

abuse of the current overtime system by Customs and Border Protection. This legislation will end such abuse in the future, at the same time increasing the number of hours the Border Patrol can secure the border, which is the equivalent of adding an additional 1,500 Border Patrol agents.

With additional hours on the border, our nation will be more secure as additional agent hours will help gain control of the border, carry out additional law enforcement missions, and apprehend dangerous criminals.

Mr. Speaker, the mission carried out by the men and women of the Border Patrol is extremely dangerous—more than one hundred agents have given their lives protecting our nation.

We owe it to them to give them a stable, predicable paycheck that takes into account the irregular nature of the arduous work they do every day on the border.

So, I want to commend the leadership of the Chief of the Border Patrol, Michael Fisher, and the Deputy Chief of the Border Patrol, Ronald Viteillo, for their commitment to finding sustainable reforms for agent pay, while also improving the security of our border.

I urge my colleagues to support this common sense bill that saves the taxpayers millions of dollars.

HONORING TOMMY “MR. NOTTIE”  
GUNNS, JR.

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man of noble character from Shaw, MS in Bolivar County.

I believe that when you give honor and recognition to someone they should truly deserve it. I am always happy when I meet someone or hear their story about overcoming, rising from obscurity, coming from meager beginnings but leaving a legacy although unaware; which doesn't get the recognition and thanks it really deserves. This is why I want to honor Mr. Tommy Gunns, Jr. a man of “noble” character.

Childhood: Nottie was originally from Egypt, MS in Chickasaw County, MS. He was born in the year 1900 to Mr. Tommy Gunns, Sr. and Mrs. Alberta Gunns. Nottie was raised in a home with his mother, his only sister named Alma, and his stepfather, “Mr. Brick”. His parents were sharecroppers and struggled; which was the backdrop for an unstable home environment that easily led to abuse. And Nottie was often times the one subjected to the abuse (verbal and physical) by his stepfather. Since his mother would not protect him and because of years of abuse, he developed the drive early in life to want “better,” so he planned to run away, someday. In his plan, he always included Alma, his young sister.

The day came when he ran away and took Alma with him, never returning home. Nottie ran away and arrived in Shaw, MS in 1914. He was a young teenager when he ran away. When Nottie arrived in Shaw, he worked as many odd jobs as he could find and raised his sister alone; vowing to never let anyone else abuse him or his little sister. In fact, he was so protective of her that he never eased up

until he had approved of the man she married. He had to be assured the man was not abusive and was a good provider for Alma.

A Young Man and Family Man: As a young man working in Shaw he was able to acquire many skills and a reputation as a fast learner, hard worker, and a person of good moral character, which equated to a nonsense type of reputation. He was still determined to have a better life and wanted to be respected and treated like a man so he carried himself like a man. Nottie eventually earned that reputation and people began calling him Mr. Nottie or Mr. Gunns. Some of the jobs he worked included driving trucks to haul logs, a loader at the Shaw lumber yard, and sharecropping as a small farmer. While working at the Shaw lumber yard, he learned the skill of carpentry; and became known as a master carpenter around Shaw. Everyone wanted him to do their work.

Mr. Gunns eventually met and married, Nancy Hunt of Shaw, MS. The couple had ten children, 2 died shortly after child birth. Mr. Gunns wanted a big loving family that was full of happy times but serious about life. He directed his journey and based goals in life on his childhood, all that he never had, he was determined to experience before dying. His and Nancy's children are Berna “BB” Gunns-Williams, Nathaniel “Baby Sister” Gunns-Clark, Tommy “Win” Gunns, Jr. (although he is the 3rd), Christine Gunns-Gardner, Torries Gunns, Maurine “Morgan” Gunns-Gray, Shirley Ann “Shelly” Gunns-Juette, and Lonnie Lee Gunns.

As a husband, father, and community member, Mr. Gunns saw the need to become more involved. You see he wanted to be a role model for his children; he wanted to make sure they had a good upbringing and education, so he felt he needed to get involved in the community and help make it happen. Mr. Gunns served as a volunteer fireman for the city. He wasn't trying to be a hero or win a popularity campaign; he just wanted a better life for his children. Mr. Gunns number one priority was education for all colored children.

Since he was very vocal about education he was asked to become a member of the Board of Trustees for the Shaw Colored School.

The Shaw Colored School only educated children to the 8th grade. Beyond 8th grade the colored children had to travel to Greenville or surrounding towns for a high school education. Mr. Gunns helped changed that. He convinced the Board of Trustees to agree to vote on establishing a curriculum for 9th through 12th grades for Shaw students to be able to get their high school education. So, under his tutelage the first high school graduating class from the Shaw Colored High School was in 1949.

How did he do it? Mr. Gunns had an unyielding faith. That was the same faith that brought him as a young teenage runaway with his little sister, Alma, safely to Shaw, MS during the early 1900s. His faith in God provided him with jobs to take care of himself and his sister as a young boy, alone in the Mississippi Delta. His ability to pick up on things and learn fast paid off because he became that master carpenter. His daughter, Maurine said he could build a house from the ground up. He was a devoted member and deacon of the Strangers Home M.S. Church in Shaw, where he was laid to rest for eternity. And those trying times were no match for his common sense, the old folks called it “mother wit” for

survival. It was the foundation of his approach on how to survive in life:

Financial Policy—never spend all your money. Save some for a rainy day.

Child Rearing—everybody has a role and place. Only adults are in charge and children are to stay in their place and do as they are told. He called it his no nonsense approach to raising children. He would often paraphrase Proverbs 13:24, by saying “Spare the rod and spoil the child.”

Preparation—your future depends on your education. “All my children are going to college. I had enough children to work and chip in to help pay for everyone's college,” he would say.

The End: The first of Mr. Gunns' children to go to college was Berna at the age of 16. This was made possible by two reasons: (1) everyone in the family picked and chopped cotton, and (2) his financial policy of saving money. The children all knew their earnings went to their parents to help provide for the family and save for college. Berna went to Tuskegee Institute in 1950 in Tuskegee, AL. Berna graduated before he died. He was able to see the first of his children to get a college education. His daughter, Berna remembers her father and mother faces as they watched her graduate with all her sisters and brothers watching as well. They knew they had to do it too. Berna went on to become a self-employed, self-made millionaire. She started her own company “Scrubbles Janitorial Service” in her home and grew it to become a multi-million dollar company in Washington, DC. She was able to live that better life because of her fathers' determination to clear the path.

Mr. Gunns didn't live to see another one of his children to go to college, he died in 1954 but he had already planted the seeds for success. Everyone in the family knew their place and role. Mrs. Gunns, his wife and eldest daughter, Berna carried on his mantra for every child of his going to college. Mrs. Gunns continued to work as the cafeteria manager and cook for the Shaw Colored School.

Tommy, his eldest son, became the father figure for his siblings. Since his father had taught him the carpentry trade, Tommy was able to get his father's job at the Shaw Lumber Yard. It was a year later in 1958 that he got the job because graduating from high school was priority in 1957. The family never missed a check; he knew the money was going to help pay for his siblings to finish high school and attend college. Tommy eventually went to college in 1959 by getting a job with Mississippi Vocational College (now called Mississippi Valley State University-MVSU) driving the school bus picking up students in Bolivar and Sunflower County. That was one of the ways he was able to pay his way through college, as well as it served as his transportation to and from the College. The other way was when Dean Isaac offered him a work study job to help build other buildings on campus (i.e., the auditorium, and campus maintenance) because he had seen his work as a student. As a requirement for graduation, Tommy had to build something to show he had mastered his trade. But the requirement was reconsidered when he drove his instructor to Shaw and showed him the house he built along with the blueprint he had drawn. When asked how, Tommy told him “My Dad is a master carpenter and he taught me this stuff a long time ago.” That house was for his best

friend, Roy Magee and the family still lives there. In fact, Tommy still has the blueprints he drew. Tommy was a part of the team that built the first house on campus for the first president of Mississippi Valley State University, Dr. James H. White. The house now serves as the National Alumni House on the campus of the University. Tommy did not graduate until 1964 because of split session with his degree in Industrial Arts. He became the Industrial Art instructor for the Shaw School District, working for 30 years until his retirement.

All of Mr. Gunns' children went to college and became very successful in their own rights with good jobs, homes, cars, money to send their children to college, and blessed to see retirement, etc. But Benam and Tommy stood out as the oldest daughter and son after their father's death. As for Mr. Gunns master carpentry skills, his son, Tommy and grandson, Undra Gunns (son of Torries and Dorothy Washington-Gunns) acquired that skill. So, he lives on in many ways and in many accomplishments without even trying to do so, he left a legacy.

One more mention on how did he do it? Mr. Gunns received only a 2nd grade education. He never learned to read or write. But, his stepfather, "Mr. Brick" taught him how to count. And passed that on to his children by teaching them how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide. That's all he could do in terms of academics. It was his faith in God, his common sense, determination, and ability to count money and perform mathematical operations in his head, and serve on the school board, which sparked change in education in Shaw. All those things got him through life and he was destined to accomplish the things he did. "If you don't walk in purpose, you won't walk in destiny. Find your purpose in life and walk it out" (Quote by: Farrah Gray). Now, that's how he did it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the legacy of Tommy "Mr. Nottie" Gunns, Jr. from the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF CAROL KLATT

#### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Daly City Vice-Mayor Carol Klatt, who after serving on the City Council for 21 years, will be retiring on December 2, 2014.

Carol's commitment to Daly City can be traced back to 1965, when she served as a Girl Scout Leader, fostering good citizenship among Daly City's next generation of women leaders. In 1980, Carol was elected as the President and Secretary of the Serramonte Homeowners Association, and that same year she started to follow the City Council's activities closely. Then in 1991, Carol's enduring commitment to serve the Daly City community resulted in her appointment to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Carol continued to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission until she was appointed by the City Council to fill the unexpired term of former Councilmember Jane Powell in 1993. Carol was first elected in a special elec-

tion to the City Council in June of 1994 and re-elected later that year in November. She was re-elected in 1998, 2002, 2006, and 2010.

During Carol's 21 years on the City Council, she served as Mayor five times, and earned a reputation as one of the hardest working elected officials in San Mateo County. She has served on numerous local, county and regional boards like the Association of the Bay Area Governments (ABAG), the Bay Air Quality Management District, the Clean Community Committee, the Anti-Graffiti Committee, the Airport Land Use Committee, the Airport Roundtable, the Daly City Host Lions, the Mission Street Merchants Association, and the North Peninsula Food Pantry & Dining Center of Daly City, just to name a few.

While on the City Council, Carol served with numerous Daly City Mayors like Al Tegli, Mike Nevin, and Adrienne Tissier, each of whom had a tremendous impact on San Mateo County. As you can see from her numerous volunteer and civic endeavors, Carol Klatt has her own proud legacy of county achievements, and she currently serves with Mayor David Canepa, Councilmember Mike Guingona, Councilmember Sal Torres, and Councilmember Ray Buenaventura.

Daly City was born out of a small town known as Vista Grande over one hundred years ago. Vista Grande was a town of about two thousand people, made up mostly of refugees from the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire. The name Daly City was chosen to honor John D. Daly, a local farmer who opened his land to refugees of the disaster.

Today, Daly City is home to a Bay Area-wide rail system, a developing shopping center, and a population of more than 100,000 residents. The city prides itself on its ethnic diversity, with many newcomers from Asia and Central or South American nations. Daly City is known as the Gateway of the Peninsula, as Carol Klatt regularly reminds residents and visitors.

Carol has not only been a friend to me, but to everyone seeking advice on the daily activities occurring in the city. I am sure Carol will be missed dearly by her city council colleagues and countless Daly City residents. I want to wish Carol and her husband John a happy retirement as they move to their new home in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Nelson Mandela once said: "What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead." Carol's life exemplifies the way one should meet this standard.

I ask that the House of Representatives rise with me to commend Carol Klatt for her many years of outstanding public service to the community she loves. Daly City returns her love with the same gusto as a player at the tables proclaiming a royal flush—loudly and with great pride. Las Vegas may be getting Carol Klatt as a resident, but she will remain the Queen of Hearts in Daly City.

#### CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF PROENGLISH

#### HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 9, 2014*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th anniversary of

ProEnglish, a national grassroots organization based in Arlington, VA.

ProEnglish works on Capitol Hill, in the states, in the courts, and in the court of public opinion to defend English as our common language and to make it the official language at all levels of government.

ProEnglish is an effective and vigorous advocate for English language unity, and for the past 20 years, ProEnglish has worked hard to stop harmful, divisive policies such as bilingual education and multilingual ballots.

At the time of their founding, only 18 states had passed laws establishing English as the official language, yet thanks to ProEnglish along with other patriots, 31 states and countless towns, cities, and counties have official English laws today.

Originally founded in 1994 as English Language Advocates, it was renamed ProEnglish and helped defend Arizona's state official English law. This law was the subject of a 10-year long federal court challenge, *Arizonans for Official English v. Arizona* (1997). The case was eventually appealed all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, and the ruling there was important in upholding official English laws in other states.

ProEnglish has filed amicus curiae briefs in a number of successful landmark English cases, including *Home v. Flores* (2009), where the U.S. Supreme Court found that bilingual education (where children are segregated by language and taught primarily in their native tongue) was not the most effective way of teaching children.

In *Anderson v. Utah* (2001), ProEnglish successfully argued in defense of a year 2000 official English ballot initiative that passed by 67% of the popular vote. This ballot initiative declared English as Utah's official language.

ProEnglish has even come to the aid of various small business owners, like Richard and Shauna Kidman in *EEOC v. Kidmans* (2002), who were bullied by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) for implementing lawful English-language workplace policies.

The organization has testified before Congress and various local and state legislatures with the goal of restoring the Melting Pot principle inherent in having a common language. Our common English language has helped make the U.S. the most successful multi-ethnic and multi-racial nation on earth.

Over 90% of the world's nations have an established official language, but despite the high levels of public support, the United States is not one of them. Polls continue to show that immigrants—like all Americans—support official English in overwhelming numbers.

The vast majority of Americans agree that official English laws are necessary to prevent waste, protect freedom, and protect national unity. Official English laws are nondiscriminatory, because they treat all Americans, of whatever background, alike.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize ProEnglish for its 20th anniversary. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending ProEnglish on its commitment to preserve English's role as the nation's unifying tongue.