

Brushy Creek Baptist Church elected Rev. Hugh Lewis to serve as associate pastor for the remainder of the year. Rev. Lewis then became Brushy Creek's pastor and served for over 20 years. Under his leadership he added more deacons and made many accomplishments such as adding a fellowship hall, hot water heater, reroofing the church, installing an inside baptism pool, the concrete was poured in front of the fellowship hall, water fountains, carpet, P.A. System, new organ, new ladies room at the front entrance, new pulpit, floors partially replaced, new light fixtures, a bus was purchased and later sold for \$500.00.

Rev. Hugh Lewis gave his resignation in December 2003 and recommended that Rev. Gregory D. Brown be over the pulpit until it was decided who the next pastor would be.

Rev. Gregory D. Brown was nominated Pastor of Brushy Creek Church and preached his first sermon as pastor in December 21, 2003. Rev. Brown was installed as pastor February 8, 2004.

Rev. Brown previously served as Moderator of Brushy Creek New Hope Association. The membership has grown and he restored services back to full time with services starting at 9:00 a.m. for Sunday school, and morning worship starting at 10:30 every Sunday. Congressman Bennie Thompson Foundation donated two laptops to the church. The congregation both, children & adults, have benefited from the donation. Congressman THOMPSON's Foundation was also very instrumental in the donation of 5 acres of land that was acquired August 27, 2010 for church use only from Sis. Mary Jane Catchings, who was once a member of Brushy Creek Church.

Rev. Brown has served as our pastor for 9 years and still serves faithfully. On June 16, 2013 we will be celebrating 144 years of the church's anniversary and the funds raised will go toward our dream of building a new church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Brushy Creek Church as they strive to be the foundation for others to find the joy of serving God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

**CONGRATULATING BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA TROOP 150 ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 85TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 12, 2013*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Boy Scouts of America Troop 150 on the occasion of its 85th anniversary. Boy Scouts of America is one of the largest youth organizations in the United States, with more than 4.5 million current members. Since its founding, nearly 84 million boys have participated in scouting.

Founded in 1928, Troop 150 was the first Boys Scout Troop in Fairfax County and remains one of the longest-standing active troops in the country. Since its founding, every meeting, including the very first which consisted of only 10 boys, has been held at the Annandale United Methodist Church. The relationship between the church and Troop 150 not only has endured; it has grown. The An-

andale United Methodist Men have been the predominate partner over the years. The first Scoutmaster, John Walter Mercer, is buried at the church cemetery, and a memorial fund bearing his name was created 20 years ago by John Webb, an original member of Troop 150. This fund sponsors annual trips designed to develop the leadership potential of deserving scouts.

Troop 150 plays a prominent role in the wider community as well. The Troop 150 Color Guard leads the annual Annandale Parade and also has performed this honor for Tee Ball on the South Lawn at the White House. Troop 150 has built community gardens, collected food for the needy, repaired trails, and participated in many other projects for the betterment of the community. More than 80 young men from this troop have earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Many of our country's greatest leaders have been scouts, and having been a scout, especially reaching the rank of Eagle Scout, is an achievement that is highly prized by our Military Service Academies.

Scouting develops leadership skills and ethics that foster future success in life. Troop 150 exemplifies the values and tenets of the Boy Scouts of America and supports the character development that encourages responsible citizenship and self-reliance. Members of this troop adhere to the Scout Law: "A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent" and by the Scout Slogan: "Do a good turn daily."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Boy Scout Troop 150 on the occasion of its 85th anniversary and in thanking its Scoutmaster, volunteers, family members, and community sponsors for their commitment to our children.

**HONORING MR. KIRK W. JOHNSON FOR HIS COURAGEOUS WORK THROUGH THE LIST PROJECT TO RESETTLE IRAQI ALLIES**

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 12, 2013*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to rise today to recognize Mr. Kirk W. Johnson, the founder and executive director of the List Project to Resettle Iraqi Allies, for his continued efforts to safely resettle those Iraqis who have risked their lives working for the United States. I had the distinct honor of first meeting Kirk in 2008, when I began working with him and his organization on legislative remedies to this crisis. He has since been featured in numerous interviews and documentaries on the subject, testified on two occasions before members of the House and Senate on the consequences of our withdrawal from Iraq, and just published his first book. Kirk is truly an amazing individual who has selflessly dedicated himself to helping Iraqis who have worked for the United States in Iraq—and whose lives have been placed in grave danger for that service.

Kirk was born and raised in West Chicago, Illinois. In 2002, he earned a bachelor's degree with general and departmental honors in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations from the University of Chicago. During that

time, he received a Foreign Language Acquisition Grant to study the Syrian colloquial dialect of Arabic in Damascus, followed by fellowships from the American Academy in Berlin, Yaddo, MacDowell, and the Wurlitzer Foundation. Finally, prior to his work in Iraq, he conducted research on political Islamism as a Fulbright Scholar in Egypt.

In 2005, Kirk served in Iraq with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), first in Baghdad and then in Fallujah, where he was the Agency's first coordinator for reconstruction in the war-torn city. A letter from an Iraqi colleague in 2006, which said, "People are trying to kill me and I need your help," got him involved in helping America's endangered Iraqi allies. After Kirk successfully assisted his colleague, many other pleas for help followed, which led Kirk to found the List Project. The organization has grown to become the largest single pro bono initiative ever undertaken on behalf of refugees.

His recently published book, "To Be a Friend is Fatal: A Story from the Aftermath of America at War," tells the story of the List Project's seven-year struggle to protect thousands of Iraqi allies. It centers on the lives of four Iraqis who stepped forward to help the United States, following them as they flee from Iraq and come up against the challenging bureaucracy of the U.S. refugee resettlement program.

To date, Kirk's writing on U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East and towards Iraqi allies who approached him in dire need of help has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post Magazine*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Foreign Policy*. In addition, he has appeared on *60 Minutes*, *The Today Show*, and *World News Tonight*. A leading public advocate for Iraqis who assisted the U.S. Government, Kirk's efforts have been recognized by Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, where he will be continuing his studies next year.

Mr. Speaker, Kirk has so far helped nearly 1,500 Iraqis, which makes him a true American hero in my eyes. He has given a voice to those individuals who were there for us when we needed their help, but were left to struggle through the system when they needed ours. Kirk has faced significant challenges and proven himself to be a leader whose service to this nation has only just begun.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

**HON. JOHN L. MICA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 12, 2013*

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share in the great sadness of my colleagues as we mourn the passing of former Florida Congressman E. Clay Shaw, Jr., who passed away on September 10, 2013.

I would like to first express my condolences to Clay's beloved wife of 53 years, Emilie; his children Emilie "Mimi" Shaw Carter (Jim), Jennifer Shaw Wilder (Greg), E. Clay Shaw III (Heather) and John Charles "J.C." Shaw (Angela) and his 15 grandchildren. We extend our deepest sympathies to the family during this

difficult time and hope that some solace may be found in the appreciation of a grateful nation for their husband, father and grandfather's service and sacrifice.

I have had the privilege and honor of knowing Clay for over four decades. Devout in his commitment to public service and with faith in God and country, Clay heeded the call to public office in the 1960s when he first served as the assistant city attorney for Fort Lauderdale. He would later serve as chief city prosecutor, associate municipal judge, city commissioner, vice mayor and mayor for his city which he held so dear.

In 1980, Clay was elected to the U.S. Congress to represent the 15th District of Florida. His service spanned more than a quarter of a century, and I firmly believe that future generations and history will remember our colleague as a dedicated public servant who conducted himself with a tremendous sense of higher purpose and compassion for those he represented.

During his tenure in the House of Representatives, Clay championed vital reforms to welfare, Social Security and other government programs to ensure every American had the opportunity to succeed. He worked tirelessly to preserve the Florida Everglades, a great national treasure, for future generations.

A devoted husband, father, and grandfather, he truly made an indelible mark on his family, community and our country. E. Clay Shaw, Jr., stood for integrity, compassion and public service and through that principled dedication, he leaves a proud and distinguished legacy. I join my Florida colleagues and all Members of Congress in expressing our sympathy to the Shaw Family and our appreciation for sharing their loved one with us over these past years in Congress.

#### HONORING SOLENBERGER'S TRUE VALUE HARDWARE STORE

#### HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Winchester, Virginia's oldest hardware store, Jno. S. Solenberger True Value Hardware. Solenberger's Hardware is celebrating its 125th anniversary this week.

Solenberger's was founded by John Solenberger and Daniel Stouffer in 1888 and can be found today at 832 Berryville Ave., where it sells a large variety of products at competitive prices.

The store employs over 30 people from the Winchester community and has been proudly run by the Solenberger family since its inception, now spanning five generations. Currently, nine of John Solenberger's descendants work for the store and one, Cyndi Thwaite, still serves as president.

Solenberger's has been a constant for the community through the ups and downs of the last century and has proven itself a positive force for Winchester and its residents. I wish the Solenberger family the best of luck in continuing the family tradition.

I submit the following article from the Winchester Star on Solenberger's Hardware's unique place within the community.

[From the Winchester Star, Sept. 7, 2013]

(By Sally Voth)

#### HARDWARE STORE IS A FAMILY AFFAIR

WINCHESTER.—The city's oldest hardware store is throwing itself a party today.

Solenberger's Hardware (Jno. S. Solenberger & Co.) is marking its 125th anniversary this week, capping it with a car show today from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event will also feature a bounce house, bungee run, food vendors and door prizes, said Patti Solenberger, director of marketing and merchandising.

Her husband John Solenberger is the great-grandson of the hardware store's founder, John S. Solenberger.

The store got its start in 1888 as Solenberger & Stouffer, at Baker and Cameron streets. Solenberger's cousin Daniel Stouffer was the co-founder.

After the original store was destroyed by a fire in 1908, a new one was opened at 142 N. Loudoun St., dropping Stouffer from the name, Patti Solenberger said.

The business would stay in that three-story building for the next 85 years.

In 1993, Solenberger's Hardware bought its current store at 832 Berryville Ave. The 50,000-square-foot building had formerly been a Heck's and an L.A. Joe's, company Vice President John Solenberger said. His father John T. Solenberger died just before the store moved.

About 40,000 square feet of the space is used for the sale of items ranging from tools to plumbing and electrical supplies, lawn and gardening equipment, kitchenware, fans, soaps, hats, candles, grills and even toys.

"We have to satisfy everybody," Patti Solenberger said.

Today, nine of John S. Solenberger's descendants work in the store. Great-granddaughter Cyndi Thwaite is the store's president.

"We've got a fifth generation now," John Solenberger said.

But he didn't grow up assuming that he would one day help to run the family business.

"I wanted to be a veterinarian when I was a kid," John Solenberger said. "The more I worked [here], the more I enjoyed working with the people. Just the fact it's a family business and being able to keep something going that's been there generations."

While Solenberger's has had industrial locations selling transportation products and bearings, it now handles those products from the back of the store, John Solenberger said.

Along with family members, about 30 other people are employed at the store.

While working with relatives is mostly good, it has its drawbacks, John Solenberger said. "You never stop talking about it," he said of hardware-store related conversations.

"I love working with him because he's a great guy," said Patti Solenberger, who has worked at the store since 1993. "I respect him so much. It's been a great 20 years. We all for the most part get along."

Thwaite has been company president for 20 years, although she said she and her younger brother are more like co-presidents.

"We're very, very proud," she said. "It's something that I guess when we were kids we never thought about. We never thought about being here for 125 years."

Like her brother, going into the family business wasn't part of Thwaite's original plan either. She changed her mind after doing some student-teaching.

"My dad and I worked very well together," Thwaite said.

The siblings have seen some changes in the hardware store business over the decades.

"Back 30 years ago, we were one of the only ones in town, and people had more of an

allegiance," Thwaite said. "And you don't quite see that as much now as you did back then. Same with employees. We've been very fortunate that we have such long-term employees."

In fact, two employees—Jack Shiley and Sam Riley—have more than 55 years each under their tool belts at Solenberger's.

While the arrival of Lowe's and The Home Depot in Winchester concerned them at first, the Solenbergers said their business hasn't really been hurt by either.

"I think people automatically assume we would have an adversarial relationship ..., but they're so good to us, and we're good to them," Patti Solenberger said.

Each carries items unavailable at the other, she said.

"I don't think there's a day go by we don't have somebody coming from Lowe's, or we send somebody," John Solenberger said.

The family is working on an "antiquities corner" at the store to display some of its oldest items. These include a gold-leaf store sign, an oak desk, a carriage lantern, a nail bucket, a key machine, a radio and sled runners.

"These are just things we found when we cleaned the store out downtown," Patti Solenberger said.

When Sam Riley, 74, started working at Solenberger's 55 years ago, customers had accounts, and would be billed. Sales of more than \$100 had to be approved by Solenberger.

Riley has been a part-time employee for a few years, but plans to continue work if he remains healthy.

"I never got out of bed hating to to work for 50-some years," he said. "There was a lot of nice people. The Solenbergers are very nice people to work for. I'm on the fourth generation [of] Solenbergers. I worked under the second generation of Solenbergers, and that was Hugh and Herbert."

"You've got to enjoy your work. I've enjoyed it for 55 years. It's been a good ride."

#### CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTH- DAY OF ROSEMARIE DIETSCHLER

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mrs. Rosemarie Dietschler as she prepares to celebrate her 100th birthday on September 18th, 2013.

Born in Buffalo, New York, Rosemarie has spent most of her life in Buffalo and Tonawanda.

On January 25th, 1941, she married the love of her life, her husband Edwin. Rosemarie and Edwin shared many adventures. During their courtship, the two enjoyed traveling to West Valley in Edwin's car, yet the only way up the Springville breakers was to physically push the car from behind.

A hard worker, Rosemarie held a variety of jobs during her career. In addition to her work as a secretary, she worked at Kobackers, the iconic Mom and Pop grocery store on North Main Street in Brewster, New York, as well as at Hens and Kelly, the chain of department stores based right in Buffalo.

Rosemarie's generosity is unparalleled. A devoted parent, grandmother, and great-grandmother, her hobbies include crocheting baby sweaters and blankets. She made many special outfits for the children in her life, and