

We also come together to remember two other tragic events that devastated the Polish-American community. I stand with the Polish people today at the Katyn 1940 Monument as they commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Katyn Forest Massacre, and the 5th anniversary of the tragic airplane crash that killed 96 people, including the Polish President and other top Polish officials. The Monument, located in Jersey City, is a symbol of the important history of the Polish-American community in New Jersey and the sacrifices of their ancestors.

The Katyn Forest Massacre occurred during World War II in April and May of 1940 while Poland was fighting a war on two fronts. The Soviet secret police brutally killed over 20,000 Poles whose bodies were later recovered in a mass grave at Katyn. Tragically, five years ago as a delegation of Polish officials were traveling to Katyn to commemorate the massacre, their plane unexpectedly crashed in western Russia, killing all aboard.

The Polish people throughout the course of history have been unwavering in their resilience and patriotism in the face of adversity. Their courage is admirable and inspiring, and on this day we stand in solidarity as they commemorate these occasions of great loss.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. KARLA A.
HUTCHINSON-SKEETE

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many individuals who are called to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service; and

Whereas, Mrs. Karla A. Hutchinson-Skeete has answered that call by giving of herself as an educator at Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Elementary Traditional Theme School, and as a beloved wife, daughter and friend; and

Whereas, Mrs. Skeete has been chosen as the 2015 Teacher of the Year, representing Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Elementary Traditional Theme School; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents for the betterment of our community and our nation through her tireless works, motivational speeches, performance through dance and words of wisdom; and

Whereas, Mrs. Skeete is a virtuous woman, a courageous woman and a fearless leader who has shared her vision and passion to help ensure that our children receive an education that is relevant not only for today, but well into the future, as she truly understands that our children are the future; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Karla A. Hutchinson-Skeete for her leadership and service to our District and in recognition of this singular honor as 2015 Teacher of the Year at Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Traditional Theme Elementary School; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim August 21, 2015 as Mrs. Karla A. Hutchinson-Skeete Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 21st day of August, 2015.

IN RECOGNITION OF CANDIDO DE
GUERRA CAMERO

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the extraordinary achievements of the legendary percussionist and innovator of Afro-Cuban Jazz, Candido Camero. Popularly known as Candido, Mr. Camero has literally changed music on a world-wide scale. A jazz artist that has performed and recorded with a long list of distinguished figures across a dizzying array of genres, he holds the distinction of being the most recorded percussionist in the history of Jazz. "Candido" is truly the percussion colossus of Modern Jazz and popular music.

On September 17, 2015, National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master Candido will be honored this year by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) at the 30th Annual Jazz Forum and Concert, during the 45th Annual Legislative Conference (ALC). Dubbed "The Man with A Thousand Fingers," Candido was the first musician to play two or more congas simultaneously, while tuning the drums to add melodic interest to rhythmic complexity. His innovations paved the way for future percussionists in Latin jazz, pop, rock, mambo, salsa and world music. For his many contributions to the development of music, Candido is truly deserving of the 2015 CBCF Jazz Legacy Award.

Candido de Guerra Camero was born on April 22nd, 1921 in Havana, Cuba. He started playing congas and bongos as a young child, and competed in neighborhood parades known as *comparsas*. His earliest gigs were with the CMQ Radio Orchestra for six years, and later with the famed Tropicana nightclub for eight years. In 1946 he appeared in a musical revue called *Tidbits* at the Plymouth Theater on Broadway, playing backup for the Cuban dance team, Carmen and Rolando. He made his first U.S. recording with the famed Afro-Cuban bandleader Machito in 1948 on the tune, *El Rey Del Mambo*, and worked with trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie to record three albums, *Afro* (1954), *Gillespiana* (1960) and *The Melody Lingers On* (1966). Candido also appeared on the Ed Sullivan and Jackie Gleason shows.

Gillespie introduced Candido to legendary pianist, bandleader, composer and educator, Dr. Billy Taylor. He played with Taylor from 1953 to 1954. They recorded *The Billy Trio with Candido: A seminal, Latin jazz LP* which spotlighted Camero's amazing and revolutionary conga and bongo playing. Dr. Taylor wrote that, "he had not heard anyone who even approaches the wonderful balance between jazz and Cuban elements that Candido demonstrates." Candido also worked and recorded with Stan Kenton, Tito Puente, Grant Green, Elvin Jones, Wes Montgomery, Tony Bennett, Art Blakey and Randy Weston. In 1979, Candido wrote "Jingo" for the West African percussionist Olatunji and his *Dancin' and Prancin'* LP for the Salsoul Latin-disco label.

Candido recorded over fifteen recordings as a leader, including "The Volcanic" (1956),

"Conga Soul" (1962), "Thousand Finger Man" (1969), "Brujeras de Candido: Candido's Latin McGuffa's Dust" (1971), "The Conga Kings," with percussionists Giovanni Hidalgo and Patato Valdes (2000), and "The Master" (2014). He was named an NEA Jazz Master in 2008, and was featured in the 2009 PBS documentary, *Latin Music USA*.

Candido Camero is a living national jazz treasure, and I encourage my colleagues to honor his tremendous contributions to Jazz.

HONORING CAPTAIN KRISTEN
GRIEST OF ORANGE, CONNECTICUT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding member of our military and recent U.S. Army Ranger School graduate, Captain Kristen Marie Griest. A native of Orange, Connecticut, Captain Griest recently became one of the first women to complete the 62-day combat leadership course—shattering a gender ceiling as she joins the ranks of our country's most elite Army members. Though she will not yet be able to serve in the 75th Ranger Regiment, her hometown community and her state could not be more proud of her accomplishment.

A graduate of Amity Regional High School in Woodbridge, Connecticut, Kristen Griest was known as a quiet leader and a tough competitor, always pushing herself to succeed. A track and softball star in high school, she entered the United States Military Academy at West Point in the fall of 2007. Following her graduation, Kristen went on to serve in the military police because, as her brother, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Michael Griest, an Army aviator himself, said "it was the closest she could come at the time to serving in combat." She was deployed to Afghanistan in 2013 as a military police officer and upon her return took up the challenge of Ranger School.

With courses including phases at Fort Benning in Georgia, on the mountains of northern Georgia, and in the Florida Panhandle swamps in and around Eglin Air Force Base, The U.S. Army's Ranger School is considered one of the military's most difficult courses physically and mentally. Critics of allowing women into the military's most elite units had used the argument that no woman has demonstrated she can keep up with men by passing Ranger School. Along with fellow graduate, 1st Lieutenant Shaye Haver of Copperas Cove, Texas, Kristen has successfully challenged such notions, demonstrating that women should be allowed the same opportunities as their male counterparts to join our military's elite forces.

Kristen recently received her black and gold Ranger tab along with her fellow Rangers, but will return to her previous unit instead of joining her male colleagues in the 75th Ranger Regiment. Perhaps soon we will see that ceiling shattered as well. Today, I am proud to stand today to join her parents, Thomas and Laura; her brother, Michael; her many family and friends, as well as the community of Orange and the State of Connecticut in extending my sincere congratulations to Captain

Kristen Marie Griest on the outstanding accomplishment of successfully completing the rigorous training at the U.S. Army Ranger School. She exemplifies the very best of our military and our nation.

TRIBUTE TO MS. FELECIA B.
PRINCE

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, twenty-seven years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Internal Revenue Service in Atlanta, Georgia; and

Whereas, Ms. Felecia B. Prince began her career with the I.R.S. as a Taxpayer Telephone Operator in 1988 and today retires as a Revenue Officer; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents, giving the citizens of our District a friend to help those in need, a fearless leader and a servant to all who wants to insure that the system works for everyone; and

Whereas, Ms. Felecia B. Prince is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Felecia B. Prince on her retirement from the Internal Revenue Service and to wish her well in her new endeavors; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim July 31, 2015 as Ms. Felecia B. Prince Day in the 4th Congressional District. Proclaimed, this 31st day of July, 2015.

RECOGNIZING RITA SCARDACI

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rita Scardaci, who has had a distinguished career working in the public health profession in Northern California. She will be retiring from her position as the Director of Health Services in Sonoma County after a decade of service.

Ms. Scardaci is a lifelong resident of Northern California, where she has given back to the community as a leader and pioneer in health services. She is a Registered Nurse, and has a degree in Public Health and Nursing, certification as a Health Education Specialist, and a Masters of Public Health. She has used her degrees to better the health of the residents of Santa Cruz County, and most recently Sonoma County through her work with the Health Services Department. Ms. Scardaci is an instructor at both University of California Santa Cruz and San Jose State University. She is a founding member of the California State Rural Health Association and sits on the board of the California Endowment and Sonoma-Mendocino-Lake County United Way,

as well as three different health boards in Sonoma County.

Ms. Scardaci's additional community involvement includes: member and past President of the County Health Executives Association of California; Commissioner Sonoma First Five, an organization charged with promoting, supporting and improving the early development of children from the prenatal stage through five years of age; member Santa Rosa Family Medicine Residency Consortium Board of Directors; Past President and Board Member at the California Telehealth Telemedicine Center, which works to achieve the fully optimized use of telehealth and other technology enabled health care services.

Mr. Speaker, Rita Scardaci is a beloved and vitally important member of the community and it is appropriate that we acknowledge her today.

TRIBUTE TO WILBERT V. PAYNES

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Mr. Wilbert V. Paynes is celebrating forty-two (42) years of serving others in the United States Army Corps of Engineers. He currently serves as Director of the United States Army Corps of Engineers Deep Draft Navigation Planning Center of Expertise and as Chief for the Planning and Policy Division for the South Atlantic Division of the United States Army Corps of Engineers located in Atlanta, Georgia; and

Whereas, Mr. Paynes retires this year as a Director for the United States Corps of Engineers; wherein under his guidance as a Director, he has provided stellar leadership on an international level and has enhanced the lives of many in the Southeastern United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man is an ambassador of goodwill; he has managed projects, educated colleagues, and directed several major water resource feasibility studies; and

Whereas, Mr. Paynes is a man of compassion, a fearless leader, a servant to all and a visionary who has shared his time and talent to promote the best in Civil Engineering on behalf of the United States Corps of Engineers; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mr. Wilbert V. Paynes as he celebrates forty-two years in service and to salute him as he retires from the United States Corps of Engineers; A true Man of Excellence; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim October 2, 2015 as Mr. Wilbert V. Paynes Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 2nd day of October, 2015.

HONORING BERNARD SWEENEY,
SBA DISTRICT DIRECTOR, ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to Bernard Sweeney who recently retired as the United States Small Business Administration's Connecticut District Director. In a career of federal service that spanned more than three decades, Bernie demonstrated a remarkable commitment to public service. Bernie's federal service included serving as Chief of Staff to the Under Secretary at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Special Assistant to the Secretary at HUD, and Staff Assistant to the President of the United States at the White House. However, it was his work at the SBA that left an indelible mark on our state and region.

Bernie began his career with the SBA in the Connecticut District Office in 1987 as Acting Assistant District Director for Business Development. During his tenure with the SBA, he served as a Team Leader for Marketing and Outreach, a Loan Officer, and Business Development Specialist. Prior to being named the Connecticut District Director in 2005, Bernie was the Branch Manager in the Springfield, Massachusetts SBA Branch Office.

As District Director of the SBA's Connecticut District Office, Bernie oversaw the delivery of agency programs for the state of Connecticut, including financial assistance, management counseling, and business development. He was responsible for directing the activities of 10 permanent SBA employees, the administration of a business loan portfolio, oversight of the Connecticut Small Business Development Center (SBDC) network, including its 15 locations around the state, the coordination of 7 chapters of the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) and 3 Women's Business Centers (WBC) serving all of Connecticut. Bernie worked tirelessly to ensure that the district staff reached out to the underserved communities in Connecticut and that the SBA training programs reached these communities. He also helped to establish the three Hispanic Chambers of Commerce by offering both technical and financial assistance.

I would be remiss if I did not extend a special note of thanks to Bernie for all of the help and guidance he provided to myself and my staff over the last decade. From coordinating informational briefings to immediately responding to storm and fire damage in various communities, Bernie was always just a phone call away. He was always ready to assist in whatever ways the agency could provide. He was a remarkable resource for all of us.

For his many invaluable contributions to our small businesses, to our communities, and our state, I am honored to stand today to pay tribute to Bernard Sweeney. His is a legacy of public service to which we should all strive. I extend my very best wishes to Bernie, his wife, Sandy, and their son, Zack, for many more years of health and happiness as he enjoys his retirement.