

As this chapter of his career draws to a close, I hope he enjoys a joyous and restful break in the company of good friends and family, and wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

HONORING MS. SHEILA JORDAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of Ms. Sheila Jordan on the occasion of her retirement. Ms. Jordan is retiring after serving for fifteen years as the Alameda County Superintendent of Schools.

A proud native of the Bronx, Ms. Jordan graduated from Rutgers University with a B.A. in English. She went on to get her M.A. in Special Education from San Francisco State University, and is the holder of a lifetime teaching credential, a credential for teaching the learning handicapped, an Administrative Credential from California State University East Bay, and a Certificate in Executive Management from the Graduate School of Public Policy at UC Berkeley.

Prior to her service as Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Jordan served on the Oakland City Council and the Oakland Unified School District Board of Education, and was a teacher for 20 years.

During her time as Superintendent of Schools for Alameda County, Ms. Jordan has overseen the implementation of numerous programs designed to promote civic engagement and service, environmental education, arts and technology integration, math, language arts, and science. Her leadership has clarified and solidified the role of county offices of education and influenced new statewide policies. Her efforts to create a regional model have deepened the ties and accountability between school districts and county offices and inspired student success. For instance, she helped to forge a closer alliance with Chabot Space & Science Center's education department in order to provide county and regional schools with training and support of STEM and STEAM opportunities.

Ms. Jordan has also served in numerous community service positions, including the Executive Committee of the Economic Development Alliance for Business; and the boards of the Chabot Space & Science Center, the Workforce Investment Board, United Way, and the Interagency Children's Policy Council. She is also a former member of the Board of Directors of the East Bay Leadership Foundation, a past co-chair of the Alameda County Superior Court Children's Waiting Room Project, and a former Fellow of the Bay Area Writing Project.

Among other honors, Ms. Jordan has received the Outstanding Educator of the Year Award from the Peralta Presidential Council of the Alpha Delta Kappa educational sorority, the Educator of Excellence Award from Hispanos Saludos, the Programs of Excellence Award from the Association of Contra Costa County Administrators, and has been named Alumnus of the Year by California State University Hayward.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, Ms. Sheila Jor-

dan, I salute you. I thank you for a lifetime of service and congratulate you on your many achievements. I wish you and your loved ones the very best as you transition to this exciting new chapter of life.

RECOGNIZING TAIWAN'S GENEROUS DONATIONS TO COMBAT EBOLA

HON. STEVE STOCKMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, in response to the Ebola epidemic, our government must take decisive action to combat and prevent the spread of this disease. We should also build up a concerted international effort to stem this epidemic.

There still exist critical needs in containing Ebola's spread. We, and several other nations, have made available limited resources; but it's not enough. Taiwan, though not directly affected, once again has risen to the challenge of helping other people in need.

On December 4th, Taiwan's Representative to the United States, Ambassador Shen, officially announced the contribution of \$1,000,000 to the Global Distribution Fund of the Centers for Disease Control. This is in addition to 100,000 personal protection suits that Taiwan has donated to the medical authorities. This donation will help prevent deaths and alleviate some of the pain and suffering of victims, as well as offer hope where hope is scarce.

In crisis after crisis we have seen our old and reliable friend Taiwan respond. For example, over the past few years Taiwan immediately responded with aid to Japan's earthquake and tsunami in 2011, the Philippines Typhoon in 2013 and even donated over \$1,000,000 to the United States in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

In times of crisis it is important to know on whom you can depend. Taiwan and its people remain dedicated to the same principles that guide our nation, and they can be counted upon in times of crisis. We are very grateful to Taiwan for this major contribution.

TRIBUTE TO D. MICHAEL B. MCCALL

HON. THOMAS MASSIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent, Dr. Michael B. McCall. Dr. McCall is the Founding President and Chief Executive Officer of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS). Since his appointment in 1998, Dr. McCall has honorably served as the head of a system made up of 16 colleges located on more than 70 campuses across the state, serving over 92,000 students. He recently announced his retirement, effective January 2015.

KCTCS is the largest provider of workforce training in Kentucky, serving more than 5,300 businesses and training more than 52,000 em-

ployees annually. Among his many achievements, Dr. McCall has led the KCTCS Board of Regents' ratification or approval of more than 700 credit program options that resulted in certificates, diplomas or associate degrees. Under Dr. McCall's leadership, KCTCS became the state's largest provider of online learning, offering more than 77 online credentials. Other KCTCS accomplishments spearheaded by Dr. McCall include the creation of the North American Racing Academy (first college-affiliated horseracing academy in the United States), the Kentucky Coal Academy, the Kentucky Fire Commission, and the Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services.

Dr. McCall has also personally received numerous awards and honors, including the Phi Theta Kappa's prestigious State Community College Director Award of Distinction and the 2005 National Council for Continuing Education and Training's National Leadership Award. In addition, the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development honored Dr. McCall with its 2005 International Leadership Award. Dr. McCall also received the prestigious honor of selection by the Kentucky Monthly Magazine as the 2004 Kentuckian of the Year, and on June 30, 2006, Dr. McCall completed his tenure as Board Chair of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). This marked the first time ever that a system-level president was elected chair of the AACC board.

A recent study by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems highlighted many KCTCS accomplishments achieved under Dr. McCall's leadership. For example, KCTCS ranks 5th among the nation's community and technical college systems in the category of "improvement over time in its outreach to younger working-aged adults without college degrees." In addition, from 2000 to 2012, KCTCS experienced a 63 percent increase in enrollment, while at the same time, the population of KY citizens aged 18 to 34 only increased by 2%. Finally, at least one of KCTCS's colleges has been awarded a "top-ten" finish in each of the three rounds of the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

I salute Dr. McCall for his exemplary service to KCTCS, the state of Kentucky, and the nation.

H.R. 4926, DESIGNATING THE "JAMES L. OBERSTAR MEMORIAL HIGHWAY" AND THE "JAMES L. OBERSTAR NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY"

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I applaud the unanimous passage today of H.R. 4926, which names a segment of Interstate 35 the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Highway."

Jim Oberstar was an infrastructure partisan, a transportation expert, and had more influence over the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee—a committee he served as staffer, member, ranking member, and chairman—than anyone in the last 50 years. And he was like an uncle to me.

Jim was a man of remarkable memory and learning. He spoke a half-dozen languages.

He never stopped fighting for what he believed in and what he knew was right for his district, his State, or for the American people. In his long career, he guided the passage of dozens of landmark laws and shaped the transportation policy of our country for the better, creating an infrastructure system that is more efficient, more sustainable, and safer than before Jim entered politics.

He was an incredible cyclist, a skilled and passionate legislator, and a good friend. I pleased that H.R. 4926 will literally cement his legacy.

HONORING JOHN C. MANKA

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize John C. Manka. John is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 412, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

John has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years John has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, John has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. John worked with the United States Army Corps of Engineers to provide five additional handicap-accessible deer blinds for organized hunts at Smithville Lake.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in commending John C. Manka for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF ALARM (THE AFRICAN LEADERSHIP AND RECONCILIATION MINISTRIES) ON THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the work of ALARM (the African Leadership and Reconciliation Ministries) on their 20th anniversary, and especially, the President and Founder of the organization, Dr. Celestin Musekura, an ordained Baptist minister who was born and raised in Rwanda.

It is important to note that ALARM works to strengthen the church in Africa to be an instrument of change in the community by focusing on three areas: developing servant leaders, reconciling relationships, and transforming communities. ALARM is made up of three charitable organizations: 1) ALARM-Africa, which has offices in eight countries; 2) ALARM-UK; and 3) ALARM-USA.

ALARM-Africa was founded after civil wars and political violence in Rwanda, Burundi, Congo, northern Uganda, and southern Sudan left a vacuum of leadership in Christian

churches. These churches, once led primarily by western missionaries who were forced to flee due to the violence, needed leadership from within their own countries. These leaders needed to be trained in guiding, teaching, forgiving and reconciling, to bring healing and transformation to their communities.

In the aftermath of these crises, Dr. Musekura and his wife, Bernadette, felt called to help fill this void and to help train others in the ministry. They founded ALARM and continue to dedicate their lives to it.

Dr. Musekura received a Bachelor of Theology at Kenya Highlands Evangelical University in Kenya, a Master of Divinity at the Africa International University (AIU) in Kenya, a Master of Sacred Theology at Dallas Theological Seminary, a Master of Science in Justice Administration and Leadership at the University of Texas at Dallas, and a Ph.D. in theological studies at Dallas Theological Seminary in Dallas, Texas.

ALARM-Africa uses curriculum, most of which is internally developed, to equip untrained church and community leaders and reconcile hurting communities.

Since its founding in 1994, ALARM-Africa has expanded into eight countries across east and central Africa (Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda) with its head office in Nairobi, Kenya. All offices are staffed by well-trained, professional African men and women who act as local missionaries to their people.

I would like to congratulate ALARM and Dr. Celestin Musekura on the occasion of this anniversary and for their dedication to this important work.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3979, PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT OF 2014; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5759, PREVENTING EXECUTIVE OVERREACH ON IMMIGRATION ACT OF 2014; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5781, CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2014

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, House Report 113-646, the report to accompany H. Res. 770, the special rule that governed consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979, as well as H.R. 5759 and H.R. 5781, contained an error in the description of the motion that was the subject of Rules Committee record vote No. 198.

The description of the motion should have read as follows:

Motion by Ms. SLAUGHTER to amend the rule for the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3979 to make in order and provide the appropriate waivers for amendment #5 to Rules Committee Print 113-58, offered by Rep. COFFMAN (CO), which prohibits U.S. funds from being used to pay the salaries of the Iraqi security

forces or to provide weapons or equipment to the Iraqi security forces. Defeated: 3-7.

HONORING THE TOWN OF ELIZABETH, MISSISSIPPI

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable town of Elizabeth, Mississippi.

The town of Elizabeth, Mississippi is located on U.S. Highway 61, approximately 1 mile north of Leland and 2 miles east of Stoneville. In March 1889, a deed was issued to Mr. Joshua Skinner for a railroad depot in the area. At the time, the place was named "Athol", but it was later changed to its current name "Elizabeth".

In 1889, Elizabeth was advertised as "a new town with an unparalleled future, located in the heart of the famous Yazoo Delta . . . the richest and most fertile section of the earth where king cotton reigns supreme." Elizabeth had the unique distinction of being located at the crossroads of the first two main railroads in the Delta: the Louisville, New Orleans, and Texas RR (which later became the Illinois Central RR) and the Georgia Pacific RR (which eventually became the Columbus and Greenville RR).

The town of Elizabeth was designed along the west and south sides of both railroads. Elizabeth emerged early on as a mercantile city, with numerous businesses started up due to the existence of the rail lines. The town can no longer boast a commercial center. Leland has taken that role. However, it does retain its identity as Elizabeth. It boasts a modest population of nearly 200 people and a beautiful roadside park. In 2013, DuPont Pioneer opened a new 30,000 square foot research center near Elizabeth that focuses on soybean breeding and product development as well as corn product testing and characterization for farmers in the Delta.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Town of Elizabeth for its dedication to serving others.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR CURT OWENS

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Major Curt Owens for his past two years of exemplary dedication to duty and service as an Army Congressional Fellow and Congressional Liaison for the Chief of Army Reserve. I am grateful that he will continue to serve the Army and Congress in his new assignment as a legislative liaison in the Programs Division of the Office of the Chief, Legislative Liaison. We wish him well in his new position.

A native of Tallahassee, Florida, Major Owens earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business at Florida State University and was commissioned an infantry officer in the Army Reserve. He has earned advanced degrees in management and legislative affairs.