

HONORING MR. WILLIE LEE
HUDSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable former Law Enforcement Officer, Mr. Willie L. Hudson, who is a lifelong resident of Jonestown, Mississippi.

Willie Lee Hudson, Jr. was born to the late Willie Lee Hudson, Sr. and Alouis Hudson on February 14, 1959 in Marks, Mississippi. He is a graduate of Coahoma Agricultural High School in Clarksdale, Mississippi and furthered his education at Coahoma Community College and North Carolina College. In May, 1977 he joined the U.S. Marine Corp, where he served three years and received an honorable discharge. On August 4, 1981 he became a police officer with the Clarksdale Police Department in Clarksdale, Mississippi. While at the Clarksdale Police Department, Willie moved up in rank as: Sergeant, Warrant Sergeant, and Warrant Captain.

In 2012 he retired from the Clarksdale Police Department. During his tenure as a police officer, he worked for municipal police departments in Friars Point, Mississippi, Greenville, Mississippi and Jonestown, Mississippi. In 2014 he was appointed Chief of Police for the Jonestown Police Department, but, due to health reasons, he retired from law enforcement in September.

Mr. Hudson has been an Associate Minister for 10 years at St. Luke Baptist Church in Jonestown, Mississippi. He is married to Annie Thomas-Hudson and they have eight children: Willie, III, Michael, Cherise, Paris, Willexia, Whitney, Andrenett, and Iesha; and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an amazing former law enforcement officer.

HONORING LUKE BLANTON

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Luke Blanton of Sikeston, Missouri for his outstanding achievement of receiving his Eagle Scout Award. This award is not easily attained and cannot be achieved without a steadfast determination to succeed.

In order to receive this award, Luke completed an Eagle project that exemplifies patriotism and his commitment to serve others. With the help of Sikeston Career and Technology Center, Luke built a flag depository box in the Veterans Park in Sikeston, Missouri where numerous flags continue to be collected so they can be retired properly.

At a young age Luke has shown values such as honesty, loyalty, and civility that inspire others. He has shown commitment to good citizenship, physical fitness, and education. By learning important survival skills, he has made himself an asset to our community, as well as the nation. Luke is a role model for young and old, alike, and it is my pleasure to

recognize his achievements before the House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE PENNDEL
WILDCATS FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the legendary Green Bay Packers coach Vince Lombardi once noted, "Football is a great deal like life in that it teaches that work, sacrifice, perseverance, competitive drive, selflessness and respect for authority is the price that each and every one of us must pay to achieve any goal that is worthwhile."

The gridiron is a place of winning and losing, learning and growing—the same in the pros as in local leagues across our nation.

For the Pennel Wildcats 145lbs team, their time together under the coaching eye of Joe Erb has been as much about football as it has been about life.

On Saturday, November 1, the team will play their final game—closing out years of work, dedication, friendship and success. While football might not be in each player's future, there is no doubt that their time spent together has helped shape their coming years for the better.

Best of luck to each member of the Pennel Wildcats and their coaching staff—both on the field and in their futures.

HONORING MICHAEL A. McMURPHY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent, Michael A. McMurphy, a longtime resident of Potomac, Maryland, for his lifetime of dedicated service to family, community and country, and I offer my heartfelt congratulations to him on the occasion of his retirement.

Michael McMurphy served honorably for ten years in active duty in the United States Air Force following graduation from the Air Force Academy, after which he continued serving our Nation in the Air Force Reserves, receiving several commendations for his outstanding contributions.

After earning advanced degrees from St. Mary's University and the University of Texas School of Law, he worked in the Office of Chief Counsel for the U.S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Operations in Tennessee from 1979 to 1983, where he supported the Department's Uranium Enrichment Enterprise, among other critical areas.

In 1983, he joined COGEMA, Inc. in Bethesda, Maryland as its Secretary and General Counsel, was subsequently promoted to Vice President, and then elected President and Chief Executive Officer in 1988. After COGEMA was merged into the AREVA Group in 2001, he became President and Chief Executive Officer of AREVA NC Inc., and then President of AREVA Inc. in 2003.

In 2008, Mr. McMurphy was appointed Senior Executive Vice President of AREVA's

worldwide Front End Business Group, located in Paris, France, and returned to the U.S. in 2013, rejoining AREVA Inc. as Executive Vice President through 2014. Over his tenure, he has won the admiration of his many colleagues and peers and has served on the boards of directors of numerous companies and industry organizations.

For his exceptional contributions to U.S.-France relations and to the important commercial ties between our two countries, he was recognized by the President of France with an appointment to the rank of Chevalier, or knight, in the Ordre national du Mérite and then, in 2012, to the rank of Chevalier in the Légion d'honneur, that country's highest civilian honor.

Aside from his professional accomplishments, his greatest achievement, according to his sons Matthew and Kevin, is his love for his wife Maureen—"that's a thing that makes us very proud . . . that holds the family together, and our family has always been close."

In 2008, Michael and Maureen suffered a tragic loss when their son Patrick, who moved to New York City to pursue his dream of acting, died at the age of 23 from severe head injuries sustained from an accidental fall. Michael and Maureen established the Patrick Michael McMurphy Memorial Foundation in his honor, and they have since done some wonderful work through the foundation to promote the arts, especially theater, film and music. The foundation has benefited the Stella Adler Studio of Acting, where Patrick completed his studies, and is supporting promising young people who would not otherwise be able to pursue the arts with "life changing" scholarships, mentoring and counseling.

Michael delighted in his children; his sons fondly recall the sense of humor and commitment with which Michael insisted on playing the part of Cub Scout "Den Mother," an unusual role for a dad in the 1980s, to spend more time with his boys. "We were proud to be the only boys we knew who had a dad for a Den Mother," they have said. Michael loves children as he thinks they only bring joy and humor to his life, and now Michael's joy will be spending greater quality time with his three young grandchildren, perhaps outfitting them with Chuck Taylor high-top All-Star basketball shoes—shoes that bring him back happy memories of his late son, who wore them often.

I thank Michael for his many fine contributions, especially to the business and civic vitality of Maryland, and I wish him much happiness in this new phase of his life.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HAMPDEN COUNTY MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, this year the Hampden County Massachusetts Bar Association celebrates its 150th anniversary, having been officially incorporated on October 20, 1864. For all those years, this group has been one

of the pre-eminent organizations in my district and beyond. The association is much more than a group of lawyers looking out for the interests of their profession. The association is now over 1,000 members strong and out of its membership over the years have emerged some of the most outstanding lawyers and jurists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. For a century and a half the association has been a proven leader in providing legal assistance for the poor, educating the public on our legal system and seeking improvements in our courts.

The Hampden County Bar Association plays a significant role in providing Pro Bono services and access to justice, as well as community outreach programs to the local community. Such programs include a legal clinic, a lawyer referral and information service, and providing for Lawyer for a Day Programs, in its Housing, Probate and District Courts. This volunteer organization of lawyers provides professional support and education to its members and advocacy on behalf of lawyers, the judiciary and the public at large. Its members have continued to provide an unwavering commitment to the legal profession, to each other and to the people they serve. One of the many noteworthy services provided by the Hampden County Bar Association occurred following the June 1, 2011 tornado, which impacted Springfield and its surrounding communities. The Bar Association served as the base and primary liaison to coordinate efforts to assist victims of the tornado, including setting up a hotline for the public as well as a FEMA hotline. Members of the Association attended various town meetings to assist property owners with legal issues resulting from the tornado devastation. This service also included representing individuals who were facing condemnation hearings because of the significant property damage to their premises. In addition, the Hampden County Bar Association maintained the FEMA hotline a few months later in 2011 when flooding from Hurricane Irene affected Franklin and Berkshire Counties, knowing that their bar associations did not have the resources.

I urge all citizens to take note of the good work of the Hampden County Bar Association as it begins its next 150 years of public service.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SANTA BARBARA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT NEWSPAPER, THE FORGE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Santa Barbara High School student newspaper, The Forge.

Published on October 16, 1914, The Forge is the oldest existing high school newspaper in Santa Barbara County and the second oldest high school newspaper in the state of California. The Forge published its first edition as a letter-size, four-page weekly paper with a staff of twelve and since then has developed

into a respected student run publication, delivering news and creating discussion among students and the entire Santa Barbara community.

Not only has The Forge built a reputation within the Santa Barbara community, but also on a state and national level. As a pioneer of high school publications, The Forge earned charter memberships in the National Scholastic Press Association, the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, and the Quill & Scroll International Honor Society. Unlike many other high school newspapers, The Forge has continuously published in print so as to keep the long standing tradition since its' first issue in 1914.

I am honored to represent Santa Barbara High School and am proud of The Forge for being an innovative leader within the institution of high school newspapers. Thank you for bringing to light the issues that matter most to the students of Santa Barbara High School then, now, and in years to come.

Today, I congratulate members, alumni, and supporters of The Forge newspaper on 100 successful years of providing a voice for the Santa Barbara High School Dons and for making history. I look forward to watching this esteemed organization and its members grow and have no doubt that they will continue to play a prominent role in our community.

THE PASSING OF JOHN DOAR

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memoriam of John Doar, who passed away at the age of 92, this past Tuesday, November 11th, 2014.

A courageous advocate, a brilliant legal mind, and a remarkable public servant—Mr. Doar will remain an inspiration to everyone who has made and who will make the pursuit of justice their life's work. His accomplishments are such that they cannot seem but exaggerations—but because they are not—I feel the need to stand before you and recognize a colleague who did so much for so many.

As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, I was fortunate to have worked with Mr. Doar many times—first during his time as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Justice, and later when he served as Special Counsel during the investigation and impeachment in the House of President Nixon.

I remember Mr. Doar as someone of fierce determination and true integrity. A Lincoln Republican—he served two Democratic Presidents and impeached a Republican one—without ever changing his party affiliation.

But more than an adviser, he was an active participant in making history. He was a firm defender of our national ideals, and he fought their perversion with every tool at his disposal.

As one of the architects of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, he helped ensure that every American had the opportunity to fully participate in our society and our democracy.

As an attorney and advocate for the American people, he fought to integrate the University of Mississippi, and secured the first conviction of white persons for violent crimes against black persons in the history of Mississippi.

As a believer in law and the power of non-violence, he stood between protesters and police on the edge of confrontation in the wake of Medgar Evers funeral.

In every action he brought credit to his profession, to the government, and to the promise of our nation.

It has been my privilege to have worked with Mr. Doar for so many years, and it has been America's privilege to have had his service. His example will serve as a benchmark for generations of public servants to come.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I extend my sincere thanks and condolences to his family and loved ones.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 512–515 due to a family emergency.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on #512, “no” on #513, “yes” on #514, and “no” on #515.

HONORING R.D. SIMPSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Chief R.D. Simpson, a native of Jackson, Mississippi.

Chief Simpson began his professional fire service career in 1993 with the City of Jackson Fire Department. Chief Simpson is well respected among firefighters in the City and the County for his professionalism and his ability to build strong relations between career firefighters and volunteers.

In his 20 years of service, he has held the following positions: Firefighter, Lieutenant in the Emergency Service Division, Captain/Emergency Medical Technician in the Emergency Service Division, Division Chief of Training, and Deputy Chief of the Emergency Service Division.

Chief Simpson's educational background includes: a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Jackson State University and a master's degree in Occupational Safety and Health from Columbia Southern University. He has served as the Public Information Officer for the Jackson Fire Department for the past ten years.

Chief Simpson resides in Jackson, Mississippi with his wife and their five children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Chief R.D. Simpson for his dedication to serving others.