

\$10,000 to the town of Culver to build a library on Main Street.

Still needing additional funds, local Culver businessmen helped to raise the money needed to purchase the land for the building site. On December 30, 1915 the library opened, consisting of 17 books that were donated by local members of the Culver community and Zolla Moss was hired as their first librarian.

The lower level of the library was used as a meeting and performance space until the 1950's. Many church congregations met in the lower level of the Carnegie library building at one time or another. During the 1960's, the library's book collection continued to increase in size, leading to the use of the lower level to hold books.

Today, the Culver-Union Township Public Library Carnegie building is still in use as a library, and has undergone an addition and renovation which were completed in 2001 and remains the only Carnegie Library still in existence in Marshall County, Indiana.

The library continues to play a vital role in the education and success of all communities and, with its historic Carnegie building, is a shining example of all that public libraries can accomplish for local communities.

For the past century, the Culver-Union Township Public Library has been an important piece of communal life in Culver. Families, friends, and students gather to conduct research, enjoy literary works, and socialize. There is no question the library holds an important public function in serving the community through literary means, and is enjoyed by many.

I commend the staff, visitors and members of the library for their dedication to serving the people of Culver. They serve the diverse needs of its communities through the sharing of library resources and services in a welcoming atmosphere for all and will continue to function as a public forum for learning.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Culver-Union Township Public Library as they celebrate their 100th Anniversary.

HONORING PLEASANT GREEN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pillar of the community, Pleasant Green Missionary Baptist Church. Pleasant Green M. B. Church has served as a catalyst for the African American growth in Warren County.

Pleasant Green Missionary Baptist Church was established in 1867 in a mess hall on Pearl Street. The first church was destroyed by a storm in 1869 and another church was built in 1869 under Rev. Jim Shaw. The church relocated to its present site in 1888 with the construction of a wood-framed structure for worship, which subsequently burned. A new brick structure was constructed under Rev. Dunham and Deacon Ragan, both professional brick masons.

In 1893, the church called Rev. Oscar Williams—a mighty man of God, soul-stirring preacher, revivalist, earnest and tireless work-

er—as its seventh pastor, who organized the church into working ministries with assistance from Deacons: Jack Lindsey, Johnny Young, George Ely, Saul Moore, Dan Scott, Ed Brackins, and Jim Shaw. The final church structure was completed under Rev. Williams leadership in 1898 and the membership increased to over 800 congregants.

In 1910, under the leadership of Rev. G. W. Alexander, a two-story hall was erected and the usher board was organized with the first ushers being Will Moore, Henry Tucker, and Fink Taylor.

In 1922, under the pastor-ship of Rev. Frank Williams, the pipe organ was installed, concrete steps replaced wooden steps, electric lights replaced gas lights, and a water cooler was added. Also, the two story fellowship hall was replaced with the current structure, a heat furnace was added, and the communion table presently used was obtained.

In 1939, under the shepherding of Rev. L. R. Chandler, a new roof for the church and fellowship hall were completed, the exterior of the church and fellowship hall was restored, a baptismal pool and new hardwood floors were added, and the choir stand were extended.

In 1969, after 29 years of faithful service, Rev. Chandler resigned due to health issues, and Rev. F. L. Barnes was called as pastor and oversaw the installation of air conditioning and carpeted floors.

In March 1982, after the passing of Rev. Barnes, Rev. Alvin G. Walker was called to serve as pastor. Under his leadership, new land was purchased; new doors for the front of the church and basement were installed; usher, finance and communion rooms were constructed, and handrails were added.

In November 2013, after other faithful servants of the gospel ministry had served, Rev. Jefferey Stafford was called as pastor. It is his vision that Pleasant Green “Exalt Christ Crucified and Coming Again, Embrace Community with Care, and Engage the Culture with Christ-Centered Compassion.”

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pleasant Green Missionary Baptist Church for its rich heritage.

COMMEMORATING THE CENTEN- NIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE PORT OF PALM BEACH

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to rise today to recognize and commemorate the centennial anniversary of the Port of Palm Beach located in Palm Beach County, Florida.

Since its founding in 1915, the Port of Palm Beach has grown and flourished, maintaining a superior standard of work while enriching the surrounding county and community. The Port now stands as the fourth busiest container port in Florida and 18th in the nation. Some two million tons of cargo, valued at greater than \$5 billion dollars passes through the Port annually, which further serves to highlight the substantial contribution the Port makes to the state at large.

This heavy load and its many years of service have not dissuaded the Port from expand-

ing its enterprise, however, and just this year the Port celebrated the maiden voyage of a new cruise liner. Now with nearly 3,000 Floridians under its employ, the Port of Palm Beach is an industrial powerhouse, helping to fuel South Florida's development and contributing millions in revenue to Florida's economy. Most remarkable is the Port's record of self-sustenance, as it has been nearly 40 years since the Port last levied any sort of tax on the citizens of Palm Beach County.

Mr. Speaker, the Port of Palm Beach is a cornerstone of the greater Florida community and a model of excellence. I applaud the Port's many years of success and wish it many more years of prosperity and progress.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF KENT, WASHINGTON

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Kent, Washington as it celebrates its 125th year anniversary. Kent has special significance for me, being the place where I grew up fishing in Mill Creek and playing at Kent Memorial Park. It was there I held my first job at 11 years old, working in the valley farms picking strawberries, raspberries, and beans. I attended Kent-Meridian High School and have fond memories of playing football at French Field, and I even bought my first car in Kent. Starting out with only 793 people in May of 1890, it has grown into a city of 124,000 and is home to an extremely diverse population. Kent is the fourth largest manufacturing and distribution center in the country, making it a hub with connections across the entire nation. Kent has also won national awards for its Airways Brewery, and word of this local treasure has spread far and wide. It also boasts the Seattle Thunderbirds who play at Kent's ShoWare Center and made it to the Western Hockey League playoffs last year.

Not only is it a successful city, hosting over 4,500 businesses and 78,000 jobs, but with its prime location nestled in the Green River Valley, it is also a beautiful location. As you look out you can see Mt. Rainier and both the Cascade and Olympic Mountain ranges—some of the most stunning landscape in the entire country. Kent has truly proven that they are here to stay and I am confident its next 125 years will prove as successful as its first.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVER- SARY OF ST. JOHN THE EVAN- GELIST PARISH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, on June 14, 2015, Archbishop Charles Chaput will celebrate a Mass commemorating the close of the year-long celebration of the 50th Anniversary of St. John the Evangelist Parish. The parish has faithfully attended to the spiritual needs of the community for 50 years, providing a place of prayer, meditation and reflection. Furthermore, the parishioners in the

Lower Makefield, Bucks County church, built bonds of charity throughout the community with their devotion to those most in need. They dutifully collect and distribute food and clothing, school supplies, and visit the sick and homebound, year after year. St. John the Evangelist Parish has extended its mission, reaching out to the needy in nearby Trenton, New Jersey and Philadelphia, as well as supporting church missions worldwide. In so doing, the parishioners have demonstrated their faith through their good works. Congratulations on this anniversary year with all best wishes for the continuation of your community of the faithful far into the future.

TRIBUTE TO TAMELA LYNN
LATHERY FLEMMINGS

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of my Aunt, Tamela Lynn Lathery Flemmings, a woman of great faith and an active volunteer in the Connersville community.

Tamela was a loving and devoted wife to her husband of 12 years, Marcus. She was the proud mother of her daughter, Mamie Rae Young, and leaves behind a large family including her husband, mother, brothers, sisters, as well as many, many nieces and nephews.

In addition to spending time with her family, Tamela was known for her faith in the Lord, as a member of the Growing Branches for Christ Church. Her faith led to an active commitment in her community. Through her work to help others recover from their drug and alcohol addictions by way of the Solid Rock Ministries and the House of Ruth, Tamela was able to serve the lives of many. She also regularly volunteered with Walk a Mile in My Shoes and Gentle Christmas.

I know my Aunt Tamela was someone with a loving spirit, who could be counted on for her warm laugh and big smile. She was a straight-shooter, who was candid, loyal and smart. I will always be grateful for her love, friendship and support.

Tamela, you will be missed by those you helped to smile, succeed and empower. May God bless you, your family, and all the people of Connersville who you touched and saved through your work.

IN RECOGNITION OF CYNTHIA
SCHUMAN BANKS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Cynthia Schuman Banks, an accomplished artist and designer, a philanthropist and community leader, and one of the most youthful people I know. I am blessed to count Cynthia as one of my closest friends.

Cynthia has extraordinary talent and whatever she touches turns into a treasure. She has painted superb portraits including those of Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN, Reverend Jessie

Jackson, Dr. Linus Pauling and Vice President Walter Mondale. When former Soviet Union President Mikhail Gorbachev visited San Francisco in the early 1990s, Cynthia was selected to present him with one of her abstract paintings. She remains an avid painter to this day and recently had many of her works displayed at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

Cynthia was born in Oakland, California. She attended Stanford University before she started her career as a fashion designer at Lilli Ann, a San Francisco-based clothing company that her father Adolph Schuman founded in 1934. It was named for Cynthia's mother Lillian and renowned for its good workmanship and high quality fabrics.

Adolph Schuman started the company in two rented rooms with \$800 he borrowed. Fifty years later, Lilli Ann reported retail sales of \$40 million. Mr. Schuman bought large quantities of French and Italian fabrics from small companies which helped revitalize those countries' war-ravaged textile industries. Cynthia significantly contributed to the legacy of Lilli Ann. She designed the most successful suit in the company's history.

In 1965, she changed her professional focus from fashion design to interior design and founded Benatar and Cole Interiors. She has transformed many prestigious homes in the Bay Area with her unique and exquisite touch.

In 1991, Cynthia met Dan Banks and they married the next year. For the last 23 years, Cynthia and Dan have made family their priority. They are the proud parents of Darrell Benatar, Denise Benatar, Pamela Banks Joyce and Tom Banks and grandparents Trevor, Parker, always-remembered Emily, Isabel, Maya, Colin, Sandra, Michael and Taylor. To say that Cynthia is a people person would be the understatement of the century—she loves people and loves bringing them together. Dinner parties at the Schuman Banks are must-attends for all of us.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House of Representatives rise with me to honor a remarkable woman who lives life with joie de vivre and my most favorite friend Cynthia Schuman Banks on the occasion of her birthday. She continues to enrich our lives every day.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 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 \$18,152,841,401,259.20. We've added \$7,525,964,352,346.12 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.

HONORING MARY FORTUNE
WILLIAMS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a self-motivated leader and innovator of the community. Ms. Mary Fortune Williams, MBA, works as an Accountant for the State of Mississippi. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Jackson State University and her Master of Business Administration degree from Mississippi College. She also earned a Certificate of Accounting from Mississippi College.

Ms. Williams is a single parent of one daughter. After becoming divorced when her daughter was a toddler, she was determined that her child would not become another negative statistic attributed to single parent households. She strives to instill in her daughter one of the greatest fundamentals of life: Never let negative circumstances define who you are or what you can become.

Ms. Williams is actively involved in her daughter's educational and character development. She works diligently in her church and her community. She is part of the Youth Leadership Team at Greater Fairview Missionary Baptist Church, serves as an Assistant Leader of Girl Scout Troop 5576, serves on the PTSA Board of Murrah High School, and serves on the planning committee for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life of Jackson, Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Mary Fortune Williams for giving back to the community in which she was born and reared.

RECOGNIZING OSCAR HOPKINS, SR.

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of Oscar Hopkins, Sr.:

Whereas, Oscar Hopkins, Sr., a native of Sumter, South Carolina, was born in 1929. He worked as a farmhand before he left home to seek a better life for his family and establish his business as a barber in Springfield Gardens, New York; and

Whereas, after moving to New York in 1951, Oscar Hopkins was drafted into the military, serving in the 7th Infantry Division, 31st Regiment, Company C as an ammunition bearer for 50-caliber machine guns during the Korean War. After completing his tour of duty and returning to the United States three years later, Oscar was united in holy matrimony to Novell Henry. Having made a lifetime commitment to each other, two boys and one girl were added to this union; and

Whereas, deciding to go into business, Oscar took advantage of his veterans benefits by signing up for barbering courses working as an apprentice before obtaining his Master Barbering License and opening his own shop in 1966. The past several years Mr. Hopkins has been an exemplary member of the South-eastern Queens community; and