

Church, Vice-President of the Usher Board, a member of the male choir, a member of the 100 Black Men of the Mississippi Delta, a member of the Lake Vista Masonic Lodge Number 46, a member of the Serene Lodge Number 567, a member of the NAACP, and a board member of the Boy's and Girl's Club.

Yet, after committing himself to all of this, his Lord, his family, his career, and his affiliations, he still manages to conceive other ingenious ideas to help citizens in our area. He is indeed, "The Peoples' Sheriff," and he considers it a pleasure to serve the citizens of Washington County, Mississippi by striving to make it a safer place in which to live.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sheriff Milton Gaston for his dedication to serving others and giving back to his community.

#### RECOGNIZING DR. WILLIE BRYANT

##### HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 28, 2016*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Willie Bryant, of Spring Valley, NY, a dentist and Hudson Valley civil rights activist for nearly a half-century, who passed away December 28, 2015, at the age of 77.

A lifelong NAACP member, Dr. Bryant was active with the Rockland Human Rights Commission and helped create the Spring Valley NAACP Life Membership Program. Dr. Bryant also helped form the Rockland Employees Federal Credit Union, a non-profit group that provided low-interest loans to people who worked at the Rockland Psychiatric Center and in county government. Dr. Bryant also spearheaded the successful effort to have a statue of United States Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall placed on the front lawn of the former Hillburn Main School, which was integrated following then-NAACP attorney Marshall's appeal to the New York State Commissioner of Education in 1943.

Dr. Bryant attended Florida A&M University, graduating in 1961, and then Howard University School of Dentistry. He remained active in both universities' alumni associations, serving as President of the Florida A&M Ossining (NY) alumni branch, where he started a sickle-cell anemia screening project that reached more than 1,200 people. Dr. Bryant interned at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Philadelphia and joined the dental staff of the FDR Veterans Administration Hospital in Montrose, NY, in 1969. In 1982, Dr. Bryant began serving as the Director of Dental Services at Letchworth Village, a residential facility for people with physical and mental disabilities in Thiells, NY. Dr. Bryant often said providing dental care for the developmentally disabled population was his biggest achievement and his most rewarding experience.

Dr. Bryant was honored many times throughout his career. He received the 2003 "Volunteer Beyond Excellence" Award from the New York Organ Donor Network for promoting organ and tissue donation. He was named Rockland's Alpha Man of the Year in 2004 and was awarded the Rockland Buffalo Soldiers' Award in 2006. Dr. Bryant was a 2008 inductee into the Rockland County Human Rights/Civil Rights Hall of Fame for his

efforts to help people attain justice and equal treatment under the law. In 2012 he was named one of Florida A&M's Outstanding Alumni of the Quasquicentennial and was honored by the Howard University Alumni Club of Westchester and Rockland.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize my constituent, Dr. Willie Bryant. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his exceptional life of service.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY AND 71ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

##### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 28, 2016*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the 71st anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp.

It is fitting today to remember to those who experienced the depth of human cruelty in that camp and all other Nazi concentration camps.

It is estimated that over one million prisoners perished at the Auschwitz concentration camp over the five years that it was operational.

I grieve for those lost souls, but I give thanks for the 7,500 prisoners who were liberated 71 years ago today.

The stories of those survivors ensure that we will never forget this crime against humanity and remain vigilant and dedicated to combating hatred and oppression in all its forms.

For that reason, I would also like to bring attention to the ongoing massacres and human rights violations being carried out by the militant terrorist organization Boko Haram in Nigeria.

Just like the actions of the Nazis during World War II, the actions of Boko Haram today are an affront to human life and dignity.

From their first violent uprising in 2009, to the massacre in Baga less than one month ago, Boko Haram has been waging a war that has cost an estimated 10,000 lives, and displaced more than one million people.

I thank President Obama and Secretary Kerry for their active engagement in supporting the Nigerians in their efforts to combat Boko Haram.

I also thank the United States military, for providing the Nigerian military with trainers and specialists to aid them.

But there needs to be more.

These atrocities must not be permitted to continue, and we must do everything within our power to stop the kidnapping and killing of innocent men, women, and children across Nigeria.

So on this 71st anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, let us remember and honor those who perished in the Holocaust by rededicating ourselves to combating genocide and the oppression of people by regimes and entities motivated by hatred, religious bigotry, megalomania, or false ideologies.

#### HONORING MOTHER MATTIE MAE AMOS-MARSHALL

##### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 28, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Mattie Mae Amos-Marshall, who was born in a small community in Florence, Mississippi called Steen Creek on October 15, 1915 to the late Mr. Ben and Salle White-Amos.

Mrs. Marshall married her childhood sweetheart, the late Mr. Jessie Marshall, at the age of 18 and moved to Flora, Mississippi where she began a family of her own.

Mrs. Marshall was baptized at a young age at Stokes Chapel M.B. Church and later moved her membership to Jones Chapel M.B. Church where she is a member of the Mother's Board. Mrs. Marshall moved to Canton, Mississippi as a child and was educated in the Madison County School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mother Mattie Mae Amos-Marshall.

#### CONGRATULATING CARL SWINDELL ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE EULESS POLICE DEPARTMENT

##### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 28, 2016*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Carl Swindell on his well-earned retirement from the City of Euless Police Department in Euless, Texas, after thirty-two years of dedicated service.

Carl is a hardworking and highly respected officer of the Euless Police Department. He has honorably served his community since beginning his distinguished career with the department in 1983. Throughout his time in Euless, Carl has received over 42 police commendations as evidence of his outstanding service and professionalism. Whether he was investigating criminal activity as a detective, sharing his knowledge and experiences as a field training officer, or protecting the children of Euless as a school police resource officer, Carl always provided an outstanding service to his community.

Carl's contributions to the law enforcement operations in the City of Euless have helped to ensure countless officers have been adequately trained and prepared for the challenges they face in their everyday duties as police. His legacy will leave a lasting mark on the City of Euless and the Euless Police Department for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize the exhaustive efforts Carl has contributed to the City of Euless. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing Carl Swindell and his many years of service.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 28, 2016*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, January 11; Tuesday, January 12; and Wednesday, January 13, 2016, I took medical leave to attend appointments related to an upcoming hip replacement surgery and was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 34 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 598, as amended), "Yes" on roll call vote No. 35 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2321, as amended), "No" on roll call vote No. 36 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 583), "No" on roll call vote No. 37 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 583), "Yes" on roll call vote No. 38 (on agreeing to the Kil-dee Amendment to H.R. 1644), "Yes" on roll call vote No. 39 (on agreeing to the Cartwright Amendment to H.R. 1644), "Yes" on roll call vote No. 40 (on agreeing to the Sewell Amendment to H.R. 1644), "Yes" on roll call vote No. 41 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 1644, with instructions), "No" on roll call vote No. 42 (on passage of H.R. 1644), "Yes" on roll call vote No. 43 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 757, as amended), Pursuant to a unanimous consent request made by Majority Leader KEVIN MCCARTHY, and agreed to without objection, the roll call vote No. 44 and the motion to reconsider thereon were vacated and further proceedings on the question of passage of H.R. 3662 postponed as though under clause 8 of rule 20 through the legislative day of January 26, 2016, and "No" on roll call vote No. 45 (on passage of H.R. S.J. Res. 22).

## IN HONOR OF GALIYA UMAROVA

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 28, 2016*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I inform this House that on January 4, 2016, Galiya Umarova, wife of Ambassador Kairat Umarov of Kazakhstan passed away.

The Ambassador and Galiya were married for thirty years.

Their son, Gaini, currently works for an international consulting group in Astana, Kazakhstan.

Galiya and her husband have known each other much longer than the beginning of his diplomatic career.

The two met in English class, where he entertained her with his funny stories.

Galiya grew up in Almaty, Kazakhstan's largest city and the country's foremost historical, financial and cultural center.

She dedicated her life to the promotion of the importance of education and was a passionate supporter of building progress in her home country, including her husband's work on behalf of his country.

For example, the Ambassador and Galiya were posted to the United States capitol three different times in the span of 15 years.

Known as the land of peace and prosperity, the beautiful country of Kazakhstan sits on 3,000 years of extraordinary history.

The country's development has been influenced by legends such as Alexander the Great and Genghis Khan.

For centuries, the Silk Road through Kazakhstan served as one of the world's oldest and most historically significant trade routes.

All of this has contributed to the richness of the Kazakh culture and its capacity to adapt and develop.

Much like her home country, Galiya Umarova adapted and developed as she accompanied her husband throughout his diplomatic service for his country.

In fact, Galiya adapted to the DC life by driving herself around town, navigating the hectic DC traffic.

Galiya and the Ambassador traveled the world over, spreading the imperative of cultural tourism, the beautiful culture of Kazakhstan and its over 140 different ethnic groups, while working to promote peace at home and in bilateral relations such as its relationship with the United States.

The couple embodied what former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan declared about their country: "Kazakhstan may serve as an example of a peaceful multiethnic country where ethnic diversity is a blessing, but not a curse."

Kazakhstan is located in the central part of Eurasia, almost equidistant from the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.

Indeed, throughout history, Kazakhstan was an arena for brisk commercial and political relations and it now plays an important role as a link between Europe, Central Asia and the rapidly developing Asian-Pacific region.

Notwithstanding her husband's busy diplomatic schedule over the past 2 decades, Galiya worked hard to bring balance into her family life.

For example, she always found time to enjoy comedy films with her family.

She also enjoyed a variety of hobbies such as tennis, golf, practicing yoga, growing her own natural fruits and vegetables in her garden.

Today, I hope my colleagues will join me in sending prayers and condolences to Ambassador Umarov and his family.

I also ask for a moment of silence in Galiya Umarova's honor and memory.

**HONORING VETERAN EDISON THOMAS BROWN, JR.****HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 28, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran, Mr. Edison Thomas Brown, Jr.

U.S. Army Veteran Edison Thomas Brown, Jr. is a Mississippi native who was born and reared in the hills of Holmes County within the U.S. Second Congressional District.

Born in the very late 1950's, Mr. Brown, and other youth like him, grew up during the heat of oppression, segregation and poverty of the Holmes County 1960s civil rights movement. Yet, Mr. Brown says, he nor his family ever viewed themselves as underclass.

Although poor by economic standards and conditions, he and his siblings learned early of the importance of working hard to make a decent living by two nurturing parents, who were farmers themselves and who also worked for white farmers as well, picking cotton and such. His parents were Edison Thomas Brown, Sr. and Ednora Randle Brown (both now deceased).

His father was also a U.S. Army veteran who served in World War II. In fact, Mr. Brown says he was inspired to volunteer to serve his country in the military by his father and eldest brother James, a U.S. Army Vietnam veteran. After graduating from high school at what is formerly known as Tchula Attendance Center (TAC) in Tchula, MS, he began his military career in July, 1975 at Fort Knox, Ky.

During his tour of duty, he was trained and served as a Track Vehicle Mechanic, specializing in diesel repairs. His U.S. military career also included service in Gelnhausen, Germany.

While in the military, he earned the rank of Specialist 4th Class (SPEC 4). Proud to serve his country, Mr. Brown is grateful that his military career afforded him many travels that he would not have afforded to make and opportunities he possibly would not have had.

Mr. Brown's tour of duty concluded at Fort Stewart, GA in 1979; however, he remained in reserve status until 1981, when he received an Honorable Discharge.

After the military, Mr. Brown took advantage of the GI Bill and began to educate himself (part-time) in Electronic Service Technology coursework. Over the years, he has served in several employment capacities in the Metro Jackson area. His longest stint was with McRaes Distribution and its merging operations, 1985–2001.

Today, a Clinton, Miss. resident in the Second Congressional District, Mr. Brown spends most of his time actively serving in Holy Temple Baptist Church of West Jackson, pastored by the history-making Rev. Audrey Lynne Hall. At Holy Temple as a deacon, he is Chairman and also serves as Sunday School Superintendent and teacher. He, his wife, Gail, and son, Edison, III, have also participated in the church's ongoing Homeless Outreach Ministry in which the church gives toiletries, snacks and other needful items to the homeless once a month at Poindexter Park near Downtown Jackson.

Mr. Brown's favorite scripture of the Bible in which he tries to live by is Proverbs 3:5–6—"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a special Veteran, Mr. Edison Thomas Brown, Jr., for his dedication and support to the Holmes County Community.

## PATRICIA SPENCER

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 28, 2016*

Mr. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of an extraordinary leader and passionate advocate for freedom and justice, Ms. Patricia Spencer.