

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 ANNI-
VERSARY

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.

I am pleased to note that the love and devotion displayed by Mr. L.J. and Mrs. Melva Jean Halbert throughout their 60 years of marriage has been an inspiration to their nieces and nephews, in-laws, coworkers and all who know them. I extend my congratulations for 60 years and wish them many more.

RECOGNIZING ULAUNDA NUNN AS
HURLBURT AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION
CHAPTER 398 ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR
FOR 2013

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. Ulaunda Nunn as the Hurlburt Air Force Association (AFA) Chapter 398 Elementary School Teacher of the Year for 2013. For 16 years, 12 of which spent teaching in Florida, Ms. Nunn has been an inspiration to her students, her colleagues, and the Northwest Florida community. I am honored to recognize her success and achievements.

Following in her grandmother's footsteps and boosted by her words of encouragement and those of her parents, Ms. Nunn immediately fell in love with teaching, when she took a side job as a substitute teacher following college. This passion naturally led her to change courses and pursue a career in education.

Currently a teacher at Bob Sikes Elementary School in Crestview, Florida, Ms. Nunn's passion and dedication has helped propel her students to become engaged and interested in the world of science through STEM education. Ms. Nunn's curriculum incorporates activities like rocket launches and a chopper-drop to analyze trajectories and learn about wings and rotation, respectively. As an "Engineers for America" Lead Teacher, Ms. Nunn is charged with assisting in the development of aerospace and engineering programs for all students and teachers at her school. With the support from the outside community, Ms. Nunn established the "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology" (FIRST) Lego Robotics Program at Bob Sikes Elementary. In fact, thanks to Ms. Nunn's leadership, her school qualified to compete in the Florida state-level robotics competition in both 2012 and 2013.

Ms. Nunn's commitment to excellence is evidenced by her pursuit of outside opportunities to broaden her own education and experiences in an effort to better serve her students. Ms. Nunn is an active member of myriad organizations, including the Air Force Association, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the Okaloosa County School District's Science and Technology committees, and a regular participant at the AFA Hurlburt Chapter's Teacher Workshops.

Northwest Florida has been blessed with an abundance of exemplary educators like Ms. Ulaunda Nunn. 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 pleased to recognize Ms. Ulaunda Nunn as the Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398 Elementary 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. Nunn, and we wish her all the best for continued success.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SALVATORE A. CELLUCCI

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Salvatore A. Cellucci. Mr. Cellucci was an outstanding public servant and a valuable member of our community. He was a loving family man, coming from a large family of distinguished veterans. He truly understood the meaning of service to one's country.

Mr. Cellucci was an early pioneer in the Information Technology field. His keen intellect and expertise enabled our country to benefit from the early days of Electronic Data Processing, which is vital to the protection of our nation. Mr. Cellucci also worked with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Strategic Air Command, NORAD, the government of Puerto Rico, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. His leadership in the transformational deployment of advanced computer systems enabled government and military leaders to reach critical decisions faster and more effectively than previously thought possible.

Mr. Cellucci's professional accomplishments were only matched by his steadfast commitment to helping those less fortunate in our community. He participated in numerous organizations and activities to forge positive relationships between people of different religious faiths.

Mr. Speaker, Salvatore Cellucci is a role model for all of the people in the first Congressional District of New Jersey. His dedication to our country inspired many to serve our nation with distinction. I rise with the rest of South Jersey to honor Salvatore Cellucci for his outstanding commitment to his community. I offer Mr. Cellucci's family my condolences in their time of mourning; he will surely be missed.

IN HONOR OF TOM RAMSEUR

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the community service of retiring Stanly County Chamber President, Tom Ramseur.

Mr. Ramseur has served two counties in the 8th Congressional District of North Carolina as Chamber President for more than two decades. He served as President and CEO of the Cabarrus Chamber of Commerce from 1988 until 2001.

Mr. Ramseur then served as President and CEO of the Stanly County Chamber of Commerce from 2006 until his retirement this month.

I had the privilege of working with Mr. Ramseur while I was serving as District Director for Congressman Robin Hayes.

During a time in which Cabarrus County was hit hard by textile and manufacturing job losses, Mr. Ramseur helped bring business and community leaders together to spur the local economy and create jobs.

He recognized the importance of an economic-friendly environment that allows businesses to grow and hire people. The 8th district is fortunate to have hardworking men and women like Mr. Ramseur who are committed to strengthening our economy and bringing jobs home.

I'm proud to have worked with Mr. Ramseur over the years, and I know the folks in both Stanly and Cabarrus Counties are grateful for his service to their communities.

(From the Stanly News and Press, Sept. 18, 2013)

RAMSEUR PREPARES FOR EXIT AT STANLY
COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Tom Ramseur is cleaning out his office at the Stanly County Chamber of Commerce and will cede his chair to his successor as he winds down his nearly eight years as the organization's president and CEO.

But he will not be packing up his enthusiasm for the Chamber or for the county it serves.

"The way I got involved in the Chamber several years ago was as a volunteer in Cabarrus County and I knew that side of it," Ramseur said.

He was involved in his family's business, which brought the real-life work experience into the mix.

"We sold our business and I was working for the parent company and I was asked to run the Chamber in Cabarrus County and it appealed to me and I saw both sides of being a volunteer and running the organization," Ramseur said.

His wife, Diane, is a native of Stanly County, which gave him knowledge of the area and he also had known Marianne Bright, who was the former president of the Chamber.

When he came to the Stanly Chamber, the board had just completed a planning retreat and had some goals.

"Chambers are run the same no matter where they are. They are membership-based and we needed to grow our membership," Ramseur said.

"We also, more importantly, needed to grow our sphere of influence because the Chamber needs to be relevant in each community."

Ramseur said that was somewhat of a problem with as many communities and municipalities spread out over such a large area.

"We needed to tell our story and be more of a county-wide chamber," he said.

"We needed to show how we could help people in Misenheimer, Locust, Stanfield and all the others. They needed them to know how we could help and we wanted to help."

He also said governmental affairs is a big part of what the Chamber has done.

"I understood how to work with governmental officials and building relationships and we had to do that," he said.

He said relationships, through no particular one's fault, had not been as good as they should have been with the county commission.

"It just needed to be enhanced," Ramseur said.

He said most people do not understand how the Chamber works.

"We're not funded by the government. We are a nonprofit run by a board of directors,