

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, October 28, I missed a series of roll-call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Nos. 561 and 562.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF THE HONORABLE JUDGE JOHN D. ALLEN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my personal congratulations and best wishes to a great friend and servant of humankind, Judge John D. Allen, Chief Judge of the Chattahoochee Circuit of the Third Superior Court District of Georgia. Judge Allen will be recognized by the Columbus Bar Association for his distinguished service on Tuesday, October 29, 2013, at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center in Columbus, Georgia. He will be retiring on Thursday, October 31, 2013.

Judge Allen was born on January 17, 1943 in segregated Columbus, Georgia. It seemed like all the odds were against him of one day becoming a Superior Court Judge. Despite the lack of black role models in the law as he was growing up, Judge Allen kept education as his main priority. He graduated from Tuskegee University in 1966 with a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering.

A distinguished cadet in the ROTC, Judge Allen was commissioned into the Air Force in 1966 as a 2nd Lieutenant Pilot. He completed Advanced Survival Training in 1967, and he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant/Tactical Fighter Pilot in 1968. Upon completion of course, he was assigned to Southeast Asia and flew 167 combat missions while stationed in Thailand. After promotions to Tactical Aircraft Commander, then to Captain, Judge Allen flew another 127 combat missions in Southeast Asia before returning to Tampa, Florida and serving as an academic and flight instructor until his discharge in July of 1973. He left the Air Force as a highly decorated pilot, earning 23 Air Medals, 2 Air Force Commendation Medals, and numerous other awards for his service during the Vietnam War.

In 1975, Judge Allen earned a Juris Doctor from the University of Florida. He was admitted to the Georgia bar in 1976. From 1976 to 1987, he maintained a private law practice in the Columbus area. At that time, Judge Allen and I were two of only four black lawyers in Columbus.

Judge Allen continued to break barriers when he began serving as a Columbus Recorder's Court judge for a year before assuming a position on the State Court for Muscogee County in 1987. In 1993, he was appointed to the position of Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit Superior Court Judge. He has been re-elected repeatedly since his appointment.

Judge Allen's diligent judicial service has also been mirrored by his extensive involve-

ment with the local and state communities. In conjunction with his professional accomplishments in the Air Force and on the bench, Judge Allen has served on a number of boards and commissions, most notably as Chairman of the Judicial Qualifications Commission, and has received many awards and accolades for his service. Judge Allen's contributions to the Columbus area and the state of Georgia have even earned him recognition from the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer as one of "100 People to Remember for the Century."

None of Judge Allen's momentous accomplishments would have been possible without the enduring love and support of his wife Victoria; children John Jr., Geoffrey, and Kevin; and grandchildren John III and Carson.

A true Georgian devoted to serving his great state, Judge Allen embodies Georgia's state motto, "Wisdom, Justice and Moderation." Judge Allen is a man of great integrity who sets a high standard of values that make for a strong foundation of character in himself and in others. On a personal note, I would like to thank Judge Allen for his friendship, advice and counsel over the years. His wisdom and sage advice have contributed immensely to my success. For that I will always be grateful.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the more than 700,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in honoring Judge John D. Allen for his outstanding professional achievements and dedicated service to his country and to the people of the state of Georgia as he retires from his position as Chief Judge of the Chattahoochee Circuit of the Third Superior Court District of Georgia.

WELCOMING GUEST CHAPLIN JACK HIBBS TO U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome Pastor Jack Hibbs of Calvary Chapel Chino Hills and thank him for delivering today's opening prayer.

I have known Pastor Hibbs for many years through his teaching of the Lord's message. He is best known for his passion, and great ability to incorporate the Lord's word into our everyday lives.

Each week, thousands come together from all over Southern California to hear his sermons. And his radio broadcast is listened to on five continents.

Pastor Hibbs is the author of "Turnaround at Home," a practical guide to inviting God into your home, and creating positive cycles in marriage and parenting. He and his wife, Lisa, share their own experiences and inspiring stories about understanding how emotional, spiritual and social background factors play into families. And how to make changes for good—starting at home.

I thank Pastor Hibbs for what he's done for my community and sharing his time with us today.

CONGRATULATING SAINT LOUIS DE MONTFORT CATHOLIC SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school in my district that is being honored as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate Saint Louis de Montfort Catholic School in Fishers, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.

The National Blue Ribbon designation, given by the U.S. Department of Education, is awarded to both public and private schools across our great nation. Started by President Reagan and given annually since 1982, the award celebrates great American schools that achieve very high learning standards or are making significant improvements in the academic achievements of their students. In my district and across the country, the award recognizes the great educators, students and parents who have worked so hard to ensure Indiana's children reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

For all of these reasons and many more, I am so proud that Saint Louis de Montfort is receiving this prestigious designation. It is a wonderful acknowledgement of the school's commitment to providing young Hoosiers an exceptional education. While 417 schools nationwide may be nominated, only 286 are chosen as a National Blue Ribbon School, making this recognition all the more impressive.

Serving children from junior kindergarten through eighth grade, Saint Louis de Montfort Catholic School provides its students with an outstanding education in both academics and the Catholic faith. It has consistently been graded as an "A" school by the Indiana Department of Education and is a leader in incorporating technology and learning in the classroom, while also engaging its students in daily prayer, religion classes, liturgical celebrations, and service learning projects. As a mother whose children attended Catholic school, I applaud Saint Louis de Montfort for its work to ensure its students engage with the Hoosier community and remain service-oriented.

As a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I also want to acknowledge how important it is to our nation's future to encourage and raise a new generation of Americans who have the skills and knowledge to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Students like those at Saint Louis de Montfort give me hope that we will accomplish this vital mission. Their outstanding work is an inspiration to students, educators and parents across the nation. Once again, congratulations to Saint Louis de Montfort. I am very proud of you.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 562 I was unable to be present for the vote on H.R. 2011.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

RECOGNIZING LUCY BILLINGSLEY
AS RECIPIENT OF THE 2013 H.
NEIL MALLON AWARD

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lucy Billingsley who received the 2013 H. Neil Mallon Award from the World Affairs Council on Friday, October 25. Mrs. Billingsley is a Dallas native and well-known real estate developer in North Texas.

Past recipients of the H. Neil Mallon Award include Stanley Marcus, Ray Hunt, President George H.W. Bush, Ross Perot, and Trammell Crow. The World Affairs Council was founded by H. Neil Mallon in 1951 in order to educate and involve Americans in global issues.

The only daughter of developer Trammell Crow Sr., Mrs. Billingsley is not only a local real estate mogul but also has a major global impact. Billingsley serves as the International Board Chair of Women for Women, the Chiapas International Founder, a member of the National Geographic Society Council of Advisors, a member of the Council of Foreign Relations, a member of the Tate Board at Southern Methodist University, and on the University of Texas at Dallas Center for Brain Health Advisory Committee.

Before developing Billingsley Company with her husband, Henry, Mrs. Billingsley was the Chief Executive Officer of the Dallas Market Center and the Crow Design Centers across the United States. Billingsley also grew her travel agency, Wyndham Jade, to be the largest privately owned travel agency in the Southwest. The recently re-imaged and acclaimed Dallas Arts District was just one brain child of Billingsley's many.

Lucy Billingsley has served as an inspiration not only to women of Dallas, but also nationally and internationally. Her humanitarian efforts to promote business and diplomatic relations across the globe will not go unnoticed. Mrs. Billingsley is a personal friend and I applaud her efforts in Dallas and globally.

RECOGNIZING DETECTIVE STEVE
LAIR FOR RECEIVING THE PART-
NERSHIP FOR PUBLIC SAFETY
AWARD

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Detective Steve Lair of Carrollton, Texas and his earning of the Partnership for Public Safety award for going above and beyond his normal duties as a Carrollton police officer in his work with an Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Task Force involved in the statewide, multi-agency investigation and prosecution of members of the Aryan Brotherhood of Texas.

The Partnership for Public Safety Award is given to an officer on a local level which

proves critical in the joint actions with Immigrations and Customs Enforcement. Detective Lair was selected from among hundreds of other applicants throughout the nation, where his credentials withstood the rigorous process of approval. The citizens of North Texas are certainly safer due to his actions, and he is a perfect example of how all members of Operation Community Shield Gang Task Force should operate.

In August 2011, Detective Lair was asked to participate in an ongoing investigation of the Aryan Brotherhood of Texas as well as organize Dallas-Fort Worth area law enforcement in an effort to disrupt and dismantle the powerful race-based criminal prison street gang in North Texas. As a direct result of the actions of the law enforcement agencies Detective Lair organized, three Aryan Brotherhood of Texas members have been indicted, one of which has pleaded guilty. The overall case currently has 36 defendants who have been indicted on racketeering charges. Detective Lair has been instrumental in coordinating the flow of information between agency partners and the Special Prosecutor from the Department of Justice Organized Crime and Gang Section. Additionally, he has been essential in the development of confidential sources, providing information on numerous short term investigations of both federal and state violations.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the work of Detective Steve Lair and congratulating him on this prestigious award.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE AMER-
ICAN JAZZ VOCALIST GLORIA
LYNNE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the passing of one of Harlem's most talented musicians, and a dear friend of mine, the late Gloria Lynne. As I speak with grief of such an overwhelming loss, I join my community in rejoicing a life well-lived and to celebrate the accomplishments of a remarkable woman. At 83, Gloria remained a golden child of Harlem, and with an incredible soul touching the lives of everyone who met her. Her passing on October 15th, 2013 at Columbus Hospital in Newark, N.J., brought immense sorrow to the countless fans of and individuals associated with the R&B, jazz, and pop genres.

Gloria Lynne was born in Harlem on November 23, 1929. Throughout her lengthy career, which spanned more than five decades, her signature resonant contralto could be recognized on more than 25 albums. During her extraordinary life, Gloria Lynne brought great pride to her beloved neighborhood by releasing such hits as her English rendition of "I Wish You Love" and receiving a multitude of awards, including the Outstanding Achievement in Jazz at the New York MAC awards, International Women of Jazz Award and having the City of New York proclaim July 25, 1995 as "Gloria Lynne Day."

Gloria displayed immense talent and love for her community, participating in her local

church choir and winning first prize at the "Amateur Night" at the Apollo at 15. As she grew famous she never forgot her hometown, despite sharing the stage with many renowned names, including artists such as Quincy Jones, Ray Charles and Ella Fitzgerald.

Gloria will be long remembered for her extraordinary voice, charisma, discipline, spirit, and clear purpose which won the admiration of all who were privileged to come to know and work with her during her distinguished career in and around music. I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to enjoy her music and observe her example as a personal inspiration.

But most of all Gloria Lynne was a loving mother and sister, and is survived by her son P.J. Allen and her brother John Wilson who now inherit the solemn pride of having known Ms. Lynne so closely.

Mr. Speaker, rather than mourn her passing, I hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating the life of my friend Gloria Lynne by remembering that she exemplified greatness in every way.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 561 I was unable to be present for the vote on H.R. 2189. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

CONGRATULATING THE NORTHERN
VIRGINIA BLACK CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE, INC., AND THE
GLOBAL BUSINESS NETWORK AS-
SOCIATION

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Northern Virginia Black Chamber of Commerce, Inc. (NVBCC) and the Global Business Network Association (GBNA) on five years of dedicated achievement, and to recognize the Celebration Gala and Awards Dinner being held to commemorate this auspicious occasion.

This year not only marks a milestone for both organizations, it signals the emergence of an improving economy five years after the economic strife that impacted the globe. The Celebration Gala and Awards Dinner will honor the achievements of business leaders and young scholars in our region who are significantly contributing to a more robust economy and vibrant business community.

The NVBCC is creating opportunities for businesses and entrepreneurs to build networks, obtain practical professional development, and gain the skills to strategically grow companies. The Chamber delivers products and services designed to maximize investment, including networking events, seminars, and resources, connecting members, companies, fellow entrepreneurs, public and private leaders who can help advance businesses