

Through training in the areas of financial literacy, mentoring, advocacy and leadership development at the annual MANA Latina Leadership Institute, Latina leaders from across the country are given the skills to help shape the lives of future generations in positive and upwardly mobile directions. The MANA Las Primeras Awards Gala honors Latinas who demonstrate important "firsts" in their fields with a national impact on the Hispanic community—highlighting Latinas' important contributions across the country. The Hermanitas Initiative is significant mentoring program in the United States developed specifically for Hispanic youth. The program empowers Latina adolescents by promoting educational achievement and personal enrichment; developing leadership abilities; encouraging cultural identity and awareness; and modeling proactive community involvement.

Finally, I salute the commitment of the founders of MANA—Blandina (Bambi) Cardenas, Organizing Chair; Bettie Baca, Organizing Vice Chair; and Evangeline (Vangie) Elizondo, the First Board President. Their early efforts were the building blocks for what MANA has become today.

It is my honor to congratulate MANA, a National Latina Organization, for 40 years of success in strengthening the Latina community in the United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2014

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 406:

My flight into DC on July 14, 2014, was routed to Norfolk, VA, due to inclement weather, and I was unable to make it to the House floor in time for votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

HONORING CAFÉ LUSH

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2014

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Café Lush, and owners Tom Docherty and Sandy Gregory, on the 3rd anniversary of their distinguished local Albuquerque establishment.

Since opening in 2011, Café Lush has developed into a thriving business and popular hotspot for locals. Located in downtown Albuquerque, Café Lush features an exceptional menu that carries nutrient dense organic food and fresh seasonal produce that promotes happy, healthy, and sustainable lifestyles.

The beautiful street corner café, with its vibrant outdoor patio was not always a distinct feature in the neighborhood. In fact, before the establishment of Café Lush many restaurants unsuccessfully tried to establish themselves in the area. The location became known as a frequent site for new restaurants that would eventually close, or go out of business.

Despite this historical precedent, and a struggling economy, Café Lush launched a

business model that appealed to the growing demand for locally grown healthy foods. Café Lush's fresh new take on organic ingredients with a New Mexico twist reverberated throughout the community and today the café continues to be wildly successful.

Café Lush's vision and accomplishments are an inspiration for future generations of entrepreneurs and small business owners, and demonstrate the ability of one business to change an entire neighborhood. Located next to two schools, a place of worship, and just a short walk away from the heart of downtown Albuquerque, Café Lush has reinvigorated the area and brought renewed energy to Albuquerque's scenic landscape.

I have no doubt that Café Lush will continue to have great success. Their quality food, great customer service, and beautiful outdoor patio are what continue to make me a frequent customer. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Café Lush on these accomplishments, their 3rd anniversary and the many more to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on Monday July 14, 2014 I was not present for 2 votes.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 405, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 406, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING OUR NATION'S COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROFESSIONALS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our nation's community corrections professionals for the invaluable contribution they make to public safety and restorative justice throughout our country.

In the District of Columbia and nearly every community across America, thousands of women and men serve as pretrial, probation and parole officers or officials. As public servants, these Americans commit themselves to helping improve the lives of those involved in the criminal justice system, which ultimately results in stronger and safer communities for all.

In light of the value and contributions of pretrial and post-conviction supervision officers and entities, I am proud to stand in support and honor of Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision week, which commenced on Sunday, July 13, 2014, and will be celebrated through Saturday, July 19, 2014.

I am sure that my congressional colleagues would agree with me that community corrections is an essential part of the American justice system. Our constituents who serve as community corrections professionals work tirelessly to uphold the law with dignity, while rec-

ognizing the right of the public to be protected from criminal activity.

These individuals are responsible for supervising adult and juvenile offenders in the community. In many cases these trained professionals go above and beyond the call of duty by providing their clients supportive services or referrals to critical community-based resources, employment opportunities and housing programs. Additionally, community corrections professionals provide services, support, and protection for victims, while continuously promoting the importance of crime prevention.

Mr. Speaker, in the District of Columbia, community corrections and supervision services for D.C. Code offenders are carried out by the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA) and the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia (PSA).

CSOSA and PSA and their hundreds of pretrial and community supervision officers stand out as model community supervision agencies due to both their professionalism and their novel approach to enhancing public safety in the District of Columbia.

CSOSA provides innovative criminal justice and community leadership through active strategic planning, trend awareness, and partnership building. On any given day, CSOSA is responsible for supervising approximately 13,000 individuals on probation, parole or supervised release, whereas PSA supervises roughly 20,000 defendants.

The work that these agencies perform is vital and complex. Nevertheless, the community corrections professionals that comprise both CSOSA and PSA carry out their duties with skill, compassion and diligence, thereby serving as a true force for positive change for communities throughout the District of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition and honor of Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week 2014 and the contributions made by community corrections professionals, I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking these public employees for the important services they perform in helping to safeguard and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2014

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an anniversary that all the Members of this House surely ought to celebrate. On July 18, 1914—one hundred years ago this Friday—the Congressional Research Service came into being. Ever since, it has provided Members on both sides of the aisle with important analysis, research assistance, and expertise on virtually every topic relating to our work on behalf of the American people.

The Congressional Research Service, known as the Legislative Research Service for its first fifty-six years, was the brainchild of Senator Robert LaFollette Sr. and Rep. John Nelson, both from Wisconsin. In the Progressive Era, reformers like Sen. LaFollette and Rep. Nelson sought to make government

more responsive by providing Members of Congress with greater access to the latest in scientific research and analytical tools. For a century, that is what the Congressional Research Service has done—and the men and women who work there have proven beyond a doubt the merit behind Sen. LaFollette and Rep. Nelson's proposal.

After World War II, as Congress's work expanded to meet the needs of a growing nation and economy and America's role as a military superpower, the Congressional Research Service adapted by hiring experts to provide briefings and answer Members' questions. So many Members and their staffs have come to rely on the timely responses from Congressional Research Service personnel on pending bills, legislative history, and issue tracking. Those who work at the Congressional Research Service continue to play an extraordinarily important role in Congress's work.

In my thirty-three years in this House, the Congressional Research Service has provided me with absolutely essential research on the legislative interests I have pursued. My work on the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act, the 2002 Help America Vote Act, the 2008 ADA Amendments Act, federal employee and civil service issues, and a wide range of constituent questions have all been aided immeasurably by Congressional Research Service reports and analysis.

As it begins its second century, the Congressional Research Service is adapting to new technologies to improve the way it keeps Members of Congress informed. Through social media, online research tools, and reports accessible by internet twenty-four hours a day, it continues to carry out its mission in a way its founders never could have imagined—but for which they would surely be proud.

I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking the Congressional Research Service's diverse workforce of over 600 researchers, analysts, attorneys, support staff, and information professionals for their tireless work in service to our nation.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF U.S. CONGRESSMAN KEN
GRAY, A TRUE FRIEND AND
CHAMPION OF SOUTHERN ILLI-
NOIS**

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2014

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of a great Southern Illinoisan, a man who knew this Chamber very well, U.S. Congressman Ken Gray.

Born and raised in Southern Illinois, Ken returned there after retiring from Congress. It is in Southern Illinois where he passed away this past Saturday and it is there, in his native West Frankfort, where he will be laid to rest. This is worth noting as we remember Congressman Ken Gray as one of the most persistent and productive advocates for his home district that ever served in this Chamber.

An entrepreneur from a young age, Ken answered the call to serve his country when he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II. His military service would take him to North Africa and Italy, southern France

and central Europe, and would result in several decorations, including three bronze stars.

Returning to Southern Illinois after the war, Ken first won election from the 25th Congressional District of Illinois in 1954. He continued to serve for a total of 10 successive terms before his first retirement in 1974. He ran again for Congress in 1984, won that election, and served another two terms before his final retirement in 1989.

Ken's ability to fight for our region is unparalleled. His accomplishments are legendary, from building our interstate highways, building Rend Lake and the Marion Federal Prison to countless post offices, roads, bridges and water lines. A proud veteran himself, Ken was a tireless advocate for our region's veterans and hundreds received care because of his efforts. Serving an area with many coal mines, Ken also saw that miners and their families received the black lung benefits they were due.

Whether convincing President Carter to tour an underground coal mine, or escorting President Kennedy to Carbondale and Marion—Congressman Gray was a one-of-a-kind advocate for Southern Illinois.

He loved serving in this House, and few Members spent as much time presiding in the Speaker's chair during his tenure. Like thousands of people in our region, I counted Ken among my friends. We'll always remember him as a character whose personality was as colorful as the suits he wore here to the Capitol each day.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Congressman Ken Gray and extending our condolences and prayers to his family.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF H.
MINTON FRANCIS, SR.**

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and pay tribute to the extraordinary achievements of my constituent, Henry Minton Francis, Sr., who devoted his entire life to serving our country and his community. Mr. Francis was also the oldest living African American graduate of West Point Academy.

H. Minton Francis, Lt. Col., USA Ret., was a fifth generation Washingtonian and resident of Chevy Chase, MD. He attended public schools in the District of Columbia where he graduated from the famous Paul Laurence Dunbar High School. Educated at the University of Pennsylvania and the United States Military Academy, he also studied at Syracuse University, where he earned an MBA degree with honors and was elected to the International Honor Society of Beta Gamma Sigma. Following graduation from West Point in 1944, Mr. Francis served the nation as an officer of the Regular Army for twenty-one years. He was a member of the Army Concept Team in Vietnam; a commander of artillery soldiers in the Korean Conflict and in World War II. His final military duty was to serve as a staff officer for the Comptroller of the Army and the Secretary of Defense.

Subsequent to his retirement from the Army, Mr. Francis worked both in government and the private sector. As Deputy Assistant Sec-

retary of Defense, Mr. Francis was in charge of the Defense Human Goals Program guaranteeing protection of the rights of, and equal opportunities for, women, minorities and the disabled of all races, ethnic groups and religions. His program embraced the now famous Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) at Patrick Air Force Base in Florida, the first of its kind anywhere in the United States. For his extraordinary efforts, Mr. Francis was awarded the Distinguished Civilian Service Medal for his exceptional service in the Department of Defense.

On leaving federal service, Mr. Francis accepted appointments at Howard University as Director of University Planning; Executive Director of the University-Wide Self-Study Task force; Executive Secretary of the Presidential Search Committee in 1989; Special Assistant to the President; and Director of Governmental Affairs. In December 1992, he was appointed President of the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Foundation, authorized at that time by the United States Congress to erect a memorial on the National Mall in honor of the more than 5,000 African Americans who fought and died in the American Revolution.

For nearly 20 years Mr. Francis was a civilian aide to the Secretary of the Army, a voluntary office without compensation, where he carried the Army's message and image to the American people.

As a human resources consultant to the Secretary of the Army, Mr. Francis traveled to Europe at his own expense to investigate and report on the command climate with respect to race and gender relations in the U.S. Army units stationed in Germany. He performed a similar service for Army installations in the midwestern United States. The report produced by his group led to major changes in the Army's policy and practices with respect to race and gender.

Mr. Francis was a Life Member of Disabled American Veterans, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Additionally, he was a Trustee Emeritus of the Association of Graduates of the United States Military Academy, a member of the Washington Institute of Foreign Affairs, the Board of Managers of the Historical Society of Washington, DC, and the Board of Directors of Metropolitan USO in Washington. He was a volunteer member of the Board of Directors of the Carroll Publishing Company of the Catholic Archdiocese of Washington. He held memberships in the National Press Club and the University Club of Washington, DC, and he was a member of Sigma Pi Phi, the oldest and one of the most prestigious African-American fraternities.

Mr. Francis is survived by his second wife Alicia G. D. Francis and five children from his first marriage: Marsha A. Francis, Henry M. Francis, Jr., M.D.; Peter M. Francis, Morya K.F. Ferris, and John H. Francis, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

I am proud to speak today to honor this extraordinary man and I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. H. Minton Francis Sr.'s many accomplishments, his lifelong work on behalf of our nation's veterans, and his profound commitment to honoring their service.