

Jacqui passed away last week. A memorial service will be held on Friday, September 30, 2016 at Reid Temple A.M.E. Church in Glenn Dale, Maryland. The homegoing service will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2016 at Union Missionary Baptist Church in Mobile, Alabama.

Jacqueline A. Ellis came into this world on October 22, 1957 in Mobile, Alabama. Growing up during the tumultuous times of the Civil Rights Movement, Jacqui spent her life and career working to advance the interests of African Americans and women. Jacqui worked on Capitol Hill for nearly three decades, and her list of accomplishments and successes reflects her dedication to public service and the citizens she served.

Jacqui attended Jarvis Christian College from 1976 to 1980. Later on in life, Jacqui was inducted into the Jarvis Christian College's Pioneers Hall of Fame. This honor highlighted her contributions to the school, and the positive recognition her career and successes brought to Jarvis Christian College. Her contributions to generations of students did not end there, however, as she also was a guest lecturer at the Government Affairs Institute at Georgetown University as well as a Co-Chair of the Bethune-DuBois Institute, Inc. Leadership Forum. The Bethune-DuBois Institute, named after two prominent African American educators, Mary McLeod Bethune and Dr. W.E.B. DuBois, strives to advance the interests and opportunities of African Americans through education and leadership development.

Jacqui was a former National Board Member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), a civil rights group founded in response to the Montgomery Bus Boycott of 1955. The SCLC is now a national organization focused on fighting for human rights around the world. The SCLC honored Jacqui with the Ella Baker Award. Ella Baker was one of the most important leaders in the Civil Rights Movement, as well as a founding member of the SCLC.

In addition, Jacqui was a National Board Member for the National Congress of Black Women; a founding member of the Organization of African-American Administrative Assistants and Chiefs of Staff; Chair of the Legislative Issues and Public Affairs Committee for the Links, Inc.; and Social Action Commissioner for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Jacqui spent 28 years working on Capitol Hill, where she had a smile or a word of advice for any Member, staffer, or visitor who needed it. On the Hill, she worked for former Congressman Major Owens of New York and former Senator Howell Heflin of Alabama, and she served as the Chief of Staff for Congressman AL GREEN of Texas. Having worked in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, Jacqui was lauded by many past and present elected officials for her institutional knowledge and her selfless dedication to public service.

In recognition of her altruistic spirit, Jacqui was awarded the Congressional Black Associates' Robert H. Ogle Trailblazer's Award for her mentorship and support of African-American staffers and Mobile, Alabama's NAACP Redeemer of the Dream Leadership Award.

Throughout her life, Jacqui always dedicated herself to causes that made a difference

in the lives of others. George Washington Carver once said, "No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it." We are so grateful that Jacqueline Ellis gave her time and talents to serving on Capitol Hill. She touched the lives of so many in the halls of Congress, including my own. She was a dear friend of longstanding to me and my family. Truly, Capitol Hill shined a little brighter because of Jacqueline Ellis.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and my wife Vivian in extending our deepest condolences to Jacqueline Ellis's family, friends, and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

#### TRIBUTE TO ERNIE SMITH

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ernie Smith of Red Oak, Iowa, for being named by the Guinness Book of World Records as the oldest active pilot in the world.

Ernie has been a licensed pilot since September 15, 1942. For the past 74 years, local friends have known that, if you cannot find Ernie nearby, he is probably up in the sky. In January 2016, Red Oak Airport Manager Kevin McGrew and other community leaders nominated him for the distinction of "oldest active pilot in the world." Later this spring, they videotaped a flight to authenticate his activity in the air. The official pronouncement from the Oiliness Book of World Records came recently, confirming that Ernie Smith, 98, is officially "the oldest active pilot in the world," soaring beyond the previous record by five years.

Ernie told Omaha, Nebraska-based KMTV-TV last December why he likes to fly: "I say, well, I don't know how to tell you, but you come out some morning before daylight and go out and watch that sun come up over the horizon and you'll have your answer." Ernie still flies in a rented plane, usually two times a week. He even braved foggy weather conditions to celebrate his 98th birthday in the sky last December.

Mr. Speaker, it is because of Iowans like Ernie that I'm proud to represent our great state in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating him for this outstanding accomplishment and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

#### RECOGNIZING THE TOWN OF CLARKSTOWN IN ROCKLAND COUNTY, NEW YORK

#### HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2016*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Town of Clarkstown in Rockland

County, New York, as it celebrates its 225th anniversary year. I am honored to represent this community with its richly diverse population, beautiful and thriving business districts, lovely homes and lush parks.

Clarkstown was created by an act of the New York State Legislature on March 18, 1791, during George Washington's first term as President. It was part of Orange County and then of Rockland County, which was created seven years later.

At Clarkstown's founding, the population had less than 2,000 residents. As New York built its early parkways and the Tappan Zee Bridge, the population grew rapidly and continues to grow. According to the United States Census, the town population now stands at more than 87,000. Its 41 square miles encompass the hamlets of Bardonia, Central Nyack, Congers, New City, Valley Cottage, West Nyack, Upper Nyack and portions of the Villages of Nyack and Spring Valley.

The town, like the county, was settled by farmers, and grew as businesses opened to serve the community. During the 19th century, ice was harvested from the pristine waters of Rockland Lake, now a park, and floated down the Hudson River to barges that would supply New York City. At the same time, local quarries provided material for new construction in the city.

Today, more than half of working residents are employed within the county. Most of Clarkstown's commercially zoned land exists along the town's state roadways, and within the town's hamlet centers. Residents also work at nearby pharmaceutical and tech companies that are moving into the area.

Clarkstown's residents included Jacob Vanderbilt, whose property is now the site of Germonds Park, a recreational facility owned by the town. Other resident families whose holdings remain important to the town include the Cropseys, whose farm dates back to 1893. The family retired and sold the land to Clarkstown in 2006 through Rockland County's Open Space Program. Rockland Farm Alliance then signed a lease to maintain the land, thus establishing the thriving Cropsey Community Farm.

The county and the town have long been a refuge for artists. Adolph Zukor, who was key to the burgeoning motion picture industry, bought property in New City on what is now called Zukor Road. The painter and muralist Henry Varnum Poor, the playwright Maxwell Anderson, and the composer Kurt Weill and his wife, the actor Lotte Lenya, lived on South Mountain Road in New City. While the attraction was the bucolic nature of the county and its considerable distance from New York City, actors and other artists are now attracted not only because the county and its homesteads are beautiful, but because of its proximity to New York City, now a short ride on roadways, trains and bridges.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the Town of Clarkstown on this special anniversary as its residents celebrate its distinguished past and look ahead to a strong future.

## 97TH ANNIVERSARY OF AFGHANISTAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2016*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as Co-Chair of the Congressional Caucus on Afghanistan, I rise to congratulate and extend best wishes to the people and Government of Afghanistan on the 97th anniversary of their independence.

It was 97 years ago, on August 19, 1919, that King Amanullah Khan declared Afghanistan's independence from the British Empire.

Afghanistan has faced many challenges for almost a century since its independence but through the perseverance and resilience of its people and their leaders, Afghanistan has forged strong relationships with the international community and with its neighbors.

In celebrating the 97th anniversary of Afghanistan's National Independence Day, I say to the people of Afghanistan that you have a friend and partner in the United States as you work to build a better future for your children and grandchildren.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.  
WILLIAM GARTH, SR.

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2016*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Mr. William Garth, Sr. is the Chairman of the Chicago Citizen Newspaper Group Inc., Garthco, Inc. and founder/chairman of the QBG Foundation as well as chairman of the Chatham Business Association. Mr. Garth is the guiding force behind what is known as the largest Black-owned ABC audited newspaper in America. There is no other respected audit better than ABC.

Having started with the Chicago Citizen Newspaper in 1969 as an advertising sales representative under the leadership of former Congressman Gus Savage, Garth purchased the Chatham Citizen, Southend Citizen and Chicago Weekend in 1980. He later added the South Suburban and the Hyde Park editions, and founded Garthco Publications, which also published PUSH Magazine, a bi-monthly national publication for the Operation PUSH organization. With Chicago's population being nearly 50 percent Black, the Chicago Citizen Newspaper has effectively reached this market with its total circulation of 121,000 and weekly readership of over 400,000. The circulation areas cover Chicago's South and West sides as well as the South Suburbs.

As a tribute to his business acumen, Garth became the first Black person to be elected President of the Illinois Press Association (IPA). The IPA is the state's largest newspaper association and the office trade organization for Illinois' weekly and daily newspapers. Garth is the second Black person in the nation elected president of a statewide press association. He currently sits on the Board of the Government Affairs Committee, of the Illinois Press Association and has served as a board member for more than 15

years. In addition, he was elected a stockholder in the Cook County South Suburban Publishers Association and in 2009, was elected to become Chairman of the Cook County Publishers Association for 2010. His business savvy and knowledge in the publishing industry allowed him to also serve as a board member of the Midwest Black Publishers Association.

In December 1998, Garth received the honor of being appointed to Governor-elect George Ryan's Transition Team and was later appointed to the Board of Directors for the Illinois Inauguration 1998, Inc. In 1995, Garth founded the Quentis Bernard Garth Foundation, the benevolent arm of the Chicago Citizen Newspaper, in memory of his youngest son Quentis B. Garth, and is currently the chairman. The QBG Foundation provides scholarships to disenfranchised, inner city youths in the Chicagoland area. To date, the foundation has helped over 50 students and has disbursed over \$1.5 million in scholarship awards.

As chairman of the Chatham Business Association, Garth leads the organization in creating opportunities, inroads and programs to benefit and ensure the prosperity, economic strength and excellence of all businesses in the Chatham area and its surrounding communities.

A dedicated activist and leader in the business community, Garth maintains memberships and positions with several business organizations. He is the former president of the Midwest Region III of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), Region III Advertising Representative with the NNPA, Transition Team for IDOT—Dan Ryan Project, board member of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, a life-time member of the NAACP and a member of the Chatham Lions Club. Garth has been the recipient of numerous local and national awards and honors; one of such honors bestowed upon him was to carry the torch in Chicago during the 2002 Olympic Torch Relay.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2016*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, on September 20, 2016, I was away from the Capitol and was unable to vote on any legislative measures on this date.

On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 670, the Special Needs Trust Fairness and Medicaid Improvement Act, Roll Call Vote Number 521, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 5785, Roll Call Vote Number 522, had I been present I would have voted yes.

On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 5690, the GAO Access and Oversight Act, Roll Call Vote Number 523, had I been present I would have voted yes.

COMMITTEE DEPARTURE OF  
CAROLINE LYNCH**HON. BOB GOODLATTE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2016*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS and myself, I rise in recognition of the Chief Counsel of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations, Caroline Lynch, to bid her farewell as she leaves the House Judiciary Committee.

Effective House staff is indispensable. And such a description is certainly fitting for Caroline. Every action she takes as Chief Counsel proves her unwavering commitment to conservative principles and to the rule of law.

But after 15 years working on Capitol Hill, Caroline has decided to move back to her home state of Arizona to be close to her family, and to pursue the next steps in her career. Needless to say, we are very sad to see her go.

After graduating from law school at Arizona State University, Caroline came to Washington, D.C., to work for Congressman John Shadegg from Arizona. She served both in his personal office and for him as Chief Counsel of the House Republican Policy Committee.

In 2006 Caroline began as a Counsel on the Judiciary Committee's Crime Subcommittee, and it was quickly apparent that she had found her calling.

In 2008 Caroline became Chief Counsel of the Subcommittee. At the Committee, Caroline has had an enormous impact on the reform of our criminal and national security laws. In fact, few people in Washington have done as much to promote the safety of our communities.

Caroline has overseen the drafting, negotiation, and passage of critical legislation regarding the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, and the most sweeping set of reforms to government surveillance practices in nearly 40 years—the USA Freedom Act, among many other priority legislative initiatives.

Aside from that, she manages a Subcommittee staff that works on some of the most important topics in the country—from oversight of many of the federal law enforcement agencies, to issues such as criminal justice reform, child exploitation, cybersecurity, human trafficking and encryption.

Anyone who has met Caroline knows she is an immensely intelligent, hardworking, loyal and discerning Chief Counsel. And of course, those people she has negotiated with have found her to be a skillful and formidable but fair advocate.

Evidence of her dedication and influence as Chief Counsel can be seen by what some of her colleagues and former bosses have to say about her.

Former Judiciary Committee Chairman LAMAR SMITH says, "Caroline is a good person and a very knowledgeable attorney. As chief counsel of the Crime Subcommittee, she has been a dedicated, conscientious, and hardworking public servant. She has had a major influence on crime legislation and on keeping Americans safe and secure. Her wonderful attitude, legal expertise, and commitment to good government will be missed greatly."

Judiciary Committee Chief of Staff and General Counsel Shelley Husband says, "When I