

ROBIN PERKINS NAMED WOMAN OF THE YEAR BY THE GREATER MANASSAS CHRISTMAS PARADE COMMITTEE

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Robin Perkins on being named Woman of the Year by the Greater Manassas Christmas Parade Committee. Mrs. Perkins has diligently served the Manassas community for many years and is more than deserving of this honor.

A lifelong resident of Manassas and devoted community leader, Mrs. Perkins has served her hometown for 33 years in the City of Manassas treasurer's office. After fifteen years of service in that office, she was elected to serve as Treasurer for the City of Manassas. Now, after over eighteen years of service as Treasurer, Mrs. Perkins is entering into a well-deserved retirement.

Though she is leaving her post as Treasurer, Mrs. Perkins will remain a fixture of the Manassas community. She serves as a scout leader, a youth bowling director, and has been a long-time volunteer with the city schools. Her lifelong dedication to her community is an inspiration and I'm proud to represent such a wonderful woman.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Robin Perkins for being named Woman of the Year by the Greater Manassas Christmas Parade Committee. It is a privilege to represent her and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DEBRA SAUNDERS-WHITE

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of one of our nation's finest public servants, Dr. Debra Saunders-White. She was a good friend and a tireless advocate for increasing access to higher education for all students. This past Saturday, Debra Saunders-White passed away, and I would like to take a brief moment to celebrate her life and legacy.

For many years, Debra Saunders-White was a leading voice in education as she fought to strengthen historical black colleges and universities and other minority serving institutions. As a first generation college graduate, Debra understood both the opportunities afforded by higher education and the many challenges that accompany students as they attempt to access and afford a higher education.

A native of Hampton, Virginia, she attended the University of Virginia before receiving her Masters of Business Administration from the College of William and Mary and her Doctorate in Higher Education Administration from George Washington University. After completing her education, Mrs. Saunders-White

spent 15 years in the private sector, working for IBM as a systems engineer before transitioning to marketing.

From 1999 until 2006, Dr. Saunders-White served as the Assistant Provost of Technology at Hampton University. While at Hampton, she designed and implemented the university's first information technology organization. Her efforts made Hampton University the first HBCU in the nation to join the Internet2 community, where they earned the "most wired university" title by Forbes Magazine and the Princeton Review.

Ultimately, Dr. Saunders-White left Hampton University and spent some time at the University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW) as the Vice Chancellor and later served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary at the Department of Education in President Obama's administration. In 2011, Mrs. Saunders-White became the 11th chancellor of North Carolina Central University. During her tenure, Dr. Saunders-White was held in high regard by all of her colleagues and students. Known for her strong vision and leadership, Debra was extremely dedicated to ensuring the success of the students at NCCU while she carried out her vision for growth at the university.

Mr. Speaker, the education and NCCU communities have lost a tremendous advocate for our nation's students. I want to extend my deepest sympathies to her two children, Elizabeth Paige and Cecil III; her mother, Irene Saunders; her brothers, Roger, Ralph and Kyle Saunders, and the rest of her family, friends, and countless students she positively impacted during her life.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY CHANCELLOR DR. DEBRA SAUNDERS-WHITE

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of Dr. Debra Saunders-White, a dear friend, nationally recognized academic, and the eleventh Chancellor of North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina. Dr. Saunders-White transitioned to her heavenly home on Saturday, November 26, 2016 after a courageous battle with cancer. She will be greatly missed by the entire NCCU family and all who knew her.

Dr. Saunders-White was born in Hampton, Virginia on January 8, 1957. As a first-generation college student, she received her undergraduate training at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. Graduating in the Class of 1979 with a Bachelor's degree in history, Dr. Saunders-White went on to receive a Master's of Business Administration from the College of William and Mary (in 1993) and a Doctorate in Higher Education Administration from George Washington University (in 2004).

The massive outpouring of accolades that arose upon Dr. Saunders-White's passing speaks to her character and abilities. She was installed as the eleventh chancellor of my

alma mater, North Carolina Central University, on June 1, 2013. And, I might add, she became the first permanent woman chancellor in the University's 106-year history.

Prior to assuming her duties at NCCU, she served as the acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Postsecondary Education at the U.S. Department of Education in the Obama Administration under Secretary Arne Duncan. Dr. Saunders-White joined the Department of Education in May of 2011 as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for higher education programs.

Throughout her tenure as NCCU's Chancellor, Dr. Saunders-White made many important contributions to the University, including increasing the freshman-to-sophomore retention rate from 69 percent to 80 percent; growing faculty and staff annual giving from 19 percent to 76 percent; creating the Triangle area's first dual-enrollment, residential transfer program known as Eagle Connect, in conjunction with Durham Technical Community College; and opening a Fabrication Laboratory in 2015 that is part of a select number of such laboratories at HBCUs.

Always committed to uplifting Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Dr. Saunders-White was named a "cyber star" by Black Issues in Higher Education and has published articles and whitepapers on the role of technology in learning. At NCCU, she was instrumental in raising scholarship funds for students and prioritized innovative academic instruction to prepare students of color to be competitive in the global marketplace.

Beyond her academic contributions, what is more illuminating of Dr. Saunders-White's stellar character was the way she connected with students at the university. She took a personal interest in the scholarship and mentorship program by encouraging "Eagle Excellence" that went beyond success in the classroom. Her dedication to scholarship and preserving the legacy of our Historically Black Colleges and Universities earned her the respect and admiration of students and colleagues alike.

It is dedicated leaders like Dr. Debra Saunders-White whose passionate commitment to helping all students succeed will leave a lasting mark on the future of our students and our country. NCCU (and all of those connected with institutions of higher learning) have lost a great educator and friend. Mr. Speaker, the Nation has lost a great educator.

Dr. Saunders-White is survived by two children, Elizabeth Paige White and Cecil White, III; her mother, Mrs. Irene Saunders; and her brothers, Roger, Ralph, and Kyle. I hope the outpouring of love shared by the community has been a comfort to Dr. Saunders-White's family.

Today, we remember Dr. Debra Saunders-White and reflect on her motto 'Eagle Excellence.' That motto, which Dr. Saunders-White embodied in her work each day, will remain embedded in the fabric of the University for generations to come.

This is indeed a solemn occasion. But it's also an occasion to celebrate. Dr. Saunders-White fought the good fight, kept the faith, and was a friend to so many and we are all thankful that she was able to touch so many lives. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life, work, and legacy of Chancellor Debra Saunders-White.

HONORING WILLIAM STALLINGS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Yonkers' most active and dedicated community members, William Stallings, who is being honored at this year's Yonkers Democratic Committee Annual Road to Victory Dinner.

Originally a product of Charleston, South Carolina, Bill attended public school and became very active in the civil rights movement in his junior and senior years of high school. Upon completion of Burke High School he began working at the Citadel, the military college of South Carolina. After a year, he applied to Tuskegee Institute in Alabama and was accepted. At Tuskegee, he enrolled in the Air Force ROTC and was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant upon graduation. His bars were pinned on him by his grandmother and General Daniel "Chappy" James, and while in the Air Force, he reached the rank of Captain.

It was a recruitment by Pepsi Cola that ultimately brought Bill to Westchester County, where he has remained ever since. He became active in the local Democratic Party in 1974 by engaging in local voter registration drives, and later became a District Leader. He is a member of the NAACP and is very active in his church, Greater Centennial AME Zion Church. He has been an officer of the church for over 25 years, was President of the Greater Centennial Federal Credit Union for over 20 years, and is a founding member of the Greater Centennial Community Development Corporation. Bill has also served on the Board of Directors of the Human Development Services of Westchester (HDSW) for the past 20 years and on the Yonkers Democratic City Executive Committee for over 20 years.

Few have done more to help their local community thrive than Bill Stallings. He is most deserving of this wonderful recognition.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HIRAM SPAIN,
JR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate a great American, and outstanding South Carolinian, Reverend Dr. Hiram Spain, Jr. Dr. Spain, who was simply Hiram to me when we shared classes and hallways at South Carolina State College, is retiring from public service. Dr. Spain served as Executive Secretary of the Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina since his election in 2000 until his recent retirement.

Dr. Hiram Spain, Jr. is a native of Conway, South Carolina. In addition to graduating with honors from South Carolina State University, he received the degree of Juris Doctor from Howard University. He did additional studies at the University of South Carolina, Morris College Extension and the Columbia International Seminary. He is presently pursuing the Master of Divinity degree at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. Dr. Spain was ordained

by the Gethsemane Baptist Association and retired as Pastor of the Saint Mark Baptist Church in Columbia, South Carolina.

During my tenure on the staff of Governor John West, I brought Dr. Spain on board where he headed the program that became the state's first Office of Rural Development to outstanding success. He has served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Columbia Urban League and as the first Black Bureau Chief of the South Carolina Department of Social Services.

Dr. Spain serves his community in several civic capacities, including the Board of The United Black Fund of the Midlands, The Executive Board of the Gethsemane Baptist Association, The Board of the South Carolina Christian Action Council, past Board Member of the Communities in Schools of South Carolina, member of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Columbia, Board Member of the I.D. Quincy Newman Institute for social change at the University of South Carolina, Board Member of Partnership, South Carolina, and a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

He has received numerous awards and honors for his civic and community service and was recently honored by the City of Columbia and the Midlands Authority for Conventions, Sports and Tourism for his outstanding service and leadership. He has never been reluctant to give of his time and energies to civic, professional and community service organizations. His favorite Bible verse is Psalm 121 verses 1 and 2, "I will lift up mine eyes to the Hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."

Dr. Spain is married to the former Doris Bush, a Benedict College graduate and retired teacher at W.A. Perry Middle School. They are the parents of two adult children, both of whom are social work administrators.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and this Congress join me in wishing this outstanding South Carolinian, and longtime personal friend, the Reverend Dr. Hiram Spain, Jr., a long and productive retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FAIRFAX ROTARY CLUB

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Fairfax Rotary Club on their 85th Anniversary of community service this year. The Fairfax Rotary Club was chartered in 1931 and has grown from the original 16 members to 75 members today. This organization brings enormous benefit to the City of Fairfax and surrounding communities. I am very grateful for Fairfax Rotary Club's continued efforts to provide humanitarian service and assistance in the 10th Congressional District.

The Fairfax Rotary Club holds weekly meetings and organizes numerous charitable events in order to benefit the community. Their activities range from fundraising to acts of hands-on community service. Some examples of their generous deeds include creating col-

lege scholarships for local students, doing home repairs free of charge, providing free meals to families in need, and raising money for many other charitable causes, such as polio and access to clean water.

The members of the Fairfax Rotary Club are true pillars of their community, and I am proud to represent such service-minded citizens. This organization has a history of providing a setting that fosters fellowship between its members and that enables them to have a positive impact in the world. I applaud the Fairfax City Council's decision to honor this organization by declaring September 25th Fairfax Rotary Club Day in the city.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join in recognizing the 85th Anniversary of the Fairfax Rotary Club and thanking its members for all of the selfless community service work they undertake. I hope that the members of this service organization will continue to find success in their endeavors for many years to come.

HONORING JUDGE TODD J.
CAMPBELL

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judge Todd J. Campbell on his retirement from the federal bench.

A graduate of Vanderbilt University and the University of Tennessee College of Law, Judge Campbell started his legal career in private practice. After the 1992 election, he joined President-elect Bill Clinton's transition team and later became counsel to Vice President Al Gore.

In 1995, President Clinton nominated Judge Campbell to fill a vacant seat on the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee. Judge Campbell was confirmed the same year by the U.S. Senate, becoming one of America's youngest federal judges in modern times. He eventually was elevated to chief judge, serving many years in that role.

Judge Campbell has led a distinguished career on the federal bench, and he is a pillar of our community. For example, he has led more than 100 naturalization ceremonies, often relating his own family immigration history to Middle Tennessee's newest citizens.

Federal Public Defender Henry Martin best captured Judge Campbell in a recent letter to the editor published in The Tennessean newspaper:

Judge Todd Campbell's announced retirement as a United States District Judge last week was sad news to anyone interested in justice in this community.

I am confident that every lawyer and litigant experienced what I saw there for 20-plus years: an exceedingly well-prepared judge who favored neither side, but treated all who appeared before him with respect, courtesy and usually a smile. I always warned lawyers about to appear in Judge Campbell's court for the first time to be prepared: "he will have read every case you cited, that your adversary cited and ask you about cases you missed that he had found. Then he would listen."

The challenge of determining what the law is in a particular situation and then applying it fairly to complex facts, where the outcome