

Bishop John Carroll, the first Catholic bishop in the United States and the University's founder.

From that date forward, Georgetown's growth and that of our nation have been intertwined. I am proud that the University's federal charter—the second such charter approved by Congress after that of the U. S. Military Academy—was proposed in legislation introduced by one of the University's first students, Congressman William Gaston of North Carolina. As a Carolinian myself, I have to say, from the beginning, Georgetown was off on the right footing. It is fitting that the University's main lecture hall bears the name Gaston Hall.

Our school colors have roots deep in our nation's history as well. During the Civil War more than 1,000 Georgetown alumni served in both the Union and Confederate armies. The blue and the gray, then, reflect the divided allegiances of both students and alumni during that war.

Today, the student body is comprised of students from every state and from 141 nations around the globe.

I am heartened that Georgetown has remained true to the Roman Catholic and Jesuit values on which it was founded. The University prides itself as a place of vigorous dialogue. It pushes students to pursue lives enriched by research and scholarship. I am happy to say that, since my election to Congress, I have had several opportunities to explore some of the issues we are working on in the House of Representatives with faculty who have deep and valuable knowledge on these topics.

I was lucky to study at Georgetown under professors such as Madeline Albright and Fr. James Reddington. They made me think and challenge my assumptions. They helped me grow and shaped my subsequent career. Certainly, Georgetown's commitment to encouraging students to explore public service is reflected in its Mission Statement which ends with an admonition to those who have studied there "to be reflective lifelong learners, to be responsible and active participants in civic life and to live generously in service to others." It is not surprising then that, since William Gaston entered Congress in 1814, over 150 Georgetown alumni and faculty members have served in the U. S. Congress. Others have served as President, governors, cabinet secretaries, judges and as senior diplomats around the globe. Likewise, the University is equally proud of alumni who have gone on to be leaders in their communities in fields such as business, arts, health care or the law.

It is an honor to recognize Georgetown on this occasion of its 225th "birthday," but, more importantly, to wish my alma mater great progress in the centuries ahead.

HONORING CORPORAL SHERONDRA
MCGEE BAILEY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran, Mrs. Sherondra McGee Bailey. Mrs. Bailey has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to make a positive difference in serving others.

Sherondra McGee Bailey is a resident of Vicksburg, Mississippi born on August 8, 1982 to Beverly Thomas and Patrick Pope in New Orleans, LA. She is the oldest of eleven children born to Beverly Thomas. She graduated from South Delta High School in 2000.

After High School Sherondra attended the University of Southern Mississippi where she met and married Brandon Bailey and to that union they have one son, Brayden Bailey.

Sherondra enlisted in the United States Air Force in April 2008. She graduated number two in her Meteorologist class. She was later stationed at the Barksdale Air Force Base located in Louisiana.

Sherondra is a devout member of Clark Chapel United Methodist Church in Cary, MS. She enjoys time with family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Sherondra McGee Bailey for her dedication to serving our great Country.

CONGRATULATING DONALD
"DONNY" BYNUM AS THE 2014
ALABAMA SUPERINTENDENT OF
THE YEAR

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an exemplary public servant, Donald "Donny" Bynum, recipient of the distinguished 2014 Alabama Superintendent of the Year award.

A prime example of servant leadership, Superintendent Bynum has served for over 29 years as a teacher, coach, and administrator. He holds an AA Degree in School Administration plus a Master of Science in School Administration, both from Troy University in Dothan, and a Bachelor of Science in Education from Troy University.

Prior to his tenure as the Superintendent of Dale County Schools, Mr. Bynum served as an Education Specialist with the Alabama Department of Education and in various capacities within the Dale County School System. Such positions included the Transportation Supervisor; Principal at G.W. Long Elementary School; and as the Assistant Principal at G.W. Long School.

Almost one year ago, the nation watched a terrifying situation emerge in Dale County, Alabama. The murder of a school bus driver, abduction of a five-year old student, and the prolonged hostage situation that ensued presented a unique challenge for all levels of state and local government. That was especially true for Dale County Schools, which was faced with the murder of an employee and the abduction of a student, all while the need to ensure the safety and stability of the schools was paramount. Superintendent Bynum handled this challenge with strength and grace, helping lead the students, parents, faculty and community through the tragedy. By all accounts, Dale County emerged stronger and more united than ever, thanks in large part to Superintendent Donny Bynum's leadership in this trying time.

Also active in the Dale County community, Superintendent Bynum is involved with the Dale County Children's Policy Council, Dale

County United Way Board of Directors, School Superintendents of Alabama Board of Directors District III President, and he and his wife Paula, a retired educator, are members of the Ozark Baptist Church. He and Paula have two children, Mason and Elizabeth.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Donny Bynum as the 2014 Alabama Superintendent of the Year. His exceptional moral character, experience, and dedication to the Alabama school system render him a qualified recipient of this honor. I am grateful for Bynum's service and proudly recognize his contributions to the betterment of the great State of Alabama.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes in the House January 7–10, 2014, due to the death of my mother. Had I been present, I would have voted: rollcall No. 1 (Quorum call): Present; rollcall No. 2 (H.R. 724): "yea"; rollcall No. 3 (H.R. 3527): "yea"; rollcall No. 4 (H.R. 3628): "yea"; rollcall No. 5 (Previous Question): "yea"; rollcall No. 6 (Rule for H.R. 2279 and H.R. 3811): "yea"; rollcall No. 7 (Sinema Amendment to H.R. 2279): "nay"; rollcall No. 8 (Tonko Amendment to H.R. 2279): "nay"; rollcall No. 9 (Motion to Recommit H.R. 2279): "nay"; rollcall No. 10 (Passage of H.R. 2279): "yea"; rollcall No. 11 (Passage of H.R. 3811): "yea."

CONGRATULATING MARY KAY
RUMMEL

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Mary Kay Rummel, a community poet, who was inaugurated on January 10, 2014 as the first Poet Laureate of Ventura County.

Nominated by the Ventura County Arts Council, Mary was ultimately selected as the county's first laureateship for her long and celebrated career as a poet in the region. In conjunction with the title of Poet Laureate, Mary will also serve a two year position as official poet and ambassador to the community, a position that is dedicated to putting a spotlight on poetry and expanding the audiences of the literary arts in the area.

Mary's work has been described as "luminous meditations on the nature of love in which imagery and the beauty of language shine." Her literary work will serve to promote, encourage and inspire community members to develop their own creative interests.

Over the last 35 years, more than 350 of Mary's poems have appeared in national and international literary journals and anthologies. Throughout her career, she has also received over a dozen poetry awards that range from local accolades to multiple nominations for the highly prestigious Pushcart Prize.

Beyond her poetry career, and her duties as a wife, mother of three and a grandmother,

Mary is vigorously involved in the community, including being an active participant in poetry readings throughout the county. She has collaborated with visual artists, sculptors, musicians and dancers. Additionally, she has been a professor at California State University, Channel Islands since it first opened its doors in 2002.

I am confident that Mary's talents and passion for the art will be reflected positively in her new position. I am pleased to join with the Ventura County Arts Council and the people of Ventura County in congratulating our first Poet Laureate, Mary Kay Rummel.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT
JAMES M. SHINARD, SR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkably dedicated and ambitious Army veteran, who has over 28 years of service to his country, Master Sergeant James M. Shinard, Sr.

Master Sergeant Shinard was born December 24, 1963 in Bolton, MS. He began his career in the armed forces in July 1985. Advancing through a number of military schools of training, Master Sergeant Shinard quickly advanced in rank from student to Squad Leader by January 1986. While serving as Team Leader, he was a part of the 1/17 Infantry Battalion 2 ID Camp Casey in Korea. As a Squad Leader, he was a part of the 155th Infantry Brigade Mississippi during Desert Storm from 1990 to 1991 and 87th Division Camp Shelby, Mississippi as a soldier during Iraqi Freedom from 2003 to 2010.

In addition to his active duty service with the Army, Master Sergeant Shinard performed with the Mississippi Army National Guard 155th Brigade (Mechanized) in Brookhaven, MS and with the United States Army Reserve as Observer Controller with the 3/346 Regt Battalion, 87th Division at Camp Shelby Mississippi, cumulatively from 1989 to 2003.

Throughout his service, he has been promoted four times to his current rank as Master Sergeant, promoted April 15, 2009 in the Army Reserve.

Throughout his 28 years of service, Master Sergeant Shinard has received numerous decorations and badges. Among those received are; the Humanitarian Service Medal, Combat Action Badge, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal (with Bronze Service Star), and Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with "M" Device and 20-Year Silver Hourglass). His present assignment is Mobilization/Readiness NCO, 412 Theater Engineer Command (TPU) in Vicksburg, MS. Currently, Master Sergeant Shinard is also pursuing an educational degree at Belhaven University, which he plans to complete in June 2014.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Master Sergeant James M. Shinard, Sr. for his unwavering dedication and service as a respected veteran for his family, local community, and country.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH
BIRTHDAY OF EVELYN KEISER

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to rise today and recognize Mrs. Evelyn Keiser on the occasion of her 90th birthday, which was on January 12, 2014.

Evelyn was born Evelyn Cahn in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1924. She graduated from Temple University with a bachelor of science degree in Medical Technology, one of only a few women in what was then a predominately male field of study. As a military wife, she traveled throughout the United States where her education and ambition for the medical field led to her employment in several hospitals and medical labs.

After World War II, she returned to Philadelphia and opened her own medical lab, which she operated for more than 12 years. As the demands of motherhood increased, Evelyn sold her medical lab and embarked on a rewarding teaching career. She joined the Franklin School of Sciences and led the Medical Sciences and Lab Technology programs. In 1961, she moved to South Florida to head the medical program at Charron-Williams College in Fort Lauderdale.

In 1977, with her son Dr. Arthur Keiser, she opened the Keiser School on Oakland Park Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale with one student and 2,400 square feet of classrooms.

The Keiser School name progression from Keiser Institute of Technology (1982) to Keiser College (1986) and Keiser University (2006) reflects milestones that include new degree programs, multiple branch campuses, accreditation achievements, and the addition of the Graduate School offering Master's degrees.

In 1981, another dream of hers became a reality when the Medical Laboratory Technician program was added to the Keiser School course offerings. Evelyn assumed the teaching and faculty development responsibilities. Under her direction, the program received accreditation from the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences, confirming the highest quality in medical laboratory academics and training.

More than 25 years later, although no longer teaching, she continues to advise faculty and serve as an advocate for students.

Nearly three decades later, Evelyn is still active in the university, serving as Chairwoman of the Board of Advisors. At 90 years young, and 37 years after co-founding Keiser University, she is often the first on campus each morning.

Throughout her lifelong career in medical labs and in higher education, Evelyn has been awarded honors too numerous to list, including "Teacher of the Year" and "Educator of the Year." In February 2004, she was awarded an honorary doctorate from Beijing University, citing her commitment to educational articulation agreements between China and the United States.

To the faculty and administration of Keiser University, Evelyn Keiser sets the example that all students deserve the highest quality of academic instruction. As a result, the University's top teaching honor awarded to faculty members that have excelled in a proactive

teaching approach focused on successful learning outcomes is entitled, "The Evelyn C. Keiser Teaching Excellence Award."

Today, Keiser University serves 20,000 students on 15 Florida campuses and internationally, as well as offers approximately 90 doctoral through associate degrees, and employs nearly 3,500 staff and faculty.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the great privilege of knowing Evelyn Keiser for over 30 years. She has been a wonderful friend to me. I am so happy to be able to honor her on the occasion of her 90th birthday, and wish her many more years of happiness and success.

CONGRATULATING CHRISTOPHER
MILLER FOR STUDIES IN THE
CRITICAL LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAM

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Christopher Miller, a constituent of mine from Southlake, TX, on studying the Arabic language in Meknes, Morocco, under the Critical Language Scholarship Program.

The Critical Language Scholarship program was established in 2006 as part of the National Security Language Initiative. This interagency effort was formed with recognition of the need for our future diplomatic and intelligence personnel to learn languages such as Arabic, Farsi, Urdu, and Chinese. It provides an intensive regimen of study at beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels for both undergraduate and graduate students. The program goes beyond just language and provides cultural experiences by immersion in the host country.

It was a pleasure to receive the U.S. State Department's announcement that one of my constituents, Christopher Miller, had successfully participated in the Critical Language Scholarship Program this past summer. Acceptance is highly competitive, and so I commend his studying Advanced Arabic in Meknes. Christopher's success is a testament to dedication, skill, and hard work; and I look forward to his accomplishing great things in any endeavor that he pursues in life.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Christopher Miller on his studies in the Critical Language Scholarship Program.

TRIBUTE TO CORONA CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD RECIPIENT BUD
GORDON

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Corona, California are exceptional. Corona has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make