

Whereas, in our beloved Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, we are honored to have members of the Johnson-Ramsey family, including Ms. Wandra Seymore-Outlaw one of our most beloved citizens in our District who resides in Ellenwood, Georgia; and

Whereas, family is one of the most honored and cherished institutions in the world, we take pride in knowing that families such as the Johnson-Ramsey family have set aside this time to fellowship with each other, honor one another and to pass along history to each other by meeting at this year's 80th family reunion in Atlanta, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Johnson-Ramsey family in our District; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim June 20, 2014 as Johnson-Ramsey Family Reunion Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 20th day of June, 2014.

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#### JUNETEENTH 2014

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 2014*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, on June 19, 1865, General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas and announced the freedom of the last American slaves; belatedly freeing 250,000 slaves in Texas nearly two and a half years after Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

Juneteenth was first celebrated in the Texas state capital in 1867 under the direction of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Today, Juneteenth remains the oldest known celebration of slavery's demise. It commemorates freedom while acknowledging the sacrifices and contributions made by courageous African Americans towards making our great nation the more conscious and accepting country that it has become.

This year, I introduced H. Res. 632 to Honor Juneteenth Independence Day. In introducing this Resolution, I acknowledge State Representative Al Edwards of Texas and all Houstonians who honor Juneteenth as well or all who celebrate this freedom day.

Last year, I introduced H. Res. 268—a Resolution observing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day. As we celebrate the anniversary of Juneteenth, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in reflecting upon its significance.

Today, I will be reintroducing the Resolution to commemorate this year's celebration of Juneteenth.

Because it was only after that day in 1865 when General Granger rode into Galveston, Texas, on the heels of the most devastating conflict in our country's history, in the aftermath of a civil war that pitted brother against brother, neighbor against neighbor and threatened to tear the fabric of our union apart forever that America truly became the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Not until 1979 when my friend State Representative Al Edwards introduced the bill did Juneteenth become a Texas state holiday. It was first celebrated as such in 1980.

Civil rights pioneer Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Freedom is never free," and Afri-

can American labor leader A. Phillip Randolph often said "Freedom is never given. It is won."

We should all recognize the power and the ironic truth of those statements and we should pause to remember the enormous price paid by all Americans in our country's quest to realize its promise.

Juneteenth honors the end of the 400 years of suffering African Americans endured under slavery and celebrates the legacy of perseverance that has become the hallmark of the African American community and its struggle for equality.

Throughout the 1980's and 90's Juneteenth has continued to enjoy a growing and healthy interest from communities and organizations throughout the country.

Institutions such as the Smithsonian, the Henry Ford Museum and others have begun sponsoring Juneteenth-centered activities. In recent years, a number of National Juneteenth Organizations have arisen to take their place alongside older organizations—all with the mission to promote and cultivate knowledge and appreciation of African American history and culture.

Juneteenth today, celebrates African American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures.

As it takes on a more national and even global perspective, the events of 1865 in Texas are not forgotten, for all of the roots tie back to this fertile soil from which a national day of pride is growing. The future of Juneteenth looks bright as the number of cities and states come on board and form local committees and organizations to coordinate the activities.

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#### HONORING THE CITY OF LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the historically rich city of Lexington, Mississippi.

Lexington is a city in Holmes County, Mississippi. The population was 2,025 as of the 2000 census. It was named in honor of Lexington, Massachusetts. Like much of the state, Holmes County suffered during and after the Civil War.

The City of Lexington is served by the Holmes County School District. It is also served by a private school called Central Holmes Christian School (formerly Central Holmes Academy).

The City of Lexington also has some rich African-American History. It is the root for the Church of God in Christ (COGIC) (formerly called the Church of God when it got its Lexington beginning) by founder Bishop Charles Harrison Mason.

The City of Lexington can also boast as having the first black-elected school superintendent in the State of Mississippi—Elder William Dean, who is now pastor of the St. Paul Church of God in Christ here in Lexington. The church is situated next to the beautiful campus of Saints College (now closed to students) but is used for multiple purposes, especially its church-like edifice commonly known as "Holy Hill."

Saints College was founded by an African-American, Dr. Arenia Mallory as Saints Industrial and Literary School.

The historically black school was renamed and is currently called Saints Academy. Dr. Mallory served as president of the school from 1926 until her death in 1983. It is run under the Church of God in Christ. Dr. Mallory was an active member of the COGIC church and participated in the Women's Department and was the leader in the national church. She also served as the Vice President of the National Council of Negro Women from 1953–1957.

Lexington is also the home of the Dr. Arenia C. Mallory Community Health Center, Inc. (Mallory CHC) founded by Dr. Martha Davis (now deceased). Its mission is to provide high quality, customer oriented and cost effective healthcare services in a safe and accessible environment to all persons of Holmes, Carroll, Madison, Leflore counties and surrounding communities. Its motto is "Enter a Patient, Leave a Friend." (See more about the clinic at <http://www.mallorychc.org/>)

The City of Lexington is also the home of the Community Students Learning Center (CSLC) founded by longtime African-American natives Leslie and Beulah Greer: "Our Mission for the Community Students Learning Center is to promote community and educational change, by providing state-of-the-art leadership development and personal improvement opportunities for youth, adults, and seniors." Its motto is "In Relentless Pursuit of Education and Knowledge." (See more about CSLC at <http://www.communitystudentlearning.org/>)

The City of Lexington was at the heart of the Civil Rights Movement in Holmes County, Mississippi. Brave men and women, black and white, protested, challenged and worked hard to bring about racial harmony. While some success in that regard was made, the city and County both still could currently use more racial reconciliation, according to some of the residents.

In addition to numerous historical firsts, today, the City of Lexington also boasts first ever Black Mayor of Lexington, Mississippi—the Honorable Mayor Clint Cobbins, who is currently leading his community toward progress.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the City of Lexington as a resilient, historically rich rural town that has maintained its community ties inside and outside its city limits by staying true to its roots in agriculture and local owned businesses.

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#### RECOGNIZING THE SECOND ANNUAL GREATER SPRINGFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE "ABOVE AND BEYOND" AWARDS

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 2014*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an outstanding group of first responders and public safety officers who have been honored with the Second Annual Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce "Above and Beyond" Award.

These awards honor Fairfax County Firefighters, EMTs, Police Officers and Sheriff's

Deputies who give back to the Greater Springfield area by providing service to the community outside their normal duties. In addition to the immeasurable contributions made every day in the line of duty, these men and women have distinguished themselves through their extraordinary efforts in the community, which largely go unseen. They willingly volunteer their personal time, energies, and support to activities for the betterment of our children, our neighborhoods, and our quality of life.

It is my honor to enter the names of the following individuals into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Master Deputy Sheriff Rodney Harrison has served the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office for 26 years. Through his church, MDS Harrison makes an annual trip to Africa for the purpose of ministering and donating educational materials and clothing. In addition, twice a year the Sheriff's Office provides security for a portion of the will of President George Washington between Mount Vernon and the Circuit Court. MDS Harrison willingly participates and uses this opportunity to educate others on the history of the will and how to safely transport this important historic document.

Officer Long Dinh, Jr., endured traumatic head injuries when responding to a call on duty in 2013. However, these injuries did not deter him from continuing to serve his community. He has applied his language abilities to the Habitat for Humanity Restore program by creating tutorials and helping to train volunteers. His tremendous contributions to the program have been recognized by the Director of the James Lee Senior Center. In March of 2014 Officer Dinh returned to the police force.

Auxiliary Police Officer Thomas Oliver has volunteered his services since 1999. In addition to his regular duties, APO Oliver participated in over 70 community events for vehicle or crime prevention displays in 2013. He has assisted in "Operation Hands-On," which is a new process developed to obtain information on cases previously closed. He helped follow up on these cases and has educated members of our community on how to keep themselves secure.

Officer Paul F. Stracke has just completed his second year with the police force. He began his service at age 18 when he attended the Fairfax County Volunteer Fire Academy and obtained an Emergency Medical Technician certification. Apart from his police duties, he continues to work 60 hours every quarter at Fire Station #14 to maintain his firefighter status. Officer Stracke was nominated in 2013 for a lifesaving award and received the Volunteer Firefighter of the Year Award in 2013.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and thanking each of the brave men and women who go above and beyond the call of duty to serve our community. They are part of the bravest and the finest who collectively ensure that Fairfax County remains one of the nation's safest communities in which to live, work, and raise a family. Moreover, the volunteer service exhibited by these honorees is one of the hallmarks of what has made Fairfax the thriving community it is today, and because of their efforts, that tradition will carry on for future generations.

IN RECOGNITION AND  
CELEBRATION OF JUNETEENTH

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 2014*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize the holiday of Juneteenth, or as it is also known Juneteenth Independence Day, Freedom Day, and Emancipation Day. Juneteenth commemorates a huge step toward the emancipation of African American slaves in Texas from the morally abhorrent institution of American slavery.

On June 19, 1865, after the Union's victory in the Civil War, Major General Gordon Granger arrived with Union troops on the island of Galveston, Texas. The celebration of Juneteenth recognizes that day, when Major General Granger publicly read "General Order No. 3," ostensibly freeing Texas slaves. Granger said, "The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer." The order ostensibly freed 250,000 slaves in the former Confederate state of Texas, more than two years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

"General Order No. 3" was another marker on our nation's long road toward the full realization of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all our fellow citizens. We are still traveling down that road but because of the extraordinary courage and compassion of some of our greatest citizens, we have come further than many ever imagined.

We traveled further down that road when in 1979, my friend, Texas State Representative Al Edwards introduced the bill that officially made Juneteenth a state holiday in Texas. In 1996, the House of Representatives and the Senate officially recognized June 19th as "Juneteenth Independence Day." As of today, 43 states observe Juneteenth.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, Juneteenth remains the oldest known celebration of slavery's emasculation in the U.S. On this Juneteenth, I encourage all my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the historical significance of this holiday, which celebrates a huge step toward the extension of the American Dream to African Americans and encourages multicultural respect for all.

RECOGNIZING ACTION IN COMMUNITY THROUGH SERVICE SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS ADVOCACY SERVICE ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 2014*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the staff and volunteers for Action in Community Through Service Sexual Assault Victims Advocacy Service (ACTS SAVAS) as

they celebrate 30 years of assistance and advocacy on behalf of survivors of sexual assault in Prince William County, Virginia.

There are more than 235,000 sexual assaults every year in the United States. That is one assault every two minutes. Forty-four percent of survivors are under the age of eighteen, and eighty percent of survivors are under the age of thirty. Sixty percent of sexual assaults are not reported and ninety-seven percent of attackers will never spend a day in jail. These are staggering statistics, and they illustrate the challenges faced by ACTS SAVAS. There are few safe havens for these survivors. ACTS SAVAS provides survivors with a safe, secure place to go and receive counseling from experts who can assist with the healing and recovery process.

SAVAS was first established in 1983, and in 2012, it joined Action in Community Through Service. ACTS SAVAS is the only center of its kind serving the Greater Prince William community. The staff and volunteers are dedicated to empowering survivors of sexual assault and their loved ones with the resources necessary to heal and move forward, while working towards ending all forms of sexual assault and combating human trafficking. ACTS SAVAS has provided assistance to more than 15,000 individuals in the areas of crisis intervention, a 24-hour hotline, court companions for victims, adolescent and adult support groups, and community education and outreach.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking the staff and volunteers of ACTS SAVAS for their many contributions during 30 years of service to the Greater Prince William community. ACTS SAVAS engages an issue that threatens to undermine safety and trust in our community. For providing survivors of sexual assault with the resources they need to recover, ACTS SAVAS is certainly a vital service and is deserving of our highest praise.

TRIBUTE TO THE TAIWAN  
FELLOWSHIP

**HON. VIRGINIA FOXX**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 2014*

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Taiwan Fellowship, a highly prestigious scholarship which allows American experts and scholars to conduct advanced research at universities or academic institutions in Taiwan. Established and funded by Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the fellowships provide for tuition, financial assistance and a monthly stipend.

In the past 4 years, 346 scholars from 57 countries around the world have been awarded Fellowships. Recipients include professors, doctoral candidates, and post-doctoral researchers interested in Taiwan, cross-strait relations, mainland China, the Asia-Pacific region and Chinese studies. The fellowship terms are as short as three months and can be as long as a year. In terms of resources devoted to awardees, the Fellowship is on par with the Fulbright Program and the Rhodes scholarship.

Mr. Speaker, this scholarship serves as an important conduit for educational and cultural exchange between the United States and Taiwan. This is the 35th Anniversary of enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, the measure that crafted the modern, successful and