

DEBRA HANEY ELECTED ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Debra Haney of Sugar Land, TX for being elected to serve as Associate Superintendent of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

Debra Haney has served as the beloved principal of St. Laurence Catholic School for ten years. Prior to serving St. Laurence Catholic School, Haney was the Principal of John Paul II Catholic School for six years. She has more than twenty three years of Catholic educational experience. Under Debra Haney's guidance, St. Laurence Catholic School has expanded and thrived, adding specialized teachers, new opportunities to participate in the arts and sports, and greater access to new educational technology. Thanks to her leadership, St. Laurence Catholic School has flourished while retaining a focus on spiritual growth and Catholic identity. As the new Associate Superintendent, Debra Haney will reach even more new students in the Galveston-Houston Archdiocese.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Debra Haney for being named the new Associate Superintendent of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. We also thank her for her years of dedicated service to Sugar Land Catholic students.

TRIBUTE TO SANDY HINSLEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Sandy Hinsley of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for her volunteer services at The Center in Council Bluffs. Sandy spends many mornings assisting members at The Center. The Center is a senior and adult facility focused on health and wellness.

Sandy is originally from Omaha, Nebraska and moved to Council Bluffs in 1997. She worked many years at the Nestle Company in Omaha and retired in 2002. Sandy and her late husband, Jack, were blessed with four daughters, 14 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Sandy Hinsley can be found assisting Center members at the welcome desk, helping with the ballroom dancing class, and serving as a senior ambassador. She enjoys gardening, adult coloring books, and taking walks with her daughters. Sandy said she loves to volunteer at The Center because she says, "Everyone is so nice."

I commend Sandy Hinsley for the dedicated service she provides to The Center and her community. I know my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Sandy for her many years of service to The Center. I wish Sandy and her family the very best in the future.

HONORING ADJUTANT MAJOR GENERAL AUGUSTUS L. COLLINS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jackson, Mississippi native, Major General Augustus L. Collins, Adjutant General of Mississippi, who also serves as the commanding General of both the Mississippi Army and Air National Guard.

After 35 years of being active in the Mississippi Army National Guard, Major General Collins announced his retirement, concluding his service at the end of August. His passion for service began when he was invited to attend a National Guard drill, and saw the position as an opportunity to earn extra income. He enlisted in the Mississippi Army National Guard's company B, 1st Battalion 98th Armor Regiment in March 1977, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant July 1980.

After enlisting, General Collins attended the University of Mississippi where he received his Bachelor of Business Administration. Afterwards, he received a Master Business Administration degree from Jackson State University. He also earned a Master of Strategic Studies degree from the United States Army War College.

Collins was appointed the Adjutant General of Mississippi by Governor Phil Bryant in January 2012, and was promoted to Major General in March 2012. He leads a ready force of more than 12,275 Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen. He also serves as the director of the Mississippi Military Department, and oversees the development and coordination of all policies, plans and programs of the Mississippi National Guard in concert with the Governor and legislature of the State.

He refers to his military career as his greatest accomplishment. General Collins commanded 3,000 Mississippi soldiers—the 155th Armored Brigade in Iraq at the time of Hurricane Katrina. Being in Iraq during that time was a memorable experience for him because he witnessed the strength of his troop. He stated, "Twenty-seven soldiers went into combat with me who did not come back. I live with that number. I'll never forget them because they gave everything they had." Troops were forced to place their personal lives on hold to fight for the betterment of the country. Unaware of their living conditions back home and dealing with the grievances of other soldiers, the troops remained focused on the task at hand.

General Collins has won many awards over the course of his military career including the Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Mississippi Longevity Medal.

He appreciates his experience gained while serving his country so the decision to retire was not easy. Though he will no longer be in uniform, he plans to continue working and spending more time with family. I consider General Collins a friend and he was always a consummate professional and there for me and my staff when we needed his assistance. His presence in command will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Adjutant Major General Augustus L. Collins, for his duty to his country, his state, and his troops. Thank you for your service.

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50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MIT/WELLESLEY UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the MIT/Wellesley Upward Bound Program. The program offers excellent teaching and consistent mentoring; and it has proved that young people whose parents have not themselves benefitted from higher education can succeed academically. Each year, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Wellesley College provide year round educational support to 50 low-income and/or first generation youth in grades 9–12, from the city of Cambridge, Massachusetts. The program's goal is to give its participants the skills, confidence, and determination to graduate from high school and succeed in postsecondary education.

MIT/Wellesley Upward Bound provides an intensive six-week summer session, conducted in residence at Wellesley College. Rigorous academic courses are taught by experienced high school teachers and graduate and undergraduate students from MIT, Wellesley College, and other local colleges and universities. Classes stress English and foreign language arts; reading, writing, oral communication, social studies and critical thinking. Plus, quantitative skills, mathematics, laboratory sciences, and the use of computers. Individual tutorials are available on an as-needed basis, and the academic rigor is enriched by cultural activities and field trips.

During the academic year, participants attend supervised study sessions and one-on-one tutorials, for a minimum of four hours per week, at MIT. Participants must meet with program staff regularly to review their academic progress and participation performance. Additionally, the program provides college admissions, financial aid, and career advice workshops to participants and their parents.

About 80–85 percent of Cambridge public school students who participate enroll in postsecondary education. I salute the remarkable success of the Upward Bound Program. For 50 years, MIT and Wellesley students have made an immense difference in the lives of less fortunate young people, and we draw inspiration from everyone associated with this extraordinary program.

IN RECOGNITION OF TOMMY KONO

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the late Tommy Kono for being an American champion. Mr. Kono is the most decorated American in the history of weightlifting. He was born and raised in Sacramento and suffered from asthma, making

him unable to participate in physical activity. At the age of eleven, Mr. Kono and his family were moved to Tule Lake Relocation Center following passage of Executive Order 9066. While there, Mr. Kono began lifting weights and joined a bodybuilding club. This marked the beginning of Mr. Kono's passion for weightlifting.

After three years, Mr. Kono was released and returned to Sacramento, enrolling in Sacramento High School. Despite being known as the "a 98 pound weakling" when he was younger, he entered into local weightlifting competitions and began winning. With the start of the Korean War, Mr. Kono was scheduled to deploy to Asia, but the military allowed him to stay in the United States after learning he was a contender for the 1952 Olympic team.

Mr. Kono was an individual who was devoted to his country; he was a Japanese American who was able to embrace new opportunities after World War II. Mr. Kono won his first gold medal in 1952 and won a silver medal at the 1960 Olympics. Mr. Kono went on to win several bodybuilding competitions, made the cover of national magazines, and earned attention of fellow athletes when he set world records in four weight classes. After retiring, Mr. Kono invested his time coaching aspiring champions, including young lifters in Sacramento and Hawaii, as well as tutoring high school students in Sacramento. Mr. Kono passed away in April in Honolulu.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Tommy Kono for being an American champion, as well as a mentor to young adults in the Sacramento area. While family, friends, and mentees gather together to celebrate Mr. Kono, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring his outstanding work of service to his country as well as his commitment to his community.

CONGRATULATING ALLAN
WEEGAR ON HIS RETIREMENT
FROM THE CITY OF HURST,
TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Allan Weegar, City Manager to the City of Hurst, Texas, on his retirement after thirty-five years of dedicated service.

Allan's distinguished career with the city began in 1981 as assistant to the City Manager. Soon after, Allan was promoted to Assistant City Manager of Administration. In 1997, Allan was selected to serve as City Manager, a role he would excel at for nearly twenty years.

While serving his community, Allan has become a member of the International City Management Association, Texas City Management Association, Northeast Leadership Forum, and is a past-president of the North Texas City Management Association. In addition, Allan currently serves on the board of directors for Texas City Management Association, Northeast Transportation System and the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Economic Development Foundation.

Allan's vision and dedication to his city have brought forward a period of economic develop-

ment and productivity which has revitalized Hurst and the surrounding communities. Allan's dedication to providing excellent customer service to the citizens he serves has set a tremendous example for those in public service. Allan has established a culture of leadership and development within the City of Hurst that has driven its prosperity and success over the last two decades.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize Allan and his outstanding service to the City of Hurst. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Allan Weegar on his well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present in the House chamber for certain roll call votes on Monday, July 11th and Tuesday, July 12th for the first vote series. Had I been present, I would have voted 'aye' for roll calls 401, 402, 403, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, and 415 and 'nay' on roll calls 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, and 416.

SUGAR LAND HOSPITAL EARNS TOP GRADE FOR PATIENT SAFETY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital for earning an "A" for patient safety.

For almost two decades, Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital has been a critical partner in the Fort Bend County community. Twice a year, Hospital Safety Scores are assigned to over 2,500 hospitals across the United States. Developed under the guidance of Leapfrog's Blue Ribbon Expert Panel, the Hospital Safety Score is an elite designation which sets the highest standards for patient safety. Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital was one of less than one-third of those inspected to earn an "A" for patient safety. Fort Bend County residents are blessed to be under the care of some of the nation's best doctors, nurses, technicians, and staff, who provide excellent care for the patients that pass through their doors. I commend all of these men and women for their hard work and dedication.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital for receiving an "A" in patient safety. Thank you for all that you do for Fort Bend County.

TRIBUTE TO LOU AND PHILIP FUNK

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Lou and Philip

Funk of Avoca, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on May 28, 1966 in Racine, Wisconsin.

Lou and Philip's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

I salute this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Lou and Philip on this momentous occasion.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

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 \$19,366,974,554,360.50. We've added \$8,740,097,505,447.42 to our debt in 7 years. This is over \$8.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING LEBANON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a resourceful church, Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church.

The Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church had its beginning in 1869, when the congregation worshipped under a "brush harbor" with the Reverend David Adams serving as pastor and founder.

Realizing the need for a structure in which to worship, the pastor and members put forth every effort to design and construct the first church. The building was erected approximately 60 to 70 feet from the old church site.

As we look back over the 147-year history of Lebanon, we are reminded of the loyal devotion of the early pioneers and their steadfastness to the cause of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We attribute any success or progress of this church to their loyalty.

The Reverend David Adams served faithfully as pastor until his death; and the Reverend Riley Russell accepted the call as pastor and served diligently until his death. Some of the early pastors were the Reverends: S.D. Smith; Joe Baskin; Dan Anderson; Connelly; J. A. Johnson; Pleasant Fractions; Jimmy Mines; and J. Carter.

The Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church is recognized as the oldest land grant church in this area. It has served as a torch shining forth "her" brilliant light in this community. This light of hope and compassion has compelled many to come to Christ.