

a more prosperous future for our State of Michigan and our Nation.

JOHN W. JACKSON (BUD FOWLER)

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of my constituents in New York's 19th Congressional District to commemorate the life and work of John W. Jackson or, as he became known, Bud Fowler.

Bud was born in Fort Plain, NY in 1858 and grew up in the famous baseball community of Cooperstown, NY. As an African American in a segregated America, his race often prohibited him from participating in the same leagues as his white counterparts. Despite this challenge, he made a name for himself as the first African American baseball player to participate in organized leagues.

Beginning as a pitcher, Bud soon excelled in all positions of the game, most notably at second base, which he preferred. He played in several leagues in the second half of the 19th Century and the beginning of the twentieth. This included playing, coaching, or organizing for Binghamton in the International League, Keokuk in the Western League, Lansing in the Michigan State League, and various black ball clubs, including the Page Fence Giants, Cuban Giants, the Smoky City Giants, and the All-American Black Tourists.

Bud is recognized as having the longest professional baseball career for an African American prior to Jackie Robinson. He is an incredible role model for all Americans, displaying what can be accomplished beyond all hurdles faced in life. I am proud that I will have the opportunity to attend Cooperstown's upcoming recognition ceremony of this great American on Sunday, April 21, 2013, when a street leading up to Doubleday Field will be renamed "Fowler Way."

HANOVER NURSERY 55TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. John Basar and the Hanover Nursery in Hanover Township, Pennsylvania, which will celebrate its 55th anniversary this year.

In 1958, John Basar, a Hanover Township native, started taking on small landscaping jobs throughout the area while also attending classes at Kings College. Initially the operation was small—just Mr. Basar, his 1948 Plymouth Coupe, a trailer, and the part-time help of his brother and a friend. By 1960, Mr. Basar had purchased a pick-up truck and hired two full-time employees but it wasn't until 1961 that he decided his business needed a name. He chose "Hanover Nursery" as a way to honor his hometown. In 1963, Mr. Basar began to secure his first commercial landscaping contracts. A topsoil pit was purchased by the business in 1970, an asset which became invaluable to the people of Wyoming Valley

when they fell victim to the Agnes flood in 1972. Mr. Basar and the Hanover Nursery were an important part of the storm recovery following this disaster, helping to restore yards for families and eventually re-landscaping portions of the neighboring city of Wilkes-Barre.

From the mid 1970s to the present day, Mr. Basar and the Hanover Nursery have been responsible for many prominent developments throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania. The nursery's work can be seen at several commercial projects including the Crossing Premium Outlets in Tannersville, the community of Sunset Drive in Hanover Township, the Wyoming Valley levy raising project and the newly reconditioned River Commons area in downtown Wilkes-Barre.

Outside the Hanover Nursery, Mr. Basar has been a vital figure in the Hanover Township community. In 2014, he will celebrate 50 years as a member of the local Lions Club where he plays a primary role in the organization's Christmas celebration, planting new trees and decorating them with lights each Holiday season. He has also been a generous patron of the Hanover Township little league.

Mr. Speaker, for the last 55 years Mr. John Basar and the Hanover Nursery have helped beautify Hanover Township and the surrounding areas. They played an active role in growing our community. Therefore, I commend Mr. Basar and all the Hanover Nursery employees who have been integral in the development and beautification of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

HONORING JOSEPH DANIEL BODENHEIMER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph Daniel Bodenheimer. Joseph is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 303, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joseph has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Joseph has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph Daniel Bodenheimer for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE SHIFFER FAMILY ON THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CHAMPAIGN FAMILY YMCA

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House the generosity and

support of the family of Leah and the late Jerry Shiffer to the Champaign County, Ohio, YMCA chapter.

In July 2007, Leah Shiffer and her children donated an 88-acre parcel in North Lewisburg to the Champaign Family YMCA. In so doing, they honored Jerry Shiffer's lifelong appreciation for outdoor recreation—an appreciation he shared with his whole family.

The Champaign Family YMCA recognized the Shiffer Family's benevolence at a 2008 dedication event. The Y has used this land for its summer day camp program, giving hundreds of young people the opportunity to learn about nature and the environment.

On Sunday, the Champaign Family YMCA will formally acknowledge Jerry Shiffer and his family by naming this camp in their honor. Sunday's event will include a tree-climbing demonstration, a nature hunt, archery, and other family activities led by the Y and the Boy Scouts of America.

I appreciate the opportunity to join the Champaign County Y and the people of Champaign County in recognizing the ongoing commitment and gracious gift of the Shiffer Family. I know that the family is pleased that Jerry's vision for a recreational camp for area youth will continue to be fulfilled.

WAGNER-PEYSER

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing a bill to allow for the expansion of the federal Employment Service network to my district, the Northern Mariana Islands to be eligible for Employment Service Programs by amending the Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933, as amended by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

The Employment Service Programs provide funds to establish a nationwide system of public employment offices and One-Stop Career Centers across the United States. These centers have successfully connected millions of job seekers with employers throughout the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam. The legislation I am introducing today, in remedying the statutory absence of the Northern Mariana Islands from the definition of "State," will allow for the expansion of the federal Employment Service network to the NMI, thereby contributing to both the local and National economy by supporting the development of an experienced, motivated, and most importantly, employed American workforce.

Should the Commonwealth government choose to apply for this grant, the funds could be used to stand up One-Stop Centers in the NMI that would help those searching for work find jobs and help local employers find qualified workers. These Centers provide services that have a proven record of success in hundreds of locales throughout the United States.

Our national economy is still pulling itself out of the deepest recession since the 1930s. The economy in the NMI is in even worse condition, however, with declines in GDP every year from 2004 to 2009. This bill provides for the possible extension of a federal

program that is helping address unemployment around our Nation to the one place, perhaps, that needs help the most, the Northern Marianas.

The employment services the Wagner-Peyser programs provide have proven effective in facilitating the connection between the employers' demand for employees and the labor market's abundant supply of a willing workforce. That is why I ask my colleagues to support this bill.

We have to do more in this Congress for U.S. workers. This is not a new program. This is not a fundamental amendment to the intent of the Act. This bill merely offers equal treatment to the Northern Marianas in giving them the chance to access funding to support our local businesses and workers in need.

TRIBUTE TO PAT WOOTON

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated employee of the U.S. House of Representatives and a staunch Kentucky Republican, Mr. Dennis Patrick Wooton, upon his retirement from my Hazard district office following six years of service as my trusted Field Representative.

Pat has been my right hand on many issues impacting constituents in the eastern half of Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District, covering 18 counties. Anytime a natural disaster occurs in our region, such as flash flooding, tornadoes and damaging mudslides, Pat immediately reaches out to local officials to offer a helping hand and evaluate the potential need for federal assistance. He has been a loyal, reliable resource in the mountains of eastern Kentucky, always offering a friendly smile, his contagious humorous attitude, and word of encouragement.

Before serving as Congressional staff, Pat bravely served our U.S. Army in the Vietnam War. He was awarded several medals for his valiant efforts, including the honorable Bronze Star. He is a life-time member of V.F.W. Post 7378 and D.A.V. Chapter 64. Upon returning home, Pat was a teacher, baseball coach, and basketball coach at Buckhorn High School in Perry County, Kentucky, where he also became one of the most beloved principals in the history of the institution. In 2007, he was elected to the Kentucky High School Baseball Coach Hall of Fame. Through his dedicated efforts in the county, Pat gained the respect of the people of Perry County, who elected him Sheriff 2003–2006.

Pat has also been a dedicated advocate for conservative Republican principals and currently serves as Chairman of the Perry County Republican Party.

Pat has a true heart of service, which is displayed by his volunteer efforts across the Kentucky River region. His long list of service includes training the Buckhorn Volunteer Fire Department, serving on the Governor's Smart Growth Task Force, the ARH Family Health Service and Community Advisory Boards, Buckhorn City Council, the Hazard Community and Technical College Board of Directors, and many more.

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Pat Wooton on his retirement, and in appreciation

of his brave military service to this nation. My wife, Cynthia, and I wish Pat and his wife, Veda, the very best in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING ARMSTRONG CABLE ON THEIR FIFTIETH AN- NIVERSARY

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, Armstrong is proudly celebrating its fiftieth anniversary of providing loyal cable service to its customers. With 800 employees, Armstrong serves 282,000 subscribers. Armstrong was founded in 1946 by Jud and Ned Sedwick and remains a family-owned and operated business that maintains close ties with the communities it serves.

Cablefax Magazine, a leading telecommunications publication, recently awarded Armstrong the 2012 Best Customer Service Award for service excellence among independent cable operators nationwide.

I congratulate Armstrong on the 18th day of April in the year 2013. I heartily commend Armstrong for its dedication to customer service and offer best wishes for future success.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL ELLENBOGEN

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I share this letter on behalf of a constituent of mine named Michael Ellenbogen. I hope his story helps others in a profound and positive way.

My name is Michael Ellenbogen. I am living with Alzheimer's disease. I spend almost every waking hour advocating for increased funding for research that will improve the treatment of this dreadful disease. In 2008, at the age of 49, I was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease after struggling to get a diagnosis since my first symptoms began at age 39. There are more than five million Americans now suffering from this devastating disease.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) funds research into critical and devastating diseases such as cancer and HIV/AIDS. Yet there is much neglect and discrimination regarding the allocation of funds for research into Alzheimer's and related dementias. As a person who experiences the devastating impact of Alzheimer's disease every day I hope that research will lead eventually to postponing the onset or slow the progression of this disease, if not prevention and cure.

Currently, Alzheimer's disease only receives about \$450 million for research from NIH, compared to more than \$5 billion for cancer and more than \$3 billion for HIV/AIDS. I am astonished at the lack of funding dedicated to addressing the number one health epidemic. Historically, leadership from the federal government has helped lower the number of deaths from major diseases such as HIV/AIDS, heart disease, stroke and many types of cancers. This past experience provides hope that increased efforts directed at Alzheimer's disease will be met with similar success.

There are many more Americans living with Alzheimer's than HIV; more funding is desperately needed. If we do not act now this disease has the potential to bankrupt this country. Money allocated today will have an enormous return on investment if it leads to the kind of successes obtained for other diseases.

If you have not yet been touched by this devastating and debilitating disease it's just a matter of time. I hope that my advocacy will help prevent future generations having to suffer my fate and that of many others. You can help by increasing NIH funding for research on Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

I appeal to members of the House of Representatives, the Senate and the respective appropriations committees: Make the hard choices; increase funding for Alzheimer's disease. Do everything necessary to ensure that Alzheimer's disease gets the exposure, commitment and funding necessary to change the course of the disease before millions more Americans are affected.

My work as an advocate has provided opportunities to share my story on a national platform. I have provided public comment during meetings of the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care and Services in addition to having my personal essay about overcoming the stigma of the disease featured in the Alzheimer's disease World Report 2012. I have also become a member of the Alzheimer's Association National Early-Stage Advisory Group, helping to raise awareness of the disease and provide insights on the most appropriate programs and services for individuals in the early stage of Alzheimer's and other dementias.

I hope that what I am doing now will allow me to leave this world knowing that I have done everything possible to make generations to come have a fighting chance. Do not forget these people or the future generations who will develop this disease. We face dying in the worst possible way.

Regards,

MICHAEL ELLENBOGEN.

TRIBUTE TO GEE'S BEND QUILT ARTISTS MARY LEE BENDOLPH AND LORETTA PETTWAY BEN- NETT

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two of my talented and distinguished constituents—Mary Lee Bendolph and Loretta Pettway Bennett. Both ladies are renowned quilt artists from Gee's Bend, Alabama. The beautiful work of these honorees and the group of women quilters from Gee's Bend has gained international recognition and is source of great pride to my district and the state of Alabama.

Gee's Bend is a beloved rural community—geographically isolated on a peninsula at a deep bend in the Alabama River, just southeast of my hometown of Selma. For nearly 200 years the women of Gee's Bend have been creating quilt art. These local women use available materials, in patterns of their own creative design. They have received widespread, critical acclaim and their work has been compared to the most valuable pieces of modern abstract art.

Mary Lee Bendolph, the seventh of 17 children, descends from generations of accomplished quilt makers in Gee's Bend. She