

After 25 years with Sheraton, he rose to the position of president and CEO for the soon-to-be-launched Hawthorn Suites. His next industry position came in 1991, when he was named him president and CEO of Travelodge and then president and CEO of Forte Hotels in 1992, before becoming chairman in 1995. Just before coming to AH&LA in 2001, he served as president and CEO of the Pacific Asia Travel Association and was responsible for moving the organization's headquarters from San Francisco to Bangkok.

With more than 50 years in the industry, Joe has seen countless innovations and changes—many of which he created and implemented. He is widely recognized for having revolutionized the franchise concept for Sheraton and popularizing the suite concept for Hawthorn Suites. He has also been responsible for the creation of new initiatives to encourage and recognize the diversity in the industry, including the Under 30 Gateway, a group comprised of young, up-and-coming hoteliers; Women in Lodging, made up of leading women CEOs, high-ranking executives, and employees in lodging; and the promotion of student chapters at colleges and universities across the country.

An honors graduate of Boston College, Joe has earned the designation of Certified Hotel Administration from the American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute. He has been recognized with numerous industry awards, including the first 2012 Founding Member award from DePaul University College of Commerce School of Hospitality Leadership; induction into the 2010 University of Houston's Hospitality Hall of Honors; induction into the 2010 Massachusetts Lodging Association Hall of Fame; the 2009 J. Patrick Leahy Lifetime Achievement Award from the Illinois Hotel and Lodging Association; the 2007 "Above and Beyond Award" at The Lodging Conference; the "Tourism Man of the Year" award from the Pacific Area Travel Writers Association; the 1999 Stephen Brener, Silver Plate Lifetime Achievement Award from Hospitality Magazine; the 1998 Pacific/Asia Person of the Year from Travel Agent Magazine; and the 1994 Economy Lodging's "Person of the Year."

Mr. Speaker, I join with Joe's many friends and colleagues, in Alabama and across the country, in celebrating his long and successful career and thanking him for his leadership, foresight, and commitment to the lodging industry. I know his family—his wife, Ruth, his children, Joe and Susan, their spouses, Robin and Ken, and his five grandchildren, Elizabeth, Colin, Weston, Finn, and Calla—are particularly proud of him and all he has accomplished and look forward to being able to spend more time with him in the weeks and months ahead.

HONORING MARILYN MICHELINI

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the long and distinguished career of Marilyn Michelini. For more than 24 years, Marilyn has served the Montgomery community with great devotion and integrity. Through more than 30 years of professional experience in public service, Marilyn has proven herself to

be a staunch advocate for the people whom she represents.

After 12 years in office, Marilyn will serve her last day as the Mayor of Montgomery, Illinois on Monday, May 13. When first elected, she represented a little more than 5,000 constituents. As we stand here today, that number has grown to more than 18,000. Under her leadership, the Village of Montgomery undertook projects to widen Orchard Road, Route 30 and the construction of a new Village Hall.

Marilyn started her political career in 1982 when she agreed to complete the remaining 2½-year term of a retiring board member on the Kane County Board. Five years later, she became the first woman to be elected to the Board of Trustees for the Village of Montgomery, where she earned the reputation of always "doing her homework." In 2001, Marilyn was elected as Village President, a position that would allow her to utilize her professional experience to best serve the people of this rapidly changing village.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Marilyn Michelini and her service to the constituents of Montgomery, Illinois. There are some people you meet and know instantly that they are trying to leave their community and this world a better place. Marilyn is one of these people. I am humbled by her commitment, and I wish her the best of luck in her well-deserved retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF FIRE CHIEF
RAY MILLER

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ray Miller, who has served as a volunteer member of the Dundee Fire Department for 58 years. Mr. Miller has completed seven terms as fire chief, during which he has demonstrated unequivocal dedication to the fire service and the entire Dundee community.

In recognition of Mr. Miller's service to the fire department, he has been honored with the Dundee Fire Department's Fireman of the Year Award six times. Mr. Miller also received the Yates County Roger A. Ribble Memorial Award in 1998 for his "dedication to the fire service, embracing its traditions, and training its future members."

It is evident that Mr. Miller leads by example. Year after year, he leads the fire department in number of responses, ambulance calls, and extra work details. He provides an example for other members to follow, and inspires younger members to train and perform to the best of their abilities. Mr. Miller is well-known and respected throughout the community, and he is held in the highest regard by his fellow firemen. Anyone who knows Mr. Miller will attest to his character, work ethic, and countless contributions to the community.

I am proud to recognize Ray Miller for his dedication to the fire department, and the invaluable contributions that he has made to the Dundee community over the past 58 years. It is a privilege to have a man of Mr. Miller's reputation in my district and I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize him today.

RECOGNIZING CHILD ABUSE
PREVENTION MONTH

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following.

Whereas, National Child Abuse Prevention Month will be recognized throughout the United States during the month of April, 2013; and

Whereas, preventing child abuse and neglect is a community problem that depends on involvement among people throughout the community; and

Whereas, child maltreatment occurs when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources, and don't know how to cope; and

Whereas, during periods of economic challenges, families feel more vulnerable, and as a result, child abuse and neglect increases drastically; and

Whereas, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure each family has the needed support to raise their children in a healthy environment; and

Whereas, child abuse is considered to be one of our nation's most serious public health problems with scientific studies documenting the link between the abuse and the neglect of children and a wide range of medical, emotional, psychological and behavioral disorders; and

Whereas, all citizens should become involved in supporting families in raising their children in a safe and nurturing environment; and

Whereas, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among state and local government agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and

As the representative of all the people of the sixth Congressional District of Kentucky and the former Board Chair of Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky, be it resolved that the month of April, 2013 is Child Abuse Prevention Month. I urge all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our effort to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening our community.

HONORING DR. GILEY GRIFFIN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Giley Nixon Griffin, a distinguished leader in my community and good friend. Dr. Griffin is a pillar of the Dallas community and has devoted her life and work to educating and mentoring others. Dr. Griffin and I worked together with Jack and Jill of America, a nationwide organization with over 220 chapters in 35 states and the District of Columbia that works to provide social, cultural, and educational opportunities for young people. Dr. Griffin's greatest joy

comes from helping others and her service to God. Currently, Dr. Griffin serves as Elder, Vice Chairman of the Board and Vice President of Women's Ministries at Romine Avenue Christian Church in Dallas, Texas. She was acknowledged recently by the Dallas Post Tribune as their "Leader of the Week," a testament to her devotion and service to others.

Dr. Griffin worked for years as a librarian and Director of Library Services at Jarvis Christian College. Dr. Griffin received her Bachelor of Science Degree from Jarvis Chris-

tian College, a Master of Science Degree in Library Science from Atlanta University, and an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Jarvis Christian College. In addition, Dr. Griffin has authored two books, *Faith Keepers: African American Women Leaders in Texas 1846–2000* and *Texas Christian Missionary Fellowship of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Southwest Region-A Historical Prospectus—1914–2000*. Dr. Griffin is also a Charter member of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa Sorority, Incorporated, Delta Ep-

silon Chapter. She served as First Lady at Corinth Christian Church in Kilgore, Texas for 17 years where her husband, the late Dr. James O. Griffin, served as Senior Pastor.

Mr. Speaker, the Dallas community is indebted to Dr. Griffin for her years of public service. Through her efforts, countless lives have been touched and young minds have been empowered. A community can only be as strong as its leaders, and we have a stalwart supporter in Dr. Griffin.