

young man who understands that it takes tenacity and self reliance to reach the highest success, Mr. Chester H. Stanford.

Chester H. Stanford was born November 26, 1995 in Chicago, IL to proud parents Travis and Nora Stanford. He attended St. Elizabeth Catholic School in Chicago, IL for two years in kindergarten and first grade. It is this institution that he credits for giving him an advanced perspective of what knowledge is and what can be done to obtain it.

In September 2003 Chester and his mother relocated to Vicksburg, MS to care for his grandmother. Chester believes the responsibility of caring for his grandmother in the absence of his mother is what taught him to care for others, which in turn made him want to do all he can to help the next person.

Chester is a member of the Vicksburg High School JROTC, which he credits for molding his character. Chester has climbed the ranks in JROTC. Starting his freshman year, he went from being a Cadet Private to Cadet Corporal his sophomore year; he progressed from Cadet Corporal to Cadet Second Lieutenant and gained the position of the Battalion Training Officer.

Currently, during his junior year, he progressed from Cadet Second Lieutenant to Cadet Captain. Through this program he has learned what service truly is. He has participated in and led several community service events at nursing homes, community events, and elementary schools. He has also participated in charity events for the local Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Center through the Culinary Arts Program, through which he, along with 20 other students, prepared thousands of hot meals that were sold to gain money for the organization.

Chester credits his mother for being the backbone of the family and directing his path. His motto is, "that all things can be done through the love and service of your fellow man."

Chester is a member of Mt. Carmel M. B. Church where he has served as secretary of the Sunday School Department since 2008 and in 2011 became a Sunday School teacher.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Chester H. Stanford for his hard work, dedication and a strong desire to achieve through adversity.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SILVERDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE CO.

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 10, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, we are proud to acknowledge the 100th anniversary of the Silverdale Volunteer Fire Co. and commend the early founders and today's volunteers for contributing to the safety and protection of their neighbors from one generation to the next. The Silverdale Volunteer Fire Co. has prevailed as a well-trained, dedicated company of first responders. In November 1914, a fire in a local bakery was the impetus for the formation of the first volunteer fire company in the small borough of Silverdale, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The new company's

first fire call came on Aug. 8, 1915—a result of a lightning strike at a farmer's barn. Since then, many Silverdale residents demonstrated their dedication through involvement with the company, helping it grow along with their thriving community. Heartiest congratulations to the officers and members of the Silverdale Volunteer Fire Co., who continue to safeguard the community around the clock, reflecting a century of public service at its best.

HONORING JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 10, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable school, Jackson State University, that is located in Jackson, Mississippi. Jackson State University was founded in 1877, becoming a college in 1899, and is a historically black institution. It was granted university status in 1974. The University now awards Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral Degrees. It is a Carnegie Doctoral/Research-Intensive institution.

Jackson State University is known as "Mississippi's Urban University." It operates the Mississippi Urban Research Center, which "develops and offers instructional programs, forums, conferences and workshops on urban life." Although this is not the mission statement of the University, the University's degree programs are largely in areas which have some bearing on urban life, such as public health, business, education, engineering, and public administration. Some of the liberal arts are represented, but largely the traditional ones such as English, Chemistry, Political Science and Mathematics.

Jackson State was founded in 1877 as Natchez Seminary by the American Baptist Home Society. The State of Mississippi gained control of the college in 1940 in order to train teachers. The University's current name was adopted in 1979.

The University is composed of ten different colleges and divisions: the College of Education and Human Development; the College of Business; the College of Public Service; the College of Science, Engineering, and Technical Arts; the College of Liberal Arts; the College of Lifelong Learning; and the Divisions of Graduate Studies, International Studies, and Undergraduate Studies.

There are seven undergraduate schools within the Colleges. Bachelor's Degrees are awarded in the Schools of Allied Health Sciences, Business, Education, Engineering, Liberal Arts, Science and Technology and Social Work. Graduate degrees are awarded in Allied Health, Business, Education, eleven Liberal Arts areas (including Public Policy and Administration and Urban and Regional Planning), Science and Technology, and Social Work. The school awards Doctoral Degrees in nine areas. The Education Specialist (Ed.S.) Degree is also awarded. Jackson State houses the College of Business, Education and Human Development, Liberal Arts, Lifelong Learning, Public Service, and Science, Engineering and Technology. Also available are the Divisions of International Studies, Library and Information Resources, and Undergraduate Studies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jackson State University for their dedication to serving.

IN MEMORIAM: GENERAL BEN GARRIDO BLAZ

HON. GREGORIO KILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 10, 2014

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, the people of the Northern Mariana Islands extend their condolences to the people of Guam on the passing of their former Delegate to Congress, General Ben Garrido Blaz.

Especially, we extend our sympathies to his sons, Mike and Tom, and to all of General Blaz's family for their great loss.

Ben Blaz was a trailblazer for all the Chamorros of the Mariana Islands, the first of us ever to rise to the rank of General in the U.S. Armed Forces.

And he served here from the 99th to the 102nd Congresses, often looking out for the interests of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, whom I represent, as well as for his own constituency in Guam.

Beyond those professional accomplishments, Ben Blaz was a warm and caring man.

He was knowledgeable about policy, committed to finding solutions, and in his passing, the Marianas have lost an important leader.

The people of the Northern Mariana Islands share the sadness of our friends and neighbors in Guam.

And I thank Ms. BORDALLO for bringing us together here this afternoon to salute General Ben Garrido Blaz.

May he rest in peace.

SAVE WOMEN'S LIVES: COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 10, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, January 11, is Human Trafficking Awareness Day—a day on which we remember that more than 20 million human beings toil and suffer as slaves across the globe. A day to rededicate ourselves to creating an environment of zero tolerance for human trafficking in all its forms.

When I first introduced the Trafficking Victims Protection Act in 1998, the legislation was met with a wall of skepticism and opposition. People both inside of government and out thought the bold new strategy that included sheltering, asylum and other protections for the victims, long jail sentences and asset confiscation for the traffickers, and tough sanctions for governments that failed to meet minimum standards, was merely a solution in search of a problem.

For most people at that time, the term trafficking applied almost exclusively to illicit drugs or weapons. Reports of vulnerable persons—especially women and children—being reduced to commodities for sale were often met with surprise, incredulity or indifference. It

took two years to overcome opponents and muster the votes for passage.

Now, after the enactment of my Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act (P.L. 106–386), and subsequent reauthorizations of the original landmark law, we see strong efforts to fight trafficking at both the federal and state level.

This year New Jersey ranked first in the country—with one other state—for enacting aggressive anti-human trafficking laws—i.e. we are leading the nation both on helping the trafficking victims, who are mostly women and children, and on cracking down on the thugs who coerce them into this modern day slavery.

Being first in the nation is a distinction of which New Jersey can be proud especially as we apply our strong anti-trafficking laws for Super Bowl XLVIII.

Along with welcoming enthusiastic fans, New Jersey is also preparing for an influx of traffickers who will bring with them trafficking victims in an attempt to cash in on the Super Bowl crowds.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children reports that more than 10,000 prostituted women and girls were moved to Miami for the Super Bowl in 2010.

According to Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, the Super Bowl can be described as “the single largest human trafficking incident in the United States.” A 2011 study conducted by Traffick911 with law enforcement agencies found that online escort ads increased dramatically in Dallas from 135 in mid-January to 367 as the Super Bowl approached. One hundred thirty three arrests were made for underage prostitution (a key indicator for trafficking) in Dallas during the Super Bowl 2011.

Capt. Doug Cain, Louisiana State Police spokesman, said after the 2013 Super Bowl in New Orleans, “Any time you have a large influx of tourists in town and they’re spending a lot of money, there’s a criminal element that moves in to take advantage of that.”

In light of this history, New Jersey’s location on the I–95 corridor, and easy access to bus stations, trains and airports, the state can expect to be a target for an influx of prostituted women and girls at Super Bowl XLVIII. Still, if New Jersey properly prepares and trains—promoting “situational awareness”—it can undercut traffickers and help save their victims.

For several years now, I have pushed efforts to enhance training not only for law enforcement but for tourism personnel such as hospitality industry workers and transportation operators—bus drivers and station operators, train conductors, taxi drivers, trucking associations, and airline industry personnel.

In 2010, I chaired a conference—focused on the airline industry—bringing together the rel-

evant U.S. agencies, such as Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), various U.S. airlines, and nongovernmental organizations—to train commercial carrier employees in the identification of trafficking victims.

Best estimates show that every year 600,000 to 800,000 trafficking victims are moved across international borders. Millions more victims are moved within national borders. Speakers at my conference explained how flight attendants were the “first line of defense” in the fight against human trafficking.

The federal government has responded with the Blue Lightning Initiative—a voluntary training program in which airlines can collaborate with the Departments of Transportation and Homeland Security and the CBP. They work together to help train flight crews and airline personnel about common signs of human trafficking and how they can safely report suspected human trafficking cases.

With minimal modifications, the training is easily adaptable to professionals in other transportation industries as well as workers in the hotel industry.

The New Jersey Human Trafficking Task Force, which was originally launched and funded through a program created by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act and its reauthorizations, is the key anti-trafficking coordinating agency for New Jersey. In anticipation of the Super Bowl, the Task Force has taken a hands-on approach expanding the reach of New Jersey’s anti-human trafficking law enforcement unit as well as victim services.

They have also increased print and electronic public service announcements and training programs and symposiums for law enforcement officials, health care workers, lawyers, transportation workers and hoteliers.

The New Jersey Department of Homeland Security and Preparedness has also stepped up to combat trafficking at the Super Bowl, distributing flyers to EMS, fire department, law enforcement, and other emergency care professions so that these front line professionals will know when to be concerned that someone is a trafficking victims and how to respond appropriately.

By the end of January, New Jersey is expected to have thousands of law enforcement personnel and civilians with the goal of not only ramping up New Jersey’s anti-trafficking efforts for the Super Bowl, but using the event to fully institutionalize reforms going forward—so that more women and children will be protected in the future.

This concept has proven straightforward, effective—and it is catching on. In December, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which is made up of 57

countries from Europe and North America, endorsed my plan to make anti-trafficking training for airline employees, other public and commercial carriers, as well as hotel workers a primary goal in the international strategy to combat human trafficking. In an earlier session, the OSCE parliamentary assembly adopted my resolution to implement such trainings in each member country.

Any country that competes to host the next major sporting event must be fully aware of the human trafficking vulnerabilities associated with such events and the best practices for protecting and rescuing the victims. The Super Bowl—and every other major sporting event worldwide—should not have a dark side of human trafficking, plain and simple.

This year, let us mark Human Trafficking Awareness Day by remembering that trafficking awareness training for individuals likely to interact with trafficking victims in their daily jobs—and being aware ourselves—can create an environment of zero tolerance for human trafficking. Awareness can and will save lives.

HONORING CANDACE WINDOM

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 10, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a self motivated leader and innovator of the community, Ms. Candace Windom and Miyori’s Massage.

Born and raised in Rolling Fork, Candace graduated from South Delta High School and completed her studies in massage therapy at Antonelli College in July 2012. She earned her license as a state board certified therapist shortly after.

In late January 2013 Candace was hired as the only full-time massage therapist at Harlow’s Casino in Greenville, Mississippi. At the age of 26, Candace opened the doors to Miyori’s Massage at 133 Walnut Street in July 2013.

Miyori’s Massage offers a wide variety of massage techniques. “This is my hometown,” Windom said, “I want to give back to my community and bring something here we’ve never really had.”

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Candace Windom for giving back to the community in which she was born and reared.