

Kathleen K. Seefeldt Community Service Award: Clarice J. Torian
 Kathy Feeney Nurse of the Year: Bridget Rasmussen Trotman
 Outstanding Youth Mentor and Advocate of Higher Education Award: Miranda "Randi" Manderson

Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, Career Emergency Medical Service Provider of the Year: Technician II Robert Seitz

Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, Career Firefighter of the Year: Captain Kim Stewart

Prince William County Police Department, Police Officer of the Year: Officer Robert White Jr.

Prince William County Public Schools, Elementary School Teacher of the Year: Katie Rivers

Prince William County Public Schools, High School Teacher of the Year: Thomas P. Tutwiler

Prince William County Public Schools, Middle School Teacher of the Year: Dawn Cajigas

Prince William County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Sheriff of the Year: Deputy Sheila B. Johnson

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the winners of the 2015 Dale City Civic Association Community Awards for their dedication to building and maintaining a healthy community. Each recipient has made a tangible imprint on Dale City, and, with these awards, we illustrate that their contributions have not gone unnoticed.

HONORING JUDGE JOHN WILCHIE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge John Wilchie from Tallahatchie County, MS.

Judge Wilchie was born in Glendora, Mississippi. Glendora is a small rural town in the Second Congressional District. The town is most notable for the Emmett Till Murder in 1955. Black history month is a month of recognition of African Americans who have made some type of historical contribution, big or small, in this country.

Judge Wilchie made black history in 1979 in Tallahatchie County when he was appointed as judge to finish the term of Judge JB Ray. The following year in 1980, however, he was elected as the first African-American Justice Court Judge in the county. He retired from the bench in 1984. Judge Wilchie received his education from Mississippi Valley State University as well as the University of Mississippi Judicial College in 2004. He helped to start the Sharkey-Hampton Lake Volunteer Fire Department where he served as Fire Captain and Chief. Currently, Judge Wilchie serves as the Co-chairman of the Tallahatchie County Emmett Till Memorial Commission, a member of the West Tallahatchie County P-16 Educational Board and the Chairman of the Tallahatchie County Branch of the NAACP.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the historical contribution of Judge John Wilchie for being elected as the first African-American Justice Court Judge in

Tallahatchie County, MS in the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRUG POLICY COMMISSION ACT

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to introduce the Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Commission Act, a bill that will create an independent commission to evaluate U.S. policies aimed at reducing drug production and trafficking in the Western Hemisphere. A similar bill passed the House Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously last year and passed the House of Representatives unanimously on December 8, 2009.

I thank my good friend and colleague Congressman MATT SALMON, the Chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, for being the lead Republican sponsor of this legislation.

With \$15.7 billion spent on counternarcotics programs in Latin America and the Caribbean between 1980 and 2012, it is important to take stock of what has worked, what has not worked and what future U.S. drug policy should look like. This independent commission will be required to submit recommendations on future U.S. drug policy to Congress, the Secretary of State and the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy 12 months after its first meeting.

The time to examine U.S. drug policy is long overdue. While billions of U.S. taxpayer dollars have been spent over the years to fight the drug trade, illegal drug use in the United States remains high. In 2013, there were an estimated 24,573,000 illicit drug users in the United States. In particular, I am concerned by the dramatic increase in heroin use in our country. Attorney General Eric Holder has noted that heroin overdose deaths in the United States increased by an alarming 45 percent between 2006 and 2010.

On the supply side, nearly all cocaine consumed in the United States originates in South America while most of the heroin consumed here is from Colombia and Mexico. In addition, Central America and the Caribbean are key transit regions for drugs entering the United States.

To tackle our nation's horrific drug problem once and for all, we must have a better sense of what works and what does not work. Our partners in the Americas, who have worked closely with us in fighting drug trafficking for years, and the citizens of our great country, who deal every day with illegal drugs on their streets, deserve no less.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

THE FIRST 100 DAYS OF 114TH CONGRESS

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, unleashing the full potential of America means fully investing in the American people.

Unfortunately, the Republican plan for our country is to slash investments in education, transportation and manufacturing.

Rather than help the middle class, the Republican budget hurts ordinary Americans by giving a top 1% tax cut to the ultra-rich, which means the typical American family will end up paying more.

In contrast, the Democratic plan for our country invests in the quintessential American propositions of a good education, better infrastructure, and bigger paychecks.

For 100 Days, the majority party has engaged in special interest giveaways and shutdown brinksmanship.

Over the next 100 days, and every day after that, I will continue to stand—along with my fellow Democrats—for something else entirely:

A nation defined—a nation driven—by full investment in the imagination and industry of each and every American family.

I want to see Made in America, again.

RECOGNIZING PAULINE HUNTER ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. CONNOLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and commend Pauline Hunter of Woodbridge, Virginia, on the occasion of her retirement following 28 years of exemplary federal service.

Ms. Hunter served the entirety of her career with the Department of Army as a civilian employee. During her career, Ms. Hunter has served in various positions, including Community Relations Chief, Transition Services Manager, Family Services Coordinator, Exceptional Family Member Program Coordinator, Mental Health Counselor and Education Counselor. In every position, she has excelled and used her expertise and professionalism to further the mission of the Department of Defense and our nation.

Assignments as both a military wife and civilian federal employee have taken Ms. Hunter around the world with tours in Heidelberg, Berlin, Fort Drum, Fort Myer, Fort Belvoir, the Pentagon, and most recently, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, where she has served as Event Manager for the past two years. Ms. Hunter has been a great ally to my office during our frequent visits to Fort Belvoir as well as in providing assistance to my constituents who live or work at the garrison, and I thank her for her responsiveness and service.

Ms. Hunter's deep-rooted commitment to the Department of Defense and the assistance provided to service members and their families began in the classroom. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Social Work from Tuskegee (Institute) University and went on to pursue a Master's of Science in Education from Fort Valley (State College) University.

Her passion for improving the lives of others is not restricted to efforts in the workplace. From serving as a volunteer tutor and board member with the Prince William Literacy Program to her devoted membership at First Mount Zion Baptist Church in Dumfries, Virginia, Ms. Hunter's tireless efforts have benefited her community. A native of Greenville,

Georgia, she has made Woodbridge her home, and both Prince William County and the 11th District of Virginia have benefited greatly from her many contributions.

Although Ms. Hunter has expressed interest in spending more time with her family, I encourage her to remain civically involved in Prince William County as her resolve and dedication are inspirational to all who have had the privilege of knowing her.

While her professional successes cannot be denied, the most important roles in Ms. Hunter's life have been as mother to Jennifer Hunter-Marshall and as Army wife of 42 years to Colonel (Retired) Cardell S. Hunter. I thank them for their support and sacrifices that have allowed Ms. Hunter to serve her country and her community.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Pauline Hunter and in expressing our appreciation for her years of dedication as a federal civil servant and community volunteer. I wish her continued success and a healthy and happy retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AVIATION MUSEUM OF KENTUCKY

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the establishment of the Aviation Museum of Kentucky.

In 1978, a group of dedicated aviation enthusiasts founded the Kentucky Aviation Roundtable in Lexington, Kentucky, with the mission of preserving the legacy of the aviation and aerospace industries in the Commonwealth.

Through dedication, persistence, and the support of several generous benefactors, the Roundtable achieved its goal with the opening of the Aviation Museum of Kentucky, on the grounds of Blue Grass Airport in Lexington, on April 15, 1995. Today, the Museum is an educational resource for central Kentucky: hosting exhibits, lectures, and events related to aviation and aerospace history, design, and engineering.

The Museum's grand opening ceremony doubled as a reunion for survivors of the Doolittle Raid, honoring the airmen's sacrifices on April 18, 1942 as the first mission to strike the Japanese homeland following the attacks on Pearl Harbor.

Since that inaugural event, the Museum has continued to recognize men and women in the Commonwealth for their outstanding achievements in the fields of aviation and aerospace, establishing the Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame in 1996.

The Museum looks not only to the past, but also to the future, inculcating a love of flying and engineering in Kentucky's youth by hosting Aviation Summer Camps throughout the Bluegrass. These programs have benefitted 5,360 young Kentuckians, encouraging them to pursue careers in aerospace industries.

Today, Kentucky's top export category is aerospace and the Commonwealth's universities are becoming leaders in the fields of

manned and unmanned flight systems. The Aviation Museum of Kentucky helped foster this flourishing industry in our state and will continue to inspire future generations of aerospace workers in the Bluegrass.

As the Representative for the Sixth District of the Kentucky, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the Aviation Museum of Kentucky. Furthermore, I encourage my fellow Kentuckians to visit and take pride in this institution and its preservation of the aviation and aerospace heritage of the Commonwealth.

HONORING GAIL WRIGHT LOWERY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Gail Wright Lowery, who was born in Hinds County, Jackson, Mississippi at Jackson State College's Clinic. She is the third child, and only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie (Annie) Wright. Mrs. Lowery was reared on Nashville Street.

As valedictorian of her kindergarten class learning seemed always within easy reach. Early piano lessons taught by Mrs. Fannie Smith who lived on Randolph Street, caused Mrs. Lowery to have a love for music. She attended school at Morrison, and G. N. Smith Elementary. At Chastain, and Powell Jr. High she played the clarinet, and participated in the marching band.

High school years at Murrah kept her busy participating in many school activities such as the Blue Jackets, the pep squad at Murrah, where she served as captain. She entered her senior year ranked in the top 1% of her 1975 class and received the distinct honor of Who's Who at Murrah High.

Upon entering Jackson State University she served on the Mayor's Youth Council and was elected Miss Pre Law Club. With a full scholarship, she graduated in three years Magna Cum Laude, and pressed on to her goal of becoming an attorney.

In August of 1978, at the age of 20, Mrs. Lowery entered law school at Northwestern School of Law in Chicago, Illinois. While there she was active in and was elected as Chairman of Recruitment for the Black Law Student's Association. She was awarded the Doctorate of Jurisprudence in May of 1981, and successfully passed the Bar Examination that same year. Her legal career began at Central Mississippi Legal Services. After Legal Services, she worked for the Attorney General's Office, becoming the first black person to become Head of the Civil Litigation Division. In 1993 Mrs. Lowery started her own business as a practicing attorney with Lowery Law Firm.

Mrs. Lowery joined the Cade Chapel M. B. Church when she was eight years old and has maintained her membership there to the present. She has participated on the Usher Board, the Choir, the Trustee Board, Sunday school, and the Missionary Society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Gail Wright Lowery for giving back to the community in which she was born and reared.

IN RECOGNITION OF PHYLLIS MUNDY FOR HER OUTSTANDING SERVICE IN THE PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor former Pennsylvania State Representative Phyllis Mundy. First elected in 1990, Phyllis served 12 consecutive terms as the representative for Pennsylvania's 120th District. Throughout her 24-year service in the General Assembly, Phyllis built a reputation as a champion of environmental protection and early childhood education.

While in Harrisburg, Phyllis was a legislative leader with signature policies that expanded care for senior citizens, improved the rights of foster children, provided stronger home visitation services for low-income expectant mothers, boosted pre-K education, cut property taxes, and expanded prescription drug coverage for seniors. As a Representative, Phyllis was beloved in northeastern Pennsylvania because of her highly responsive constituent services and her frequent attendance at public events important to local residents.

Before her career in the state house, Phyllis worked as a French teacher and a manager for Injection Molding Corp., a multi-million dollar manufacturing company. She served as president of the Wilkes-Barre chapter of the League of Women Voters, a Luzerne County Property Tax Reform Commissioner, and was active in the Junior League during the late 1980s. A 1970 graduate of Bloomsburg University, Phyllis earned two degrees—in secondary education and French.

Although Phyllis has retired from elected office, she remains active in promoting the welfare of her community. She currently serves on the boards of Maternal and Family Health Services, Luzerne County Head Start, the Area Agency on Aging, and the United Way's Success by Six, and she was also elected to the Vestry of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

It is an honor to recognize Phyllis Mundy and her exceptional work on behalf of Pennsylvania. The inspirational legacy she has left is a model for all who are interested in public service. I thank her for inspiring me, and I wish her the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 2015 VOLUNTEER FAIRFAX HONOREES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Volunteer Fairfax and express my sincere appreciation to recipients of the 23rd Annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards.

Established more than 40 years ago, Volunteer Fairfax matches the skills and interests of thousands of volunteers with the needs of local non-profit organizations. The success of this model and its impact on delivery of needed services is beyond question; Volunteer Fairfax has been rated as one of the most effective community service organizations in the nation.