

missed by me and by everyone who works in my office. While we are going to miss her, we are comforted by the fact that she vows to remain in the Boise area and visit us often. We're going to lean on her frequently for the same advice, constructive criticism, and gentle nudges she always offered and hope to see her regularly on the trail, in the museum, or at a play.

In closing, I would simply like to thank Laurel for her hard work, her tenacity, her good counsel, and most of all, her friendship.

HONORING MARYE L. THOMAS,  
M.D.

### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of Dr. Marye L. Thomas as she retires from over 30 years of dedicated public service, including the last two decades as the Director of Behavioral Health Care Services for Alameda County. I join our community in celebrating the many ways in which her life's work has contributed to the success and well-being of countless people throughout the Bay Area and beyond.

Marye L. Thomas, M.D. graduated from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1965, and went on to earn her medical degree from Meharry Medical College in 1969. Upon completion of her residency at the University of California San Francisco Medical Center in 1973, Dr. Thomas accepted a position with John Hale Mental Health Services as a Senior Staff Psychiatrist. She directed a clinical team and was responsible for intake assessment, crisis intervention, individual therapy, and coordination of treatment for acute inpatients and chronically ill patients in day treatment and community care. She was promoted to the position of Assistant Director of Clinical Services in 1977. During this same year, Dr. Thomas was named in Who's Who Among Black Americans.

Her career with Alameda County began in 1978 when she accepted a position as Chief of Clinical Services for the East Oakland Community Mental Health Center. There, she was responsible for the clinical direction of the adult outpatient component of the NIMH Center with direct supervision of clinical teams, policy development and planning, and community relations. After rising through the ranks, Dr. Thomas was selected to be Director of Behavioral Health Care Services (BHCS) for Alameda County in 1994.

In this vital leadership role, Dr. Thomas led the department responsible for the delivery of all publicly funded mental health, alcohol, and other drug services in the County. She oversaw a budget of \$260 million, as well as more than 3000 employees in County and community based organizations who delivered services to nearly 30,000 people each year. During her tenure, the behavioral health service system evolved from a \$58 million county operated mental health service to a more comprehensive behavioral health care system comprising nearly \$300 million. The growth spearheaded by Dr. Thomas includes a vastly expanded resource base for children's serv-

ices, the increased capacity to offer alcohol and drug services, and the opening of numerous behavioral health facilities.

With more than 20 years' experience as the physician/administrator for BHCS, Dr. Thomas has ensured the provision of high-quality services and the administration of federal, state, and local programs. Among her many accolades and professional associations, Dr. Thomas is the recipient of the 1994 Alameda County Mental Health Association Achievement Award and holds leadership positions in many community organizations.

Furthermore, as a former psychiatric social worker and founder of a mental health clinic, I've known Marye for over 35 years. She has inspired me as a fellow social worker and, for that, I am deeply grateful.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, Dr. Marye L. Thomas, I salute you for three decades of outstanding service creating a more integrated, culturally competent, and empowering system of behavioral health care in Alameda County. I congratulate and thank you for your unparalleled service to our community. You have touched many lives in profound ways throughout your career, and we wish you and your loved ones continued happiness and prosperity in this exciting new chapter of life.

### CELEBRATING OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

### HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Older Americans Month.

Every year since 1963, May has been a month to honor older Americans and highlight the value that senior citizens contribute to our communities.

Recent medical advancements are helping Americans live longer, healthier, happier lives. Those older Americans have a wealth of wisdom, energy and experience from which our communities can benefit.

The theme for Older Americans Month 2013 is "Unleash the Power of Age."

In my congressional district, the Jefferson Center, a Sarasota, Florida, non-profit that provides housing to senior citizens with low to moderate income, is celebrating Older Americans Month with a variety of special events to recognize the achievements of their residents and encourage them to continue to share their knowledge with their family, friends, and neighbors.

I appreciate this opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of older Americans in Florida's 16th District and applaud the Jefferson Center for their efforts to enhance the quality of life of their residents and encourage them to share their lifetime of experience with those around them.

RECOGNIZING FORMER SECOND  
GRADE TEACHER, MRS. NINFA  
TREVIÑO PIÑA

### HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Second Grade Teacher, Mrs. Ninfa Treviño Peña, in honor of her contributions to the South Texas region. On May 8, 2013, Mrs. Peña celebrates her 100th birthday and a lifetime of achievements as an educator.

Mrs. Peña was born May 8, 1913, to father Manuel and mother Procora Izaguirre Treviño. The youngest of five sisters, Ninfa attended Texas A&I University in Kingsville, Texas where she earned her degree in Education. Upon receiving her degree she began her career as an educator. Throughout her career, Mrs. Peña became known for her work as a second grade teacher at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic School and her dedication to assisting students with special needs.

In 1937, Ninfa married Ernesto Peña Flores of Mission, Texas; and in 1987, the couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary alongside their friends and family. Though Mr. Peña Flores has passed, Mrs. Peña continues to be a great influence in promoting strong family values. Reaching three generations, the Peña family has been honored as one of the original pioneer families of Mission, Texas. She has witnessed the lives of her six children, twelve grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren. Mrs. Peña continues to live in Mission and remains a passionate supporter of education.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had the opportunity to recognize the remarkable life of Mrs. Ninfa Treviño Peña and her 100th birthday celebration. Thank you.

### A MASTER'S HANDS

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Michelle and Jim Bartlett and their company, A Master's Hands, for receiving the Golden Rotary Ethics in Business award.

A Master's Hands adheres to high standards of business ethics and employs ethical behavior as a philosophy in daily business.

Co-founder Jim Bartlett is the principal source behind this philosophy and serves as a role model for the employee's at A Master's Hands. Leading by example from the top is demonstrated through commitment to hard work and excellence in everything they do.

Giving back to the community is something Michelle and Jim strive to achieve. Working with Jeffco Workforce Center and Jefferson County Human Services, A Master's Hands offers job skills trainings to help individuals find employment. The company has been known to do pro-bono work for families and provide discounts to others who needed their help, all of which has made a lasting impact in the neighborhoods in which they work.

I am honored to congratulate Michelle and Jim Bartlett and A Master's Hands for their commitment to outstanding ethics in business and receiving this very deserved award.

**HONORING COACH PAUL PATTERSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT**

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Coach Paul Patterson on the occasion of his retirement. Coach Patterson has led the Taylor University Men's Basketball team for an incredible 34 years. In that time, he's recorded 734 victories and an astonishing 28 winning seasons.

As he finishes his illustrious career, Coach Patterson is ranked eleventh all-time among men's collegiate basketball coaches in wins, and has won more games than any other collegiate head coach in Indiana's history. Given the Hoosier state's tremendous basketball legacy, Coach Patterson's accomplishment is all the more impressive.

Coach Patterson has not only won games, but also helped form young men who are champions both on and off the court. He has been recognized as the Coach-of-the-Year twelve times, and 24 of his players have been named to the prestigious NAIA All-American team. This outstanding accomplishment is a reflection of the quality and character of Coach Patterson's players as well as his exceptional talent as a coach and mentor. As the daughter of a high school football coach, I understand the time commitment and personal sacrifices required to lead young athletes to victory, and applaud Coach Patterson's years of leadership.

On behalf of the constituents of the Fifth Congressional District, I congratulate Coach Patterson on the occasion of his retirement. Thank you, Coach, for your 34 years of dedicated leadership with Taylor University. Best wishes to you as you pursue new challenges in the many bright years ahead of you.

**A TRIBUTE TO JACQUELYN BAMBERSKI—TEAMSTERS LOCAL 830 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT**

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute today for Jacquelyn Bamberski, a 2013 award recipient of the Teamsters Local 830 Scholarship Fund. Over the past 37 years, this important fund has awarded scholarships totaling over \$2.7 million dollars to talented young adults throughout our community. Because of the hard work of the members of Teamsters Local 830 and the employers of these members, students like Jacquelyn are able to make higher education possible.

Jacquelyn's father, Joseph Bamberski, works in the Delivery Department of Canada Dry. I greatly admire Jacquelyn's hard work at

Archbishop Ryan High School and her aspirations to study biology. With her work ethic, I am sure Jacquelyn will achieve her dream of getting her Physical Therapy Doctorate.

I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues help me in honoring Jacquelyn Bamberski and her commitment to her community and studies that enabled her to become a 2013 award recipient of the Teamsters Local 830 Scholarship Fund.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, April 26, 2013, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 125 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1765); "no" on rollcall vote No. 126 (on agreeing to the Dent Amendment Number 2 to H.R. 527); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 127 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 527 with instructions); and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 128 (on passage of H.R. 527).

**HONORING MAUDELLÉ SHIREK**

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of the Honorable Maudelle Shirek, former City of Berkeley vice mayor and eight-term council member. Known throughout our community as the "godmother of East Bay progressive politics," and the "conscience of the Council," Ms. Shirek has left an indelible mark. With her passing on April 11, 2013, we look to the outstanding quality of her life's work and the inspiring role she played in shaping social change here in the East Bay and throughout the world.

Born on June 18, 1911 Maudelle Miller was raised on a farm in Jefferson, Arkansas. The granddaughter of slaves, she was fundamentally passionate about challenging injustice and championing civil rights. After moving to Berkeley in the 1940s, she became active in fighting for the anti-war movement, the integration of the military, and fair housing. She married political activist Brownlee Shirek in the mid-1960s.

Renowned for her powerful voice and contagious energy, Ms. Shirek broke racial barriers and flexed her leadership at the Berkeley Consumers Co-op Credit Union to secure loans for low-income borrowers and people of color. She fought on behalf of unions, helped organize the Free Mandela Movement, and advocated for HIV/AIDS awareness. She was also the first elected official in the United States to advocate for needle-exchange programs, and was not afraid to chain herself to a building or be hand-cuffed in the name of activism.

During her long tenure as a council member, Berkeley became the first city to divest in companies doing business with South Africa

during Apartheid and the first city to provide domestic benefits to same sex partners. She was instrumental in creating multiple city commissions, including the Berkeley Commission on Labor. When she retired at 92, Councilmember Shirek was the oldest elected official in California at the time and, in 2007, the Berkeley City Council renamed City Hall in her honor.

Above all, Maudelle Shirek was a consummate advocate for the poor, often visiting families in crisis or offering food and household assistance to ailing seniors. Additionally, her advocacy on behalf of youth music programs helped raise crucial public funding to support arts programs for children and older adults.

On a personal note, Maudelle was a friend, mentor, and confidante. I met her in the early 1970s while I was a student at Mills College. She widened my perspective on global politics during our travels around the world including Vienna, Prague, Cuba, and the former Czechoslovakia. She reinforced the idea that we are all part of a global family and that what happens here in the United States affects our brothers and sisters in other parts of the world and vice versa. Moreover, her wise guidance as a lifelong health aficionado helped educate seniors and the entire community regarding the benefits of healthy living and natural remedies. She loved shopping for fresh fruits and vegetables and you would often find her cooking nutritious meals at the West Berkeley Senior Center and New Light Senior Center, which she helped found.

Maudelle was also a woman of great faith whose passion for service and justice was driven by a commitment to what she called, "doing the Lord's work on earth." We enjoyed attending the Church for Today together during the 1970s, and I will never forget the day she introduced me to the late Rev. Dr. W. Hazaiah Williams. The impact that they both had on my life is profound. I will also never forget how Maudelle traveled all the way to Washington, DC to look out for me and offer her support after my lone vote back in 2001.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors an outstanding individual and a stalwart community leader, the Honorable Maudelle Shirek. Her bold legacy of service, spanning over seven decades, will continue to inspire many to speak for the voiceless and to stand up for justice across the globe. I join all of Maudelle's loved ones in celebrating her incredible life and her love of humanity. Her warm and beautiful smile will continue to smile down on us. She will be deeply missed.

**IN TRIBUTE TO DR. GRACE JONES**

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2013*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Grace Jones on her retirement as President of Three Rivers Community College in Norwich, Connecticut. Dr. Jones' exemplary work and dedication to eastern Connecticut's students and her community has contributed greatly to the educational development of our region.

Dr. Jones began her career as a high school physical education and science instructor in Chicago, Illinois. She advanced to higher