

In public life and the private sector, T Santora has been an Angeleno to admire. As he takes a well-earned retirement, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting him on a magnificent career, and to wish him every health and happiness.

HONORING HOSKINS LEARNING CENTER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hoskins Learning Center of Batesville, MS.

Mrs. Lillie L. Hoskins, a woman of favor and faith, is a native of Batesville, MS. She has been an educator and Daycare Provider for over 35 years and is currently the owner and operator of the Hoskins Learning Center.

She graduated from South Panola High School in 1973 and later obtained a secretarial degree from Northwest Community College. In 2000, she obtained State credentials as an Early Childhood Education Director.

Mrs. Hoskins was born into a family where she was rooted in her faith in Christ. She is the daughter of the late George and Audrey Leland and the youngest girl of eight (8) children, but even as a young girl she knew, she would someday spend her life working with children.

Mrs. Hoskins is the mother of two children, a daughter-in-law and has two grandchildren. Over the course of forty-two (42) years of marriage, Lawrence and Lillie have traveled and touched the lives of many people.

In 1979, Mrs. Hoskins prayed to God through faith and opened the first daycare, Magnolia Kindergarten, which she owned and operated until 2003. In 2003, she expanded her business to include infants and early toddlers. At this time she also changed the operating name to Hoskins Learning Center, as it is known today.

Mrs. Hoskins has touched the community and the lives of children in the city of Batesville in many ways, by opening her house and heart to train and tutor our children.

As owner and operator of Hoskins Learning Center, her goal has been to serve the children of Batesville and Panola County, preparing them all to be productive and responsible adults in a rapidly changing world. Since 1979, the daycare has had a 96% high school graduation rate, including several valedictorians, salutatorians and honor roll students, one of which went on to play football in the NFL.

For all of her outstanding accomplishments, Mrs. Hoskins is recognized as a trailblazer in Early Childhood Education, in the great State of Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Hoskins Learning Center for their commitment and dedication to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK TAKAI

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, November 2, 2015, I was absent from the House due to illness. Due to my absence, I am not recorded on any legislative measures for the day. I would like to reflect how I would have voted had I been present for legislative business.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on Roll Call 582, to direct the President to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in the International Criminal Police Organization, and for other purposes.

IN RECOGNITION OF TREVOR G. BROWNE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. RUBEN GALLEG

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. GALLEG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the staff and students of Trevor G. Browne High School in Phoenix, Arizona, who went above and beyond in supporting my office’s community-wide citizenship fair.

The largest school in the Phoenix Union High School District, Trevor Browne High School currently serves over 3000 students. The school’s mission is to work with families and the community to provide a comprehensive education to all students, a commitment they fulfill by offering a variety of learning opportunities both within and outside of the regular school day calendar. The principal, Dr. Gabe Trujillo, and the teachers work tirelessly to meet each student’s unique needs, and students’ love of their school is clear in the number of graduates who return as faculty members.

Trevor Browne High School did not merely provide the space for my office’s citizenship fair—the staff and students went above and beyond to assist those seeking help with their citizenship paperwork. Dr. Trujillo and members of the school community provided invaluable support for the event, serving as volunteers and helping ensure that we could serve as many individuals as possible. Thanks to their hard work, we were able to aid over 150 Arizona residents in navigating the path to U.S. citizenship.

I truly appreciate the assistance of Dr. Trujillo and everyone from Trevor Browne High School, whose selfless dedication was vital to making our citizenship fair a success.

RECOGNIZING MR. JAMES VERNON OF MORTON, ILLINOIS

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I commemorate the heroic acts of Mr. James Vernon of Morton, Illinois. Mr. Vernon, now 75 years old, put himself between 16 terrified children and a

knife-wielding teen determined to cause harm at an Illinois public library.

Mr. Vernon was leading a chess club meeting with local children when the attacker entered the library holding a knife in each hand. Vernon, a retired Caterpillar technology worker and Army veteran, averted the attacker’s attention away from the children, ages 7 to 13, allowing time for the students to exit the library. Vernon attempted to talk the attacker down before any advances were made. During his discussion with the teen, Vernon used the diversion to deduce that the attacker was right-hand dominant, which would help if he needed to subdue the attacker.

Despite the efforts of Vernon to calm the attacker, the teen once again became aggressive. Recalling the Army training he received nearly half a century ago, Vernon blocked one blade with his left hand and threw the attacker onto a table. Mr. Vernon suffered lacerations to his hand as he subdued the attacker before the authorities arrived.

All children escaped the library without harm thanks to Mr. Vernon’s courageous act. I feel it is most appropriate to commend James Vernon today and thank him for his years of service to the community and to this country.

HONORING UPPER KUTZ BARBER & STYLE COLLEGE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable business, Upper Kutz Barber & Style College.

Upper Kutz Barber & Style College maintains the philosophy that their students come to them for; education, skill development, and career advancement. They believe in equal opportunity for all students, reinforced with training. Placement assistance has helped their students to become enterprising professionals.

The school has an orderly, purposeful, businesslike atmosphere which is free from threat of physical harm. The school climate is not oppressive and is conducive to teaching and learning. The school has an atmosphere of expectation in which the staff believes and demonstrates that all students can attain mastery of the essential barber cultural skills and that they have the capability to help all students attain that mastery.

The mission of Upper Kutz Barber & Style College is to train men and women: 1. To familiarize and instruct students in the proper and most current methods in all phases of barbershop; 2. To make a living in the business world; 3. To become good citizens on both local and national levels; 4. To be able to recognize problems and procedures in business and industry from the view-point of both producer and consumer; 5. To assist students in suitable job placement; 6. To provide assistance and counseling to graduates; 7. To develop self-discipline, self-reliance, and self-direction and; 8. To enter the national work force as productive individuals.

Furthermore, the school has at least 1200 square feet of floor space, composed of two separate areas: The class room and lecture area and the clinical/lab area, where services

are practiced on school patrons. The clinical area is equipped with at least 10 modern built in-stations, 10 mirrors, 10 hydraulic chairs, 3 sinks, 3 dryer chairs, a dispensing area, and a reception area. This salon environment prepares students for professional operation in the career field.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Upper Kutz Barber & Style College for its dedication to serving and giving back to the community.

CAMP LOGAN, TEXAS: 1917

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Memorial Park is to Houston what Central Park is to New York City. It is our haven in the woods in the heart of Houston, Texas. Many joggers, runners and walkers hit the park's trail daily to make the three mile loop. I know this park well. In my past life as a criminal court judge, I took to the gravel trail for my daily run, as later did my kids. But what people may not know is the rich history that lies beneath their feet. Much of Memorial Park is located on the grounds of a historical WWI military facility—Camp Logan.

Camp Logan was an emergency training center that was established when the U.S. entered WWI.

After declaring war on Germany, The War Department, now known as the Department of Defense, sought out Harris County, Texas for its moderate climate and Houston's newly opened ship channel.

These elements made it a prime spot to train young American "doughboys" to go "over there" to fight in the Great WWI in Europe.

Two military installations were built: Camp Logan for the Army and Ellington Field for the Army Air Service. The camp provided shelter and training to thousands of soldiers from all over America from 1917–1919.

Set up like many other army camps in the United States, Camp Logan's primary function was turning young American boys into fighting men.

Tens of thousands of National Guard soldiers were trained for duty in France. The soldiers that trained at Camp Logan entered camp straight out of civilian life and found themselves in intense combat preparation.

Tear gas and explosives were used to simulate the conditions on the front lines. But a new type of warfare was harder for the soldiers to imagine—trench warfare. The trenches were bloody, muddy, cruel and under constant attack. History shows how brutal and costly the trench war was.

Even with all the training at Camp Logan, soldiers were not fully prepared for life in the trenches.

To help the soldiers cope with the wounds and harsh reality of war, the commission on Training Camp Activities enlisted the help of several nationwide service organizations like the YMCA, Red Cross, American Library Association, Knights of Columbus, Jewish Board of Welfare and others. Through these private organizations the soldiers had entertainment, counseling, religious services, athletic programs and more.

The kindness of the local Houston community surrounding the camp did a lot to support the men of Camp Logan as well.

With the thousands of men at Camp Logan, the Camp was not without its problems. A conflict by soldiers with local police in 1917 resulted in the death of four police officers, three African American soldiers and ten local civilians after a riot.

After the war, the Camp continued to serve vital functions. In 1919, it was used as a hospital for wounded soldiers coming back from Europe. It also served as a unit of the City of Houston's health care system until 1923. After that, the Camp remained deserted until 1942.

Catherine Mary Emmott wrote to the Houston Chronicle advising the city to "buy some of the land and turn it into a park in memory of the boys." Her efforts led the way in turning the land into a park. Thus Memorial Park—a memorial to the ones who were trained in Texas to fight in Europe.

Emmott's efforts did not fall upon deaf ears. William C. Hogg, son of Texas Governor Jim Hogg, bought two tracts of the former Camp Logan site and sold it to the City of Houston. That May, the City of Houston officially established a park in remembrance of the WWI soldiers who trained there.

Today, Memorial Park includes a golf course, bike paths, tennis courts, baseball fields and a nature center. It is an attraction for runners, walkers and joggers of all ages. The grounds are now a training area for athletes rather than a training area for soldiers.

It is estimated that almost 1,000 Camp Logan soldiers gave their lives during the Great WWI and over 6,200 were wounded.

The Logan soldiers served with distinction in combat in the forest and trenches of Europe. Seventy-five of the African American soldiers trained at Camp Logan from the 370th Infantry were awarded the French Croix de Guerre and 12 received the U.S. Army's Distinguished Service Crosses for their acts of valor.

Memorial Park, as it is appropriately named, has begun a project to commemorate the doughboys who trained at Camp Logan by planting trees in their honor.

The series of trees will be lined up like columns of soldiers in an area called "Memorial Groves." This section of the park contains the highest number of Camp Logan remnants, artifacts and WWI memorabilia.

It is vital that communities know their history.

The work being done for "Memorial Groves" at the park is an appropriate way to see that history and honor the memory of Camp Logan and the young warriors it produced.

Texas has had a long history of supporting and uplifting America's military. The history of Camp Logan is our own. Camp Logan should be remembered just as it is—a memorial for the soldiers who trained on Texas soil before they fought on foreign soil 100 years ago.

Of the Logan soldiers, some served and returned, some served and returned with the wounds of war and some served and did not return. Memorial Park is a memorial for them all. As we approach November 11th—Armistice Day, now Veterans Day—the end of WWI, it is with deep gratitude that we honor the men of Camp Logan, Texas.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN YODER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Number 582 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1853, to direct the President to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), and for other purposes, I am not recorded because I was absent due to the birth of my daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

HONORING DAMIAN MURRIEL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Damian Murriel. It sounds strange, but owning and operating a funeral home has been a childhood dream for Mr. Damian Murriel—at least it has been ever since he started working in the business.

Damian Murriel began his first job in a funeral home at the age of 16. Then a sophomore in high school, Damian Murriel performed various custodial services at Cook's Funeral Home. When he graduated from Forest Hill High School in 1994 he left for Gupton-Jones School of Mortuary Science. Two years later after he completed his schooling and became a licensed funeral director and embalmer, he began traveling, doing internships and apprenticeships in other states, including brief stints in Illinois and Indiana. In 2000 he left for a job as funeral director of Gregory B. Levett and Sons Funeral Home in Atlanta, Georgia, where the wake for TLC's Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes was held.

On April 17, 2003 Damian Murriel's life-long dream to own and operate a funeral home became a reality. "I never lost sight of what I was pursuing," Damian Murriel said "I want to clean up the area and enhance the community with the funeral home." Murriel said. Murriel's motto is: "Serving Families in Their Time of Need." He is a member of the Mississippi Funeral Directors and Morticians Association.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Damian Murriel.

RECOGNIZING THE JOLIET REGION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY'S 2015 CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS HONOREES

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the honorees of the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry's 2015 Celebration of Success.

Every year, the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry honors businesses, non-profit organizations, and individuals who have made an impact in our community. This