

Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the National District Attorney's Association, NJ State Interscholastic Athletic Association and the American Correctional Association.

He was a devoted man that showed his love for his family and his community through his actions. My thoughts and prayers are with Mr. LeRoy Jones, Sr.'s family. He is survived by his beloved wife Rosan Jones, his four children LeRoy Joseph Jones, Jr., Leanne Jackson, Leisa Tynes-Merriweather and Lisa Jones, his 11 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren, two brothers and two sisters, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I know my fellow members of the House of Representatives agree that Mr. LeRoy Joseph Jones, Sr. deserves to be recognized for a job well done and for his many years of service to the citizens of the State of New Jersey. This tribute recognizes his life's work, his stellar career and his personal commitment to improving the lives of his fellow man.

HONORING BEHAILU ASSEFA

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, friends, colleagues, and the Ethiopian Community and Cultural Center wish to acknowledge a hard-working, beloved, and integral supporter of California's Ethiopian community;

Whereas, Behailu Assefa has been an active cultural and business leader on the local, state, and national level; and

Whereas, Behailu served as the President of the Ethiopian Community and Cultural Center since its founding in 2001, he has also served as the President of the Ethiopian Community in Minneapolis, was President of the Ethiopian Sports Federation of North America and was a member of the Oakland and City of Bahir Dar Sister City Program; and

Whereas, as the founder ASC Engineering Services, Behailu has provided professional certification of electrical products and served clients spanning over 4 continents and 40 states over the span of 20 years; and

Whereas, as founder of Terra Global Energy Developers, Behailu has utilized the experiences of Ethiopian American Diaspora and their ingenuity to introduce a new wind energy project to the Ethiopian government; and

Whereas, as the co-founder of Global Enterprise Engineering, Behailu has expanded the global presence of his company to Germany, Taiwan, China, Ethiopia, and Senegal; and therefore be it now

Resolved, that I, Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI, of California's 3rd District, do hereby recognize the exemplary service of Behailu Assefa, and encourage all to join me in celebrating him in his lifetime of achievements.

THANKING FIRST RESPONDERS AND VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR SERVICE AFTER A DEVASTATING TORNADO

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the first responders and volunteers who have been working tirelessly in Cameron, Illinois after an EF2 tornado devastated this small town in my district. While the storm caused widespread property damage and several injuries, the good people from across the region who rushed to Cameron to help give me hope that this community will rebuild and become stronger than ever.

First responders and volunteers stepped in at a time of great need and continue to provide safety, material assistance and comfort to the good people of Cameron. They came from all over the region bringing bottled water, tarps and even homemade blueberry pies to help this town of 600 people get back on its feet after 125 mile per hour winds tore through it last week.

I spoke with many families who were affected by the tornado, and there was a recurring theme that resonated with me: Cameron was bent, not broken. With over 50 homes damaged, community members and other helpers have been working tirelessly to support these families and straighten out all the bends brought upon them by this disaster.

Mr. Speaker, my heart goes out to all the families this terrible tornado impacted and I am grateful for the brave and generous first responders and volunteers who pour their time, energy, and love into helping Cameron recover.

CONGRATULATING THE WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BAY CITY ON THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Westminster Presbyterian Church in Bay City, Michigan, on the occasion of their 150th anniversary.

Westminster's sacred story began on August 23, 1865, when 15 members organized a new Presbyterian Church in the Village of Wenona. On the same day a cornerstone was laid for a house of worship on two lots donated by Henry W. Sage on Catherine St. The house of worship for "The First Presbyterian Society of the Township of Bangor" was completed and dedicated on December 3, 1865 under the leadership of Missionary Donald B. Campbell.

His mission complete, Rev. Campbell left in 1868 and Rev. Elihu Turney Sanford became the first ordained minister of the new church. Westminster has been privileged to be led by

a number of very capable leaders over the past 150 years, to include our current minister Rev. Matthew Schramm, who had the honor of serving as a guest chaplain for the U.S. House of Representatives in the summer of 2014.

In 1872, the name of the church was changed to the "First Presbyterian Church of Wenona", and finally in 1882 to "Westminster Presbyterian Church." Also in 1882 plans were drawn for a new worship facility. Once again Henry W. Sage came forward and donated four lots on Midland St where the church is presently located. On Christmas Day in 1883, the congregation worshipped in their new semi-gothic style church.

In 1958, ground was broken for a new Fellowship Hall, classrooms and a kitchen, and in 1969 the congregation endorsed a building program for the existing Sanctuary with formal dedication ceremonies in September 1970. In 2015, Westminster will begin its next 150 years with a campaign to update the facility for future generations.

The congregation has been active in ministry and service for 150 years. From working in USO activities, collecting metal for scrap drives, and sending care packages to servicemen during the war years, to hosting literacy programs for children and adults, serving free hot meals to those in need, and providing quality Christian education for all ages today, Westminster is well known in Bay City for its community focus. The church is proud to have been a charter organization for the Boy Scouts for over 50 years, and to open its doors for programs ranging from job training for special needs young adults to music and theatre rehearsal, and to provide meeting space for countless community organizations.

Westminster has been a proud partner with the Good Samaritan Rescue Mission in Bay City since its inception. Not only has the church been an annual supporter during each of the mission's ten years of operation, it was instrumental in the construction and opening of the men's wing of the mission in 2008. In 2015 Westminster helped sponsor the mission's annual Golf Challenge Fund Raiser, which earned a near record \$73,000 to provide a place of hope and care for the needy in and around Bay City.

Westminster actively supports missions in Niger, India, Zambia, Thailand, and the Middle East, while also supporting disaster relief efforts throughout the world. Both pastors and members of the congregation have assumed an active role in leading the Lake Huron Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church (USA) General Assembly.

Through partnering with quality programs and organizations, sharing fellowship and service, inspiring teaching and worship, and outwardly-focused and selfless mission, Westminster seeks to further its own legacy of hope and care in Bay City since 1865, and looks forward to the next 150 years serving God and humanity, sharing the love of Jesus through faith, hope and love, with an open and genuine spirit.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the work done by the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Bay City and thank them for the service they have provided to the community.

NATURAL GROCERS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Natural Grocers efforts to promote healthy eating through their free educational outreach over the last 60 years. I'm happy to announce Governor Hickenlooper will proclaim August 13, 2015 as "Natural Grocers Day" in Colorado.

Natural Grocers by Vitamin Cottage was founded by Margaret and Phillip Isely and is based in Lakewood, Colorado. In 2015, they were recognized as the 11th fastest growing Colorado public company. Their mission is to provide shoppers with an affordable, healthy lifestyle as well as empower them to take control of their own wellbeing.

Not only does Natural Grocers supply Coloradans with healthy food options, they also provide customers personalized nutrition information to help them meet their nutritional goals. Since 1995, Natural Grocers has offered Coloradans free science-based nutrition education programs with the creation of their Nutritional Health Coach program. Their health coaches organize nutritional outreach programs to numerous schools and businesses, as well as hold in-store cooking demonstrations and nutrition classes. Additionally, I regularly hold my "Government in the Grocery" events at Natural Grocers stores around my district. These events give me the opportunity to visit with constituents in their communities on topics ranging from veterans issues, the economy and jobs to foreign policy.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate Natural Grocers for their accomplishment in promoting healthy eating through educational outreach and I commend them for their dedication to providing extraordinary services to Colorado customers. I wish Natural Grocers all the best in their next 60 years of operation.

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF DODD-FRANK ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member WATERS of the Financial Services Committee for leading today's important discussion on the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

Earlier this week, House Democrats recognized the 5th anniversary of Dodd-Frank—the most sweeping financial regulatory reform in the United States since the 1930s.

Signed into law by President Obama on July 21, 2010, Dodd-Frank has changed—for the better—the way consumers, investors, and other market participants interact with our financial system.

It has provided oversight to Wall Street, giving regulators the tools to end the era of "too big to fail" entities and outrageous taxpayer bailouts, and has eliminated loopholes that allowed risky and abusive practices to go unnoticed and unregulated.

But how did we get here?

Five years ago, Dodd-Frank was enacted in the wake of profound economic devastation as our nation was reeling from the impact of the 2008 financial crisis.

Millions of Americans suffered job loss, many small businesses closed down, foreclosures skyrocketed, the stock market suffered large drops, and a looming repeat of the Great Depression was feared.

Specifically, in the six months before President Obama took office in February 2009, our economy lost a total of nearly 4 million private sector jobs—an unimaginable average of 650,000 jobs per month.

Nearly \$13 trillion in economic growth and \$16 trillion in household wealth simply disappeared while close to 9 million individuals were displaced from their homes.

2008 was truly one of the lowest economic points in U.S. history.

Yet, the American people weathered this storm and Congressional Democrats took action by passing legislation to restore responsibility and accountability in our financial system, and to give Americans confidence that we were putting the tools in place to avoid another economic crisis.

In fact, since Dodd-Frank's passage in July 2010, the American economy has experienced vast improvement in private sector job growth with nearly 12 million jobs added; a lower unemployment rate, to 5.3 percent from the peak of 10.0 percent in October 2009, and a recovering housing market.

Indeed, because of Dodd-Frank, financial regulators are now empowered to identify and address risks to our financial system through increased monitoring and stricter rules for our nation's biggest banks in a timely way.

Dodd-Frank also provided new authority to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), which, since 2011, has recovered more than \$9.3 billion in civil fines and penalties despite Republicans' repeated budget cuts to the agency.

Like all comprehensive reform bills, however, Dodd-Frank is not perfect.

There are a few areas that I believe can be improved.

Nonetheless, it is important that we do not let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

I believe we also have a responsibility to build upon and improve this legislation when needed.

One area of concern for many stakeholders in my district, and across the country, is the manner in which Dodd-Frank requires the Federal Reserve to subject bank holding companies with more than \$50 billion in consolidated assets to enhanced regulatory supervision.

However, if we are to subject smaller, regional bank holding companies to the same or similar supervisory requirements, then we should do so in a way that balances our nation's financial stability without placing excessive burdens on non-systemically important institutions by using a more deliberative assets-and-activities-based test should be considered in determining the "systemic importance" of bank holding companies.

Earlier this month, Chair Yellen testified that she was open to raising a threshold for determining a bank's systemic importance.

I look forward to working with her on this issue and African-American job growth efforts.

This is at the top of my priority list for improving Dodd-Frank.

Another area of concern for me lies in the development of diversity assessment standards under Section 342 of Dodd-Frank, also known as OMWI.

Though Section 342 is not very long, it is a very significant step in the effort to improve the hiring of women and minorities in the financial services industry in which these groups remain woefully underrepresented.

However, due to misinterpretations of congressional intent, I am concerned that after five years the federal financial regulators have not developed standards requiring the disclosure of diversity data, which would provide much needed transparency to this industry regarding the promotion of diversity in its workplace.

Like my congressional colleagues here today, I celebrate substantial achievements of Dodd-Frank and look forward to working together to find the appropriate tweaks to further facilitate its positive lasting effects on the financial markets and for consumers far beyond this five-year anniversary.

In order to continue being a successful nation, we must capitalize on our diversity and tackle the inequality in wage and job growth in African-American communities.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. WANE A. HAILES

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend an outstanding citizen and respected community leader, Mr. Wane A. Hailes, President and Publisher of the Courier/Eco Latino, Columbus, Georgia's premier African-American and Latino newspaper. The Courier/Eco Latino will be celebrating ten years of providing the Tri-City Area of Columbus, Georgia, Fort Benning, Georgia, and Phenix City, Alabama with positive, high quality information. In celebration of this special milestone, the Courier/Eco Latino will be hosting the 2015 Community Service Awards on Saturday, July 25, 2015 at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center in Columbus, Georgia.

Wane A. Hailes was born in Richmond, Virginia and grew up in Portsmouth, New Hampshire; New Brunswick, New Jersey; Clifton Forge, Virginia; and Charlottesville, Virginia. In 1979, Wane graduated from Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kansas. He then served for fifteen years as Director of the YMCA in Missouri, Wisconsin, Florida, and North Carolina. In 1990, the Chattahoochee Valley gained a passionate and dedicated community leader when Wane A. Hailes arrived in Columbus, Georgia to serve as the CEO of the A.J. McClung YMCA.

With thirty-one years of radio and newspaper experience in cumulative sales, marketing, and public relations, Wane became a driving force in the Columbus media. He worked for the minority-owned radio station, Davis Broadcasting Inc., as an on-air personality and sales consultant. He then worked at the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer as the Real Estate, Employment and Automotive Sales Consultant, before working at the minority-owned Columbus Times as Vice President of Advertising and Sales.