

HONORING LILLIE G. HENSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable hero, Lillie G. Henson.

Lillie G. Dean Henson was born to the late Aaron and Lillian Dean on August 10, 1949 in Sardis, MS, Panola County. She is the ninth of eleven children, five boys and six girls. There were many challenges that she faced that seemed to have placed her in the line of the first born. She was blessed to be born in a Christian home where reading and studying the Bible were not an option, therefore, her faith in the Lord was well rooted and grounded.

Faced with many challenges of sickness in her family, Lillie learned the application of her faith was the only true anchor. Growing up was very challenging at times. Early in her growing up years her mother was stricken with a severe heart condition which required lots of rest and carefully prepared meals.

At the age of fourteen, much of the responsibility of taking care of the family fell upon Lillie. Cooking breakfast for the family and preparing a special diet for her ailing mom before going off to school was quite an experience.

As a little girl growing up, Lillie's dad would ask her to read the Bible to him, and as a child she remembers reading: "Honor your father and your mother that your days may be long upon the earth." This scripture and many others rested in her spirit as she grew into adulthood. Lillie's passion for the word of God grew greater and greater.

By the time Lillie was a junior in high school, she began to make plans for college . . . only to be asked by her ailing mother to stay home to make sure her younger sister, who was then a junior, finish high school. Her plans were shattered but she learned to be obedient to her parents through the studying of the scriptures.

In 1969, Lillie's mother went to be with the Lord, her sister completed her junior year of high school with perfect attendance and completed high school as planned.

In 1970, Lillie moved to Chicago with her older siblings. Lillie was employed at Brachs Candy Company for twenty years. She was among the first few African Americans to hold a manager's position in the Quality Control Department.

In 1990, Lillie's dad at the age of eighty-two became ill. Her husband, Otha Henson, Sr., who was also employed at Brach Candy Company and is from Kilmichael, MS, decided to move back south to care for Lillie's dad and baby sister, Rebecca, who was born with Spina Bifida. Lillie's dad passed away in 1991 and Rebecca lived ten years after his death.

Since 1996 to present, Lillie has been employed as Program Manager at Youth Opportunities Unlimited, a Youth Development Program located in Lambert, MS.

Lillie continued her education at Northwest Community College, Senatobia, MS, Rust College, Holly Springs, MS, and in 2012, she earned a BA in Ministry and in 2013 she received a Masters in Christian Counseling from Jacksonville Theological Seminary in Jacksonville, FL.

Lillie is happily married, the proud mother of four children, eleven grandchildren and two great grand boys.

You can find her teaching Sunday school on Sunday mornings at Pleasant Green M.B. Church, Sardis, MS, also a praise and worship leader, counseling, and encouraging and nurturing those in need.

Eph. 6:2, "Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Lillie G. Henson for she is definitely the epitome of an unsung hero.

HONORING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF FRANK ALSCHULER TO THE UPTOWN COMMUNITY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Frank Alschuler on his 90th birthday, September 10, 2014.

Frank is a lifelong Chicagoan and Cubs fan. He graduated from George B. Swift Elementary School, the University of Chicago Lab School, Dartmouth College and Yale University School of Architecture and he served in the United States Navy.

He and his late wife, Marjorie Traxler, married on July 24, 1960. In 1965, they moved to Junior Terrace in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood where they raised their two children, Matthew and Mimi.

Frank was a founding board member of C4 (Community) Counseling Centers of Chicago, formerly known as EUCMHC, Edgewater Uptown Community Mental Health Center). Recognizing the need to serve the many low-income residents living with mental health concerns in the Uptown and Edgewater neighborhoods, the mental health center was opened in 1972. As a licensed architect, Frank volunteered his services to help the organization every step of the way. Now with five locations and an additional one under construction, C4 currently provides mental health services, crisis intervention, and substance use treatment to more than 10,000 at-risk children, adults and families annually. Now, 42 years later, Frank is still on the board and still helping with space planning.

In addition to C4, Frank also served on the board of Voice of the People in Uptown for over 40 years. Voice of the People has worked for and with low-income individuals and families in Uptown to create quality affordable housing. Working with early directors Irene Hutchinson and Anne Dee Harper, Frank helped build a tenant organizing group into a full-fledged neighborhood housing development organization. With Frank's expertise on the Board, the Voice went from managing one 6-flat to developing and managing hundreds of units of family housing in Uptown.

Frank and his late wife Marjorie instilled in their children and grandchildren the importance of giving back to the community. I wish him a happy celebration of a life well-lived, and good health in the coming years.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MAYOR SHERMAN JONES AND THE VILLAGE OF BROADVIEW, ILLINOIS AS IT CELEBRATES ITS ONE HUNDRED (100) YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, July 26th, I had the opportunity to march with the Mayor of Broadview, the Honorable Sherman Jones; Mayor of Westchester, the Honorable Sam Paulia; Cook County Recorder of Deeds, the Honorable Karen Yarborough; the Honorable Chris Welch, State Representative; the Honorable Edwina Perkins, Mayor of Maywood; Trustees of Broadview, Attorney Richard Boykin and Democratic Nominee for District 1 of the Cook County Board, as well as a host of dignitaries from throughout the western suburbs, especially Proviso Township.

Proud residents of Broadview were lined outside their beautiful homes as we made our way to the shopping center where a daylong family festival was being staged. I understand that Governor Pat Quinn came later to bring greetings and salute the Mayors and other elected officials and residents who had gathered.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the Village of Broadview on its 100 years as an organized part of Cook County and Proviso Township in the great state of Illinois.

49TH ANNIVERSARY OF MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish Medicare and Medicaid a very happy 49th Anniversary!

On this day in 1965, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Social Security Act into law, establishing Medicare and Medicaid and the guarantee that a wide range of health and medical services would be available to millions of Americans.

A year after declaring a war on poverty in 1954, President Johnson created two programs that would serve as the backbone of our Great Society and provide a backstop so that our fellow Americans would never again be left without a safety net or a helping hand.

These programs matter, not only to their users, but to all citizens in our great nation.

Medicare matters because it provides comprehensive health coverage to seniors and gives families peace of mind that their loved ones can retire with security.

The program has provided seniors and the disabled with the quality health care, economic security, and the peace of mind they deserve.

Because of Medicare, millions of Americans have been able to age with respect and dignity, instead of mounting medical debt and uncertainty regarding treatment.

Mr. Speaker, I know firsthand how important Medicare is to seniors and families in America.

Nearly 98 percent of older Ohioans were enrolled in Medicare in 2011, and nationwide more than 50 million seniors and people with disabilities are covered under Medicare.

Medicaid matters because 1 in 5 Americans and 1 and 3 children receive health care through Medicaid. Providing preventative care and lifelong health assistance is not only the right, moral thing to do, it is also fiscally responsible.

I look forward to continuing to work to strengthen and protect these programs and to ensure that the promise of health and economic security will be there for generations to come.

CONGRATULATIONS TO REV. MARK
MCCOLLUM AND THE NEW HOME
BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Rev. Mark McCollum was born in Sunflower, Mississippi on June 12, 1934. In 1954 he moved to Chicago, Illinois. In 1964, Rev. Mark McCollum and a small group of faithful followers and believers founded the New Home Baptist Church in February of that year. The church's first location was in the Stone Temple Baptist Church Annex on Millard and Douglas Boulevard. A year later on March 19, 1965, Pastor McCollum lost his right arm in an accident and the church moved several times before locating to 349 South Cicero Avenue. It was always Pastor McCollum's desire to be in a church building and the New Home Family

worked and prayed for forty years for it to happen. They called those years, the wilderness years, referring to the 40 years the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness after leaving Egypt. The Church and its pastor had their challenges and struggles but as a skilled leader, administrator and businessperson, the church acquired most of the 300 South Cicero Avenue block and used it as leverage to purchase the new church location at 4804 W. Polk Street, which is now known as Dr. Mark McCollum Avenue.

While being a great preacher and pastor, Dr. Mark McCollum is also known as one of the greatest gospel singers in the world, and brings great joy and inspiration to thousands every week with his voice. He can be heard on radio every Sunday night on AM 1450 at 9:00 pm where thousands wait for his theme song, "I Will Trust In The Lord Until I Die."

Finally, the wait was over and for the past ten years the New Home Congregation has been worshipping at 4804 W. Polk St. in Chicago, Illinois and saying thanks be to God for all that he has done. As one who lived at 5252 W. Polk Street for twenty years, I say thank you New Home, Thank You Dr. Mark McCollum for all that you mean to our community!

God Bless and Keep you.

HONORING CLEOTHA SADDLER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

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Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable hero, Cleotha Saddler.

Cleotha Saddler was born on February 1, 1945 in Illinois to Garfield Allen and Viola Orr. She grew up in a home with six other relatives until her father decided he would raise her in Memphis, TN. Cleotha attended Mississippi Valley State University where she earned multiple degrees in elementary education. She later married Frank Saddler, Jr., settled in Marks, MS, and gave birth to nine children.

Today, Cleotha, also known as "Cleo" or "Lou," is the rock of her family. She continues to care for her children, and take care of her grandchildren. Over the course of her life, she has contributed to her community tremendously. Her name has become one so common for helping others that the desire from others to want to help even her grandchildren has increased. She is most known in her efforts for raising money for those in need.

In 2005, she stood at the main intersection in Marks, MS tirelessly to gather donations from townspeople to send to Louisiana for Hurricane Katrina victims. In addition to that, she has never been reluctant to gather donations in that same way for families who cannot afford to pay for the funerals and burials of their loved ones. She comforts those families, not just with funds but with endless visits and "check-in" calls. She also helps organizations to decorate and/or cook for different events in the community. She is one that is very supportive of the school system, in reference to achieving adequate education. Cleotha is never hesitant to help anyone in any way that she possibly can.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Cleotha Saddler for she is definitely the epitome of an unsung hero.