

historic feat, a reminder that the tools for success are within reach.

Darren also swims to benefit and raise awareness for the Forever Fund, an organization he cofounded, to help families pay for the costs of treatment in the infant cardi thoracic unit at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. He has raised more than \$65,000 to date.

Darren named the Forever Fund in remembrance of his grandmother. "She taught me that success has nothing to do with your pocketbook, but by how you treat someone who can do you absolutely no good," he recently said. Darren's personal motto is "Every breath a gift," meant to inspire today's youth to overcome personal challenges and persevere in accomplishing one's personal goals.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Darren Miller's outstanding athletic achievements and service to our community and his fellow man.

#### RECOGNIZING RAFAEL PINEDA

#### HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 5, 2013*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and admiration that I stand before you today to honor Mr. Rafael Pineda, who will retire as the lead news anchor for Univision 41 on December 20th. For 42 years Mr. Pineda has been a key voice in providing the Latino community in the New York area with unparalleled news coverage.

Since his 1972 undertaking as the lead news anchor at WXTV Univision 41, Mr. Pineda has consistently demonstrated a zest for journalism that is balanced, and offers fair, universal access to all audiences. In 1988 he became host of, "Punto y Aparte," the first Spanish language first local interview program in the tri-state area. Over the last several years he has consistently guided Noticias 41 to first place in New York's Spanish language newscasts.

Rafael Pineda has served as an ongoing inspiration for all Latinos by building one of the most distinguished careers in television. Mr. Pineda was the first local news anchor to interview major political figures like President Clinton, and influential celebrities like the late Desi Arnaz. In the year 2000, he was the first Latino to be honored in the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Silver Circle, and over the years he has won several awards, including an Emmy. Most recently, Mr. Pineda was inducted into The New York Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame.

Mr. Pineda has developed a career that has paralleled my own in regard to public service, and as a colleague, I have been consistently inspired by both his integrity and his unwavering sense of dedication to his audience and to the news. Over the years, I have appeared on his program many times, both in interviews with Mr. Pineda and in news stories concerning legislative issues. I always found that Mr. Pineda was tough but fair in the questions he asked and the issues considered. Regardless of the subject, or his own personal views, he always had the best interests of his audience in mind. After 42 years of service Mr. Pineda has grown to embody all of the best characteristics of the New York area, and I am

proud to call him a colleague and a friend. He is an invaluable member of the community whose dedication to the people can be seen in all his work throughout the years, and whose on-air presence will certainly be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Rafael Pineda as an Emmy award winner, as New York's longest-serving news anchor in history, and most importantly, as an outstanding example of how one person's lifelong work can leave such a permanent mark in the hearts and minds of many.

#### HONORING THE NAPA VALLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 5, 2013*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Napa Valley Education Foundation as they celebrate their 30th anniversary on December 7th, 2013, at their Annual Taste for Knowledge and Gala Fundraising Event. The Napa Valley Education Foundation (NVEF) deserves recognition for their tireless efforts over the past thirty years to improve the quality of education for all children within the Napa Valley Unified School District (NVUSD).

Since its creation in 1983, the NVEF has demonstrated an admirable commitment to achieving its self-proclaimed vision to create "great public schools that inspire all children to achieve their potential and become vital members of our community." In pursuit of realizing this vision, the NVEF has made significant improvements in the quality of education possible for all students in the NVUSD.

Such improvements include the Teacher Grants Program, now known as the Spencer and Colton Grants, which was founded by the NVEF in 1983 and has raised a total of more than \$1.5 million to fund the implementation of improved teaching strategies. Additionally, the NVEF has created The Music Connection, which brings music education and exposure to over 3,000 students, as well as the Campaign to Sustain Music, which has raised \$85,000 annually over the past three years to sustain the NVUSD's music education programs. The NVEF has also created Tech Connection, a program to assist families in purchasing laptops for their children. Finally, the NVEF coordinates the Teacher of the Year Awards, which recognize and honor exceptional teachers within the NVUSD each year.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor and thank the Napa Valley Education Foundation for their thirty years of unwavering commitment to improving the quality of education for every student within the Napa Valley Unified School District.

#### HONORING COOLEY MORTUARY, INC

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 5, 2013*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor as extraordinary Fu-

neral Home Business in the Mississippi Delta, Cooley's Mortuary of Batesville, MS.

Cooley's Mortuary, Inc. opened its doors in April 1990, beginning a tradition of professionalism, dedication and compassionate care to families in Batesville, Panola County, Mississippi and the surrounding communities. After serving in the United States Army for two years, and in pursuit of a need to do something "useful" with his life, Jerry Cooley enrolled into the Commonwealth College of Mortuary Science, Houston, Texas where he soon graduated and received his National Board Certified license in 1978. He began a career as funeral director and mortician at Brown Mortuary, Inc. in Laurel, Mississippi. With encouragement from his dear mother and a great ambition calling him higher, Jerry Cooley moved to Batesville, Mississippi in August 1984 where he worked as funeral manager and embalmer at Century Funeral Home.

In April of 1990, a longtime dream of Jerry Cooley's became a reality when he and his wife, Norma Jean, held an open house for a "first-generation" funeral home located at 327 Panola Avenue, Batesville, Mississippi. Cooley's Mortuary, Inc. made history in that year by accomplishing what not many other first-generation funeral homes had ever done; they received an astounding 50 calls by year's end and their first few months in business. Building on the strong foundation of compassion and service, and providing quality care to the families of Panola county, and surrounding communities, the business grew over the next several years.

Throughout the years, Cooley's Mortuary, Inc. has employed a number of additional staff, all of whom have been committed to excellence and stellar service for their customers. They have worked closely for many years as a cohesive unit serving the needs of the community with dignity, care and compassion. The business thrived and continued to set a standard for funeral service in the Panola County area.

They say "beside every successful man stands a woman" and without question this is certainly the case with Cooley's Mortuary. The business would not have existed without Norma Jean Cooley. Her strong support and countless hours of work should not go unmentioned. She has served as Vice President and serves the business faithfully enabling it to respond to and serve families in their time of need.

November 29, 2007 marked a new era and a lifelong dream fulfilled for Jerry and Norma Cooley with the groundbreaking of a new modern facility. The "second generation" Cooley's Mortuary, Inc. was built and dedicated in August 2009, making it a premier funeral home in Batesville, Mississippi. The 11,700 square foot facility is constructed on a two acre lot and includes four offices, a library, prayer room, two family viewing rooms, and a chapel with a seating capacity for 250 people. In Cooley's own words, "I wanted to have the very best for the people we serve."

Cooley's Mortuary is a family owned community-located funeral home which has earned a reputation for service, affordability and reliability over the years. Word-of-mouth, without question, is its finest endorsement. Regardless of whether or not a family comes to Cooley's Mortuary for the first time, or considers it to be their "family" funeral home, Cooley's Mortuary

takes personal interest in helping families during the most difficult times, and families continue to overwhelmingly trust them as their premier funeral home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Cooley Mortuary, Inc. for its dedication to serving this great state and country.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES "CHICO"  
DANIELS

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 5, 2013

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Charles "Chico" Daniels. Chico Daniels was known those who knew him as a Chicagoan well-versed in politics with a voice made to sing soul music. Chico Daniels was known to those who knew him for his humor that brought laughter and joy to those around him. Given my longtime relationship with his family, I know first-hand that Chico Daniels was a loving father who supported his children through good times and bad. He was adored by his family and his community, and we all will deeply miss his caring spirit.

Chico was born in Chicago, IL on May 20, 1957 to Quinion and Mildred Daniels. He grew up on the West Side of Chicago, attending Nash Elementary School and Austin High School and worshipping at the Helping Hand Church. Chico acquired an ear for music at a very young age. His signature deep baritone earned him the title of "Little Al Green." In his early 20s, he performed at many of the clubs in Chicago, opening for well-known musicians. Music was most definitely his soul. In addition to being a talented singer, he also was a gifted composer, guitarist, pianist, drummer and organist.

Chico died on November 26, 2013. His parents (Quinion and Mildred) and his siblings (Eddie and Beverly) preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife Rozena Daniels, his children Lavell, Octavia, Jenell, Shavone and Francie; his two remaining siblings Valerie and David; six grandchildren and a host of friends and family.

COACH JOHN WILLIE ('JOHNNY')  
PEOPLES

**HON. STEVE STOCKMAN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 5, 2013

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, whereas, The late Coach John Willie ('Johnny') Peoples of Baytown's Carver High School won three PVIL state football championships; and

Whereas, Coach Peoples, as a student himself, earned a scholarship to attend Wiley College in Marshall, Texas, where he enjoyed a stellar career in three sports: football, basketball and track & field; and

Whereas, Johnny Peoples, in 1945, was a member of the Wiley College football team that defeated Florida A & M (32-6) to win the Negro National Championship; and

Whereas, Coach Peoples was perhaps one of the greatest athletes ever to attend Wiley College; and

Whereas, Coach People received his Bachelor of Science degree from Wiley College in 1948 and earned a Master's Degree from Texas Southern University; and

Whereas, Coach Peoples joined the faculty of George Washington Carver High School of Baytown, Texas in 1948 and remained there until 1967, playing a huge part in the Goose Creek CISD High School and Baytown's sport history,

Whereas, No other Baytown high school coach has ever won a single football state championship for Baytown, while Coach Peoples has won three; and be it therefore

Resolved: That I, Congressman STEVE STOCKMAN of the 36th District of Texas, do hereby proudly agree and resolve that the late Coach John Willie ('Johnny') Peoples be publicly and officially honored as one of the finest athletes ever to come out of Baytown, Texas, and one of the best coaches in the United States; and to recommend his induction into the Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches Association (PVILCA) Hall of Honor.

HONORING HORACE ELLIOTT

**HON. CORY GARDNER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 5, 2013

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Horace Elliott from Greeley, Colorado. Mr. Elliott currently serves as Executive Vice President of the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE) and has recently received several awards for his dedication to the chiropractic profession. Earlier this year, Mr. Elliott was the recipient of the 2013 NBCE Leadership Award and was also recognized as Dynamic Chiropractic's Person of the Year.

Mr. Elliott's 27-year career has been characterized by a dedication to his patients and his community. For his work, Mr. Elliott has received honorary doctorates from Texas Chiropractic College and the American College of Chiropractors, and has also been named an honorary fellow of the International College of Chiropractors. He was elected to the board of the Academic Consortium for Complementary and Alternative Health Care in 2010.

In spite of these professional commitments, Mr. Elliott has also made time to be an active member of his community. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Greeley Chamber of Commerce and holds a seat on the board of the Greeley Rotary Club. He is also a Chamber Representative to the City of Greeley Planning Commission.

I feel very fortunate to represent someone as talented and involved as Mr. Elliott. Please join me in thanking him for his many contributions to Greeley.

IN SUPPORT OF THE AFFORDABLE  
CARE ACT

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 5, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that many of our colleagues across the

aisle are hoping and betting that the Affordable Care Act will fail.

But every day it becomes clearer that they are losing that bet and their hope for failure is not shared by the American people, 105 million of whom already have received coverage for one or more free preventive health care services like screenings for breast cancer and diabetes.

In my state of Texas, thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more than 5,198,00 individuals with private insurance who have received coverage for one or more free preventive services due to the Affordable Care Act.

Children have received free vision and hearing screenings and recommended immunizations.

Adults have received free immunizations and cancer screenings such as colonoscopies for cancer, cholesterol and high blood pressure screening; and HIV.

Women have received preventive services such as recommended mammograms and Pap smears; screenings for gestational diabetes; and domestic violence counseling.

Our Republican friends like to tell themselves that Obamacare is an unmitigated disaster. But to millions of Americans living in the real world, Obamacare is an unqualified success.

TEXAS—ACA SUCCESS STORIES

Take Mark and Lucy for example,

After comparing plans, Mark Sullivan, a new business owner, settled on a bronze option and added dental insurance. He will receive an \$82 per month subsidy, which will halve the monthly premium he will pay down to \$78.

Lucy is another Texan who is thankful for the Affordable Care Act, which is enabling her to save \$2,300 a year on her premium and \$4,000 on her deductible.

Lucy writes: "I signed up at Healthcare.gov and I'm going to save \$2,300 a year on my premium alone—and more, because my deductible will drop from \$7,500 a year to \$3,000 a year. It's still Blue Cross insurance, and I don't have to change doctors, either. I had a choice of over 30 plans and several different companies."

Mr. Speaker, my constituents in the 18th Congressional District of Texas favor the Affordable Care Act because they understand the insecurity and feeling of helplessness of being uninsured or underinsured. My home state of Texas has the highest percentage of uninsured, 27.6 percent in the nation, 4 percent more than Louisiana, the next state on the list.

Mr. Speaker, health care coverage not only must be available and affordable but also adequate for consumers to have the health security and financial protection they need and deserve. The Affordable Care Act satisfies these criteria.

Of course we should not be surprised by the House Republicans. After all, it is was the House Republicans who shut down the federal government for 16 days and cost the economy \$24 billion while refusing to consider any legislation that would create jobs or address the real needs of the American people.