

1993, this organization and its army of volunteers has dedicated itself to protecting America's greatest river here at the head of navigation. Countless hours of hard work and dedication by FMR in partnership with many other organizations and individuals is making a difference for generations to come.

When the Friends of the Mississippi River was founded in 1993 its mission was to engage citizens in an effort to protect, restore and enhance the Mississippi River in the Twin Cities region. The river is one of our nation's most important natural resources, cherished each year by millions of residents and visitors alike. As one of the world's longest rivers, the Mississippi is a defining geographic feature of North America and its watershed drains all or parts of 31 states. The river's ecosystem is a natural resource of global significance, with nearly half of North America's ducks, geese and swans relying on the Mississippi River for food, direction and resting places during seasonal migrations.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of its staff, board and the hundreds of members and volunteers that support it, FMR is a one of Minnesota's leading citizen organizations for land conservation, watershed protection and river stewardship. As the ecological vitality of the Upper Mississippi River continues to be under threat, FMR faces the important task of protecting the river's ability to support native plant and animal species. Today, FMR continues to lead efforts critical to the long-term wellbeing of the Mississippi River and the Twin Cities region. FMR provides expertise and technical assistance critical to the protection of the Mississippi River and it continues to engage public and private landowners, local governments and concerned citizens as a steward for current and future generations.

FMR advocacy has helped to make the Twin Cities a model for watershed planning and decision-making. Over the past two decades, FMR has nobly fought for the protection and improvement of the Mississippi River and watershed, and their hard work deserves recognition.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in rising to honor the commitment and dedication of the Friends of the Mississippi River as we commemorate their 20th anniversary today, as they continue the legacy to restore and protect this river for future generations of Minnesotans and indeed all Americans.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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#### HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 462, I was unable to be present for the vote on S. 793. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

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#### RECOGNIZING HOLY NAME HIGH SCHOOL

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#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a milestone in the life of a high

school in Ohio. Holy Name High School in Parma Heights begins a yearlong centennial celebration in 2014.

In the first decade of the Twentieth Century, the people of Holy Name Parish determined the grade school must be expanded to offer college preparatory second level higher education. In the fall of 1914, Holy Name High School admitted its first classes. Educated by the Sisters of Charity, Holy Name was the first Catholic high school in the Cleveland area to enroll both male and female students. In its ensuing century of education, both the school and its nearly 20,000 alumni have gone on to make a difference throughout the community, nation and world.

The school's motto, "The School's The Thing," was adopted in 1926. Its message conveys the credo that personal glory in school activity means little. The school encourages its students through the teachings of the Gospels to live Catholic values and develop abilities that prepare them to lead responsible, constructive, and meaningful lives. Name High School seal consists of the Chi Rho encircled by the school of identification. Its seal, the Greek Chi Rho, is an official expression of Holy Name's desire to do all things in Christ, with Him, and through Him.

Holy Name High School's rigorous academic standards are echoed in its extra-curricular activities. From clubs to performances to sports, the "Green Wave" excels. Coined in the 1920, the Green Wave was first used to described the perfect coordination of the Holy Name football team, which gave the appearance of a giant green wave engulfing opponents.

Through its century of education, Holy Name High School has educated its students, promoted strong values and prepared them to live lives of service. Its alumni include people in public service as well as the private sector, community leaders and those in service to our nation. As the school, its students, parents and alumni celebrate its 100th anniversary milestone, we know they will look upon their years at Holy Name High School with fond recollection, warm memories and pride. Turning toward the future, Holy Name High School walks confidently, ensuring a quality well-rounded education for the generations to come. Onward!

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#### RECOGNIZING MR. WILLIAM "POPSIE" THOMPSON AND "THE WORLD FAMOUS RAINBOW CRUSADERS"

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#### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of one of my most distinguished constituents, Mr. William "Popsie" Thompson, and the young people who work with him as part of "The World Famous Rainbow Crusaders" community musical group. A gifted performer, he uses his talents and abilities to keep our children safe and prepare them for a brighter future.

In 1986, Popsie noticed a group of bored children gathering around his tailor shop in Sunrise, Florida. It occurred to him that what these kids needed was an activity to boost

their self-esteem and academic potential. This inspired Popsie to form The World Famous Rainbow Crusaders, a diverse troupe of over 200 young singers and dancers ranging from ages 2 to 20.

The group has since become a fixture at local celebrations and parades in the south Florida area, representing the community values of tolerance and racial harmony. Furthermore, they are the first drug awareness program to be officially recognized by the Boy Scouts of America. Popsie and his Crusaders have traveled throughout the country, with performances in Tennessee, Georgia, and Washington, DC being among their most notable appearances.

Mr. Speaker, due to their continued efforts to promote the values of anti-drug use, education, and racial harmony, I am proud to recognize Popsie Thompson and The World Famous Rainbow Crusaders. Thanks to them, hundreds of children and young adults in south Florida have greater opportunities to excel and make a difference in their community.

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#### RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING CSM (RET.) ELLIS DANDY

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#### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Ellis Dandy, who will be retiring from Fort Benning's Equal Employment Office after more than 52 years of combined active duty military and civil service. He will be honored at a retirement ceremony on Thursday, September 19, 2013 at 12:30 p.m. at McGinnis Wickam Hall at Fort Benning.

A Columbus, Georgia native, Mr. Dandy enlisted in the United States Army after graduating from high school in 1960. Throughout his military career, he served tours of duty in Europe, Southeast Asia and Korea. He taught at Army schools and served first as an Instructor/Facilitator and later as a Senior Instructor at the former Department of Defense Race Relations Institute, which is now called the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute. His last assignment on active duty was at the Pentagon where he served as the Army's Sergeant Major for Equal Opportunity (EO).

After 25 years of military service, Mr. Dandy retired in 1986 with the rank of Sergeant Major (E9). He earned both an Associate and Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology/Psychology from the University of Maryland while on active duty. He also completed the requirements for a Master's in Management from Troy State University shortly after his retirement. His military decorations include the Legion of Merit Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Department of Defense Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (2), Purple Heart Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge and the Army's General Staff Badge, among others.

Not long after his retirement, Mr. Dandy chose to again serve his country as a civil servant and accepted a position as Equal Employment Officer with the United States Food and Drug Administration in Rockville, Maryland in 1987.

In 1988, the Second Congressional District of Georgia gained an extraordinary and hard-working citizen when Mr. Dandy moved to Fort

Benning, Georgia where he has served as the Equal Employment Manager ever since. Under his leadership, the office has been honored with numerous Department of the Army and Army Major Command awards, including three times Best EEO Program Management, Most Supportive EEO Officer, Best EEO Complaints Program Management, and four times Best EEO Program Activities.

Mr. Dandy wears many hats, both in his line of work and out in the surrounding communities. He is a Certified Mediator, Race/Human Relations Trainer, and Small Group Facilitator. He is also an Ordained Baptist Deacon at his church, where he serves on the Trustee Board and sings in the Senior Gospel Choir.

Mr. Dandy has served in various capacities including president and/or board member with the American Red Cross West Central Georgia Chapter; Muscogee County Junior Marshall's Program; Greater Columbus Urban League and the League's Guild Affiliate; Annual Black History Breakfast Committee; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); Columbus Consolidated Government's Personnel Review Board; Columbus Mayor's Commission on Diversity; Columbus Times Newspaper Advisory Board; Lupus Foundation of America; Controller's Civic and Social Club; and the American Cancer Society, Columbus Chapter's Minority Task Force.

On a personal note, I have been blessed over the years with Mr. Dandy's longstanding friendship. He is one of the founding members of my Black History Observance Committee in Columbus, Georgia and I can personally attest to his strong commitment and enduring dedication to his country and his community.

Mr. Dandy has certainly accomplished many things in his life but none of this would have been possible without the love and support of his wife Edith, their six children and twelve grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, and the more than 700,000 people in Georgia's 2nd Congressional District in recognizing, commending and extending our sincerest appreciation to Mr. Ellis Dandy, a true jack of all trades, for his years of outstanding service to our nation and his dedication to serving his community.

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**HONORING THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARC OF ESSEX COUNTY**

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**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 18, 2013*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the ARC of Essex County, New Jersey as it celebrates its 65th Anniversary.

When a group of dedicated parents, religious leaders and volunteers gathered in September of 1948 to create services for individuals with developmental disabilities, they not only created a service that would benefit a community, but they formed a service that would change the lives of people with developmental disabilities forever. With the efforts from these amazing individuals, came a place where people of all ages can grow comfortably and accomplish goals that would be very hard to attain otherwise.

Today, the ARC of Essex County is a private, non-profit agency serving people who

live in and around the region and it is one of the pre-eminent organizations of its kind in the New York and New Jersey metropolitan area. The ARC provides resources to over 1,300 individuals and their families with both traditional and self-directed options.

Offering a large number of programs, family resources and education outlets, the ARC is happy to individually tailor fit their programs to address the unique needs of each person and family. The group also allows for more traditional services such as Adult Day Care Service and community service programs. Each of these programs has proven to be a valuable asset to everyone involved with the ARC.

The dedication of the volunteers of the ARC is to be commended as well. Their work allows the important programs and advocacy of the ARC to continue and be extraordinarily successful. These passionate volunteers are consistently providing services and assistance to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Much of the success of the ARC of Essex County may be seen through its accomplishments. Their educators, volunteers and staff have created opportunities for people with developmental disabilities that would have been unthinkable 65 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the ARC of Essex County, New Jersey as it celebrates its 65th Anniversary.

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**RECOGNIZING SAN ANTONIO JOURNALIST MONICA NAVARRO**

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**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 18, 2013*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize San Antonio Journalist Monica Navarro, an award recipient of the San Antonio Association of Hispanic Journalists—Henry Guerra Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Journalism.

For 30 years, Monica has been a reporter and anchor for San Antonio's Univision Channel 41, and her name has become synonymous with community news. Before joining Univision in 1983, she worked in Mexico City for seven years as a national sports reporter and anchor. A two-time Emmy Award winner, Monica was named the 2003 National Journalist of the Year by the Hispanic Media Awards.

Over the years, she has reported on stories that have a direct impact into people's lives, becoming a reliable source for Latino news. As a result of a California Endowment Health Journalism Fellowship at the University of Southern California, she produced an award winning four-part project titled, "El Peso de la Obesidad," which focused on the impact of obesity and diabetes on the Latino community. She now has a crucial health segment in the newscast called "Reforma de Salud" to inform the Hispanic community about the recent health reform.

I am honored and pleased to have had this time to recognize Monica Navarro on her career and community involvement. She has contributed her time, knowledge, and efforts to journalism and to serving her community.

**A TRIBUTE TO MAYOR DANIEL EVANS**

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**HON. MIKE McINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 18, 2013*

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly outstanding North Carolinian, Mayor Daniel Evans, of Smithfield, North Carolina. Mayor Evans was elected to his post sixteen years ago and has since dedicated himself wholly to bettering this great community. I ask you to join me in recognizing his long and honorable career.

Mayor Evans' hard work and leadership have been vital to the continual development of Smithfield. During Mayor Evans' tenure, he has administered projects to fix water and sewer infrastructure in the East and South Smithfield and was instrumental in the expansion of Neuse Charter School, an institution that has made a tremendous impact in the community since its opening in 2007. He has also been a great force for economic progress through his pivotal role in the development of innovative projects, such as the Smithfield Farmer's Market, as well as securing lower energy prices for the citizens of Smithfield. All of these achievements have contributed to the growth of Smithfield.

Mr. Speaker, even as Mayor Evans has dedicated many years of his life to solving the complex problems facing Smithfield, he has managed to remain openly accessible to its citizens. His enduring commitment to his community makes him an exemplary public servant, and his accomplishments will continue to benefit Eastern North Carolina for many years to come. As his time as Mayor of Smithfield comes to a close, let us honor Mayor Evans and pray that both he and his family may receive God's richest blessings upon them.

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**AMERICORPS 20TH ANNIVERSARY**

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**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 18, 2013*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize AmeriCorps on its 20th anniversary.

As a co-Chair of the National Service Caucus, I am proud to recognize the hard work and dedication of the men and women who have served our nation through AmeriCorps.

Since its inception in 1994, more than 820,000 Americans have taken the AmeriCorps pledge, serving over one billion hours with more than 15,000 nonprofits, public agencies and faith-based organizations across America. In my home State of North Carolina, 10,000 people will participate in one of hundreds of AmeriCorps programs this year alone.

Their common goal is to improve the lives of the American people, and they have done so immeasurably. Every day, these dedicated men and women work with community-based organizations to deliver services, address local needs, and deliver aid where it is needed most, and in innovative ways. They support and improve low-performing schools, build and renovate homes for low-income families, fight