

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

my privilege to commend Flower Mound Police Chief Kenneth Brooker and wish him well in his retirement and to represent the Town of Flower Mound in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING PEARL STREET AFRICAN
METHODIST EPISCOPAL
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 Pearl Street African Methodist Episcopal Church in Jackson, Mississippi. In 1865, Reverend Thomas W. Stringer organized Pearl Street African Methodist Episcopal Church. The first church was known as Foley Chapel, and Reverend Stringer served as pastor until Reverend James Ellsworth was appointed as pastor. The church was located on the corner of Clifton and Pearl Streets. About seventeen pastors served the church in its initial edifice, including Reverend Hugh Miller Foley, the pastor for whom Foley Chapel was named.

In 1898, Reverend James E. Carter, who had served as president of Shorter College in Arkansas, came to Mississippi and was assigned in 1899 as pastor. Under Reverend Carter's leadership, the name of the church was changed to Pearl Street African Methodist Episcopal Church, and a new edifice was built in 1902. The newly built church was on the corner of Clifton and Pearl Streets. Foley Chapel remained on the property as Foley Hall.

In 1956, Bishop W. W. Wright appointed Reverend G. R. Haughton to Pearl Street A.M.E. Church as pastor. During his pastorate, the city requested the property at Clifton and Pearl Streets for opening a new street. Reverend Haughton immediately focused members' attention on building Greater Pearl Street African Methodist Episcopal Church in another location at 925 West Pearl Street. A home at 1051 Deer Park Street was purchased for the new parsonage. Members began use of the new church in April 1961, and it was dedicated on April 30, 1961. Successors to Reverend G. R. Haughton include the following: Reverend Dr. George A. Sewell (1965–1967) and Reverend William Portis (1967–1974).

In October 1974, Reverend Thomas Benjamin Brown, Jr. was appointed as pastor of Pearl Street. He served as pastor for eight years. In 1976, during Reverend Brown's leadership of the church, the trustees purchased additional property around the church at 925 West Pearl Street. Also, the church sold the parsonage on Deer Park Street and purchased a home at 219 Claiborne Street as the new parsonage. Four years later, Reverend Brown kicked off his campaign for Bishopric on May 24, 1980 in his native Greenwood, Mississippi. Two years following the kick-off campaign, Bishop Cummings determined that perhaps Reverend Brown stood a better chance of winning the Bishopric if he were to run for the Bishop serving as pastor of Union Bethel, New Pearl Street. So in November 1982, Bishop Frank Curtis sent Reverend Brown to New Orleans as pastor of Union Bethel, and he sent Union Bethel's pastor,

Reverend Lorenzo G. Clarke to Pearl Street. Reverend Clarke was pastor of Pearl Street from November 1982–October 1985.

At the General Conference 1984, Bishop Donald George Kenneth Ming was assigned to the Eighth Episcopal District Bishop Ming appointed Reverend Johnny Barbour, Jr. as pastor of Pearl Street A.M.E. Church in October 1985. Reverend Barbour, Pearl Street's longest serving pastor, remained as pastor for 15 years. In 1987, under Reverend Barbour's spiritual leadership, the church moved from 925 West Pearl Street into a church edifice at 2519 Robinson Street (valued at 3.5 million dollars). During this same year, 1987, Mrs. Ruth Roseman Dease, dedicated church historiographer from 1958–1987. Shirley Hopkins Davis was privileged and honored to have worked with Mrs. Dease in typing the history, which she so competently recorded on a weekly basis. Following Mrs. Dease's death, Reverend Barbour appointed Ms. L'Dina Robinson as church historiographer.

Ten years following the purchase of the edifice at 2519 Robinson Street (1997), Reverend Johnny Barbour, Jr. and the officers and members burned the mortgage. The presiding bishop then was the Rt. Reverend Richard Allen Chappelle, Sr. Since the church has been purchased under Rt. Reverend Donald G. K. Ming's bishopric, Reverend Barbour invited Bishop Ming back to preach at the Mortgage Burning. Bishop Chappelle conducted the Mortgage Burning ceremony. Reverend Barbour had announced his candidacy for Secretary-Treasurer of the A.M.E. Sunday School Union at the General Conference 1996. So, he was campaigning for the office during this time. He remained pastor of progressive Pearl Street for several months after he was elected to the office at the General Conference 2000, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

During the General Conference 2000, the 8th Episcopal District was assigned Bishop Cornal Garnett Henning, Sr. whose father, Reverend H. W. Henning, had served as pastor of Pearl Street from 1940–41. Bishop Henning asked Reverend Barbour to remain pastor of Pearl Street until Planning Meeting in December 2000, and Reverend Barbour remained as pastor while carrying on his new General Officer position of Secretary-Treasurer of the Sunday School Union.

On December 2, 2000 the Rt. Reverend C. Garnett Henning, Sr. appointed the Reverend Dr. Samuel Boyd, Sr. as pastor of Pearl Street African Methodist Episcopal Church. Reverend Boyd had served as pastor of Historic St. James A.M.E. Church, New Orleans, LA for ten years. He preached as pastor of Pearl Street on December 3, 2000.

Pearl Street has a rich history of growth and development as a church family and community supporter. After 136 years, the church remains a stronghold and a source of spiritual empowerment for its members and the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pearl Street African Methodist Episcopal Church.

RECOGNIZING MR. VAL ARCHER

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 cool, calm, collected and very tenacious man, Mr. Val Archer was born April 13, 1929, raised in Chicago, Illinois and now resides in Conyers, Georgia; and

Whereas, during WWII at the tender age of 15, and even in the face of segregation and discrimination, out of a strong sense of patriotism and love of country, he answered the call to service in the U.S. military; and

Whereas, Mr. Archer served honorably in the U.S. Army Air Corps, the United States Air Force and as a member of the renowned Tuskegee Airmen, a unit with a strong sense of honor and duty who performed with great precision in combating the enemy in the European theater; and

Whereas, he saw active duty in Korea, Japan, Guam, the Marshall Islands and Europe where he was always proud of the performance of his fellow Tuskegee Airmen who proved beyond a doubt that they were there to excel; and

Whereas, he served with great distinction as the President of the Atlanta Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc and he is the recipient of The Congressional Gold Medal, the nation's highest civilian honor; and

Whereas, this model citizen continues sharing his time, talents and great wisdom with young people urging them to not drift or follow the crowd, to get an education, practice self-respect, integrity and responsibility to themselves, their family and their country; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mr. Val Archer for his outstanding leadership and service to the citizens in the 4th District, the state of Georgia and the nation; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim May 18, 2013 as Mr. Val Archer Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 18th day of May, 2013.

HONORING THE ROTARY CLUB OF
JOLIET

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Rotary Club of Joliet for selflessly working for 100 years to improve communities in Illinois. The organization's motto of "Service Above Self" inspires its members to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards, and promote good will in the world. The Joliet Rotary Club has over 130 members and is part of Rotary International. It was established in 1910 as the Study Club, and it became the first Rotary club in a city with less than 75,000 residents.

Joliet Rotarians learned the best practices of service, and went on to help establish new Rotary clubs in surrounding communities over the next decades. They participated in the