

I am proud that the 6th District of Colorado is home to the largest Ethiopian community in the state of Colorado, and I am honored to have worked with members of this community on my staff. The Ethiopian community not only offers a beautiful and vibrant culture, but their dedication to hard work, family, and education, are also attributes that can be admired by all. The achievements of the Ethiopian community are highly visible in my Congressional District. I look forward to taking part in the festivities again this year with my esteemed constituents.

I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to Taste of Ethiopia and its entire staff for their hard work these past four years.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARS CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF M&M'S

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Mars Inc., which is celebrating its 75th year of producing M&M's to the good citizens of our nation this year. Mars is our country's oldest independently owned company, and I would like to personally congratulate the Mars family and their associates for the continued dedication to excellence in forming such an iconic brand. This company embodies the core of this nation's values through their investment to our community and their continued outstanding performance.

The Mars Company has ranked as one of the top places to work by Fortune Magazine since their inception in 1911. In 1957 the Mars Foundation was established to provide grants to conservation groups and non-profits serving the greater Washington, D.C. area while also maintaining a local presence in annual McLean events. This is a clear testament to the outstanding work which is conducted by this caring family and they are deserving of recognition.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me immense pride to recognize such a fine group, and I sincerely hope that we all can live up to their tremendous example. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Mars family and their business. I wish them continued success and hope that they remain a strong positive presence in our community for years to come.

HONORING MRS. IMOGENE BURRIS

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2016*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Mrs. Imogene Burris. With her passing May 27, 2016, we honor her brilliant social justice work.

Much of Mrs. Burris' life was spent improving the lives of those less fortunate both in her personal and professional life. Mrs. Burris, for many years, was a business woman where she operated Summerside Homes, Vallejo, facilities for the developmentally disabled. She treated the clients as her own children and in-

sisted that all employees treat the clients in the same manner.

In addition to her impressive and important career with Summerside Homes, she was active in many community and business organizations including the National Council of Negro Women, Delta Sigma Theta, the Continentals of Omega Boys and Girls Club of Vallejo.

In her personal life, she had a tremendous wit and enjoyed dialogue on all kinds of subjects especially those involving current events and the status of the African American community. She instilled in everyone around her the desire to lead a life that makes a difference by improving the lives of those less fortunate than you. Mrs. Burris loved to travel to learn more about the world and interact with all sorts of experiences.

Mrs. Burris is well remembered by her family and community as a stylish dresser and a hallmark was her grand and colorful hats. For many years she got a new hat for every Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day and her birthday. She had a hat for all occasions with matching purse, gloves and shoes. Mrs. Burris' community will also miss the delectable soul food she cooked, especially her well regarded peach cobbler.

Mrs. Burris was married for 67 years to the late DeWitt Burris and they had 6 children, two of whom preceded her in death. She is survived by a daughter Faye Anderson, a retired Middle School principal with San Francisco Unified School District, and two sons: Rev. Dr. Ronald Burris, an Associate Professor of church history at the American Baptist Seminary of the West and Pastor of Temple Baptist Church in Richmond, and John Burris, a law professor at North Carolina Central University School of Law. Mrs. Burris has a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, and several generations of nieces and nephews all whom adored her and are mourning her passing. She was the "grand dame" and Matriarch who took great pride in family, friends and the community at large. All who met her could feel her kindness and sincerity. Her motto was "If I can be helpful, I will".

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes the legacy of Mrs. Imogene Burris. Her contributions have truly impacted countless lives through the Bay Area. I join all of Mrs. Burris' loved ones in celebrating her incredible life and offer my most sincere condolences.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BANK OF CLARKE COUNTY

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Bank of Clarke County during its 135th anniversary year, and to congratulate all who have been affiliated with the bank and its holding company, Eagle Financial Services, Inc., for 135 years of successful operation of a nationally recognized community banking business that has provided excellent banking services for my constituents in the northern Shenandoah Valley and western Loudoun County.

The Bank of Clarke County is steeped in a rich history. It was founded in 1881, fifteen years after the end of the Civil War, as the Bank of Berryville. Thereafter, through the turbulence and uncertainty of two world wars, a depression and several recessions, not to mention strong competition from larger banks, the challenges of the global economy, cybersecurity threats and excessive government regulation, the able leadership of the Bank of Clarke County has guided the institution to steady growth and prosperity.

The bank's business has been so consistent that, since 1986, it has increased its dividend each year, and, for the fourth year in a row, American Banker magazine has named it one of the Top 200 Community Banks in the nation.

The Bank of Clarke County has been an extraordinarily constructive member of the communities that it has served. In addition to helping countless Virginians buy homes, start businesses, and invest in the future, it has generously contributed to a variety of worthy causes, including the Independence Day Fireworks at the Clarke County Fairgrounds and the classic car show in Leesburg, called Cruise-In, whose proceeds benefit the Tree of Life Ministries in western Loudoun County. Over the years, the bank has also made a huge difference to the quality of education of Clarke County students, making generous annual contributions to the Clarke County Education Foundation, including for the Jack Hardesty Memorial Scholarship which is named after a beloved former leader of Clarke County who was also a Director of the bank. It also funds the Bank of Clarke County Endowed Scholarship, which is presented annually to a Clarke County High School senior who will be attending Lord Fairfax Community College and majoring in business or a related field.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, during its 135th anniversary, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chairman of the Board Tom Gilpin, President and CEO Johnny Milleson and all the hard working employees of the Bank of Clarke County and Eagle Financial Services, Inc., for claiming a special place in the history of Clarke County and the Commonwealth of Virginia as one of the top community banks in the nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF COUNCILMAN COREY WOODS

**HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2016*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tenure and accomplishments of a community leader, a recognized advocate for affordable housing, and a dedicated public servant. Tempe City Councilmember Corey Woods served the neighborhoods and families of Tempe with honor for eight years and stepped down last month to pursue new opportunities.

During his eight-year tenure on the Tempe City Council Mr. Woods focused on increasing affordable housing in Tempe, a growing and vibrant community in my district that encompasses Arizona State University. Thanks in large part to Mr. Woods' efforts Tempe has received over \$2.3 million in funding specifically

for new and expanded affordable housing projects.

I was proud to work with Mr. Woods and the entire Tempe City Council on other projects to increase the quality of life for Tempe residents, such as the new Tempe Streetcar project and the Valley Metro Light Rail. I believe Tempe will be better off for generations to come thanks to Mr. Woods' leadership and vision.

I look forward to many more great accomplishments from Mr. Woods through his role as the Chief Operating Officer at the Greater Phoenix Urban League and through his work in the community. I thank him for his extraordinary service to Tempe and look forward to working with him in the future.

#### HONORING MR. JUNIOUS WILLIAMS

##### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2016*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of Mr. Junious Williams, who is retiring from the position of Chief Executive Officer of the Urban Strategies Council after more than twenty years of service.

Mr. Williams has an impressive education background, holding a Juris Doctorate in Law, and a Bachelor's degree in Sociology, from the University of Michigan.

He began his legal career primarily as a champion of equal educational opportunity for minorities and inner city youth. In addition to private law practice, he has been an expert consultant in numerous school desegregation cases around the country. He founded the Saginaw (Michigan) Student Rights Center and was cofounder of the Ann Arbor Student Advocacy Center. Mr. Williams worked closely with a number of metropolitan school districts and parent groups on school desegregation issues, education equity and the administration of fair student discipline for minority and underprivileged students. Most notably, Mr. Williams served as Associate Director of the Programs for Educational Opportunity at the University of Michigan's School of Education.

After moving to California, he served as an ally to resident-led base-building organizations on issues from developing small schools, to increasing site-based decision-making in Oakland Unified School District (OUSD), to negotiation and implementation of community benefits agreements so that benefits of development are equitably distributed. Further, Mr. Williams played a key role in transforming Oakland's public schools into hubs that address the needs of students and their families, beginning with his leadership of the movement for Village Centers and culminating in his efforts to help OUSD become one of the first Full-Service Community School districts in the nation.

Mr. Williams has worked on numerous community building and community development efforts in Oakland, the Bay Area and other cities across the country. He currently serves as a founder and Board Chair for the Oakland Community Land Trust, which is working to acquire and rehabilitate vacant, foreclosed properties in Oakland and make these housing units available to low income buyers.

He also serves as Co-Chair of the Steering Committee for the Oakland Emerald Cities Collaborative, a national nonprofit network of organizations working together to advance a sustainable environment while creating a high-road, clean-energy economy with opportunities for all. Other current board service includes the Union Bank Community Advisory Board, the Center for Law and Education, and the National Trust for the Development of African American Men.

Furthermore, Mr. Williams joined the Urban Strategies Council in 1992 and was appointed CEO in 1998. He led the Council's creation of, and participation in, many cross-sector collaborations, making positive impact in areas from afterschool programs to violence prevention, from asset building to reentry. He also oversaw multiple Urban Strategies Council reports on African American male students that played a key role in Oakland Unified School District's Voluntary Resolution Plan with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors a great friend of the Bay Area and a true champion for equity, Mr. Junious Williams. His work with the Urban Strategies Council has had a tremendously positive impact on California's 13th District, and we are lucky to have him remain active in our community in all of his future endeavors.

#### IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF MANUEL G. SEMPELES

##### HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and remember the life of Manuel "Manny" Sempeles, a notable member of the Winchester community who sadly passed away in May of 2015. I knew Manny personally and can attest to his humor, his selfless nature, and his ability to light up every room into which he walked. Manny was born in 1931 in Winchester and following his education at Handley High School, he selflessly decided to serve his country and enlisted in the United States Military where he was posted to Germany between 1952 and 1954. It was during this time that he proved both his courage and his valor during the Korean War and was promoted to the rank of Private First Class as part of the 101st Airborne Division. Upon his return, he decided to complete his education at Virginia University and the University of Richmond where he continued to nurture his passion for football. It was at this point Manny decided to shift from serving his country to serving his community.

Mr. Sempeles led a distinguished career through his membership and eventual presidency of the local parish council. He further acted as a member for the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church as well as serving on the Winchester Star Leadership Committee. Manny volunteered as a coach at James Wood and Handley High School so as to pass his passion for football onto others. His selflessness is only too apparent through his exemplary contributions and participation in community matters and I know his compassion will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Beyond his civil duties, Manny was a loving husband to his wife Florine with whom he shared a restaurant business, beginning with their first establishment "The Open Hearth". They celebrated over 57 years of loving marriage together. In addition to Florine, Manny leaves behind three daughters: Tina, Andrea and Stephanie, as well as two sons George and Michael, all of whom are now married with children of their own, and even grandchildren. Through them, I'm sure, his values and legacy will be assured. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life of Manuel Sempeles.

#### RECOGNIZING K-9 OFFICER ARON AND DEPUTY MATTHEW SLOAN

##### HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2016*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize K-9 Officer Aron and his handler, Deputy Matthew Sloan, of the Cayuga County Sheriffs Department, for their valiant actions in quickly apprehending and securing a high risk suspect who fled police on June 9, 2016.

The fleeing suspect had attempted to evade police, but thanks to K-9 Officer Aron's fearless and efficient actions, Deputy Sloan was able to apprehend the suspect, and no officers were hurt while working to stop the suspect.

K-9 Officer Aron and Deputy Sloan deserve to be properly recognized for their heroic actions and I am honored to pay tribute to them for their brave efforts that led to a safe ending of situation that could have quickly escalated. Each and every day K-9 Officer Aron and Deputy Sloan work tirelessly together to protect our community and I am honored to recognize their work.

I would also like to recognize all K-9 Officers and their handlers for the extraordinary work they do across the 24th District. K-9 Officers approach every situation, no matter how dangerous with complete and total confidence and fearlessness to protect their human partners. K-9 Officers are an asset to all law enforcement and I am proud to recognize them for their service.

#### HONORING JOHN ARTHUR IVEY

##### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2016*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of an outstanding member of the East Bay community Mr. John Arthur Ivey. With his passing on June 21, 2016, we recognize his dedication and celebrate his commitment to our community.

Mr. Ivey's life is an example of a journey well traveled and a life well lived. He was born on March 10, 1950, in the heart of my congressional district, at Highland Hospital in Oakland.

Mr. Ivey used his education as a gateway to the world. During his formative years he attended Skyline High School where his love of literature and art began to emerge. He began his journey in higher education at The University of San Francisco where he pursued his interest in English and served as president of