

COMMENDING FBISD VOLUNTEER

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Carol Scott, a Fort Bend Independent School District volunteer, for receiving the 2014 Hero for Children award.

This award recognizes volunteers who make outstanding contributions of time and effort to provide encouragement and practical knowledge in the Texas public school system. Carol Scott's commitment to children through her energetic support of FBISD makes a difference in the lives of children every day. She is leaving an invaluable mark on the individual achievement of countless students and the fabric of the Fort Bend community.

Thank you to Carol Scott for dedicating so much of your time to our Fort Bend community children. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas; we congratulate Carol Scott for earning the 2014 Hero for Children Award.

TRIBUTE TO LANE EVANS**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my respects to one of the former members of this body, Lane Evans, who during his twenty-four years in the House of Representatives really made a difference, especially to our nation's veterans.

Lane Evans and I came to Congress together in 1983. During his more than two decades in the House, Lane was a forceful advocate for the men and women who served in our nation's armed forces. His earlier service in the Marines as a young man made him a natural champion of U.S. military personnel, and he rose to be the ranking Democrat on the House Veterans Affairs Committee. He was one of the first to recognize the serious and long-overlooked problems of Agent Orange, PTSD, and traumatic brain injury, and the impacts these conditions had on veterans and their families.

Representative BUSTOS, who today represents the area that Lane Evans served so well for so many years, and others in the Illinois Delegation, have introduced a bill to name the Veterans Clinic in Galesburg, Illinois after Lane Evans. I can think of no better tribute to a person who gave so much to America's veterans, and I am proud to join in cosponsoring this measure.

I am proud to have served with Lane Evans and to have possessed his friendship. I extend my condolences to his family. He is deeply missed.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE REV.
JIMMIE L. MITCHELL**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and Happy Birthday wishes to the Reverend Jimmie L. Mitchell, who celebrated her 90th birthday on Tuesday, October 7, 2014. On Sunday, October 12, 2014, family, friends, and members of Good Shepherd Deliverance Church gathered to celebrate her birthday at Receptions for You in Thomasville, Georgia.

Ollie Jimmie Lee Mitchell was born in 1924 to Mr. Jim and Mrs. Wessie Wilkerson of Thomas County, Georgia. Family and friends felt, even at that time, that Rev. Mitchell was destined to do great things for God. However, because of her mother's premature death, Rev. Mitchell had to take on adult responsibilities when she was just thirteen. She and her sister, Willie Mae Simon, helped raise their young sister and five brothers. Having overcome these difficult times together, Rev. Mitchell and Willie Mae Simon were inseparable until October 2009 when Willie Mae Simon died.

Growing up, Rev. Mitchell experienced some very difficult and abusive years that would have devastated any human being but she nevertheless maintained her strength and faith in God and He blessed her and led her to her true purpose.

At 20 years old, she married Willie Mitchell, Sr. and they settled down in Thomasville, Georgia after he was discharged from the U.S. Army. They had ten children, but one died at birth. Rev. Mitchell was known for her very conservative and strict parenting style. She trained her family to treat all people equally regardless of color or gender. She taught her children to value education, love family, live by faith, and study and work hard to achieve their dreams. Those nine children have blessed her with 24 grandchildren, 4 step-grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, and 4 great, great-grandchildren.

When she was about 32 years old, Rev. Mitchell attended a prayer meeting at her next door neighbor's house, where she met Evangelist Mella Lawyer who led Rev. Mitchell to Christ and later became one of her dearest friends. Rev. Mitchell became a member of Saints Temple Holiness Church in Thomasville, where she actively participated in many ministries and became a missionary. Rev. Mitchell accepted her call into the ministry in 1963, becoming one of the first ordained women in Thomas County. She established Good Shepherd Deliverance Church the following year. In the fifty years since then, she planted more than seven churches throughout the state of Georgia and traveled throughout the nation to minister God's grace to all.

George Washington Carver once said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Rev. Mitchell has gone far in life because her everlasting faith in the Lord is vivid testimony of His greatness to all whom she encounters. A woman of determination and perseverance,

she has a special spiritual talent for getting closed doors to open. Her love and commitment to Christ is reflected in her compassionate leadership, which makes her a guiding light within the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our best wishes to an outstanding spiritual pioneer, the Reverend Jimmie L. Mitchell. She is truly a woman of faith whose heart never stops giving and whose hands never stop serving the people of her church and her community of Thomasville, Georgia.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN
GLEN SPERLING, PHD**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. John Glen Sperling, the visionary educator, entrepreneur, and University of Phoenix founder who passed away in August at the age of 93.

Sperling embraced education as the foundation for living a full life—and as a resource for overcoming poverty and creating new ladders of opportunities for fellow citizens to fulfill their potential.

Throughout his life, Sperling drew wisdom from the wellspring of his own experience. Coming of age in rural Missouri during the Great Depression, Sperling struggled with childhood illnesses, physical abuse, and learning disabilities. When he received his secondary school diploma, Sperling was still illiterate.

He decided to join the U.S. Merchant Marine, where he would finally learn to read. After the U.S. entered the Second World War, Sperling joined the U.S. Army Air Corps. His service made him eligible for the educational benefits of the G.I. Bill.

The affordable education made available through the G.I. bill unlocked previously unimaginable possibilities for Sperling. He discovered a passion for learning, receiving his Bachelor's from Reed College and earning a Master's in history from the University of California at Berkeley. He capped his studies with a Ph.D. in 18th century mercantile history from the University of Cambridge.

Education had lifted the sharecroppers' son to attend one of the most august institutions in the English-speaking world, and Sperling was determined to help other non-traditional students realize their full potential.

So began the passion for education that would become Sperling's defining legacy. As a professor at San Jose State University, Sperling made a point of working with police officers and other educators who aided teenagers with behavioral troubles—championing the value of flexible, patient, and non-judgmental teaching for students struggling to find their way forward.

Sperling knew there was an opportunity and a need for an institution dedicated to people reaching for education at all times of their lives—a place that recognized the circumstances of students already juggling the demands of work or a family.

As he wrote in his memoir, Sperling found himself a "Rebel With a Cause," working to put higher education within the grasp of working adults. In 1973, Sperling started what

would become the University of Phoenix, one of the largest institutions of higher education.

Sperling created an institution that has empowered thousands of working adults with the tools needed to provide a better quality of life for themselves and their families. His enduring legacy of innovation and entrepreneurship in education has inspired new thinking and a renewed focus on non-traditional students across all of academia.

John Sperling inspired so many Americans to see—and seize—the opportunities in their lives. We hope that it is a comfort to son, Peter, his family, Joan Hawthorne, his companion, and all of John's loved ones that so many share their sadness.

CONGRATULATING ALVIN ISD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Alvin Independent School District for receiving the 2014 Clean Air Champion award.

This award honors organizations operating in the Houston-Galveston area that are taking extraordinary, voluntary measures to improve the region's air quality. The Alvin ISD earned this recognition by revamping district-wide transportation; they have boosted fuel efficiency through a no-idle policy, pulled older, less efficient vehicles off the road, and replaced most diesel-fueled buses with propane-fueled buses.

I applaud the Alvin Independent School District in its forward thinking and contributions to our local air quality and health. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate Alvin ISD for receiving the 2014 Clean Air Champion award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, on November 12, I was absent due to airline delays between California and Washington, DC and was unable to cast my vote for rollcall 516.

Rollcall No. 516: Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 4194—Government Reports Elimination Act. Had I been present I would have voted, “aye.”

STATEMENT OF INTRODUCTION FOR THE NAZI SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS TERMINATION ACT OF 2014

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the bipartisan Nazi Social Security Benefits Termination Act of 2014 along with my colleagues Representatives JASON CHAFFETZ, LEONARD LANCE, STEVE COHEN, JAMES McGOVERN, KATHY CASTOR, PETER KING, HANK JOHNSON,

DAVID CICILLINE, KEITH ELLISON, PATRICK MURPHY, STEVE ISRAEL, DEREK KILMER, and JACKIE SPEIER. I commend Sens. BOB CASEY and CHARLES SCHUMER for introducing the Senate companion.

After the conclusion of World War II, thousands of people who participated in Nazi persecution fled to the United States and lied about their pasts to gain U.S. citizenship. The Department of Justice has successfully identified and deported hundreds of these individuals over more than three decades. There were, however, individuals who left the country of their own accord before being issued an order of removal, which would have terminated all federal benefits, including Social Security. Without this order, eligibility for these benefits remained intact and these individuals collected millions of dollars in federal benefit checks.

The Nazi Social Security Benefits Termination Act of 2014 would require the U.S. Attorney General to notify the Social Security Commissioner to terminate benefits for any individual who has renounced citizenship or been denaturalized on the grounds of participation in Nazi persecution. In the event that the Department of Justice identifies Nazi war criminals still residing in the U.S., it may initiate its denaturalization process as normal, and this rule change would allow benefits termination at the end of that process. The measure also requires an annual report to Congress from the Department of Justice on the number of individuals it has determined are disqualified for Social Security benefits under this new legislation as well as the number of active investigations against Nazi war criminals it continues to pursue.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation that would finally put an end to this grave misuse of federal dollars. After decades of paying out benefits to Nazi criminals who slipped through our justice system, it is past time to correct this injustice.

HONORING THE UNITY COUNCIL

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Unity Council's 50th Anniversary. For five decades, the Unity Council has continued to enrich our community's quality of life by helping families build wealth and assets through sustainable economic, social and neighborhood development programs.

In 1964, what started as a political action group soon evolved into a social services assistance program to aid Latinos in Oakland, California's Fruitvale district. In their new capacity, the Unity Council created Oakland's first Spanish-speaking employment office and worked with Oakland city officials to create the first Latino library, now known as the Cesar E. Chavez Branch Public Library. By 1967, the organization had become incorporated as a nonprofit organization and service agency. In the years that followed, the Unity Council became a powerful catalyst for pervasive social change.

During the 1970s, the Unity Council created a business advisory committee composed of Clorox, Pacific Bell, PG&E, Kaiser Permanente and Safeway; formed the Fruitvale Community Development District; initiated a small Latino business loan and assistance center; and built Las Casitas, the first

ever Latino-built housing development in Oakland.

The 1980s brought challenging times for the Unity Council, which nearly resulted in the organization's demise. Fortunately, broad-based community support, strategic business partnerships, and a drastic reorganization allowed the Unity Council to rebuild its reputation and once again establish itself as the voice of the Fruitvale district and of Latinos in Oakland.

Starting in the early 1990s, the Unity Council expanded its Head Start Program from 18 children to 117, and offered early childhood development services, health and nutrition education, advocacy, and social services. Currently, the Head Start Program and the more recent addition, Early Head Start Program, serve a total of 608 low-income families.

In 1995, the Unity Council began its Façade Improvement Program, designed to provide business and property owners matching grants of up to \$10,000 to fund rehabilitation projects. By 2005, the Façade Improvement Program had completed 120 projects and leveraged \$220,000 of grant dollars into millions of dollars in contributions from stakeholders. That same year, the Unity Council received funding to launch the Fruitvale Public Market, a 7,000 square foot business incubator space designed to promote the local economy and create high quality and sustainable jobs for neighborhood residents. As a result, the Fruitvale commercial district went from 30–40 percent vacancy to less than 1 percent vacancy, and became the second largest revenue producing commercial area in the city of Oakland.

One of the Unity Council's biggest milestones is the Fruitvale Transit Village. The nationally recognized Fruitvale Transit Village opened in 2003 with 47 housing units as well as offices for several major community organizations. Earlier this year, the Unity Council received state funding that will allow the addition of 275 affordable and market-rate rental units to the Fruitvale area. After 50 years, the Unity Council remains the most relevant voice for the Latino community in the East Bay.

Therefore, on behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I thank the Unity Council for the countless contributions and never-ending commitment to our communities. I wish the Unity Council another fifty years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL OF GREATER NEW BEDFORD

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Inter-Church Council of Greater New Bedford as this organization celebrates its 75th anniversary this month.

For three quarters of a century, the Inter-Church Council of Greater New Bedford has united religious organizations throughout our community in service to the surrounding area. Comprised of 47 member congregations stretching from Westport to Wareham, and supported by a volunteer force of more than 150 leaders, the Council has since its founding served as a strong faith collaborative committed to social justice and spiritual renewal for all its members.

The Council serves our community in many important ways. Its housing programs serve