

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF PASTOR CHARLES ARTHUR LUNDY OF EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH IN WOODBRIDGE, VIRGINIA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 25th Pastoral Anniversary of Pastor Charles Arthur Lundy of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Woodbridge, Virginia.

Pastor Lundy has had a distinguished pastoral career. His spiritual journey began at the young age of 13, when he was baptized at the Wayland Baptist Church in Baltimore, Maryland, under Reverend W.W. Payne. In February of 1981, Pastor Lundy received the distinction of becoming a deacon. Three years later, he was licensed by Star Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church in Triangle, Virginia, under the tutelage of Reverend Doctor Frederick S. Jones. Pastor Lundy was ordained a Gospel Minister in August of 1987 and served as director of Christian Education for Star Bethlehem.

On June 23, 1990, Pastor Lundy was called to preside over Ebenezer Baptist Church in Occoquan, Virginia. His first sermon was titled, "Stay in the Ship" and established "putting the family back together" as his pastoral focus. Since 1990, the congregation has grown from 120 to over 800, and the Church is known as a place of comfort and guidance. Dedicated to maintaining a welcoming place to worship, Pastor Lundy continues to lead worship services in the Church's Family Life Center while a new, larger sanctuary is being constructed. The Family Life Center was dedicated in 2000, and Pastor Lundy effectively supervised that project while simultaneously earning a Masters of Divinity from Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University, graduating Magna Cum Laude. To accommodate the evolving needs of his congregation, Pastor Lundy maintains a commitment to education; on May 9, 2015, Pastor Lundy received his Doctorate of Ministry Degree.

Pastor Lundy retired from the United States Marine Corps, after serving 26 years and rising to the rank of Major. Further showcasing his commitment to service, Pastor Lundy is a past-Parliamentarian for the Northern Virginia Baptist Association. He is the past-Chairman of the Nominating Committee and a former member of the Commission on Evangelism. He served as Assistant Secretary for the Northern Virginia Minister's Conference and as a former member of United Way for the National Capital Area. In 2009, Pastor Lundy was elected as President of the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology Alumni Association, and this year he received an Honorary Doctorate of Divinity Degree from Richmond Virginia Seminary.

He is married to the former Jacquelyn Hinton McWhite. They are the proud parents of five daughters and two sons, and grandparents of nine grandsons and two granddaughters.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Pastor Charles Arthur Lundy on his 25 years of service to Ebenezer Baptist Church. Pastor Lundy remains devoted to the

mission and vision of the Church and expanding the ministry's reach into the community.

RECOGNIZING WILL-GRUNDY MEDICAL CLINIC

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Will-Grundy Medical Clinic in Joliet, Illinois, as it celebrates the one-year anniversary of its Wellness Program.

For more than three decades, the Will-Grundy Medical Clinic has helped those in need receive the medical care they deserve. Through partnerships with local charities, hospitals, businesses and individuals, the Will-Grundy Medical Clinic has offered free medical and dental service to thousands of patients in our community.

Last year, the Will-Grundy Medical Clinic launched the Wellness Program to encourage overall health in our area. Through this program, the volunteer medical and dental professionals not only treat patients, but also offer educational opportunities to promote healthy lifestyles. The Wellness Program features classes on basic physical fitness, nutrition, and how to cook healthy, well-rounded meals on any budget.

I would like to congratulate the Will-Grundy Medical Clinic on the one-year anniversary of its Wellness program and thank the staff and volunteers who work so hard to ensure that our community is a stronger, healthier place to raise a family.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPTIMISTS CLUB OF GREATER VIENNA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 60th Anniversary of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna and to thank its members for their service to our community.

The Optimist Club of Greater Vienna was chartered by Optimist International on June 21, 1955. For sixty years the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna has served its mission, "to bring out the best in kids" and lived up to the Optimist International motto by being the "Friend of Youth" in our community.

This Club has served the youth of the Vienna community in numerous ways, including providing thousands of dollars in scholarships each year to local students through the Carol Waite Brennan Awards, the T.R. Cook Youth of Excellence Awards, the Communication Contest for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students, essay and other oratorical contests, and vocational scholarships.

The Club raises tens of thousands of dollars each year in support of pediatric cancer patients and research through the Walk and Family Fun Day for Growing Hope. Recognizing that it is never too early to serve one's

community, the Club promotes community service in elementary school students with the Helping Hands Awards. This emphasis on opportunities for youth to serve and lead continues with Octagon and Junior Optimist Clubs at local schools.

The annual Charles A. Robinson Respect for Law Awards fosters positive relations between the community and local law enforcement. Annual Christmas tree sales and other fundraisers support youth athletic teams, as well as academic, science and arts clubs at area schools. Club members dedicate hundreds of hours each year volunteering for youth-related activities, such as Special Olympics, Alternative House, Ethics Day, the Vienna Community Center Halloween Party, and more.

The Optimists have also contributed greatly to Vienna's community life by operating the Vienna Saturday Farmers Market since 2006, providing not only a marketplace for local, fresh, and healthy foods, but also a meeting place for Vienna residents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna on its 60th Anniversary of service to the Vienna community and thanking its countless volunteers and supporters for helping to bring out the best in our kids.

TRIBUTE TO BEDFORD COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Bedford Community School District for receiving the Employer Support Freedom Award.

The Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the Department of Defense to employers for their support of National Guard and Reserve members. Almost half of the U.S. Military is made up of National Guard and Reserve members, many of whom also hold jobs with civilian employers. The Freedom Award recognizes those employers that provide the most outstanding support for the Citizen Warriors.

I applaud and congratulate Bedford Community School District for earning this prestigious award. I am proud to represent them in the U.S. Congress and I know that my colleagues join me in congratulating the school and wishing them nothing but continued success in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on the afternoon of July 9, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call #427—NO
Roll Call #428—AYE
Roll Call #429—YEA
Roll Call #430—AYE

CONGRATULATING ST. ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating St. Elizabeth High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing St. Elizabeth High School for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the significance of the Special Olympics which has established strong and lasting competitive bonds worldwide while simultaneously teaching the world that all people, regardless of their personal struggles, possess the same courage and profound joy in the face of athletic competition.

The Special Olympics has dedicated itself to empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to become physically fit, productive, and respected members of society through physical education and sport competition.

The origins of this important institution began in the 1950's when Eunice Kennedy Shriver witnessed how children and young adults with intellectual disabilities were being treated by their communities, throughout our country with incredible disrespect.

As her vision slowly came to reality, she began to hold special summer camps for young adults with disabilities in her own backyard.

Throughout the 1960's, Eunice Kennedy Shriver continued as the influential voice which assisted in shaping President John F. Kennedy's White House panel on people with intellectual disabilities.

Through her unwavering support and avocation for our youth with intellectual disabilities to be no longer viewed as less than a full member of our society with nothing to provide, Eunice Kennedy Shriver created the first Special Olympics that were held on July 20, 1968 in Chicago, Illinois.

At the first Special Olympics, thousands of participants with a variety of intellectual disabilities from 26 U.S. states and Canada competed in track and field, swimming and floor hockey.

These young Americans came to prove they could compete despite their disability.

It is one thing to overcome obstacles to compete in sports recreationally but it takes a genuine drive for excellence to succeed in an arena that was once thought impossible for those with intellectual disabilities.

From that first Special Olympics competition in 1968, this organization began to gain the at-

tention of the world as well as expand the sport competitions at the games.

On February 5, 1977 the games marked the first International Special Olympics Winter Games, which was held in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

The Special Olympics continued to enhance the original mission of the organization through the creation of programs aimed at providing healthcare services to Special Olympics athletes worldwide.

This organization attracted bipartisan support in 2004, when President George W. Bush signed the "Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act."

That piece of bipartisan legislation gave \$15 million every year for five years to Special Olympics programs allowing them to continue their important work.

In February of 2012 the National Basketball Association and Special Olympics, held the first annual NBA Cares Unified Sports Basketball game in Houston, Texas, which allowed Special Olympic athletes to compete alongside professional athletes.

To think that a small summer day camp for intellectually challenged children and adults could evolve into a world-wide organization, is a testament to the lasting vision of Eunice Kennedy Shriver, its founder, and the commitment of volunteers, such as the 40,000 from Texas, to fulfill her dream.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Special Olympics along with the progress this important organization has made towards teaching the world those individuals with intellectual disabilities accept the same challenges as anyone else to compete and win.

25TH ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. YOUTH ORATORICAL CONTEST HOSTED BY THE PRINCE WILLIAM ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest hosted by the Prince William Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and its education foundation.

We must continue the fortitude of those who came before us as we gather to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act. The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. left an indelible mark on our nation in his pursuit of civil rights through civil dialogue. Despite the violence perpetrated against Dr. King and other leaders of the Civil Rights Movement, Dr. King responded with reverent oratory and nonviolent resistance to condemn the injustice of social inequality. His legacy is one of tolerance and steadfast commitment to principled and peaceful communication.

Contestants in the MLK Youth Oratorical Contest pay tribute to Dr. King's legacy with their ability to exercise the strength of the spoken word. This skill will serve them well as they seize future leadership opportunities and forge the personal relationships necessary for effective community engagement and organizing.

I congratulate and applaud the following contestants in the 25th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest:

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONTESTANTS

Zoree Jones—Ronald Reagan Middle School

Ayesha Khurseed—Graham Park Middle School

Ksanet Mehari—Stonewall Middle School

HIGH SCHOOL CONTESTANTS

Jacob Gonzalez—Thomas Jefferson High School

Denzel Goodlin—Potomac High School

Norman Jones—Stonewall Jackson High School

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for recognizing the benefit that Dr. King's teachings bring to the development of our youth. We lay the foundations of a more tolerant society when we nurture the ability to engage and communicate with one another in a way that respects our common humanity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, July 10, I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "NAY" on #431 and #432 and "YEA" on #433.

THE TEXANS OF WWI

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we are quickly approaching the 100th anniversary of the United States' entrance into World War One; A war in which Texans played a critical role.

From the fields of Flanders and trenches of France, to the towns of Germany and bases on the home front, 200,000 Texans proudly served in the Armed Forces during the First World War, between 1917 and 1919; They went to a land they had never been and died for people they did not know.

5,000 Texans gave their lives.

Boys who grew up on farms in Texas suddenly became men as they found themselves in the muddy, rainy, and bloody trenches an ocean away.

Life in the trenches was hard. Men were constantly bombarded with artillery and machine gun fire. And they often faced the danger of going over the trenches and crossing no man's land, trying to repel the enemy forces attempting the same.

In the midst of battle and in the face of the enemy, some men displayed tremendous gallantry and were awarded medals for their actions.

Four of the brave souls awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for their actions were from the great State of Texas.

Daniel R. Edwards, born in Mooreville, Texas, was a Private First Class in the U.S. Army on July 18, 1918. His citation reads that