

The Township of Ocean Historical Museum has grown considerably since it opened in a local classroom. It has two permanent exhibits and a third exhibit that changes annually; holds programs and events; produces a newsletter and much more. It is an important fixture to the community and has been recognized three times as the “Best Local Museum” by the Asbury Park Press Readers Poll.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in recognizing the outstanding historical efforts of the Township of Ocean Historical Museum and congratulating it on 30 successful years.

HONORING JAMES BICEK ON HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. James Bicek, a very active resident of my district, who is celebrating his 70th birthday.

Jim Bicek was born on September 6th, 1944 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His family moved to the Chicago area shortly after his birth due to his father's military service. Since then, Jim has always lived in the area, growing up with his three younger siblings and raising his two daughters, Jennifer and Tricia.

Jim dedicated his professional life to the community he loved and pursued a career as a Sheriff's Deputy for the Markham Courthouse. He retired after 35 years of service on May 31st, 2009. While working at the courthouse Jim met Louise, and they married on September 19th, 2009, shortly after he retired. The two currently reside in Tinley Park, Illinois.

In his spare time, Jim is an avid singer. He began singing at the age of seven, following in the footsteps of his mother. For the past 11 years, Jim has been a member of a barbershop chorus where he sings lead in the four-part harmony. Jim and his wife also volunteer as local senior advocates in their community.

Jim Bicek is a beloved and cherished husband, father, and grandfather to 11 grandchildren. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Jim Bicek a happy 70th birthday, and to thank him for being such a great contributor to his community and our nation.

RAYMOND SIPPLE RETIREMENT

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Raymond Sipple on his retirement from the Bucks Township Board of Supervisors after 30 years of dedicated service.

Mr. Sipple was first elected to the Buck Township Board of Supervisors in 1980 and became chairman in January of 2000, a position he held until his retirement this past June. He is known as an honest man with a deep love for his community. A lifelong resident of our area, he worked tirelessly to ensure that the hard earned money of his constituents was spent wisely, going so far as to never

vote to raise taxes. Even though his dear wife Betty, who passed in 2012, is not here to mark this milestone with him, I know he is excited to enjoy his retirement with his children, Frankie, Joey, Jimmy, Ann Marie, and Kathleen, 14 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, for thirty years of exemplary civil service to the citizens of Bucks Township, I thank Mr. Sipple and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE LEWIS SAXON SHUBERT FAMILY

HON. HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

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

Whereas, In the late 1700's, the Lewis Saxon Shubert family began with their oldest known family ancestor Amy Sharpe in Burke County, Georgia; since that time, they have blessed us with descendants across the country who have helped to shape and mold our nation; and

Whereas, today we honor all of the matriarchs and patriarchs, who are pillars of strength for the Lewis Saxon Shubert family; and

Whereas, in our beloved Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, we are honored to have many members of the Lewis Saxon Shubert family who are some of our most productive citizens; 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 Lewis Saxon Shubert 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 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 Lewis Saxon Shubert family; Now therefore, I, HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim, July 20, 2014 as The Lewis Saxon Shubert Family Reunion Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 20th day of July, 2014.

IN HONOR OF DR. EUNICE S. THOMAS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished public servant, devoted educator and dear friend to my wife, Vivian and me, Dr. Eunice S. Thomas. Sadly, Dr. Thomas passed away on Sunday, August 17, 2014. Her life will be celebrated at a funeral service on Friday, August 29, 2014 at 12:00 p.m. at First African Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Dr. Thomas worked for four cabinet level secretaries in the U.S. Department of Transportation, the U.S. Department of Labor, and

the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) during two consecutive United States Presidents' Administrations. At HHS, she worked as Acting Assistant Secretary for the Family Support Administration, managing a staff of more than 1,049 and a budget in excess of \$14 billion. She administered federal programs focused on strengthening families and increasing their self-sufficiency, including Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Child Support Enforcement, Refugee Resettlement, and the Community Services programs. She directed the Implementation of Welfare reform as was embodied in the Family Support Act in 1988.

Dr. Thomas retired from HHS as Director of the Office of Community Services Administration for Children and Families where she oversaw the Community Services Block Grant, Social Services Block Grant, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance, the Family Violence Program, Demonstration Partnership Programs, and the Community Discretionary programs while managing a budget in excess of \$5.9 billion.

Dr. Thomas loved her community and loved her sorority and found a way to give her all to both when she became the 19th International Grand Basileus of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. in July 1986 at the 66th Anniversary Boulé. Her service led to one of Zeta's finest administrations, restructuring the organization and creating programs that reflected strong and effective leadership with integrity, compassion, and a sense of social responsibility. Programs were instated to address issues such as substance abuse, AIDS Awareness, lack of after school and child care, the decline of black men in college, and the rise in teen pregnancy rates. For her efforts, Ebony magazine named Grand Basileus Thomas one of the 100 Influential Black Americans each year from 1987 to 1992 and in 1987, President George H.W. Bush selected Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. as one of the “Thousand Points of Light.” She was affectionately nicknamed the “Real Grand” because of the reverence so many Zetas had for her to the extent that the membership wanted to extend her term in office beyond the maximum six years, but she graciously declined. She was an active member of Epsilon Eta Zeta Chapter in Columbus, Georgia for over 45 years at the time of her death. She was instrumental in getting Kappa Epsilon Chapter chartered at Columbus State University (Columbus College) in 1974 while she was the Southeastern Regional Director.

In addition to her mentorship and guidance of Zetas of all ages, she touched and enriched the lives of countless young people during her time as an educator in the Muscogee County School System.

Dr. Thomas was more than a civil servant, she was a servant to all humankind. She gave herself to so many causes and organizations that are too numerous to mention. Dr. Maya Angelou once said that, “I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back.” Dr. Thomas threw a prodigious amount of love and service back to the Columbus, Georgia community and our nation that she loved so dearly.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me, my wife, Vivian, and the more than 700,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in paying tribute to Dr. Eunice S. Thomas for her

outstanding contributions to her sorority, her community, and our nation. We extend our deepest sympathies to her family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time and we pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

IN HONOR OF ALICIA B. HARVEY-SMITH, PH.D. ON THE HONOR OF HER INAUGURATION AND INSTALLATION AS PRESIDENT OF RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the inauguration and installation of Dr. Alicia B. Harvey-Smith as the 10th President of River Valley Community College in Claremont, New Hampshire. River Valley Community College has long been a paradigm of quality education in New Hampshire, and this event signifies the first inauguration in the history of the institution.

Dr. Harvey-Smith has long served as a leader in the academic community with more than a quarter century of experience and training in education. After her years serving as a dean and Vice President of Student Affairs at Baltimore City Community College, Dr. Harvey-Smith has proven her dedication to education and the creation of a world-class learning environment.

Founded in 1968, River Valley Community College has served as a provider for quality education in the state of New Hampshire. With an intensive environment which allows for individualized attention and flexible class schedules that accommodate the lives of busy students, River Valley Community College has proven its commitment to the improvement and expansion of minds.

Over the past decades, River Valley Community College has expanded to provide thirty-five career-oriented programs that provide students with highly specialized skills and knowledge crucial to achievement in the job market in a variety of business, technical, and health-oriented fields. With a sincere dedication to the development of educational programs such as these, River Valley Community College has improved the lives of countless students across the Granite State.

With this ethic in mind, Dr. Alicia Harvey-Smith is an ideal choice for the President of River Valley Community College. Under the dedicated leadership of Dr. Harvey-Smith, I am confident that River Valley Community College will continue to grow and serve the public. She is truly a role model to all of us, and an asset to the State of New Hampshire.

It remains an honor to represent River Valley Community College in Congress. I wish Dr. Harvey-Smith the very best and congratulate her on this proud occasion.

HONORING BARBARA KENDRICK,
FNP

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a resourceful and ambitious woman, Ms. Barbara Kendrick. Barbara has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to serve others.

Ms. Kendrick was born in Chicago, Illinois, the youngest of nine children. She moved to Carthage, MS at five months old to live with her aunt and uncle upon the death of her mother.

Barbara earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1993 from Mississippi College and her Master of Science in Nursing in 2004 from Alcorn State University. She is certified through the American Accredited Nurses Association.

Barbara has practiced nursing for about 20 years; she has worked as a Family Nurse Practitioner for 10 years and has worked at the G. V. Sonny Montgomery VA Medical Center for 7 years. She has served about 933 veterans at the VA Medical Center. Barbara has a great appreciation for veterans because she was raised by her uncle who was a Korean Veteran.

Barbara is an active member of the American Nurses Association and volunteer with the American Kidney Foundation by conducting screenings. She also assists with outreach for Veteran enrollment. She is a member of Faith for Life Church located in Jackson, MS. Barbara enjoys singing gospel in her spare time.

Barbara lives in Clinton, MS along with her three sons. She strives every day to have a positive impact on her patients while remembering her motto, "If I can't help you, I'll find someone who can."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Barbara Kendrick for her passion and dedication to serving our great Country and a desire to make a difference in the lives of others.

LINGLESTOWN FIRE COMPANY
80TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Linglestown Fire Company as they celebrate their 80th anniversary.

The Linglestown Fire Company was officially founded in 1934 after a local barn caught fire during the month of February. However, attempts to create a fire company for the area date back to the mid 1700s, at which time Linglestown was established as the third oldest community in Dauphin County. While the company began with simple technology and resources, it has continued to undergo many changes in an effort to better improve service for the people of Linglestown and the sur-

rounding areas. The Linglestown Fire Company is currently staffed by 52 active firefighters, as well as dozens of wildland firefighters, emergency medical technicians, fire police, and other members who provide support. These brave men and women repeatedly put their lives on the line to keep the people of Linglestown safe.

Mr. Speaker, on the 80th anniversary of its founding, I thank all of the members of the Linglestown Fire Company, past and present, for their continued efforts to protect the citizens of Linglestown and Dauphin County, and wish the organization many more years of successful service.

CELEBRATING MR. MERL DEAN SWIHART 86TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Mr. Merl Dean Swihart as he celebrates his 86th birthday. Merl is an extraordinary individual who has enriched the lives of many Hoosiers throughout Marshall County.

Merl was born in Argos, Indiana on July 7, 1928, to Ford and Faye Swihart, where along with his five siblings; spent their childhood working on the family's 80 acre farm. On the farm he helped raise livestock and tended to the crops. The values Merl learned while working on the family farm would have a profound impact on his future endeavors. Merl graduated from Argos High School in 1948. After high school Merl worked for two years at Indiana Metal and on his neighbor's farm. In 1951, Merl was called to serve his country and was drafted to the United States Marine Corps, where he served in Santa Ana, California at the Air Facility. In 1953, Merl was honorably discharged and returned to working for Indiana Metal and farming. Merl moved to Chicago where he used his G.I. Bill to further his education in agriculture at the Illinois School of Technology.

After several years in Illinois, Merl returned to Marshall County where he worked as a custodian and maintenance technician for Plymouth Community School Corporation for 36 years. Merl retired in 1993, and was awarded the key to the City of Plymouth for his dedicated service to the community. During his retirement Merl served as the Grand Marshall of Plymouth's Blueberry Festival Parade and generously donated his time and efforts to the community by mowing lawns, shoveling snow and volunteering to do handy work at the local church.

Throughout Merl's life, he has demonstrated a deep-rooted commitment to his family, friends and country. Our community owes a great deal of respect and gratitude to the incredible service of individuals like Merl who have devoted so much of their time to serve others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in celebration of Mr. Merl Dean Swihart's 86th birthday and admirable service to our great communities and nation.