

Whereas, Ms. Mary Glenn led by doing behind the scenes, front and center for the state of Georgia, DeKalb County, her church, Ebenezer Baptist Church and for her beloved sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; this virtuous Proverbs 31 woman was a mother, grandmother, a daughter and a friend; she was our warrior, our matriarch, a woman of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of our district until her end; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional recognition on Ms. Mary Glenn for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens in Georgia and throughout the Nation; a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 113th Congress that Ms. Mary Glenn of DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor": Ms. Mary Glenn, U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 9th day of February, 2013.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY JUDITH HONISEK

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the passing of Mary Judith Honisek of Connellsville, Pennsylvania who died on April 30th at the age of 97.

Mrs. Honisek was definitely a woman before her time. A graduate of Seton Hill College, she was a World War II veteran, serving as a Captain in the United States Medical Corps in England and France.

Mrs. Honisek was the mother of two daughters, Judith and Jane, and the grandmother of David and Gregory. She was active in her parish, Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church, and was an endless source of knowledge and advice for friends and family members including my wife Rosemary who was her niece.

Mary Judith Honisek was beloved by all who were privileged to know her. May she rest in peace.

HONORING LORRAINE GOBERT

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, twenty seven years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Internal Revenue Service in Houston, Texas; and

Whereas, Ms. Lorraine Gobert began her career with the IRS as a W-4 Clerk in 1986 and today retires as a member of the Taxpayer Advocate Service Team in Atlanta, Georgia; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents, giving the citizens of our District a friend to help those in need,

a fearless leader and a servant to all who wants to insure that the system works for everyone; and

Whereas, Ms. Lorraine Gobert is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Lorraine Gobert on her retirement from the Internal Revenue Service and to wish her well in her new endeavors; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim January 30, 2013 as Ms. Lorraine Gobert Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 30th day of January, 2013.

NUVIA RAMIREZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nuvia Ramirez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Nuvia Ramirez is an 8th grader at Wheat Ridge 5-8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nuvia Ramirez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nuvia Ramirez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF THE VILLAGE PROJECT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Village Project for five years of exemplary service. Founded in 2008, the Village Project sought to fill the gap in mental health and family counseling services geared toward the African American community on the Monterey Peninsula in particular and the broader Monterey Bay Area as a whole.

The Village Project was born from the efforts and love of many people. But it was Mel and Regina Mason who truly made it happen. They designed the project and spent countless hours in chasing down all the myriad of clinical, fiscal, administrative, and other details that turned the idea of the Village Project into a reality. Indeed, it is their love and dedication to the people of the Monterey Bay region that infuse every aspect of the Village Project and has made it such a success in its short history.

The Village Project provides culturally-appropriate services to the African American

population in order to address that community's unmet needs. While it focuses on African Americans, the Village Project is dedicated to providing services to anyone who needs them. It offers mental health counseling, a parenting program, several academic support groups for youth, as well as support for community-building.

Mel Mason, who serves as the organization's executive director and primary counselor, ensures that the Village Project works in partnership with community organizations, schools, faith-based institutions, and other agencies to collectively support children and families of all cultures. It is a true measure of its broad base of support that the organization's board is a who's who of community leaders who see many of the goals of their own work realized in the efforts of the Village Project.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in congratulating the Village Project on its five year anniversary, expressing our gratitude for all of the good accomplished in that time, and our best wishes for the years of community service to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF REVEREND NIMROD REYNOLDS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask for the House's attention today to honor the late Reverend Nimrod Reynolds.

Reverend Nimrod Reynolds was born on April 30th, 1931, to the late Shelly and Bessie Reynolds of Chambers County, Alabama. In 1957, he married the late Luenell (Todd) Reynolds. Together they had two children, Tammye Quinell and Andre' deKoven.

In 1949, Nimrod graduated from Chambers County High School and in 1954 he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Clark College in Atlanta, Georgia. Three years later, Nimrod received his Masters Degree from the International Theological Seminary. He continued his education, and in 1993, received his Doctorate of Ministry from Wesleyan Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

In fall of 1958, he became pastor of First Baptist Church in Union Springs, Alabama, and in 1960, he began preaching at 17th Street Missionary Baptist Church in Anniston, Alabama. After the bus bombing in Anniston, Reverend Reynolds founded the Calhoun County Improvement Association. His dedication to Civil Rights continued and in 1967 he and his two children integrated Tenth Street Elementary School.

In 1969, he was appointed to the national board of the SCLC. In 1976, Reverend Reynolds was elected as the first black president of the Anniston City Board of Education. In 2012, he was recognized by both the University of Alabama and the Alabama Black Achievers for his work in civil rights.

Please join me in celebrating Reverend Reynolds' achievements in the Third District of Alabama and in honoring his legacy of civic engagement.

PUERTO RICO STATUS
LEGISLATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, if we are to fairly resolve the issue of Puerto Rico's status, we must find a framework for true self-determination. The "Puerto Rico Status Resolution Act" being introduced today fails that test in every aspect: it denies Puerto Ricans a true vehicle for self-determination and fabricates a superficial majority in favor of statehood.

I think it is critical that my colleagues understand how flawed the process was for the plebiscite held in November of 2012. By rigging the process, architects of this vote effectively ensured that the outcome would be a result they desired.

It should be recognized that votes cast in favor of statehood did not exceed 44 percent—a number that has remained relatively flat for two decades. It is important to note that 26 percent of voters cast blank ballots during this part of the vote. These votes should be considered votes against statehood as casting a blank ballot is part of traditional form of objecting to an unfair process in Puerto Rican political history. Indeed, during this referendum, the Commonwealth Party adopted a resolution asking voters to protest the process by casting blank ballots. In short, even with this unfair and flawed process, 55 percent of Puerto Rican voters cast ballots unsupportive of statehood.

Despite these numbers, the bill being proposed today continues to perpetuate this unfair political gamesmanship, seeking to promote statehood at the exclusion of other potential political solutions.

Mr. Speaker, rather than inserting ourselves into the political status debate for Puerto Rico, Congress should be exploring ways to raise the quality of life for the 3.6 million American citizens who reside in Puerto Rico. By fostering economic development there, encouraging outside investment and spurring economic opportunity, we can help all Puerto Ricans enjoy a better life—while enhancing the economy of the mainland United States. Investments in education and infrastructure can make Puerto Rico a better place to live, while providing a solid foundation for future generations. Preserving the islands' natural beauty and addressing environmental justice issues is also vitally important.

These are the issues we should be tackling, rather than requiring Puerto Ricans to participate in a flawed process aimed at promoting the political goals of a minority of voters. The ultimate solution for Puerto Rico's future will be realized by creating economic opportunity and justice, investing in growth and infrastructure, not through unfair processes that seek to foreclose one option in favor of statehood.

I submit a Concurrent Resolution recently considered by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's legislature.

IN HONOR OF MADISON CENTRAL
INDIANS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great pride to recognize a group of young men from Madison County in Kentucky's Sixth Congressional District, who tirelessly worked this season to accomplish what athletes across our great Commonwealth of Kentucky often dream of accomplishing during their high school tenure.

This band of brothers, the Madison Central Indians, successfully beat Ballard High School in a last-second shot to be crowned champions of the 96th Annual Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) Sweet Sixteen Championship.

In a state where basketball is not a pastime, but a passion, our youth are raised dreaming of the sound of the crowd in the hallowed halls of Rupp Arena. This year over 17,000 fans cheered these young men to victory.

For head coach Allen Feldhaus, Jr., this championship holds a special place. The last time he was in a state championship game, it was in 1981 being coached by his father, Allen Feldhaus, Sr. Clearly the love for the basketball is a family affair that made it to the record books; this duo is the only father and son pair to have both coached in a state championship game.

Led by eight seniors, this team did what it took on the court and in the classroom. I commend the teamwork of the following men: Zach Jarvis, George Walker, Daniel Parke, Ken-Jah Bosley, Coty Alexander, Ross Ramsey, Griffin Hotchkiss, Demarcus George, Nick Kavanaugh, Kirkland Humphrey, Chris Conner, Dominique Hawkins, Hunter Stocker, John Williams, Tariq Smith, Sam Jones, Cameron Thomas, Seth Richardson, Jyre Richardson and Quan Taylor.

I would also like to congratulate Dominique Hawkins, named the 2013 Kentucky "Mr. Basketball." Dominique will be attending and playing basketball for my alma mater, the University of Kentucky in the Sixth Congressional District.

I extend my congratulations not only to the team, but to the Madison Central coaching staffs, teachers, families and fans who supported this team throughout the season and helped make this victory possible.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRIGADIER
GENERAL GARRETT S. YEE

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Brigadier General Garrett S. Yee, from Fremont, California who recently was promoted from Colonel to Brigadier General by the United States Army. I will be attending a promotion ceremony for Brigadier General Yee on May 19, 2013 at the Niles Veterans Hall. I am proud to honor Brigadier General Yee, who has served his community with excellence and has executed his role as

a public servant with professionalism, fairness, and integrity.

Brigadier General Yee was commissioned as an Infantry Officer in 1987 after graduating from Santa Clara University, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in combined science. He also obtained a master's degree in business administration from Golden Gate University and a master's degree in strategic studies from the Army War College.

Throughout his military career he has held an assortment of staff and command positions. Brigadier General Yee recently returned from Afghanistan, where he served as Deputy Commander for the 335th Signal Command from October 2011 until October 2012. During his time in Afghanistan, he provided senior leadership for all of the 335th Signal Command operations. Brigadier General Yee deployed to Iraq in 2006 as the lead Theater Observation Detachment Officer on behalf of the Center for Army Lessons Learned, which is where he authored a handbook on provincial reconstruction teams in Iraq.

Most recently, in December 2012, Brigadier General Yee became Deputy Commander for Mobilization for the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command at Scott Air Force Base.

I want to thank Brigadier General Yee for his continued service and commitment to our country. The United States appreciates his efforts to ensure our rights and benefits are protected. I wish him the best of luck in his new position.

CONGRATULATING EAST PEORIA
SCHOOL DISTRICT 86 ON BEING
NAMED A BEST COMMUNITY FOR
MUSIC EDUCATION

HON. AARON SCHOCK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. SCHOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate East Peoria School District 86 on being distinguished as one of the Best Communities for Music Education by the NAMM Foundation. This award recognizes excellence in ensuring that students have access to comprehensive music education, both inside and outside the classroom, and I applaud their efforts.

By making a deliberate decision to elevate diverse musical learning experiences to a priority, the teachers, faculty, and administrators of District 86 are embodying a principle that 94 percent of Americans agree with: that music is a vital part of a child's education. Study after study has shown that participation in music and arts advances student achievement in all areas of study, from math and science to English and language skills. Schools that put a priority on music education have students who are more motivated, resulting in lower dropout rates, higher standardized test scores, and thriving student body communities.

The benefits of music education go far beyond the four walls of school buildings. In a survey of top U.S. CEO's, one of the top five traits they are looking for in their workforce is creativity. Our economy needs innovative thinkers, problem solvers, and collaborative people with the ability to think outside-the-box.