

HONORING JEFF HORNBECK

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Ranking Member Levin, to honor Jeff Hornbeck, Specialist in International Trade and Finance in the Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade Division of the Congressional Research Service (CRS). After a distinguished career of more than 32 years at the Library of Congress, 25 of which were at CRS serving Congress on international trade and economic policy issues, Jeff retired from government service on September 3.

Jeff developed a remarkable record of accomplishment during his years on the Hill. His authoritative, non-partisan, and objective expertise and analysis, as exemplified in his many reports, memoranda, and confidential consultative work for Members and congressional staff, have addressed just about every major international trade and economic policy issue before Congress. His institutional knowledge of U.S. trade policy and the policy-making process has been invaluable, especially to the Ways and Means Committee and its Members. His expertise on Trade Promotion Authority, for example, is well-known and will be missed as Congress works on legislation to renew TPA.

Jeff's deep institutional knowledge of U.S. trade policies and laws, the global trading system and architecture, a wide range of trade negotiations particularly with our trading partners in Central and South America, and the fundamental trends in the global economy have played a critical role in Congressional consideration of these issues. He has also provided intellectual leadership to the overall research agenda of the CRS Trade and Finance Section, ensuring that the CRS international trade and finance work was provided in an authoritative, objective, and bipartisan manner.

We congratulate and thank Jeff for his years of excellent service to Congress. We wish him the very best in his retirement.

HONORING PASTOR CLARENCE
SEXTON**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Tennessean beloved by thousands of students and worshippers who look to him for spiritual guidance.

Pastor Clarence Sexton has lead Temple Baptist Church in Powell for 25 years.

When Pastor Sexton took over the church in 1988, the congregation consisted of a few hundred people.

Today, the church has grown to more than 6,000 worshippers, and Pastor Sexton's role has expanded to Crown Bible College, where he serves as President.

Pastor Sexton first found his calling to ministry in Blount County in my District, where he met his wife Mary Evelyn Rogers and first attended church at First Baptist Church of Mary-

ville. He also served as head pastor at Greenback Memorial Baptist Church.

In 1967, Pastor Sexton preached his first sermon on a radio broadcast. Decades later, he has lead Temple Baptist Church into the technological age, reaching thousands through audio, video, and the internet.

I have attended Temple Baptist Church many times, and Pastor Sexton is one of most caring men I have ever known. It would be impossible to count the many people he has touched with his kindness, compassion, and grace during his time at Temple Baptist.

I urge my colleagues to join me as I salute Pastor Clarence Sexton, and bring his service to the attention of my Colleagues and other readers of the Record. His calling as a pastor, friend, and leader will continue to inspire many more.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE REPUBLIC
OF CHINA'S (TAIWAN) TRADI-
TIONAL NATIONAL DAY**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor the traditional National Day of the Republic of China, upcoming on October 10, and the friendship that America has today with Taiwan.

What began with the Wuchang Uprising in 1911 has today become an outstanding example of a free market economy and democracy. Our modern, multi-faceted relationship with Taiwan, one of our largest trading partners, is built on trust and shared values.

As we look to the future, our economic association with Taiwan should be enhanced by additional mutually beneficial investment and trade agreements. Completing a bilateral investment agreement and adding Taiwan to fair trade arrangements should be a priority for the United States. On the issue of trade, I support agreements that strengthen labor, consumer and environmental rights as well as spur manufacturing expansion and income growth for workers and business owners.

Taiwan is and will always be an important element of America's internationally focused economy. As such, Taiwan should be included in multilateral organizations of critical importance to its well-being and should enjoy enhanced integration into the regional economy of east Asia.

I look forward to a deepened United States-Taiwan relationship in order to grow the middle class and achieve greater prosperity for both sides. I also hope we see a facilitation of visits to the U.S. by Taiwan officials and a continued strong cross-tourism relationship with Taiwan. We are very important to each other, that importance must be maintained going forward.

RECOGNIZING MS. STACY
BURLISON AS THE AFA CHAPTER
398, 2013 HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER
OF THE YEAR**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Stacy Burlison as the Hurlburt Air Force Association (AFA) Chapter 398 High School Teacher of the Year for 2013. For the last four years, Ms. Burlison has been an inspiration to her students, her colleagues, and the Northwest Florida community. I am honored to recognize her success and achievements.

After graduating from the University of West Florida in 2009 with a degree in accounting, Ms. Burlison quickly recognized her true calling was to serve the youth of our community as an educator. Her passion for inspiring and molding young minds and making a difference in lives of her prospective students led her back to school to obtain a degree in education.

Throughout the past four years at Baker School in Baker, Florida, Ms. Burlison has dedicated her efforts to enlightening her students in the wonders of math and science. It is her hope to generate the excitement that will lead to her students' appreciation and interest in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. Ms. Burlison's application of new and creative learning opportunities integrates numerous STEM concepts, including the skills required to design, build, and program solutions to engineering challenges like those required to help robots navigate a model city.

Ms. Burlison constantly seeks innovative approaches and opportunities to better engage her students, including: the local Industry, Design, Engineering, and Students (IDEAS) Competition, the Can-struction competition where canned goods were used to construct an object and then donated to the local food banks and shelters, and participation in a robotics challenge competition. In fact, thanks to Ms. Burlison's instruction, encouragement, and novel teaching style, her students won the "Blood, Sweat, and Duct Tape Award" for their strong efforts in the Emerald Coast BEST Robotics Competition. Ms. Burlison also established a high school STEM club and Family STEM night.

Northwest Florida has been blessed with an abundance of exemplary educators like Ms. Burlison. She has demonstrated her commitment to the success of each of her young students through her leadership and passion, and her efforts have helped to ensure a strong educational foundation for them, our Nation's future leaders.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Ms. Stacy Burlison as the Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398 High School Teacher of the Year for 2013 and thank her for her commitment to service in Northwest Florida. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Ms. Burlison, and we wish her all the best for continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE WILF FAMILY AND THE PANTIRER FAMILY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two notable New Jersey families, the Wilfs and the Pantirers, as they are honored by the Anti-Defamation League at their Centennial Celebration. Both of these families have survived significant hardships and have made impressive contributions to their communities. They continue to embody the mission of the Anti-Defamation League and are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Enduring much loss and suffering in Poland before and during the Holocaust, the Wilfs experienced firsthand the effects of anti-Semitism and they have dedicated their lives to fighting religious intolerance. Since immigrating to the United States in 1954, the Wilf family has been a prominent business and philanthropic leader in New Jersey. Each successive generation has continued the commitment to improving the lives of Jewish people begun by Harry, Joseph and Oscar. For nearly 50 years, the Wilf Family Foundation has provided more than \$100 million to support various institutions. The family also continues to be a major contributor of the Holocaust History Museum and Yeshiva University in New York.

After losing his parents and siblings to the war, Murray Pantirer attributed his survival to Schindler's List, never learning how or why his name was included. In 1949, he emigrated to the United States with his wife Lushka "Lucy" Lorber Pantirer, who also endured suffering and loss along with her family in labor camps during the Holocaust. The Pantirers found business success in America with their real-estate development firm, which is still family owned three generations later. Throughout their successes, the Pantirers have remained committed to serving their community. Murray in particular was especially active in preserving the memory of Holocaust victims and inspiring younger generations to continue Jewish traditions and legacy.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in honoring the Wilf family and the Pantirer family for their immeasurable contributions to the community and congratulating them on their recognition by the Anti-Defamation League. For 100 years, the Anti-Defamation League has been a leader in the fight against discrimination and continues to work toward a fair and just world for all.

HONORING MICHAEL J. SMITH

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Hutto, TX City Councilman Michael J. Smith. Michael was awarded a coveted place on the Walk of Fame at Morgan's Wonderland in San Antonio, TX which is the world's first theme park designed with special-needs individuals in mind yet built to be enjoyed by everyone.

Michael thought he would pursue a law-enforcement career after graduating from Texas

A&M University. After seeing the condition of facilities for adults with special needs he realized changes had to be made and committed his energies to being of service.

He opened Beyond the Limits, an award-winning day habilitation center where adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities gather to learn social and life skills that can be used at home, in the community, or in the workplace. Along with being a catalyst for change in the special-needs community, the center's cardboard-recycling efforts have earned recognition from the State of Texas Alliance for Recycling and Keep Texas Beautiful.

Michael's activism doesn't stop there. In addition to his duties as a Councilman, he works closely with the Texas legislature to promote legislation that benefits adults with disabilities by providing support and assistance to them and their families.

Michael J. Smith's commitment to advocacy and service reflects the best values of Central Texas. I applaud his work and wish him success as he continues to be a champion for the special-needs community.

RECOGNIZING WORLD WAR II VETERANS

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work and determination of a group of fellow soldiers who served during World War II during the liberation of France. The following men from my home state of Mississippi deserve the highest honor for their service: Thomas Creekmore of Ocean Springs; Gerald Campbell of Gulfport; Jack Carver of Belzoni; William S. Fuller of Vicksburg; Edsol C. Wells of Lauderdale; Joseph J. Coscia of Southaven; Joseph R. Johnson of Columbus; James F. Robinson of Aberdeen; Malcolm L. Jones of Hazlehurst; and Harry C. Quinn of Madison; and William W. Correll of Madison.

These brave men risked their lives for the hope of bringing liberty and freedom to the people of France, and they went above and beyond the call of duty to make sure their hope became a reality. Without their efforts, our mission of winning World War II would not have been possible. On September 24th, the Consul General of France, Denis Barbet, will present the French Legion of Honor Award, France's highest military honor, to these worthy veterans.

Our soldiers deserve the utmost respect from all of those they protect. I ask that my colleagues here in Washington and the American people take a moment to thank these selfless men and women and continue to keep all of the brave men and women serving our nation in their thoughts and prayers.

CONGRATULATING WILLOW SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Willow Springs High

School for being named a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School. Willow Springs was one of just 286 schools selected from across the country to receive this honor.

Blue Ribbon Schools are recognized for high levels of student achievement or for significant improvements in students' academic achievement. Willow Springs was named an Exemplary High Performing School. I am extremely proud of the hard work of the students, as well as the continued efforts of the faculty, parents, and community to ensure that students succeed and the achievement gap is closed. Willow Springs' students have scored at the top of national tests and assessments in reading and mathematics. Concentrated efforts on improving curriculum, instructional strategies, and assessment methods have clearly paid off.

This prestigious honor proves that every student can succeed and meet the high expectations that are set for them. I hope Willow Springs can serve as a model for other schools in my district and throughout the entire state of Missouri.

I look forward to the awards ceremony in November here in Washington, D.C. Again, I want to congratulate Willow Springs High School principal, Mrs. Jimalee James, and superintendent, Derrick Hutsell, for this great achievement.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. L.J. AND MRS. MELVA JEAN HALBERT ON THE CELEBRATION OF THEIR 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. L.J. Halbert as they celebrate 60 years of togetherness. During this period, they have been blessed to have three children; Debra Patrice Halbert Evans, Michael A. Halbert and Jerome Halbert (deceased). They have also been fortunate to have four grandchildren; Patrice Imani Evans, William Samuel Evans III, William Samuel Evans, Jr., and Debra, Paris Elizabeth Halbert, Michael A. Halbert and Kristen Nicole Halbert (deceased), Jerome Halbert (deceased), and Georgette Halbert.

The Halberts have a loving, committed and enduring marriage that has been an inspiration to all who have known and observed them. Both of the Halberts have been blessed to have the love of their families, brothers and sisters; Perry Halbert (deceased), Bessie Lenoir, Dessie Amos, Lillie Pruitt (deceased), Ora D. McGavock (deceased), Joyce Wilburn, Cozine Prince, Charles McGee (deceased), Verdell McGee (deceased), and Leedall McGee, throughout the history of their marriage. Both Mr. L.J. and Mrs. Melva Jean have been cause-orientated and have devoted much of their lives to civic involvement through organizations like Stone Temple Baptist Church, Austin Lions Club, Westside Business Improvement Association, Organization for a better Austin, Chicago Teachers Union, Menard Ave Block club and many other groups and organizations.