

more than 400 low-income elderly and disabled residents, its chaplains assist patients in St. Luke's Hospital, and its members participate in various community service initiatives, such as Peace Marches, gun exchanges for food, and hands-on ministries in the local neighborhoods. Clergy and lay members alike tackle the tough issues faced in our region each and every day, and for this reason our community is a better place as a result of their service.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Inter-Church Council of Greater New Bedford upon its 75th anniversary. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking this organization for everything it has given to our community, and in wishing it well for many years to come.

CONGRATULATING MACHINISTS
LOCAL LODGE 831 ON THEIR
100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take an opportunity to congratulate Machinists Local Lodge 831 on their 100th anniversary. Local Lodge 831 is located in Cedar Rapids, which is in my district. Local Lodge 831 was chartered as Harmony Lodge 831 on November 18, 1913.

For over a century, the Machinists in Cedar Rapids have worked to strengthen the middle class and advance every American's right to collectively bargain. Machinists successfully implemented the 8-hour workday, helped outlaw child labor, and have worked to increase salaries for middle class Americans. In Cedar Rapids, Local Lodge 831 has provided good paying jobs to many hardworking Iowans. Since being elected to Congress, I've been proud to work alongside the members of Local Lodge 831 in strengthening the middle class.

I'm proud to call many of the members of Local Lodge 831 my friends, including President Brad Van Fossen and former President Joe Ironside. I congratulate every member of Local Lodge 831 on their 100th anniversary and wish them all the best for the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MIKE
GAYMON

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 honor a strong community and business leader and outstanding citizen, Mike Gaymon. Mr. Gaymon has retired after more than 26 years as President and CEO of the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce. He was honored at a Retirement Celebration on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce in Columbus, Georgia.

A native of South Carolina, Mr. Gaymon has been in the chamber business for over thirty-eight years. He led chambers in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Alabama before mov-

ing to Columbus, Georgia in 1988 to serve as President and CEO of the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Gaymon has revolutionized the Columbus Chamber as well as the Columbus community in many ways during his long tenure as President. He spearheaded the Need for Land project between Fort Benning and Columbus, which resulted in land for the Muscogee Technology Park. He oversaw the Chamber's Riverfront Committee, which worked to set the stage for development of the riverfront, including the Riverwalk, one of the longest river walks in the nation, spanning 15 miles along the banks of the Chattahoochee River. The Chamber was actively involved in the first SPLOST in 1993, which opened the door for the construction of the new Civic Center and the enhancement of Golden Park, where the 1996 Olympics Women's Softball Tournament was held. Mr. Gaymon also led the Chamber in forming the Valley Partnership, one of the largest and most successful regional economic development organizations. Additionally, the Chamber created the Young Professionals Program, which has over 650 members representing over 200 companies.

Under Mr. Gaymon's leadership, the Chamber became the first five-star chamber in Georgia and one of only twenty-seven in the nation in November 2006. He will leave the Chamber in good shape with a \$3 million annual operating budget and a steady membership of about 1,250 firms, a majority of those small businesses. His economic development accomplishments exceed \$5.3 billion dollars with nearly 60,000 new jobs generated or retained.

Mr. Gaymon has been selected by his peers as the Georgia Chamber Executive of the Year and has been named as Georgia Tech's Top Presenter for Economic Development Workshop and one of Top Five National Instructors by the U.S. Chamber. He also has been named as one of the 100 Top Influential Georgians by Georgia Trend, among numerous other honors and distinctions.

The city of Columbus has also felt the waves of change emanating from the renovated old train depot where the Chamber is housed. In 2013, over 3,000 new primary jobs were created and more than \$148 million was invested in the region. It is home to successful and renowned companies such as Aflac, TSYS, NCR, Pratt & Whitney, and Koch Foods, which as a whole have invested almost \$3.5 billion into the region while creating more than 20,000 direct and indirect jobs. Furthermore, Columbus became the first Certified Literate Community in Georgia and has consistently been recognized as one of "Top 100 Places to Live in America," "100 Best Places to Raise a Family," and "Number 1 for Single Senior Citizens" throughout the years.

Mr. Gaymon has accomplished much in his life but none of this would have been possible without the love and support of his wife, Sheila, their children and grandchildren, and his parents.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays often said: "You make your living by what you get, you make your life by what you give." We are so grateful that Mr. Gaymon has given his time and talents to shaping a team of dedicated business leaders to improve the city of Columbus and surrounding areas.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Mike Gaymon for his twenty-

six outstanding years as President and CEO of the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce. His energizing leadership has helped this organization transform the Columbus community for the better.

TRIBUTE TO BARRY BERGEY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude and appreciation to Barry Bergey, who retires this month as Director of Folk and Traditional Arts at the National Endowment for the Arts after a distinguished 29-year tenure.

Mr. Bergey's predecessor at the NEA, Dan Sheehy, spoke of him as follows:

"Barry grew up in the picture postcard town of New Haven, Missouri, on the banks of the Missouri River, population 2,000. His father was a minister, and Barry once recalled how sitting through the same sermon two times each Sunday prepared him for the many meetings he would sit through during his government career. After working for a time at Washington University of St. Louis, he found the professional love of his life—Missouri's rich store of traditions and the artists who maintained them. He became the state's first folk arts coordinator. His congenial persona, his cultural knowledge, and his dedication to serving grassroots people and their most cherished traditions caught the attention of Bess Lomax Hawes, then director of the National Endowment for the Arts' budding Folk Arts Program. Barry was hired by the NEA as a senior arts specialist in 1985 and became the program's fourth Director in 2001, following Alan Jabbour, Hawes and Daniel Sheehy. With 29 years of service to his credit, he is the longest-serving folk and traditional arts staff member."

Mr. Bergey absorbed the values of folk and traditional artists during his upbringing and worked to preserve and promote them throughout his career. With Julia and Jim Olen, he produced "I'm Old but I'm Awfully Tough," a recording of field documentation made in the Ozark Region of Missouri and Arkansas in 1975. As State Folk Arts Coordinator at the Missouri Cultural Heritage Center based at the University of Missouri-Columbia from 1983–85, he initiated a model statewide traditional arts apprenticeship program and a statewide touring and performance series. He also curated a touring exhibition on a 19th century housebarn in rural Franklin County near New Haven, Missouri, where he grew up. Mr. Bergey founded the Missouri Friends of the Folk Arts, an organization that sponsored the annual Frontier Folklife Festival at the Gateway Arch in St. Louis and produced The Missouri Tradition, a public radio program. He also taught courses on the blues and on American folk music at Washington University in St. Louis.

In addition to managing NEA grants on folk and traditional arts, Mr. Bergey directed the NEA National Heritage Fellowships, the premiere American lifetime honors for individual accomplishments in folk and traditional arts. He provided guidance and support for folk arts infrastructure and statewide apprenticeship

programs, as well as technical assistance in the field. Mr. Bergey urged support for many recommended applicants, recognizing that even a small grant could make a difference to folk arts projects and that an organization could leverage NEA support when seeking funding from other organizations and donors.

Mr. Bergey's international leadership includes service as consultant to the Center for U.S.-China Arts Exchange on a long-term project to conserve traditional arts and minority culture in Yunan Province, China; author of a chapter on music and public policy in the United States and Canada in the *Garland Encyclopedia of World Music*; and service on the U.S. delegation for the UNESCO Intergovernmental Meetings of Experts to Draft a Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, the UNESCO Inter-American Committee on Culture of the Organization of American States in 2003, and the U.S. delegation to UNESCO to draft a Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in 2005.

Joe Wilson, who served as Chairman of the National Council for the Traditional Arts in Silver Spring, Maryland, described Mr. Bergey's service as follows:

"During his years as a folklorist and collector, Barry sought out those the Good Book calls 'even the least of these little Ones.' He understood that the genes for creativity were spread wide, and knew it was his duty to reach into the places where the poor and ragged people dwelled. He was gracious and good to all who came calling, and understood that it was his duty to be certain that his branch of government was fair to all its citizens. He honored the taxpayers by being careful in the expenditure of funds. In an influential place and at an important time, he lifted artists up, all artists, and made them better understood. His reach has been great, and his grasp magnificent."

I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking Barry for his extraordinary service to the National Endowment for the Arts and for his outstanding contributions to our cultural heritage, and in wishing him, his wife Jean, and his children Claire and Matthew all the best in the coming years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor on Wednesday, November 12, 2014. Mechanical issues in Minneapolis delayed my flight to Washington, DC until after votes had been called. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 4194 (Roll No. 516).

HONORING MOUNT ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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 Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church Canton, Mississippi.

The population of Madison County, Mississippi has been predominantly African-American since 1840. Prior to 1865, some members of the African-American population, most of whom had arrived in the country as slaves, were permitted to attend worship services, to be baptized and to be married in the area churches. They were also allowed to join established white congregations.

Early county records indicate that slaves were a part of the church communities. The Old Madison Presbyterian Church, the First Presbyterian, and the First Baptist listed a total membership of one hundred and thirty-four. One hundred were slaves and the other thirty-four were whites.

After the Civil War and freedom, African-Americans naturally desired to establish their own houses of worship. In 1865, the newly freed members of the congregation of First Baptist, with encouragement and financial assistance from their white counterparts, organized Mount Zion Baptist Church. Rev. T.J. Drane, pastor of the white church, served as minister receiving for his services a monthly salary of one dollar.

In 1870, Drane and R.B. Johnson donated two acres of land on the northern boundary of the plantation to Mount Zion. The first church was erected on Freedman Hill, located at the corner of North Railroad and Bowman Streets, according to the 1898 George and Dunlap map of Canton. Rev. Drane called for a meeting with council along with Mr. Will Powell from the white Baptist Church to help establish the church.

In addition to serving as pastor, Rev. Drane ran a day school and was assisted by Lillian Highgate, a white female. Rev. Drane received an additional \$1.50 a month for his services. He also organized and maintained the first Sunday school class. All other organizations came into existence after Rev. Drane's resignation. Rev. Jordan Williams replaced him.

Newspapers frequently carried announcements concerning Mount Zion's activities. For example, "Several converts at the Colored Baptist Church were baptized at the railroad culvert," or "Rev. Williams, pastor of the Colored Baptist Church, immersed ten converts last Sunday night". The second church site was across the street where the TWL parking lot is now located.

The third and fourth pastors were Reverends Mass and Davis. The fifth pastor, Rev. R.T. Sims, served for eighteen years and Rev. W.L. Varnado for seven. The seventh through the tenth pastors were as follows: Rev. Bradley, Rev. Morris, Rev. Drew, and Rev. A.D. Purnell.

By the 1920's, the congregation had outgrown the church and Rev. Purnell, along with members, began raising money for a larger building. The new lot for our present church was purchased from Jack Warren. Rev. Purnell asked Mr. S.M. Reddrick, Vice President of Madison County Bank, to serve as custodian over the church's building funds. He also asked if he would direct the building of the church and issue bonds to underwrite construction costs.

The bank issued \$14,000 in bonds. Raymond H. Spencer was the architect of the neoclassical brick structure. He also designed the First Methodist Church of which Reddrick was a member. The building was erected in 1929 at the cost of \$35,000. The congregation moved into the new structure February 1930.

Rev. P.F. Parker, the eleventh pastor, with the help of God and members, burned the mortgage. Under his leadership the church grew. For example, the following organizations played an active role in missionary work: Senior Missionary Society, Junior Matrons, Young Woman's Auxiliary, Red Circle/Sunshine Band, Sunday school, Baptist Training Union, Senior Choir, Gospel Chorus, Junior/Beginner's Choir, New Membership Club, Pastor's Aide, Boys' Bible Club and Usher Board. Rev. Parker served until his death in 1970.

Mount Zion continued to serve the African-American community religiously and socially. During the summer of 1964, Mount Zion was the location of a pivotal moment in our state's civil rights struggle. In her autobiography, *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, Ann Moody notes that Mount Zion was the biggest Negro church in Canton and the center of the local marches.

On Friday, May 29, 1964, on the church lawn, six hundred community and church members witnessed the near death beating of McKinley Hamilton, a young African-American man. As a result, eighty church members marched on the Madison County jail in one of the first protest marches in Canton. Mount Zion became known as the "Church of Refuge". In 1968, twelve hundred students from Rogers High School marched because they were outraged over the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A group of parents led them to Mount Zion. Rev. Parker opened the doors of the church to them, thus saving them from injury by law enforcement officers waiting for them on Hickory Street in front of High's Funeral Home.

Dr. W.L. Johnson, our twelfth and present pastor, has served for twenty-nine years. His words have power through the Holy Spirit. Under Dr. Johnson's leadership, the church has continued its growth. For example, the church has been air-conditioned, carpeted throughout, a fellowship hall and recreation center built and equipped, four parking lots purchased and surfaced, restrooms were remodeled, a lounge installed, pews padded, a new intercom system purchased, speakers installed in the pulpit and choir loft, additional chairs purchased for the choir and seating areas in the wings, two new copiers, a computer, storage room, and a fifteen passenger van and twenty-seven passenger bus were also purchased. The stained glass windows were repaired, and the pastor study was moved upstairs.

We now have a summer recreation program. Our membership is approximately 500 and still growing. The church is one of the most monumental, intact, and historic resources associated with the Canton African-American Community. As a result of this, the church was recently placed on the registry of Historical Buildings.

Our aim is to give every God-seeking person an opportunity to receive salvation. The church clearly reflects the importance of the social and religious life of the African-American community from its birth in 1865 up to the present. Let us resolve to make service to Christ a priority in our lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church.