and to wish her well in her new endeavors; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim May 21, 2013 as Ms. Patricia Parker Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 21st day of May, 2013.

HONORING WOODY HUNT

**HON. BETO O'ROURKE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 2013*

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor distinguished El Pasoan Woody Hunt as the recipient of the Ysleta High School "2012-13 Outstanding-Ex Award," which recognizes exceptional school alumni. Mr. Hunt has earned this distinction through a lifetime of serving the El Paso community in his roles as a successful business leader, tireless education advocate, and generous community servant.

Mr. Hunt, a fourth generation El Pasoan, graduated from Ysleta High School in 1962 and earned his Bachelor's Degree in Finance from the University of Texas at Austin (1967). He received his MBA in Finance from UT Austin (1970) and later earned his MA in Management from the Drucker School of Management in Claremont, California (1986).

Mr. Hunt began his career by returning to El Paso to work for the family business, which he eventually grew into one of the nation's leading construction and development companies. As Chairman and CEO of Hunt Companies, Inc., Mr. Hunt manages more than \$13 billion in assets focused on the key areas of public-

private partnerships, community development, real asset investment management and multi-family housing. Mr. Hunt uses his business expertise as a board member of numerous business and leadership nonprofits in El Paso.

Beyond his notable business achievements, Mr. Hunt has been a particularly effective higher education advocate. He understands that access to college is essential to growing our middle class and ensuring that all Americans have an opportunity to succeed. Mr. Hunt is a board member of several national, statewide and local education organizations focused on college access, including Complete College America; the College for All Texans Foundation; and the Development Boards of the University of Texas at El Paso and the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso. He previously served as the Vice-Chairman of the University of Texas System Board of Regents. This work allows him to focus on closing achievement gaps and increasing opportunity for traditionally underrepresented students. He is one of the first people I call when issues of higher education are before Congress.

Mr. Hunt is also passionate about promoting quality and accessible healthcare. He is the founding Chairman and current board member of the Medical Centers of Americas Foundation in El Paso; a member of the Board of Visitors of the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston; and was the Chairman of the Paso del Norte Health Foundation.

Mr. Hunt serves as Chairman of the Hunt Family Foundation, which he and his wife Gayle established in 1987. The El Paso community continues to be enriched by Woody Hunt's legacy of leadership, integrity and generosity. I thank Mr. Hunt for his commitment to improving the quality of life for everyone in El Paso, and in particular for his tireless efforts to ensure young people in our community have access to excellent educational opportunities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. VICKY HARTZLER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 2013*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, September 10, 2013, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on rollcall No. 452, "yea."

HONORING DR. LARRY RIDLEY

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 2013*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, legendary jazz artist Dr. Larry Ridley will be honored this year by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) at the Jazz Issue Forum and Concert that will take place during the 43rd Annual Legislative Conference (ALC). Dr. Ridley, an internationally renowned bassist/composer/bandleader/educator, will also perform at the concert, which will take place on Thursday, September 19, 2013, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, in Washington, D.C. Dr. Ridley will receive the 2013

CBCF ALC Jazz Legacy Award for his contributions to jazz and world culture.

Hugh Wyatt of the New York Daily News described Dr. Ridley as a “master bassist” and a “musician’s musician.” He has been one of the most in-demand bassists of the past six decades, performing with over 150 artists including Wes Montgomery, Carmen McRae, Freddie Hubbard, Thelonious Monk, David Baker, Dizzy Gillespie, Marvin Gaye, Tammi Terrell, and Alicia Keys. Ridley has also recorded over 50 sessions as a sideman. His recordings as a leader include *Other Voices* and *Live at Rutgers University* (with the Jazz Legacy Ensemble), and *Sum of the Parts*.

Dr. Ridley served as Chairman, Music Department, Livingston College of Rutgers University, 1972–1980; Professor of Music, Rutgers University, 1972–1999, and has served as Professor Emeritus at Rutgers, beginning in 1999. He has served as Artist-in-Residence at a number of colleges, universities and institutions including Southern University, College of the Virgin Islands, University of Natal-Durban and the Schomburg Center/New York Public Library, where he has been in residence since 1993.

Dr. Ridley’s numerous honors and awards include the Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation’s Living Legacy Jazz Award (1997), Howard University’s Benny Golson Award (2001) and the Don Redman Society’s Don Redman Heritage Award (2011). He has also been inducted into The International Association of Jazz Educators Hall of Fame (1998); Down Beat Magazine’s Jazz Education Hall of Fame (1999) and received the Rutgers University/Livingston College Legacy Award (2011).

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Larry Ridley is a living jazz treasure and I urge all members to join me in commending him for his magnificent contributions as an artist and educator.

#### HONORING ANDERSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 2013*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anderson United Methodist Church Jackson, Mississippi.

Anderson United Methodist Church began as a mission in 1914 under the leadership of local ministers from the Central and Pratt Methodist Episcopal Churches. One of the ministers, the late Rev. R. L. Pickens, then pastor of Central, helped organize the Cloverleaf Methodist Episcopal Mission. During the 1920s, the first group of members met at the home of William Harper on Woodrow Wilson Avenue where they worshiped until a specific location was secured.

By 1928, a temporary house of worship for the Mission had been obtained, an old abandoned store on Whitfield Mill Road, (now Martin Luther King Dr.). In 1936, a lot on Spring Street was purchased, and the first church building was constructed. It was named for the Rev. R. L. Anderson the first conference appointed minister. Rev. Anderson died in 1930. The Rev. I. R. Kersh, Sr., was the pastor at the time Anderson Chapel, as it was known then, was constructed. During the next fifty-

five years, the following ministers Pastored Anderson Chapel: Reverends J.C. Bell, Golden Price, S.L. Webb, W.J. Eubanks, N.W. Ross, R.D. Gerald, Whalon Blackmon, T.S. Davis, A.L. Holland, F.P. Leonard, C.P. Payne, H.C. Clay, Sr., and John L. Baker.

In September 1952, under the leadership of Rev. Blackmon, a new structure was built on Page Street and given the name Anderson Memorial. In 1968, under C.P. Payne, Anderson Memorial became Anderson United Methodist Church. In 1972, during the tenure of Rev. Clay, the white and black United Methodist conference merged into one conference. In 1985, Rev. Jeffrey A. Stallworth was appointed pastor at Anderson. It was under his leadership that the church moved to 485 West Northside Drive.

Because of the tremendous growth, Anderson relocated to 1–220 at Hanging Moss Road in November, 1994. At this time, membership was over 1,600. After being at this location for only two years, in December 1996 the membership at Anderson surpassed the 3,000 mark.

In June 2002, the Reverend Joe W. May became Pastor of Anderson United Methodist Church. As membership continue to rise, Anderson United Methodist Church works diligently to provide a friendly worship atmosphere.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Anderson United Methodist Church.

#### HONORING DR. BENNIE PENNINGTON

#### HON. HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 2013*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, a tenacious man of God accepted his calling to serve in the Educational System; and

Whereas, Dr. Bennie Pennington began his educational career in teaching thirty (30) years ago and this year he retires from teaching at Dunaire Elementary School in Stone Mountain, Georgia, he has served the DeKalb County School District well and our community has been blessed through his service; and

Whereas, this remarkable man has shared his time and talents as a Teacher, Educator and Motivator, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader, a devoted scholar and a servant to all who want to advance the lives of our youth; and

Whereas, Dr. Pennington is formally retiring from his educational career today, he will continue to promote education because he is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Dr. Bennie Pennington on his retirement from the DeKalb County School District and to wish him well in his new endeavors; now therefore, I, HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim May 21, 2013 as Dr. Bennie Pennington Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 21st day of May, 2013.

CONGRATULATING THE BENSON  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR  
THEIR STRAIGHT A REPORT  
CARD

#### HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 2013*

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Benson Unified School District on the high honor of being named Arizona’s top performing school district.

The Benson School District serves 1200 students in the community of Benson as well as other areas across San Pedro Valley. Their mission is to provide a safe and welcoming learning community that prepares students to be competitive and productive citizens.

The success of Benson Schools comes after years of commitment to proven instructional practices and a strong academic curriculum for their students. This dedication has led to the accolades we celebrate today.

This distinguished recognition is testament to the hard work and dedication Superintendent David Woodall, the school board, and the dedicated staff and teachers of the district. I am proud to represent these outstanding schools in Congress.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF KENNETH BROOKER

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 2013*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the illustrious career of Chief Kenneth Brooker of the Flower Mound Police Department as he retires after 40 years of committed service in law enforcement. Over his past 30 years with the Flower Mound Police Department, Chief Brooker has advanced from Patrol Officer to Chief of Police, a leadership position he has held since 1999.

During his tenure, as the Town of Flower Mound’s population has grown from 4,400 to over 62,000, Chief Brooker has capably overseen the expansion of the police force in accordance with the town’s needs. In addition to the growing from 13 employees on staff to its current 86 sworn officers and 82 civilians, the Flower Mound Police Department has achieved accreditation through the Commission on the Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, developed a SWAT team, Citizen’s Patrol, Chaplain Corps, School Crossing Guard Program and Junior Police Academy.

Under Chief Brooker’s direction, the Flower Mound Police Department has been honored nationally for well-designed police vehicles and was recognized as a Webber Seavey Award for Quality in Law Enforcement finalist by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. The Town of Flower Mound has been repeatedly recognized as one of the safest cities in Texas, a phenomenal and challenging feat.

Chief Brooker’s legacy of honorable service, diligence to duty and inspired leadership will continue to positively influence the Town of Flower Mound and the police department he has supervised over the past 14 years. It is