

Rev. Dr. Haywood Gray, who serves as Executive Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

I would like to commend First Baptist Church of Kannapolis for their 100 years of service and dedication to our community, and I wish them well as they begin their journey towards the next 100 years.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating First Baptist Church of Kannapolis on the occasion of their 100-year anniversary.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF HAROLD
"LEFTY" ENCARNACION

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.
OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to pay tribute to a devoted community leader, respected businessman, and loving father, husband, and dear friend, Harold "Lefty" Encarnacion. Sadly, Lefty, as he was affectionately known, passed away Tuesday, October 13, 2015. A candlelight vigil was held the very next evening with over 100 members of the community in attendance to share stories and give remembrance to Lefty and his service to the Columbus, Georgia community. A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, October 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at Ambassadors of Christ Fellowship in Columbus, Georgia.

Harold "Lefty" Encarnacion was born on May 10, 1953 in the Bronx, New York to Puerto Rican immigrants. He worked as a maintenance supervisor at Fort Hamilton in New York and ran a small nightclub. Looking for a safer and more peaceful place to raise their family, Harold and his wife, Millie, moved to Columbus, Georgia in 1983.

Upon arriving, Harold worked numerous jobs, including cab driving. Millie was a manager at a food market. After noticing a lack of resources for the Latino population of Columbus, Harold and his wife opened their own grocery store called Millie's International Market in Columbus, which sold a variety of ethnic foods and seasonings. The store quickly became a staple in Columbus, as well as a community center for the area's Hispanic and Caribbean populations.

Although Millie's was successful in bringing together the Latino community of Columbus, Lefty believed there was more to be done to unify and empower this segment of the population. He managed Columbus' only Hispanic radio station, UNIDOS 107.7 FM until it closed in 2014. But in 2013, after many years of planning, Lefty partnered with Columbus City Councilor, Mimi Woodsen, to launch the inaugural Tri-City Latino Festival.

The Tri-City Latino Festival is a tremendously successful celebration, and now a tradition, that brings together the Latino communities in the Chattahoochee Valley to celebrate this vibrant culture. It shows that this is an area that thrives on its diversity and unites members of the community to honor the struggle, sacrifice and success of their ancestors from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

Lefty was a beloved community leader and pioneer and his contributions to the city of Columbus will be remembered for years to come.

More so, his kindness and emphatic resolve to push his community forward will live on through those who knew and loved him. On a personal note, I am proud to have called Lefty my friend of many years.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 700,000 residents of the Second Congressional District, salute Harold "Lefty" Encarnacion for his efforts to empower the Latino population of Columbus, Georgia and his everlasting commitment to his community. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest condolences to Lefty's family and friends during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

CONNIE REELED IN THE GOLD

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Connie O'Day from Pearland, Texas for winning this year's Islamorada Light Tackle Tournament.

The Islamorada Light Tackle Tournament is one of several fishing tournaments put on by the International Women's Fishing Association. Connie proved her skill in what used to be a male-dominated sport. During the tournament, all of the contestants braved the strong winds, but it was Connie's team that won the day. Her boat, guided by Captain Mark Gilman, beat the elements and the rest of the competition by catching the most fish. Now, I have to ask, when does Pearland get to go to the O'Day house for some fresh fish?

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Connie for winning the tournament and bringing the gold to Pearland.

RECOGNIZING DR. WILLIAM (BILL)
T. STANLEY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize the life of Dr. William (Bill) T. Stanley. Born in Lebanon, Bill grew up in Kenya and moved to the United States with intentions of becoming an animal scientist.

Bill was in charge of some 29 million objects and specimens at the Field Museum in Chicago. Scientists and students would reach out to Bill for his resourcefulness in their respective fields of study. He helped many graduate students reach their potential with his assistance on their theses and dissertations. His knowledge and ability to explain specimens in detail motivated his audience to engage and learn.

Reaching his goals of becoming a mammalian researcher, Bill's character touched the lives of everyone he came in contact with. Bill was known not only for his research but also his ability to fill the room with his good spirits

and incredible sense of humor. Bill will be missed by his family, friends and the mammalian research community to which he devoted his life.

I would like to thank Dr. William T. Stanley for his strong leadership and contributions to the city of Chicago. His legacy will live on and may he rest in peace.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHRIS
WEST

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chris West of Concord, North Carolina, who passed away far too soon on August 22, 2015, after a four year fight with cancer. We send our prayers and sincerest condolences to his parents, Brian and Michelle West, the entire West family, his friends, and the Jay M. Robinson High School community.

Born on August 19, 1998, Chris dedicated his short life to serving others, even in the face of battling such a horrific disease. During his four year fight with Hodgkin's lymphoma, Chris has made national headlines for his selflessness and his desire to care for others. A prime example of Chris' selflessness is rather than celebrating a successful bone marrow transplant in a personal way, like many of us would, Chris performed 100 random acts of kindness for others in his community. During his struggle with cancer, Chris was never known to ask for anything; that is until his 17th birthday. The only thing Chris wanted for his birthday were birthday cards, and the community he gave so much to responded by sending him more than 10,000 cards.

In a recent People magazine feature about Chris' request for birthday cards, he was quoted as saying "I like going to the mailbox. It's just an exciting feeling and it makes me feel special." I can say, without a shadow of a doubt, that Chris was a special individual, and I hope he knew that every day of his life. Our community will greatly miss his kind heart and indomitable spirit, and he will be remembered as a shining example of the best among us.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in commemorating the life of Chris West, who in his short life taught us that no matter what difficulty life may throw at us, we should always take time to serve others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, on October 23, 2015, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was not present to vote on H.R. 3762, the Restoring Americans' Healthcare Freedom Reconciliation Act of 2015, introduced by Representative TOM PRICE. Had I been present, I would have voted NO on final passage of H.R. 3762, roll call No. 568.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, on October 27, 2015, the House considered H.R. 3819, the Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2015. This act extends the Positive Train Control implementation deadline to December 31, 2018. The House passed H.R. 3819 by voice vote. Had this been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on H.R. 3819.

RECOGNIZING INDEPENDENT
AUDIO DRAMA**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of independent audio drama to our nation's culture and history. For over one hundred years, the dramatic scripts, compelling music, and sound effects of audio drama have resonated with listeners across various ethnic, financial, and geographic divides.

During the Great Depression, radio drama adaptations of novels and plays achieved widespread popularity as a means of increasing morale through such difficult times. With the increase in televised and video entertainment came the waning interest in radio drama. However, in recent years, the growth of independent media production has revived audio drama within the U.S. Independent audio drama is now providing aspiring as well as seasoned artists with a unique and sophisticated platform to reach diverse audiences.

I am proud to rise in recognition of independent audio drama as it continues to expand, exhibit the work of our talented rising artists, and impact the lives of countless Americans.

CONGRATULATING DR. ROBERT
KASE ON EARNING A GRAMMY
NOMINATION**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Robert Kase, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Saint Francis in Joliet, Illinois, for earning a Grammy award nomination in the category of Outstanding Jazz Solo for the track entitled "Dr. Doo Good." "Dr. Doo Good" is an original composition by Dr. Kase and is part of his recently released jazz quintet album titled *As We Gather*.

As *We Gather* was not only recorded at University of St. Francis's Digital Audio Recording Arts studio, it was engineered, mastered, and

produced by University of Saint Francis faculty.

Dr. Kase has an impressive background as an educator, administrator, business leader, and performer. His musical career includes touring with Sonny and Cher and playing alongside Frank Sinatra, The Temptations, Natalie Cole, and other musical legends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Robert Kase in earning a Grammy nomination.

NATIONAL WORK AND FAMILY
MONTH**HON. ALBIO SIRE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to discuss the importance of America's working families. October is National Work and Family month and an opportune time to discuss how Congress can better serve our working families. In almost three out of five married families with children, both parents work. Supporting initiatives like raising the minimum wage, ensuring equal pay for women, and allowing workers access to affordable childcare is vital to ensuring the success of our working families.

Raising the minimum wage is a critical step in closing the opportunity gap and building an economy that works for everyone. By raising the minimum wage, we can restore fairness for working men and women across the country. No hard working American should be forced to raise their family in poverty, but unfortunately the current minimum wage allows for just that. An increase in the minimum wage is not only the moral thing to do, but it would also provide a much-needed boost to our economy.

Equal pay issues affect all workers in this country trying to provide for their families. Women make up 47% of the workforce and bring home 44% of the family income, yet they earn 77 cents for every dollar earned by men. As women continue to make up a larger segment of our Nation's workforce, it is imperative that we ensure that pay disparity is related to job-performance instead of gender. Stronger protections and enforcement will lead to a more successful female workforce that is not bogged down by discrimination.

Ensuring access to childcare and early education for working families is important to their success. The lack of good, affordable preschool and childcare options have huge impacts on working families, with a significant disadvantage to low-income families. Childcare and early education options allow for parents to continue working and provide children with a strong foundation. Yet, many low-income working families are not able to afford childcare and have difficulties receiving assistance, even though they may be eligible. Providing greater access to childcare and preschool is a crucial step towards ensuring job retention among parents while offering a foundation for children.

Employing policies that ensure that all working families are afforded a fair chance to suc-

ceed should be something that Congress strives to achieve. I look forward to working with my colleagues to address these issues.

TRIBUTE TO GLEN AND SUSAN
TRAVIS**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Glen and Susan Travis of Thurman, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on September 24, 1965.

Glen and Susan's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Vicki, Scott, and Kari, and their grandchildren, truly embodies our Iowa values. It is families like the Travis family that make me proud to call myself an Iowan and represent the people of our great state.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this special couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE TULLY HILL
CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY TREAT-
MENT CENTER**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Tully Hill Chemical Dependency Center in Tully, New York. The Tully Hill Chemical Dependency Center opened in 1990 to provide quality detoxification and inpatient rehabilitation services to the Central New York community. Tully Hill began outpatient treatment services in 1996 and continues to provide chemical dependency treatment to individuals in need in the 24th District.

As a former federal prosecutor in Syracuse, NY, I saw the direct impact chemical dependency and addiction has on the safety, health, and success of our community. Chemical dependency centers, such as Tully Hill, are crucial to the reduction of chemical dependency throughout Central New York. Centers, such as Tully Hill, help Central New York individuals and families in their time of need to regain their health and lead positive lives through comprehensive, safe treatment.

I am proud to recognize the Tully Hill Chemical Dependency Center and congratulate the Center on the achievement of its 25th anniversary. On behalf of Central New York and the more than 17,000 patients and their families that Tully Hill has helped in their efforts to achieve and maintain sobriety, I want to thank the Tully Hill Chemical Dependency Center for their work in our community.