

BRADY HOGOBOOM

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brady Hogoboom for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Brady Hogoboom is a 7th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Brady Hogoboom is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Brady Hogoboom for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF OPHELIA DEVORE-MITCHELL

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding and truly one-of-a-kind woman, Dr. Ophelia DeVore-Mitchell. Sadly, Dr. DeVore-Mitchell passed away on Friday, February 28, 2014. A Repast and Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, March 23, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the Gallery at Fountain Park in Columbus, Georgia.

Dr. DeVore-Mitchell was widely known as one of our nation's first African-American models and the founder of the first black model agency. She was more well-known in Columbus, Georgia as the longtime owner of the Columbus Times newspaper, which is now owned and operated by her daughter, Ms. Carol Gertjegerdes.

Dr. DeVore-Mitchell was born in 1922 in Edgefield, South Carolina but moved to New York City, where she majored in Mathematics at New York University. At the age of 16, she was working for Ebony magazine and in 1946, she enrolled in the Vogue School of Modeling, which up until then had excluded women of color.

She was acutely aware of how African Americans were stereotypically depicted in the media, and she made it her mission to change this public perception. In 1946, Dr. DeVore-Mitchell opened the Grace del Marco Modeling Agency and in 1948, she founded the Ophelia DeVore School of Self-Development and Modeling. These agencies were pivotal in transforming the social landscape of America by paving the way for African Americans to pursue careers in the fashion and entertainment industries at a time when it was not the norm for black women to be recognized for their beauty.

In 1955, Dr. DeVore-Mitchell and her models made history as the hosts of ABC's "Spot-

light on Harlem," New York's first television program produced by and for African Americans. She went on to produce several other New York cable television shows, including the "Ophelia DeVore Show." She again made history in 1959 and 1960 when two of her clients, Ms. Cecilia Cooper and Ms. LaJeune Hundley became the first Americans, Black or White, to win titles at the Cannes Film Festival in Paris, France.

Dr. DeVore-Mitchell helped shape the lives and careers of the country's top African-American models and entertainers. She has received more than 300 awards and honors over her lifetime and in 1985, she was appointed by President Reagan to the John F. Kennedy Center Committee on the Arts. In addition to her accomplishments in modeling and producing, Dr. DeVore-Mitchell was a newspaper owner and publisher, business executive, and consultant.

Maya Angelou once said, "In diversity, there is beauty and there is strength. We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of that tapestry are equal in value no matter their color." Ophelia DeVore-Mitchell used beauty as a public platform to address injustice and prejudice, blazing a trail for countless others along the way. By challenging the status quo and championing diversity, she helped to ensure that future generations would enjoy a robust and truly unique American culture that recognizes all members of society.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, and the nearly 700,000 people in Georgia's Second Congressional District in paying tribute to Ophelia DeVore-Mitchell for her numerous outstanding achievements and her everlasting dedication to promoting African-American power, pride, and presence. May her family members and friends be consoled and comforted by the knowledge that she made a great difference in this world and helped to build a better, more equitable America.

HONORING LEROY "POP" MILLER FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY AND OUR COMMUNITY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak to the memory of Leroy "Pop" Miller who recently passed away after living a life of courage, dedication, and bravery. He left behind a legacy of honor, a family who will forever remember him, and a community of friends who say goodbye with gratitude in their hearts.

Leroy Miller—known simply as Pop—left us at the rich age of 94 years old. He was a long-time member of my church, St. James United Methodist, where he found a spiritual home after moving to Kansas City from Charlotte in the early 2000s. He came to Kansas City after his wife, Sadie, passed away. His loving son, William Miller, urged his Dad to make the move so he could be closer to his family, in particular his two grandsons—William, Jr. and Jordan.

Before joining our community, Pop was nothing short of an historical figure in his

home state of North Carolina. He was a member of our Greatest Generation and one of the few surviving African-Americans who fought in World War II. Just days after graduating from North Carolina A&T University in 1942, he was drafted into the United States Army where he was stationed in Europe and became a member of the famous Red Ball Express.

Red Ball drivers, mostly African American men, were drawn from the Army's Quartermaster Corps and fought both the enemy and the hazards of the road and weather to successfully deliver their loads. Pop's unit drove trucks from the Cherbourg Peninsula all the way to the North Sea, and throughout France, Germany, and Holland.

Despite his continued display of bravery, Pop and other African American soldiers also had to battle the racist forces that existed among their fellow Americans. When he returned home after serving—and sacrificing—for our country, he found what so many others discovered as well. African Americans were still not treated as equals. Even with his college education, he found his own job choices were very limited. But Pop was a fighter, on and off the battlefield, and became an educational pioneer, helping to break down the barriers of segregation in Charlotte, North Carolina, and throughout the United States.

Pop is remembered as a strong leader who enforced discipline at a time when fights and riots accompanied integration in schools. He is remembered as a strict educator who valued academics as much as sports, and worked to see straight A students recognized as publicly as star athletes. And Leroy "Pop" Miller is remembered as a man who wanted to be known not as a successful African American principal, but simply as a successful principal.

I am honored to have had Leroy "Pop" Miller as a member of the St. James congregation and as a constituent of the Fifth District of Missouri. He touched the lives of many and will remain in our hearts, and in our memories, for years to come.

HONORING ST. JUDE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE AS ALABAMA'S CLASS 1A BOY'S STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS FOR 2014

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the St. Jude Pirates for capturing their second-straight victory in the Class 1A Alabama State basketball Championship on February 28th. On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, I congratulate the Pirates for the tremendous athleticism, determination and energy they displayed throughout their season under the resolute leadership of Head Coach Earl Taylor and his coaching staff.

With their victory over Parrish, the St. Jude Pirates won their eighth Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) state basketball championship and tenth in school history. The Pirates finished their season with 24 wins and 5 losses. Throughout the season, the Pirates faced some of the state's biggest and best teams which helped to prepare them to perform at the regional and championship levels.

While Parrish scored the championship game's debut shot, the Pirates responded with incredible energy leading by 21 points at half-time. The Pirates' suffocating defense left the opponent scoreless for more than six minutes. The Pirates held Parrish to 37 points overall, tallied 8 steals, retrieved 21 defensive rebounds and blocked four shots. Tournament MVP Jacob Winston finished the game with 21 points, 9 of which came from behind the 3-point arc. Winston grabbed 10 rebounds and Senior Andrew Rogers scored 18 points while LaDarius Brinson scored 10. Overall, the Pirates were 15-of-16 at the foul line.

Winning the state championship reflects the combined efforts of the coaches, players and supporters. I would like to commend the team, Coach Earl Taylor and his coaching staff. Members of the team include: Darian Adams, LaDarius Brinson, Tommy Burton, Keondre Davis, Taylor McCurdy, Andrew Rogers, Roderic Scott, and Jacob Winston.

At the conclusion of the game MVP Player Jacob Winston told reporters, "We try to be a defensive-minded team, but all the dunks and stuff is just a result of that," he said. "Coach Taylor's always taught us to play hard whatever's going on. The dunks and 3s come from defense."

St. Jude's has collected AHSAA state championships in 5 different decades with titles in 1973, 1977, 1985, 1998, 2006, 2008, 2013 and 2014. The team also won two state championships as members of the AIAA before 1968. As the daughter of a high school basketball coach, I know the Pirates' success is the result of the combined efforts of not only the players and the coaching staff, but also the support of the St. Jude faculty and staff and the entire community.

I am honored to represent such a talented group of young men, their dedicated coaching staff and proud community. As I declare the 7th Congressional District as the "District of Champions," the St. Jude Pirates represents one of our very best. On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the accomplishments of the St. Jude Pirates for their victory in the 1A Alabama State Championship.

Congratulations! Go Pirates!

BRUKLIN WOMACK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Bruklin Womack for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Bruklin Womack is a 12th grader at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Bruklin Womack is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Bruklin Womack for winning the Arvada Wheat

Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, March 7 is Employee Appreciation Day. I rise today to mark my appreciation for the staff members who so ably help me serve the people of North Carolina's Fourth Congressional District.

My staff are model public servants. They work long hours and late nights. Every year, the staffers working in my North Carolina district offices help thousands of constituents, and all of our local communities, navigate federal agencies. They help me reach out to local businesses and educational institutions to ensure their needs are represented in Washington. Every year, my Washington, D.C. office staff researches thousands of pieces of legislation. They help me hear and respond to hundreds of thousands of constituent communications. They help constituents arrange tours, and they join me in meetings with constituent groups, local and State representatives, universities and businesses on every issue imaginable. The list of tasks my staff helps accomplish could go on and on, but most importantly, they help ensure that the people of the Fourth District have a voice in the people's House.

The previous year has been a challenging one for congressional staff. Congressional staffers were not immune from the unnecessary and mindless across-the-board sequestration spending cuts that affected so many programs that invest in our people, ensure our strength and security, and protect our poorest citizens. Like employees of many executive departments, my staff endured furloughs and reduced pay over the previous year. I truly admire the all-hands-on-deck approach my staff took to maintain a high-level of constituent service in the face of these challenges, and their efforts to ensure sequestration was replaced and critical programs were fully funded once again.

In recognition of their dedication and diligence, I would like to include in CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the name of each staffer currently employed by my office.

Nadia Alston, Sonia Barnes, Jean-Louise Beard, Nora Blalock, Andrew High, Asher Hildebrand, James Hunter, Tracy Lovett, Sean Maxwell, William Munn, Cassie Rice, Kate Roetzer, Dave Russell, Laura Thrift, Jackson Tufts, Justin Wein, Robyn Winneberger.

I would also like to extend special thanks to the staffers who have departed my office over the previous year and to include their names in the RECORD. I want them to know that their years of dedicated service strengthened our district and our State, and that their hard work did not go unnoticed or unappreciated. I wish them well as they pursue new and promising opportunities.

Robin Bolash, Sandra Massenburg, Beau Mills, Teresa Saunders, Kate Schisler.

I am grateful, Mr. Speaker, for the effort that my staff continues to put forth and for the op-

portunity Employee Appreciation Day offers to say thank you.

RECOGNIZING FIRE CHIEF EDMOND LEWIS

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Edmond Lewis, Chief of the Monterey Volunteer Fire Department in Beaver Dams, New York.

Mr. Lewis has served as a member of the Monterey Volunteer Fire Department for an impressive 36 years. He assumed the position of Chief last year and was faced with the enormous task of overcoming a dire financial situation which nearly forced the fire department into bankruptcy. In addition to the financial challenges, when he began his tenure as chief, the department had fewer than twelve members and no junior recruits.

Chief Lewis has never stopped fighting for the department or his community throughout the recovery process. His leadership has been vital in restoring the integrity, financial solvency, and strength of the Monterey Volunteer Fire Department. Through his guidance, the department has increased its ranks to 54 members, including 14 junior firefighters. The hard work and dedication of Chief Lewis has restored the fire department to a position of capably protecting public safety in the community.

Edmond Lewis exemplifies selfless service and true leadership. His generosity and willingness to assist anyone in need has earned him the highest level of respect throughout Schuyler County. Mr. Lewis regularly extends a helping hand beyond his duties at the fire department by volunteering at a local food bank and preparing meals at the Office for the Aging.

I commend Mr. Lewis for all the great work he has done, and will continue to do, at the Monterey Volunteer Fire Department and in our community. He is a selfless and generous individual who has made countless positive contributions to New York's 23rd Congressional District, and I am proud to recognize him today.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COUNTY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 100th anniversary of the county Engineers Association of California.

The County Engineers Association of California was established in 1914 and is made up of county engineers, public works directors, county road commissioners and professional personnel throughout California's 58 counties.

The purpose of the association is to advance county engineering and management by providing a forum for exchanging ideas and information to improve service to the public.