

Throughout his life, Mr. Elmore was highly respected by his community, employees and family. He was known for his innovative water management practices and active participation with well-regarded organizations such as Imperial County Farm Bureau, Imperial Valley Vegetable Growers Association, and the Western Growers Association, among others.

Furthermore, Mr. Elmore never hesitated to support local youth activities such as Brawley and Westmorland Little League, Brawley Parks and Recreation Youth Sports, and the Boys and Girls Club of Brawley. He will always be remembered by all those that were lucky enough to experience his goodwill.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF RUTH HYMAN

##### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 12, 2014*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Ruth Hyman on the occasion of her 95th birthday this year. I would like to join with her family and friends in honoring her remarkable accomplishments and philanthropy.

Born and raised in Long Branch, New Jersey, Ruth Hyman continues to give back to the community. At a young age, Ms. Hyman recognized the meaning of generosity and has spent her life working to make a difference in the world. Her achievements are numerous, wide-ranging and noteworthy, from serving in the federal government to opening her own small business. She has been actively involved with various organizations, including the Long Branch Hadassah, Deborah Hospital, Jewish Family and Children's Services, the Jewish Community Center, and Congregation of Brothers of Israel. She is also a life member of Daughters of Miriam and the Central Jersey Jewish Home for the Aged. Ms. Hyman is an esteemed member of the Jewish community and a passionate philanthropist.

Ms. Hyman's impact on the community has not gone unnoticed. The Chabad House at Rutgers University presented her with the Kesser Shem Tov (Crown of a Good Name) award and she was named Philanthropist of the Year from Generations ElderCare Charity, among many other honors.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Ruth Hyman on her 95th birthday. I know that I join with all those who know her in expressing my sincere gratitude for her warm and giving nature and immeasurable contributions to our community. Her leadership and spirit of generosity are truly admirable.

#### HONORING MR. JOHN P. SINDONI

##### HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 12, 2014*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend and fellow Holy Cross alumnus, Mr. John P. Sindoni, Esq., class of 1967. John has served with distinction as a highly effective class chair and co-chair of the Holy Cross Alumni Association since graduation.

Through his dedicated efforts, he has kept his classmates informed, energized and sup-

portive of the Holy Cross mission. He has maintained a strong bond with the College for 47 years since graduation. Since 1967, his engaging and informative class letters to his fellow Crusaders has added to the cohesiveness of our class.

The esprit de corps John has sustained among his classmates and the strong ties he has helped them to maintain with their Alma Mater have led to record levels of participation in annual giving to the Holy Cross Fund from the Class of 1967. Thanks to his work, a majority of our classmates have donated generously for the past thirty years. During reunion years, that number hovers closer to 70 percent.

John has also been a driving force in the Holy Cross Club of Central New York and a leader among a core group of dedicated alumni in the Syracuse area. A frequent organizer, sponsor and host of alumni activities in his hometown, John is a prominent alumnus whose dedication to the College is widely known. John has mentored many young Holy Cross graduates over the years and has fostered interest in Holy Cross among students at the Christian Brothers Academy in Syracuse, where his decades of work has earned him recognition for distinguished service.

After college, John graduated from Cornell University Law School and is now a partner in the law firm Hiscock & Barclay, LLP. He and his lovely wife, Cecilia, live in Cicero, NY, and have six children, including Laura, Holy Cross Class of 2005.

Mr. Speaker, John deserves the recognition of this body for a job well done. His years of service have made our class, college, and our country ever more deserving of our respect and our pride.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL UNION 375

##### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 12, 2014*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 100th anniversary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 375 and to acknowledge their persistent endeavor to fairly represent their members.

On February 3, 1914, a dedicated group of seventeen electricians organized into the Local Union 375. Their goal was to obtain better wages and better working conditions. In 1947, LU 375 initiated an apprenticeship program. Now seen as a key function, the apprenticeship program meets the demand for high quality electricians highly skilled in fiber-optics and advanced technologies as well as the traditional delivery modes. That same year, LU 375 joined the National Electrical Contractors Association, which leveraged their bargaining power. The benefits afforded members increased again in 1961, when the Health and Welfare Plan was put in place to provide healthcare and other benefits. Another milestone was reached on June 1, 1990, when LU 375 began to train Telecommunication Technicians as part of the Telephone Interconnect Communications system agreement.

On December 19, 1998, LU 375 moved to their new office and training center at what is now their current headquarters in Allentown. A short eleven years later, in 2009, they hired their first full-time Training Director and expanded the apprenticeship program. Today, they serve up to 150 apprentices in their training center and offer programs to keep veteran members current on the newest techniques and technologies. Although hit by the economic downturn in 2008, they have since seen new opportunities, including those generated by the redevelopment of downtown Allentown through the Neighborhood Improvement Zone awarded in 2013.

As one of the oldest unions in the region, LU 375 has grown to a membership approaching 1100, with ranks continuing to expand thanks to well-planned organizing. After 100 years, the IBEW Local Union 375 has remained true to their mission to provide strong, fair representation and open communication for members, fellow unions, contractors, and the community. It is an honor for me to recognize their 100 years of service and fraternity.

#### HONORING MR. EUGENE HICKS

##### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 12, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable Entrepreneur of Clarksdale, Mound Bayou, Mississippi.

Clarksdale business owner, Eugene Hicks, Sr., continues to receive recognition for his world famous hot tamales. He has been featured on the Food Networks television show, Rachel Ray's, Chile Pepper, Southern Living, Esquire magazines and other national magazines. He has also been featured in the local and national newspapers.

Mr. Hicks has hosted and served quite a few famous people and celebrities from the late, John F. Kennedy Jr., and John Amos, Blues entertainers, Bobbie Rush, Rufus Thomas, Tyrone Davis, and many worldwide tourist travelers. The most exciting historical event hosting and serving President Bill Clinton, Rev. Jessie Jackson, and several Mississippi governors including Governor Ray Mabus, Governor Ronnie Musgrove, and Governor Haley Barbour, and many more distinguished customers.

Mr. Hicks, who is now 70 years old, has been making tamales since age 16 when he was introduced to the cooking craft by the late Angelo Thompson who was the owner of Liberty Super Market in Clarksdale. Mr. Thompson instructed him on how to properly cut meat and how to manage a store and a restaurant. Mr. Hicks started working at the Liberty Super Market at the age of 12 years. He would work after school and worked at local stores doing various types jobs.

During the same time around the age of 12, an older black gentleman named Acy Ware befriended him. Mr. Ware made and sold tamales to the public by push cart and Mr. Hicks would go back and forth to the local grocery stores on his bike to pick up the different spices and shucks that Mr. Ware needed to make his tamales. A couple of years later, Mr. Ware taught Mr. Hicks how to make tamales

and informed him that the skill of making tamales can assist in him becoming an entrepreneur.

Mr. Hicks was drafted into the military at the age of 21 and worked in the mess hall preparing and cooking for the officers and his fellow soldiers. His ability to cook afforded him the opportunity to stay state side and be shipped off to Vietnam. After his military service he went back to work at Liberty Super Market, and at the federal building before opening his own grocery store. He opened Hicks' Superette in 1973, on 109-5th Street at the age of 26 with \$52 dollars where he sold groceries and his tamales.

Business was booming and people from all over the world came to eat his tamales. Customers liked his tamales and the word spread that he had the best tamales in the Mississippi Delta and they would request orders to be shipped to them in various parts of the United States and foreign countries.

"The mid-90s were really tough," Hicks said. However, he had to close down Hicks' Superette. In 2000 because of high crime and drug usage in that area of down town, people began to move out.

Mr. Hicks moved and opened a restaurant/banquet hall, called Hicks' World Famous Hot Tamales & More on 305 South State Street. He has independently own his business for 41 years now. Hicks is one of the oldest independent black business in Clarksdale.

Mr. Hicks is amazed that these years his business still attracts people from all over the world.

So, what is the secret to Mr. Hick's success? It is the shucks he uses to wrap the tamales in before cooking. Many people use wax paper which is cheaper. It's kind of expensive the way he does it, but it is the way he was taught 50 years ago and it has paid off. He does not believe in cutting corners like most people may.

His wife, Betty, of 44 years has worked in the business for the last 11 years after retiring from the Clarksdale Public School System. She said, "Eugene has recently contemplated retirement."

Mr. Hicks stated that his career has been a blessed one, because he has had a chance to meet a lot of people due to his tamales. Mr. Hicks lives by the motto of: "What you do—do it well."

Mr. Hicks and his wife are the proud parents of 3 children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an amazing entrepreneur for his dedication and service to his profession.

IN HONOR OF CLARENCE D.  
BROCKLEBANK, SR.

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I join with the Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Company No. 1 in Oceanport, New Jersey in recognizing Clarence D. "Buddy" Brocklebank for his 50 years of continuous, active service to the company. Mr. Brocklebank's outstanding record will be honored at the fire company's 37th Annual "Old Timer's Night" on October 20, 2014.

As the only member to accomplish this record in the company's 98 year history, Mr.

Brocklebank's achievement is truly commendable. At 80 years of age, Mr. Brocklebank continues to maintain active duty at the fire company, fulfilling the Emergency Services Volunteer Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) requirement to make 50 percent of the company fire calls, meetings and borough functions listed in the program. Mr. Brocklebank has served as Captain, Chief, President and Trustee of the company, and became a life member in 1989.

In addition to his service to Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Company No. 1, Mr. Brocklebank also joined the Oceanport, Monmouth County and State Relief and Exempt Fireman's Association, the Oceanport Ex-Chiefs Association, the Port-Au-Peck Benevolent Association and the Oceanport Fire Police Unit. He is also a life member of the New Jersey State Fireman's Association.

Mr. Brocklebank was born on July 14, 1934 and has been a resident of Oceanport since 1964, joining the Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Company No. 1 in April of the same year. He and his wife, Patricia, are the parents of Donald, Jr. and Matt and grandparents of 5 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, once again, it is my great honor to pay tribute to Clarence D. Brocklebank, Sr. for his 50 years of continuous, active service to Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Company No. 1. His remarkable dedication and duty to his community is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

#### RECOGNIZING BOBBY'S PLAYGROUND

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, on October 18, 2014 a community in my district teamed up to show that together we can overcome heartbreak.

Over 100 volunteers, local businesses and community leaders worked to complete Bobby's Playground—a new park area at the Lower Bucks Family YMCA's Holland Campground. The playground is named in honor of Robert Edward Osterhout IV of Holland who tragically passed away at just 14 months.

The project, a Kaboom Playground, was completed by the hands of volunteers who dedicated their time and talents to remember the life of Bobby and ensure that generations of kids to come would have a safe place to play, laugh and learn.

It was a pleasure to participate in the event and offer a few words about the amazing work being done in my district by those I represent.

While Bobby's passing is a tragedy, the completion of this playground serves both as a reminder of his memory and a point of community pride.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF HIS EXCELLENCY NGUYEN QUOC CUONG, AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO THE UNITED STATES

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend, His Excellency Nguyen Quoc Cuong, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the United States. Ambassador Cuong is more than a friend. He is my brother and, for historical purposes, I wish to pay tribute to him as he completes his term in the United States and returns to Vietnam.

Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Cuong was appointed by President Nguyen Minh Triet as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the United States of America in early 2011. He has been accredited to the title of Senior Ambassador—the highest rank for a Vietnamese career diplomat. He presented his Credentials to President Barack Obama in July 2011.

From 2008 to 2011, Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Cuong was Deputy Foreign Minister in charge of relations of Vietnam with European countries. He was also the chief negotiator in charge of relations between Vietnam and the Vatican.

From 2007 to 2008, Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Cuong was Director-General, Executive Assistant to the Deputy Prime Minister cum Minister of Foreign Affairs, and was later appointed as the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs.

From 2005 to 2007, Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Cuong served as Deputy Director-General, Department of Multilateral Economic Cooperation, Head of Political and Security Section of the APEC Vietnam Secretariat when Vietnam was host of APEC in 2006.

From 1981 to 2005, Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Cuong was an officer at the China Department and researcher at the Institute of International Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During this time, he also served in the Vietnam People's Army from 1983 to 1985.

During his 30 year career, Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Cuong was posted twice to Vietnam's missions abroad, as Minister Counselor, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Vietnam in Ottawa, Canada from 2002 to 2005 and as Second Secretary at the Embassy of Vietnam in Beijing, the People's Republic of China from 1990 to 1993.

Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Cuong graduated from the University of Foreign Affairs, Vietnam (1976–1981) and earned an MA in International Relations at Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, USA (1996–1997). Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Cuong also conducted studies on public administration at the Maxwell School of Public Administration, Syracuse University in 1998. He also participated in the Vietnam Executive Leadership Program at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University in 2009.

On November 7, 2014, the U.S. Department of State honored Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Cuong by hosting a farewell reception for him