

Whereas, September is an appropriate month to establish an African Immigrant Heritage Month: chosen because African Union Day is September 9.

I am firmly resolved that a National Americans of African Immigrant Heritage Month should be established to celebrate the significant contributions of Americans of recent African Immigrant Heritage to the history of the United States, and believe the people of the United States should observe the month with appropriate ceremonies, celebrations, and activities.

Americans of recent African Immigrant Heritage strengthen the United States and enhance its rich diversity; it is time we formally celebrate this fact.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF REVEREND CLARENCE BOOKER TALIAFERRO SMITH

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 28, 2013*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Reverend Clarence Booker Taliaferro Smith, the late pastor of the Golden Gate Missionary Baptist Church in Dallas. The street on which the Golden Gate Missionary Baptist Church is located will be renamed in his honor for his unwavering commitment and dedication to his community.

Rev. Smith was best known for his remarkable energy, unyielding devotion to the faith, and his humility and love toward his neighbors. He grew up in San Antonio where he said the life-changing decision to pursue a life of faith came to him in a dream.

Rev. Smith served as pastor for 45 memorable years, first assuming the position in January 1943. As a devoted member of the community, Rev. Smith remained loyal to his followers. In a decisive moment, Rev. Smith refused to relocate the church out of Oak Cliff and into a more prestigious locale. Although Rev. Smith stepped down as pastor in 1997, he remained active in his community. Nationally, Rev. Smith is recognized as an archetypal follower of the faith and a model for his peers.

Mr. Speaker, Rev. Smith was an inspiring and devoted individual. He prided himself on his faith and others frequently turned to Rev. Smith for spiritual guidance. His passing is a great loss to the community; however, his invaluable contributions to his friends and neighbors will be immortalized in renaming this street in his honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 110TH BIRTHDAY OF MARY ANN KNIGHT

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 28, 2013*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to honor Mrs. Mary Ann Knight on her 110th birthday.

Mrs. Knight was born October 3rd, 1903 in Camphill, Alabama to Mr. Robert Lee Trimble

and Mrs. Emmaline G. Trimble. She was the fourth born of nine children, five girls and four boys. Mrs. Knight has lived in Alabama, Indiana, Tennessee and Florida during her lifetime.

Throughout her life, Mary Ann has taught everyone she meets the importance of hard work. She has continued to work around her house and church, the St. James A.M.E. Church in Goodwater, Alabama.

On October the 6th, St. James A.M.E. Church Family will be holding a celebration for Mrs. Knight during their church service. They will recognize her dedication to her family, friends, community and church.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Mrs. Mary Ann Knight's 110th birthday. 110 years is quite a milestone, and I am honored today to help pay recognition to it.

A. CRAWFORD CLARKSON, JR., A TRUE SOUTHERN GENTLEMAN

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 28, 2013*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday South Carolina lost one of its most beloved citizens, A. Crawford Clarkson, Jr., who exemplifies a true Southern Gentleman. The following obituary is from Shives Funeral Home of Columbia, South Carolina.

As Campaign Manager six times for Congressman Floyd Spence with Crawford as Campaign Treasurer I appreciated firsthand his profound Scottish frugality.

Andrew Crawford Clarkson, Jr. of Columbia, SC died on September 27, 2013. He was the son of Andrew Crawford Clarkson, Sr. of Columbia, SC and Jennie Louise Taber of Fort Motte, SC. Born in Columbia December 17, 1919, he was educated in the Columbia city schools graduating in 1937 from Columbia High School. In 1941 he was graduated in absentia from the University of South Carolina having received a commission as Ensign USNR. In 1949 he married Sarah Fairbanks Bull of Georgetown, SC.

Crawford Clarkson's life was animated by an abiding love for country, his native state, and his family. He was a lively conversationalist, a tireless encourager of his children, lover of travel, and treasured his Scottish heritage. An accomplished businessman, his steady wisdom and consummate professionalism made him a behind the scenes trusted advisor to politicians, governors, university presidents, church leaders, business colleagues, clients, and his own children.

A passion for sailing, developed as a Sea Scout on Lake Murray, was reflected in Mr. Clarkson's service as a naval officer during World War II and the Korean conflict. He served aboard the high speed destroyer minesweeper USS *Stansbury* (DMS 8) July 1941 to July 1943, and then aboard the USS *Howard* (DMS 7) as executive officer and navigator. Tasked with keeping supply lanes open despite threats from German U-boats, Mr. Clarkson's convoy duty ranged the North Atlantic, the Caribbean and later the Pacific. He also saw action during the landings at the Naval Battle at Casablanca, French Morocco in November 1942. During the Howard's Leyte Gulf operations in the Philippines, Mr. Clarkson saw his first kamikazes.

After World War II ended, Mr. Clarkson returned to Columbia and joined his father, holder of CPA SC certificate #1, at A.C.

Clarkson and Company, CPAs. He was awarded C.P.A. certification in 1948.

In 1952 Mr. Clarkson was recalled by the Navy during the Korean Emergency and ordered as Executive Officer of the USS *Cony* (DDE 508). Upon returning to Columbia, Mr. Clarkson entered USC School of Law—attending class and working as an accountant by day while studying law at night. He was graduated in 1955 and admitted to the S.C. Bar and the Federal Bar including ultimately the United States Supreme Court. In 1979 Mr. Clarkson retired from the Navy as Captain USNR.

From 1958 to 1966 Mr. Clarkson was a member and executive secretary of the S.C. Legislative Tax Study Commission—authoring most of the tax legislation enacted during this period. In 1960 Mr. Clarkson moved A.C. Clarkson and Company to partnership form as Clarkson, Harden, and Gantt, CPAs. This firm grew to nine partners and over seventy employees engaged in all facets of accounting practice. In 1985 Clarkson Harden and Gantt was acquired by Arthur Young and Company. Mr. Clarkson retired from the accounting practice in 1987 and was appointed as a commissioner of the S.C. Tax Commission (now the S.C. Department of Revenue). He served South Carolina in this position for eight years, the last two years as Chairman. For this service Governor Carroll Campbell awarded Mr. Clarkson the Order of the Palmetto. Upon leaving the Tax Commission Mr. Clarkson was associated with the accounting firm Bauknight Pietras and Stormer, P.A.

Mr. Clarkson's deep family roots in South Carolina led to a sustained interest in the wellbeing of her citizens as seen in his active involvement in many civic, cultural, religious, and political organizations. He was honored to have been a member of the diaconate at First Presbyterian Church and subsequently a member of the vestry at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral; President of the local council of Boy Scouts of America (Eagle and Silver Beaver); Campaign Chairman of the United Way; founding board member of Patriots Point Naval Museum in Charleston; founding member of the Columbia Sailing Club; treasurer and fundraiser for Congressman Floyd Spence; chairman of Governor Carroll Campbell's committee that successfully negotiated a treaty with the Catawba Nation; treasurer of the SC Society of the Cincinnati; member of the Correctional Development Foundation from which came the pretrial intervention procedure in effect today.

Mr. Clarkson was especially concerned in promoting the good of the University of South Carolina. He was instrumental in the formation of the USC Educational Foundation, led the way, at the direction of Coach Paul Dietzel, in acquiring a major bequest resulting in the expansion of the football stadium giving to it its new name Williams-Brice Stadium, and, finally, was pivotal, along with Dean James Kane, and Jerry Beasley, in inspiring the vision for formation of the Master of International Business program at USC.

In addition, Mr. Clarkson was a member of the American Bar Association; the South Carolina Bar; the American Institute of CPAs; South Carolina Association of CPAs (Award for Distinguished Public Service); the Federation of Tax Administrators (board of trustees); the Columbia Rotary Club (president, 1958-1959); the Columbia Chamber of Commerce (director, 1959-1961); South Carolina Chamber of Commerce (board of directors) which awarded him the Sgt. William Jasper Freedom Award; the United States Chamber of Commerce (Taxation Committee, 1963-1965); Columbia City Ballet (trustee); Forest Lake Club; Quadrille Club; Cotillion

Club; Carolina Yacht Club; Winyah Indigo Society; Society of Colonial Wars of South Carolina; Forum Club (president), and member of St. Andrew's Society of South Carolina.

Besides his parents, Mr. Clarkson was predeceased by his sister Jennie Clarkson Dreher of Columbia and grandson Peter Crawford Roney. Mr. Clarkson is survived by Sarah Fairbanks Bull Clarkson, his wife of sixty-four years and by his six children: Jennie Taber Clarkson Olbrych (husband John and their children John Crawford, Ruslan, Christiana, Oksana, Maxim, and Susan) of Charleston, Sarah Bull Clarkson (husband John Herre and their children Margaret and Caroline) of Norfolk, Va., Susan Cornish Clarkson Keller (husband Kent) of Charleston, Margaret Crawford Clarkson (husband Peter Roney and their daughter Margaret Crawford) of Arlington, Va., Andrew Crawford Clarkson III (wife Caroline) of Columbia, and Thomas Boston Clarkson of Atlanta, Georgia. He is also survived by nieces Ann Crawford Dreher and Jane Dreher Emerson both of Columbia. The family deeply appreciates the caregivers from Solutions at Home of Still Hopes and most especially Ms. Donna Turner, and all who cared for Crawford with love and professionalism.

Friends are invited to call at the Clarkson family home, 4339 Chicora Street, Monday evening between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, October 1, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Columbia, 1100 Sumter Street, with burial in the churchyard. The family will receive friends in Satterlee Hall following the burial. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Trinity Foundation, 1100 Sumter Street, Columbia SC 29201, or Indian Waters Council BSA, P.O. Box 144, Columbia SC 29202. Honorary pallbearers will be members of the St. Andrews Society of the City of Columbia.

IN HONOR OF SOROPTIMIST  
INTERNATIONAL OF BUCKS  
COUNTY

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 28, 2013*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, Soroptimist International of Bucks County is celebrating its 75th anniversary and we gratefully acknowledge this milestone, and the mission of this

international service organization working on behalf of women and girls. Soroptimist clubs are noted for addressing the needs of women and girls in the communities they serve in the United States and around the world. In Bucks County, Soroptimist volunteers readily address the local need with thousands of service hours and dollars. Your clubs are carrying on the mission in 19 countries and territories worldwide, as well. Soroptimist organizations are to be congratulated for contributing to the betterment of the community and to the women and girls who benefited by your generosity through educational grants. We know that in 2010–2011 your organization distributed \$1.5 million in educational grants to 1,221 women. As we acknowledge your work in Bucks County we also extend our gratitude to the founders and current members who surely will continue this service into the future.

NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF CHINA

**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 28, 2013*

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the upcoming National Day of the Republic of China; an important day which led to the establishment of the Republic of China in 1912.

Taiwan and the United States have been good friends and strong trading partners for many years. Both countries share common values and desires. Taiwan has proven to be a valuable trading partner to the United States and it is time to formalize the U.S.-Taiwan trading relationship through a Bilateral Investment Agreement with Taiwan.

As a trading leader in the Asia Pacific region, I encourage my colleagues to support Taiwan in their efforts to join the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Taiwan is a trusted trading partner and an economic leader; their inclusion would bring credibility to the partnership and enhance their reputation.

In closing, I encourage United States and Taiwanese leadership to continue their cultural exchange by diplomatic visits to further strengthen this important relationship.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EXPIRING AUTHORITIES ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

**HON. BILL FLORES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2013*

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Senate Amendment to H.R. 1412.

This bill extends many expiring authorities for needed veteran programs, and I am glad to see it on the floor today.

I would like to specifically highlight two provisions that passed out of the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, which I have the distinct honor of chairing.

The first provision was originally proposed in Mr. Coffman's bill, H.R. 1402, which would extend the authority for VA to operate an adaptive sport program under an agreement with the U.S. Paralympic Committee.

Mr. Speaker, under this agreement the U.S. Paralympic Committee provides grants to community based programs helping disabled veterans further their rehabilitation through adaptive sports.

This is an important program for our wounded warriors. It not only helps with their rehabilitation, but more importantly, many would say it helps with their self-confidence and spirit.

I am pleased to see that we are re-authorizing the program, and remain hopeful we can work with our Senate colleagues to pass a longer extension of this program in the near future.

The second provision is a one year extension of the Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program. This is a successful program that provides grant funding for job training to local veteran homeless providers. I was proud to be an original co-sponsor of Mr. Cook's original bill to reauthorize the program and I am pleased to see it is included in the bill before us today.

I thank Chairman MILLER and Ranking Member MICHAUD for their efforts to move this bill forward and I encourage all members to support the Senate amendment to H.R. 1412.