

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE AND STANLEY
KOENIG

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Joyce and Stanley Koenig of Council Bluffs, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 30, 1966 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs.

Joyce and Stanley's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Kirk and Lisa, and their grandchildren, 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.

Mr. Speaker, I commend 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 them on this momentous occasion.

CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF ROYALTON BOR-
OUGH

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct privilege and honor to recognize the 125th Anniversary of Royalton Borough, located in the southern portion of Dauphin County in Pennsylvania.

The history of Royalton is extensive and substantial, dating back to several native groups that called the area home, including the Susquehannocks, Conoys, Nanticokes, Conestogas, and the Shawnees. Both Captain John Smith and William Penn explored the area surrounding the Susquehanna River. In 1608, Penn deemed the area to be so impressive that he proposed a city that would eclipse Philadelphia. Unfortunately, the shallow water of the river would prove to be a deterrent from Penn's grandiose plans; however, Port Royal—which would officially be deemed Royalton in September 1891—served as an active and important trading post.

The Pennsylvania Canal would open to public use in 1834, running through Lower Royalton. The canal's opening provided a new transportation option and facilitated trade by providing a route from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, carrying goods such as anthracite coal, salt, and iron. When transportation preferences shifted to rail travel, Royalton also evolved and a large number of residents either worked for the railroad or its associated industries.

Throughout their history, Royalton's residents have consistently demonstrated an unsurpassed resilience and commitment to strengthening and evolving their community together. Today, the borough continues to be made up of hard-working people with a heart for their neighbors and their community.

I ask that the House join me in celebrating with Royalton Borough on the joyous occasion of its 125th Anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH
PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF
REV. DAVID N. HARRINGTON

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rev. David N. Harrington of Good Hope Baptist Church in Asbury Park, New Jersey on his 20th pastoral anniversary. Rev. Harrington continues to provide outstanding spiritual leadership to the greater Asbury Park community.

Rev. Harrington received his Masters of Divinity Degree from New Brunswick Theological Seminary. Installed as Pastor of Good Hope Baptist Church on September 15, 1996, Rev. Harrington's background has helped him lead his congregation. Prior to his service to Good Hope Baptist Church, Rev. Harrington was an Associate Minister for three years at St. Paul Baptist Church and was also a member of the Trustee Board. A basketball player at Delaware State University, Rev. Harrington was also President of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

In addition to his service to Good Hope Baptist Church, Rev. Harrington is an active member of his community. As a member of the pastoral staff at Jersey Shore University Medical Center and the Drug Prevention Coordinator for the Long Branch Housing Authority, Rev. Harrington continues to offer guidance and support to the greater community.

Currently residing in Neptune, New Jersey, Rev. Harrington and his wife Cecelia are blessed with two children, a daughter, Ivy and a son, Seth. Rev. Harrington is a graduate of Middletown High School South and earned his undergraduate degree in Business Administration from Delaware State University.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating the 20th Pastoral Anniversary of Rev. David N. Harrington. His leadership, service and dedication to the church and community are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed a vote during a vote series on September 14, 2016. Had I recorded my vote, I would have voted:

"No" on roll call no. 510, on the passage of the Regulatory Integrity Act of 2016 (H.R. 5226).

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 295—TO REAU-
THORIZE THE HISTORICALLY
BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVER-
SITIES HISTORIC PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 295, to Reauthorize the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation Program.

H.R. 295 would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million annually from 2017 through 2023 for the Historic Preservation Fund to provide aids for the restoration and preservation of historic structures at Historical Black Colleges (HBCUs).

As a member of the Bipartisan Congressional HBCU Caucus which promotes and protects the interest of HBCUs by: creating a national dialogue, educating Members of Congress and their staffs about the issues impacting HBCUs, drafting meaningful bipartisan legislation to address the needs of HBCUs, and supporting students and graduates of HBCUs by increasing access and career opportunities.

The Historically Black Colleges and Universities Preservation Program works to preserve, and stabilize historic structures on HBCU campuses through projects such as structural stabilization, repairing damaged masonry, replacing antiquated electrical and plumbing systems, abating environmental hazards such as asbestos, repairing termite damage, fixing leaking roofs.

Too much of the history of African Americans has been lost due to it not being considered important enough to note by historians outside of the community, and the fact that much of it is held in the records of black churches that may have been destroyed by arson.

This is why the HBCU preservation project is so important.

Since 2009, no funds have been appropriated for this program to support the preservation and stabilization of HBCU structures.

Just as I have supported previous efforts to preserve and repair HBCUs, I also support this measure to reauthorize the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation program.

I stand with and thank my colleague Representative JAMES CLYBURN for the introduction on this important bill, which encapsulates the sentiments I have about the importance of Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

I am proud to count Texas Southern University as an institution within my constituency, a great HBCU—located in my Houston, Texas Congressional District.

Texas Southern University has a rich history with nine academic units, 1,000 dedicated staff members, and over 9,200 esteemed students.

I have continuously partnered with Texas Southern University (TSU) to promote education opportunities and collaborate on community projects.

I led the initiative to get more than \$13 million in Financial Aid Relief for the students and campus of Texas Southern University.

I continue to keep the TSU university community informed about major issues impacting

citizens within the 18th congressional district and throughout the U.S.

For example, I initiated the digitization projects for former U.S. Members of Congress Barbara Jordan and Mickey Leland, both of whom have permanent archives at Texas Southern University.

I helped established the Barbara Jordan Medallion to be awarded each year at a ceremony held at Texas Southern University to an individual who advocates for the community.

I also assisted with the establishment of several scholarship Endowments at Texas Southern University.

I created a partnership with Comcast at TSU's School of Communication, which offers scholarships, internships and in-kind marketing.

I established the Center for Transportation, Training and Research in TSU's College of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

HBCUs have worked diligently to be where they are today.

Martin Luther King once said,

The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.

Since the 1980s and continuing for more than 25 years, the National Park Service has awarded over \$40 million in matching grants and \$15 million in earmarked grants to more than 80 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to assist them in repairing historic buildings on their campuses.

On September 18, 2009, former Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced the 20 HBCUs that were the beneficiaries of historic preservation grants aimed at providing assistance in the repair of historic buildings on their campuses.

President Barack Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to jumpstart our economy, create or save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can thrive in the 21st century.

Included in this act was \$15 million that was competitively awarded to HBCUs for the preservation of campus buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

HBCUs do not just educate—HBCUs have and will continue to fill an important role in education opportunity and engagement for millions of young people from diverse backgrounds.

I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 295, to support Reauthorization of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation Program.

275TH ANNIVERSARY OF UPPER HANOVER TOWNSHIP

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, Upper Hanover Township is celebrating an important date this year—the 275th anniversary of its establishment as a township in Montgomery County. As part of the original William Penn Land Grant, this southeastern Pennsylvania community, once part of the greater Hanover Township, was settled mostly by Germanic

people who left their European homes in search of religious and social freedom—the story of America.

On the anniversary of the township's 275th founding, it is only fitting we recognize the township's heroes who sacrificed to ensure the most precious freedoms, which the township's founders valued and yearned for, would be preserved for future generations of Americans.

Today, Upper Hanover is dedicating military seals in recognition of those individuals who served, sacrificed and sadly, those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Veterans of World War I and II called Upper Hanover home. And, just like their forefathers it was the rich fertile land that attracted them. Their diligent work ethic made agriculture the leading industry in the early period. Centuries later it has grown with many families and residents actively participating in the community, government and business.

I offer my heartiest congratulations to Upper Hanover Township on this milestone year.

WEST LOS ANGELES LEASING ACT OF 2016

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5936 the West Los Angeles Leasing Act of 2016, which would authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs to enter into leases in order to construct permanent supportive housing on the West Los Angeles VA Medical Center campus. As a member of the Air Force Reserve, I understand the sacrifice our veterans make in service to our country and I'm committed helping them get the services they need.

There is a critical need for long-term supportive housing on the West Los Angeles Campus, and enhanced use leases would allow the Department to work with community and state organizations toward the goal of ending veteran homelessness in Los Angeles. If enacted, this legislation will enable the VA to construct 1,200 units of housing for homeless veterans and offer new robust services on the campus such as vocational training, recreation and spiritual support. The legislation also ensures that all leases on the campus principally benefit Veterans and strengthen the partnership between the VA and leaseholders. The bill allows the VA to renew any lease entered pursuant to these provisions after giving Congress 45 days' notice of the intent to renew.

I want to acknowledge the leadership of VA Secretary Bob McDonald and the tireless work of his team this past year in developing the Master Plan. I also want to thank Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN for her leadership in authoring companion legislation in the U.S. Senate, and House Veterans Affairs' Committee Chairman JEFF MILLER and Acting Ranking Member MARK TAKANO for helping to guide this legislation to passage in the House. I am confident Senator FEINSTEIN will now take this legislation across the finish line in the Senate.

And I especially want to recognize the contributions of vital local stakeholders, including veterans, veterans service organizations, the plaintiff partners, providers, and the commu-

nity for their collaborative effort and unprecedented support this past year. Without this co-operation, the Master Plan and progress on this legislation would not have been possible. Today's actions help us move forward on our unwavering mission to honor the debt we owe our nation's veterans.

IN RECOGNITION OF BARBARA MEIGGS

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Barbara Meiggs, a resident of Hanson, Massachusetts, who will soon be celebrating her 101st birthday, and who is a recipient of the Boston Post Cane, presented to the oldest citizen of a town in a proud New England tradition.

Barbara was born on October 17, 1915 in Brockton, Massachusetts and later moved to Whitman, Massachusetts where she graduated from Whitman High School at 18 years old. Shortly thereafter, she married Carlton Meiggs and was happily married for 67 years. In the intervening years, Barbara and Carlton raised their two sons, Russell and Weston, who in turn grew to have wonderful lives of their own, making her a grandmother and then great-grandmother.

In addition to her accomplishments as a mother, Barbara was a dedicated volunteer in the Jordan Hospital community. First joining the information desk in 1978, and then becoming a fixture in the "Bonnet for every baby" program at Jordan Hospital, Barbara's acts of kindness were often the first to welcome children into the world. For her outstanding service, Barbara was presented an official citation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1994, and the President's Call to Service Award a decade later.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor what has already been a distinguished and well lived life. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing her life and community service.

IN HONOR OF THE BOSTON LIGHT ON ITS 300TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Boston Light, the first American Aid to Navigation, on its 300th anniversary.

As was originally proclaimed even before our nation's birth:

"Whereas the want of a Lighthouse at the entrance of the harbor of Boston, hath been a great discouragement to Navigation, by the loss of the lives and estates of several of His Majesties subjects," an Act for building and maintaining a lighthouse at the entrance of the harbor of Boston was passed by the Great and General Court or Assembly of His Majesties Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England in 1715 for prevention whereof.

The Boston Light was first lit on September 14, 1716, almost 60 years before the Declaration of Independence was signed.