

Whereas, Dawn Dowdy is a dedicated Track Coach for Hamilton High School. Dawn has redefined the term "dedication" and has not let the fact that Hamilton High does not have a track on campus hinder her students from reaching personal goals and competing in regional competitions.

Whereas, Dawn has not allowed substantial budget cuts deter her from attracting a high number of students into her program. She has orchestrated fundraising to ensure students have the means to participate and takes a personal interest in each student to make sure they keep up with their academics. Some of her students have competed in the State Finals and obtained college scholarship funds.

Whereas, Hamilton City is a small, tight-knit community of 2,000. Dawn's ability to mentor, motivate and maximize students' potential on and off the Track is priceless.

*Resolved*, That I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Dawn Dowdy.

#### TRIBUTE TO CYNTHIA WILLIAMS AND THE AUSTIN PEOPLES ACTION CENTER

##### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2015*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, for more than thirty-five years the Austin Peoples Action Center (APAC) has been an integral part of the Austin community. Organized principally by the Williams family and parishioners of the Third Unitarian Church, APAC has grown to become one of the premier social service agencies in the state of Illinois, and its principal staff person Ms. Cynthia Williams is known as one of the most effective agency directors in the state. As a social service agency, APAC provides quality health and human services to thousands of Chicago's neediest residents, including people with disabilities, seniors at risk, children, youth and adults with mental illness and substance abuse problems. APAC is known for having the largest women, infants and children's program in the state of Illinois and I might add the most effective. For thirty-five years of great leadership and community service I commend Cynthia Williams and the Austin Peoples Action Center for their contributions to improving the quality of life for Chicago residents.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF JADEN MERRICK'S WORLD RECORD SETTING RACE TIME FOR THE HALF MARATHON IN THE 7-YEAR-OLD AGE GROUP

##### HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2015*

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a young constituent of mine—Jaden Merrick from Cedar Falls, Iowa—on his world record setting race time for the half marathon in the 7-year-old age group.

On September 12, 2015, Jaden raced in the Cedar Valley Park-to-Park Half Marathon in

Waterloo, Iowa. Jaden, having already raced to a world record for his age group in last year's Park-to-Park 5K, rewrote the record books again—completing the half marathon in an astounding one hour, 43 minutes, and 34 seconds.

In addition to his remarkable race times, the local running community recognizes Jaden by his signature smile. He simply beams through every step of the race and his enthusiasm is undiminished despite the distances. He is an exceptional young man who enjoys having fun while competing.

I extend my sincerest congratulations to Jaden and wish him well as he prepares to compete in the Junior Olympics for cross country and track in the upcoming spring. I would also like to congratulate Jaden's parents Brent and Sabina, on their perpetual support of their son and their encouragement of his talents.

#### IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF FORMER INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM A. CRAWFORD

##### HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2015*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a respected public servant and outstanding citizen, former Indiana State Representative, William A. Crawford.

Maya Angelou once said, "A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies." Representative Crawford is one such great soul, who served humanity in a special way. He spent his entire life dedicated to public service, pushing a message of equality and justice during his 40 years in the Indiana General Assembly.

On a personal note, Representative Crawford was a dear friend and mentor who I was privileged to know from a very young age. I have fond memories of getting to know 'Bill' as he served alongside my grandmother during her time at the Statehouse. With Bill's passing, our state has lost a champion, our city has lost a leader, and I have lost a friend.

Revered as the most influential African-American state lawmaker in Indiana's history, Representative Crawford made sure that African-American Hoosiers had a voice in government. He was the first African-American lawmaker to serve as chairman of the powerful and influential Indiana House Ways and Means Committee and was critical in starting the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus.

Representative Crawford was destined to lead and when he spoke people listened. He was inspired to serve by the life and death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He was present on April 4, 1968, and heard Senator Robert Kennedy's words at 17th and Broadway in Indianapolis announcing the death of Dr. King. Being there that night helped shape his career as an activist and led to his passionate work on behalf of the Kennedy/King Memorial on that historic site. Among his accomplishments was increasing minority enrollment at Ivy Tech Community College and creating the Indiana Black Expo into the institution it is today.

I extend my greatest sympathy to his wife Bernice, children Darren, Sr., Michael, Kim and Monica. I pray that God rests his soul and gives peace and comfort to his family and friends.

#### HONORING DEIDRE ROBINSON

##### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2015*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Deidre Robinson, a business leader and one of my district's 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, on the Twenty-Second Day of September, of the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen, Deidre Robinson was recognized as a 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, Deidre Robinson has worked tirelessly for over 20 years as a diverse leader of relationship-building and strategic alliances. Deidre's community service and volunteerism starts in Solano County and reaches as far as the San Francisco Bay Area. She recognizes the impact that others have had on her life and career and her passion for volunteerism, leadership, and commitment are based on a vision that is driven by personal experiences.

Whereas, her volunteer contributions to organizations such as CoachArt, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Kid Fest, Relay for Life, and other groups are remarkable. In addition, Deidre is also the Vice Treasurer of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Tau Upsilon Omega Chapter, for which she provides volunteer services to students and young adult women through mentoring and workshops on leadership. Recently, Deidre was appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. to the California Board of Accountancy.

Whereas, as a single mother of two, nothing has prevented Deidre from achieving monumental milestones both professionally and personally. She has been a role model for both her children and the community.

*Resolved*, That I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Deidre Robinson.

#### RECOGNIZING MAJOR WILLIAM "BILL" CONKLIN NOSKER

##### HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2015*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Major William "Bill" Conklin Nosker. Bill was a member of the 1939 Ohio State Football Big Ten Championship team and a Major in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II.

Bill was born in 1919 in Columbus, Ohio, and later moved to Upper Arlington. He was an active high school athlete, earning 14 varsity letters in four sports. He became one of the first athletes from Upper Arlington to play football at a major university and earned varsity letters three years at The Ohio State University. In 1940, Bill was named to the honorary All-Big Ten Team.

Bill left one quarter before graduation at Ohio State in 1941, along with six other athletes, to serve his country in the Army Air Corps. Bill did obtain his degree a year later when he submitted a thesis paper to his professor. While in basic training, Bill was selected as the "Typical Air Corps Cadet" for a nationwide publicity recruiting campaign, but he was far from "typical."

As part of the 449th Bombardment Group, Bill was sent overseas at the end of 1943. He was the original commanding officer of the 718th Squadron stationed in Italy and is credited with 35 total missions as a pilot or copilot. His missions spanned all over Europe, including Italy, Austria, France, Yugoslavia and Romania. In August of 1944, Bill died in a plane crash as part of an air support mission for the invasion of Southern France, also known as Operation Anvil. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal, three Oak Leaf clusters, and the Bronze Star during his service.

Bill was a true American hero and I am pleased to honor his service to our country during World War II. I wish his family all the best this year as they recognize the 70th anniversary of when he was set to return home from war.

#### HONORING CAL IN THE CAPITAL

##### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2015*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the University of California, Berkeley Public Service Center's "Cal in the Capital" internship program; long known as one of the premier internship programs in Washington D.C.

Since 1965, this student-led organization has prepared 75 UC Berkeley students each year for once in a lifetime internship opportunities. Placement opportunities include: across all levels of government, the nonprofit sector, think tanks, and within our most advanced research institutions.

In its 50th year, Cal in the Capital has afforded a total of 3,745 interns the platform to engage in 1,608,489 hours of service. Their dedication to public service and civic engagement is showcased through real world experiences and professional growth platforms.

Through its offerings, Cal in the Capital has been providing leadership, service learning, and internship opportunities to the students of my alma mater, UC Berkeley. Their program has successfully demonstrated, for half a century, the benefits of combining world-class education with hands-on experience in the effort to prepare their students for a life of public service.

Alumni of the program have gone on to serve in various capacities of public service. Some worked within presidential administrations, some went on to advocate for workers' rights, and some even became sitting Members of Congress. I too was once a Cal in the Capital intern for a great warrior, statesman and my predecessor, Congressman Ron Delums. I remember my time as an intern fondly, and can tell you without hesitation that this program changed my life, as it has for so many others.

Because of my experience with the program, I have always enjoyed having the privilege of hosting Cal in the Capital interns in my congressional office. The passion and dedication that these student leaders display toward serving their country, their communities, and those whose voices too often go unheard is an inspiration to all.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate University of California, Berkeley, for its Cal in the Capital program and salute its 50 years of service to our community. I thank the UC Public Service Center for providing its students with decades of public service opportunities while leading the nation in developing the next generation of leaders.

#### TRIBUTE TO ESTHER GOLAR

##### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2015*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Esther Golar was called home by the Lord on Monday, September 21, 2015 at age 71. Esther was born in Chicago, Illinois and was educated here including attending college at Malcolm X; and she was a member of Trinity United Church of Christ. Esther devoted her adult life to a tireless quest for social and economic justice; and she worked with Alternative Policing Strategy, Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago and Robert Fulton Elementary Local School Council. In 2006, Esther was appointed to represent the people of District 6 of the Illinois State House of Representatives and was first elected in 2006 to the Illinois House and re-elected again in each election since and she was known and loved as one of the kindest and most compassionate elected officials in Illinois, a woman who used her powerful voice and enduring passion to selflessly champion for her constituents.

Esther leaves to mourn her passing her daughter: Tiffany Golar; and grandchildren Briana Golar, Toni Thomas, Ananda Thomas and Jayden Golar, along with a massive host of friends and co-workers.

Now, therefore be it resolved, that we deeply mourn the passing of our dear friend Esther Golar; and be it further resolved, that we express to her family, friends and all who knew her, our appreciation, admiration and respect for her life and works and we commend her soul to the Almighty God for peaceful repose.

#### HONORING DIONNE MCCULLAR

##### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2015*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Dionne McCullar, a business leader, community volunteer and one of my district's 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, on the Twenty-Second Day of September, of the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen, Dionne McCullar was recognized as a 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, Dionne McCullar was born and raised in San Francisco. She and her hus-

band, Charles are the proud parents of 3 grown daughters and 3 grandchildren. Dionne established a career with the San Francisco Police Department where she served for 14 years as a Peace Officer.

Whereas, now, a resident of Solano County, Dionne is co-owner of a successful small business, Front2Back Designs in Fairfield.

Whereas, Dionne is Past President of Fairfield Kiwanis Club and Chair of Salvation Army Red Kettle. Dionne is an active supporter of Solano Hearts United/Solano Turkey Trot, Mission Solano, Heather House, Rotary Club, Yippie Yogurt Foundation, Heart2Heart, Little Wing Connections, The Leaven, Ride to Defeat Diabetes, Children's Nurturing Project, The Continentals of Omega Boys & Girls Club of Vallejo, and Children in Need of Hugs.

Whereas, Dionne has also served as Ambassador for several area Chambers of Commerce. Her business motto is "to treat customers how we would want to be treated as consumers and to give back to the community that has helped to sustain our business." True to her word, Dionne is a shining star.

*Resolved*, That I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Dionne McCullar.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2015*

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, on September 25, 2015, I was unable to be present for roll call vote 518, on passage of the Responsibly And Professionally Invigorating Development (RAPID) Act of 2015 (H.R. 348). Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

##### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2015*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,151,025,702,418.99. We've added \$7,524,148,653,505.91 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF OMEGA DELTA PHI FRATERNITY, INC., (GAMMA CHAPTER)

##### HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2015*

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize and congratulate the Omega Delta Phi Fraternity, Inc., (Gamma Chapter) from the