

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING CHESTER H. SANFORD

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a challenge-oriented young man who understands that it takes tenacity and self reliance to reach the highest success, Mr. Chester H. Sanford.

Chester H. Sanford was born November 26, 1995 in Chicago, IL, to the proud parents of Travis and Nora Stanford. He attended St. Elizabeth Catholic School in Chicago, IL, for two years, kindergarten and first grade. It was at this institution that he credits for giving him an advanced perspective of what knowledge is and what can be done to obtain it.

In September 2003 Chester and his mother relocated to Vicksburg, MS to care for his grandmother. Chester believes the responsibility of caring for his grandmother in the absence of his mother is what taught him the value in giving and caring for others.

Chester is a member of the The Vicksburg High School JROTC in which he credits for molding his character. Chester has climbed the ranks in JROTC: starting his freshmen year he went from being a cadet private to cadet corporal. In his sophomore year he progressed from cadet corporal to cadet second lieutenant and gained the position of the battalion training officer; and currently during his junior year he has climbed to cadet captain from cadet second lieutenant. Through this program Chester has learned what service truly is. He has led several community projects at nursing homes, the elementary schools, community outreach events. He has also participated in charity events for the local Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Center through the culinary arts program, in which he, along with twenty other students prepared thousands of hot meals that were sold to gain money for the organization.

Chester credits his mother for being the backbone of the family and directing his path. His motto is, "that all things can be done through the love and service of your fellow man."

Chester is a member of Mt. Carmel M.B. Church where he has served as secretary of the Sunday School Department since 2008 and in 2011 became a Sunday School Teacher.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Chester H. Stanford for his hard work, dedication and a strong desire to achieve through adversity.

STUDENT LOANS

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following:

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA,
STUDENT GOVERNMENT,
Gainesville, FL, June 5, 2013.

Hon. Corrine Brown,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN BROWN: A well-educated workforce is essential to the growth of our country. I firmly believe that higher education is what drives our economy and gives our country its competitive advantage in the current global economy. As the colleges and universities in the United States make progress towards curing cancer and finding alternative energy sources, the cost of a college degree has increased progressively.

According to the SFA Funds Management Report from the University of Florida, over 10,000 students have received \$37,122,091 in subsidized Stafford Loans. Across the board, the cost of a college degree has increased by more than 1,000 percent in the past 35 years and many students simply cannot bear the cost of a college degree.

I do not want to see student loan rates increase, but I recognize the need for long-term solutions to the problems that students face. I, along with the 50,000+ students at the University of Florida, support a bipartisan solution that will contribute to the success of students and support them in today's economy. This is an issue that we care about and it is a discussion that we want to be a part of.

Economics teaches us that stability is one of the greatest influences in any market. Students need to be able to plan for the financial responsibilities of college and a stable loan market is crucially important to providing stability and security. I think that everyone can agree that students should be focused on their education and college graduates should be focused on their career. Unfortunately, the current loan crisis has students and graduates focused on the amount of money they owe instead of studying and contributing to the nation's economy.

Ensuring that all stakeholders' voices are heard during the discussion is our main priority in finding a long-term solution to student loan rates. We are receptive to entertaining different possible solutions until the best one is found. Students and their families deserve financial stability instead of crippling adjustments or rate increases that would hinder their success. I look forward to discussing this issue with members from the state of Florida, and would gladly share my viewpoint with other Members of Congress.

Go Gators.

CHRISTINA BONARRIGO,
Student Body President,
University of Florida.

HONORING CAMERON MILLER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cameron Miller. Cameron is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizen-

ship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 214, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Cameron has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Cameron 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, Cameron has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Cameron reconstructed a hiking trail inside the Parkville Nature Sanctuary in Parkville, Missouri, overlaying the path with mulch and providing a better walking experience for hikers in the sanctuary.

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

IN APPRECIATION OF MS. LAVENA PACE

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I have the opportunity to recognize the remarkable career of Ms. Lavena Pace as an integral member of my staff. After 10 years of service in my Monroe District Office, my staff and I wish her the best on her retirement.

Ms. Pace's kind-hearted and Christian character made her a natural in assisting the constituents of the 5th Congressional District. During her tenure, Ms. Pace has helped countless individuals, earning the respect and admiration of everyone she has met along her journey.

Over the years, I have watched Ms. Pace give tirelessly to her work. Ms. Pace's dedication, positive attitude, and work ethic will be deeply missed.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Lavena Pace on an exemplary career as she celebrates her retirement.

RECOGNIZING BERKLEY CHARTER SCHOOL, RECIPIENT OF THE SUPPORTMUSIC MERIT AWARD

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate Berkley Charter School of Polk, Florida on earning the SupportMusic Merit Award for academic excellence. The SupportMusic Merit Award is a national designation sponsored by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

(NAMM Foundation), which acknowledges communities throughout America that support and advance musical education curriculum.

In order for communities and schools to be awarded this designation, they must first complete a rigorous application process. Berkley Charter School was selected by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation due to their high quality music education program. The Central Florida community is blessed to have an educational institution such as Berkley Charter School that is committed the educational development and successes of its students.

On behalf of the Central Florida community, I am pleased to recognize Berkley Charter School, and I congratulate the students and faculty on their accomplishment of achieving excellence in musical education. May their hard work and dedication inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

HONORING SHANNON GUNIER OF LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Shannon Gunier, who is retiring after 20 years of service to the Lake County Winegrape Commission.

Shannon Grunier and her husband, Rick Gunier, moved from Southern California to Lake County in 1991, where she began as the Executive Director of the Lake County Winegrape Commission. Without any prior experience in grapegrowing or winemaking, her strong marketing background and her resolve to learn about wine helped her become one of the most successful promoters of the Lake County Winegrape region. Mrs. Gunier has cultivated the image of Lake County as a producer of premium quality wines.

In the time since Mrs. Gunier began as Executive Director, the Lake County Winegrape Commission has spent over three million dollars in marketing Lake County wines. In her role with the Commission, Mrs. Gunier helped Lake County's wineries expand from three in her first year to 40 and growing today. Today the wine industry employs over 900 people in Lake County and pays over \$26 million dollars in annual wages.

Though Mrs. Gunier moved on from the Commission in February 2013, she is still active in promoting the Lake County winegrape growing region. She and her husband co-own North Coast Winegrape Brokers, a winegrape broker sales and marketing firm which services Lake County's independent growers. Additionally, in 2000, Mr. and Mrs. Gunier worked on the first Lake County Revitalization Grant.

Mrs. Gunier has received several awards for her leadership and service in the region, including an award of merit from the U.S. Forest Service, a certificate of appreciation from the Lake County Board of Supervisors, a Stars of Lake County award, a Kelseyville Business Association certificate of appreciation, and a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition. In addition to her work with winegrapes, Mrs. Gunier has also served as a teacher at Yuba Community College, a consultant for the

Small Business Center, and an author of a forthcoming book: *You're Fired, I Quit—The Art of Being Married and Working Together*.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Gunier has a long and distinguished career of service to Lake County, most notably to the Lake County Winegrape Commission. It is therefore appropriate that we acknowledge Mrs. Gunier today and wish her well in her future endeavors.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NA- TIONAL DRAFT GOLDWATER RALLY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, a week from today is the 50th anniversary of an historic event in Washington, which helped launch a successful political revolution resulting in the development of the two-party system in the South.

On July 4, 1963, I participated with a busload of Republican activists and Teen Age Republicans, TARS, for the National Draft Goldwater Rally at the DC Armory addressed by Senator John Tower of Texas, Congressman John Ashbrook of Ohio, and Governor Paul Fannin of Arizona. The bus was organized by the visionary J. Drake Edens, a key founder of the modern Republican Party.

This event galvanized a movement, which has transformed the South culminating in 2012 with Republican legislative majorities in all states from Virginia to Texas and Oklahoma. Under the current President, the Southern states evolved from 49 percent population with Republican majorities to 100 per cent, 51 per cent Democrat for a century to zero, completing a 50-year shift. In 1961, State Representative Charlie Boineau of Richland County was the first Republican elected to any State office in the 20th Century in the State of South Carolina. In 1962, State Representative Floyd Spence of Lexington County became the first elected official of the Century to courageously switch parties explaining he felt more comfortable with Northern Republican philosophy than Southern Democrats. In 1964, U.S. Senator Strom Thurmond of Aiken County switched parties to support Barry Goldwater for President and he hired Tom Moss of Orangeburg as the first African-American staff member of a deep south U.S. Senator. Aiken County was a pioneer promoting local Republican candidates because of a high percentage of transplants from the Northeast and Midwest who worked at the Savannah River Site. South Carolina led the way for the South's first Republican legislative Speaker electing David Wilkins in 1994.

On the national level, this movement fulfilled the dream of Senator Barry Goldwater in his 1962 book *Why Not Victory?* with the defeat of the world-wide communist threat and the liberation of dozens of nations inspired by Ronald Reagan's peace through strength.

On the state level, South Carolina is a symbol of Republican achievement with the first Republican Governor, James Edwards, recruiting Michelin Tire Corporation of France that has resulted in South Carolina being the nation's leading exporter of tires. Governor Carroll Campbell attracted BMW to build a Ger-

man manufacturing facility in Greer, S.C., which led to South Carolina to becoming America's number one automobile exporter and Governor Nikki Haley promoted Boeing for South Carolina to be a major exporter of 787 jetliners worldwide.

In 2010, for the first time in 130 years, all statewide elected officials shifted to the Republican Party. The success was diverse with Governor Nikki Haley being the first female governor of South Carolina in 340 years and only the second Indian-American governor in American history. TIM SCOTT was elected to Congress as the second African-American in 100 years, and with Alan Wilson, age 37, being elected the youngest Attorney General in America. The Republican Party today is a broad coalition inclusive for limited government and expanded freedom.

I am grateful to have lived the Southern Republican Revolution, which has been so successful promoting a positive philosophy of limited government and expanded freedom abroad and at home. The future is bright for the principles of limited government as inspired by the Draft Goldwater Rally because it works. Equally we know that whenever big government is imposed, it fails and the freedoms of citizens are at risk.

COMMENDING THE GOVERNMENT OF KAZAKHSTAN

HON. ENI F. H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Kazakhstan's Foreign Minister Erlan Idrissov back to Washington.

I also want to commend the Government of Kazakhstan for hosting the international talks between Iran and five permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany, namely the P5+1 group, on Iran's nuclear program. Thanks to the voluntary abandonment of nuclear arms and firm adherence to enhancement of global non-proliferation, Kazakhstan is a perfect location for such talks. I hope that the parties will find constructive solutions in the best interests of the region and the whole world.

I thank the Government of Kazakhstan for its support of international efforts to stabilize Afghanistan and the constructive role played by Kazakhstan in developing the Northern Distribution Network, NDN, and its assistance to Afghanistan's security forces. Kazakhstan plays an important role in rebuilding Afghanistan, both in the provision of humanitarian, financial and technical aid to the Afghan government, and through regional initiatives aimed at stabilizing and developing Afghanistan's economy.

Kazakhstan's role in promoting the "New Silk Road" initiative and in developing regional confidence-building measures through the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, CICA, as well as its participation in the Istanbul Process on Afghanistan should be recognized and applauded.

I appreciate the work Foreign Minister Idrissov is doing to promote President Nazarbayev's initiatives and, once more, I welcome him back to Washington on his first official visit as Foreign Minister having previously