

and the Rev. O.B. Winkley on the occasion of its 149th Anniversary and its nearly century and half of service to the Houston community.

HONORING WORLD WAR II VETERAN WARREN S. PAYNE, SR.

HON. CHRIS COLLINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Warren Payne Sr., a World War II veteran whose service to our country and love for his family embody the values of the Greatest Generation.

Mr. Payne was born in Niagara Falls in 1921 and enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in August of 1942. He served in the European Theater of Operations with the 452nd Bomb Group, participating in the air campaign to fight for our nation's freedom. In July 1944, his bomber crashed while on a mission over Germany, and he and his crew became prisoners of war. Following a long, forced march in the snow, he and his fellow servicemen were finally freed in April 1945.

After he returned home from the war, Mr. Payne decided to join the family business, Payne's Hardware and Floor Covering. He ran this business in Niagara Falls for 50 years until his retirement in 1997. He is remembered by his family and friends for his kindness and generosity and was an active volunteer at St. Mary of the Cataract Church in Niagara Falls.

Warren passed away on July 7, 2007, survived by Grace, his wife of 61 years, 11 children—Warren Jr., William, John, James, Michael, Suzanne, Michele, Tricia, Christine, Laurie, and Caroline—31 grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren.

I am proud to honor a veteran, small businessman, and hero from New York's 27th district.

HONORING 1ST SERGEANT RICHARD PINTER

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 1st Sergeant Richard Pinter of New Jersey's Third Congressional District, and to express my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

Sgt. Pinter served our country as a 1st Sergeant in the Army and is well known in our district as the "Lone Bugler" for honoring fallen soldiers and veterans at their funerals. Sgt. Pinter served as a bugler in the Army for thirty-eight years and eventually rose to the position of Commander and Enlisted Bandleader of the 267th Army Band in Philadelphia.

Sgt. Pinter has also given much of his time to his community as an active member of the American Legion of Bordentown Township, Association of the National Guard, Vietnam Veterans Association and the American Hungarian Civic Association.

Mr. Speaker, the people of New Jersey's Third Congressional District are tremendously grateful for Sgt. Richard Pinter's service to our nation and unique place in our district's culture. It is my honor to recognize his life and achievements before the United States House of Representatives. May he rest in peace.

INTRODUCING THE AFRICAN DESCENT AFFAIRS ACT IN RECOGNITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill recognizing persons of African descent and to support a resolution authored by my colleague Representative HANK JOHNSON to commemorate the start of the International Decade for People of African Descent.

As our country fights to realize justice for Eric Garner, Tamir Rice, Aiyana Jones, John Warner, Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, and many others, we must not forget the names—Stephen Lawrence, Oury Jalloh, Mark Duggan, Zyed Benna, Bouna Traore and many others who are victims of similar injustices in Europe and elsewhere around the world.

The International Decade provides an opportunity to join efforts with countries across the globe to, over the next decade, develop and implement national strategies honoring the vast contributions of people of African Descent, and to combat continuing issues of prejudice and discrimination such as those currently gripping our nation. To aid these efforts, I am proud to support Representative JOHNSON's resolution commemorating the International Decade.

I have also introduced the African Descent Affairs Act. The Act to improve the situation of people of African descent around the world, by establishing a Global Office of African Descent Affairs within the U.S. State Department that would implement strategies for people of African descent; create a "President Obama Fund" to support anti-discrimination and empowerment efforts by African descent led civil society organizations; and require that the Annual State Department Human Rights Reports include a section on discrimination faced by people of African descent. U.S. foreign policy strategies such as these have improved the situation of vulnerable groups internationally. Furthermore, it would greatly assist in responding to the increasing levels of prejudice and discrimination faced by people of African descent around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, the International Decade reaffirms the importance of inclusion, as well as full and equal participation of people of African descent around the world in all aspects of political, economic, social, and cultural life. I encourage my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating the collective history and achievements made by people of African descent on the occasion of the launch of the International Decade by supporting this important resolution.

ROCKLEY MUSIC CENTER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Rockley Family for their outstanding service and commitment to their community with their business, the Rockley Music Center.

Founded in 1946 at Colfax and Wadsworth, Melvin and Mildred Rockley, the first generation, began selling print music, record players, band and orchestral instruments, along with washers, dryers and other appliances. The business was passed on to Melvin's son Bob and his wife Nina in the 1960s at which time the business was expanded and added teaching studios. In the 1980s, the third generation, Tobin and Robin, joined the business.

Today the center includes a foundation run by Tobin and his wife Diane. Over the years, the Rockley Family has become a Lakewood icon. It is for their ongoing support of the community, Colfax BID and the Jefferson County Public Schools that the Rockley Family and the Rockley Music Center is a deserving recipient of the Steve Burkholder Diamond Legacy Award.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the Rockley Family for their honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt the Rockley Family will exhibit the same dedication and service in all future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for votes taken on Thursday, February 12, and Friday, February 13, because I was traveling with the President and participating in a forum on cyber security. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call Vote Number 77 (Previous Question Motion on H. Res. 101): No

Roll Call Vote Number 78 (Passage of H. Res. 101): No

Roll Call Vote Number 79 (Motion to Re-commit H.R. 644, the America Gives More Act of 2015): Yes

Roll Call Vote Number 80 (Passage of H.R. 644, the America Gives More Act of 2015): Yes

Roll Call Vote Number 81 (Motion to Re-commit H.R. 636, the America's Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2015): Yes

Roll Call Vote Number 82 (Passage of H.R. 636, the America's Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2015): No

Roll Call Vote Number 83 (Approving of the Journal): Yes

REMEMBERING MR. HOWARD CALVIN EDWARDS

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Howard Calvin Edwards. Mr. Edwards served his country in the United States Army, was respected in his community, and dedicated his life to his family.

Mr. Edwards was born on April 24, 1928, the youngest of John and Cora Edwards' 10 children, and he grew up in Woodland, North Carolina. He loved everything about school and thrived as a student and an athlete. He played basketball and ran track, but he found the most success on the football gridiron.

Mr. Edwards continued his education at Virginia State University and Howard University. A proud soldier, Mr. Edwards served his country in the United States Army and loved the experience of traveling the world. After completing his tour, he relocated to the Washington, DC, area to be near to his older sister, Mabel. It was here that he met his wife, Mary, who was one of his sister's best customers. Their love story was one for the ages. He succeeded in his tireless pursuit to earn her hand in marriage, and their 53 years of marriage produced three children, Kenny, Robert, and Yvette.

Mr. Edwards retired after many years of working as a guard at the National Gallery of Art here in Washington. He also worked for several years in security at the YWCA. He will be remembered within the community as a man of great dignity and generosity to all who had a need. In his signature hat and tie, he stood tall, walked straight, and greeted everyone with a broad smile and the love of God. He passed from this life on February 10, 2015 at age 86.

I offer my sincerest condolences to Mr. Edwards' beloved wife, Mary Edwards; his son, Bobby; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; his nieces and nephews; and a host of friends and neighbors. They are all in my thoughts during this very difficult time.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF COL. JOHN G. CHIARELLA, SR.

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, last weekend, the State of Connecticut lost one of its great sons with the passing of Col. John G. Chiarella, Sr., a veteran from Waterbury who continued to serve his nation, state and community long after his military career ended.

Col. Chiarella entered the United States Army in 1950 and was deployed to Korea in October 1952. He became a Reservist in 1953 and was called back to active duty during the Berlin Crisis. He achieved the rank of colonel in 1975 and retired from the military after 34 years of exemplary service.

When he returned to his hometown of Waterbury, Col. Chiarella dedicated himself to the community he loved. Reflecting his commitment to all who have served in the Armed

Forces, "the Colonel," as everyone knew him, led the Waterbury Veterans Memorial Committee for over 25 years. As chairman, he helped countless veterans and their families receive the services, benefits, and recognition they deserved.

In 2011, John Chiarella was inducted into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame, in recognition of his extraordinary commitment to his fellow veterans, as well as his dedication to future generations, which he demonstrated by establishing patriotic programs for school children.

Col. Chiarella was also a devoted family man. He loved his late wife, Ann—who he called "the General"—with all of his heart. They were married for 59 years before her death in 2011. He and Ann raised a beautiful family with three sons, and seven grandchildren.

I had the great fortune to know Col. Chiarella and call him my friend. His warm heart, wonderful sense of humor, infectious smile, and love of life touched all who knew him. He truly left the world a better place.

Col. Chiarella's life embodied the spirit of civic engagement that strengthens our communities, and makes our country a better place. His contributions to the City of Waterbury, the State of Connecticut, and to the United States will not be forgotten.

Colonel, we love you and miss you.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LOCAL PROSECUTOR ESTABLISHMENT ACT OF 2015

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Local Prosecutor Establishment Act of 2015, to give District of Columbia residents another element of the self-government enjoyed by all other American citizens. The bill would establish a local prosecutor's office designated under local law, to prosecute all local crimes in the District. Under the Home Rule Act, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, a federal entity, is responsible for prosecuting most local crimes here, the greater part of its caseload, in addition to prosecuting federal crimes. This bill is special because it effectuates a 2002 advisory referendum, approved by 82 percent of D.C. voters, to create a local prosecutor's office.

There is no law enforcement issue of greater importance to D.C. residents on which they have less say than the prosecution of local crimes here. A U.S. Attorney has no business prosecuting the local crimes of a jurisdiction, an anachronism that is out of place in any American self-governing jurisdiction. The goal of the legislation is to give the District the same jurisdiction over the criminal justice matters that state and local jurisdictions justifiably regard as mandatory. The U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia would continue to handle federal matters, like the other U.S. Attorneys in our country. As presently constituted, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia is the largest in the country, only because it also serves as the local city prosecutor. The U.S. Attorney for the District

of Columbia needs to be freed up to handle national security and other vital federal cases, particularly in the post-9/11 nation's capital.

Amending the Home Rule Act to create a local prosecutor would be an important step toward our goal of achieving true self-government. I urge my colleagues to support this important measure.

DR. KELLY JACKSON CONDON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the West Chamber's Woman-Owned Business of the Year, Table Mountain Vision, for their outstanding service to the local community.

For the last 17 years, Dr. Kelly Jackson Condon has operated Table Mountain Vision and provided the finest vision care experience in Golden. In addition, Dr. Jackson Condon is very involved in the local community, and has served on various boards and committees including: Leadership Golden; Downtown Merchants; The Original Shopping Districts; and numerous others. Dr. Jackson Condon was also elected as chair of the Golden Chamber of Commerce in 2004 and again in 2009.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Table Mountain Vision for the honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt Table Mountain Vision will exhibit the same service and dedication in all future accomplishments.

HONORING MS. MAURA BREEN

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Maura Breen, who is retiring from her position as Chairwoman of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA).

Ms. Breen has had a remarkable tenure as Chairwoman of CCFA. Using her extensive experience in the areas of innovation and business development, she has lead CCFA as it improved access to treatments for inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)—the collective terms for Crohn's disease and Ulcerative Colitis—and mobilized patient advocates across the country to raise awareness of IBD.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud Ms. Maura Breen for her lifelong dedication to improving the lives of so many people affected by IBD. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating her for her tremendous leadership and exemplary efforts as Chair of CCFA, and wish her success in her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TAMMY DUCKWORTH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on February 10, 2015, on Roll Call #69 on the Motion