

On Behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I would like to congratulate and thank Bill Hannah for his 35 years of service to his committee. Bill is a true professional in every sense of the word, and I wish him the best of luck as he embarks on a new chapter in his life.

HONORING THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF VALLEY GRANGE NO. 1360 IN YORK COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my sincere congratulations to the members of Valley Grange No. 1360 on its 110th Anniversary.

Valley Grange No. 1360 was officially chartered on October 7, 1907. The Grange is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, fraternal organization that advocates for rural America and agriculture. Family and community are its foundations and the Grange was the first national organization to give full voice and vote to women.

Valley Grange No. 1360 has been a leader in the Grange organization, producing two Pennsylvania State Grange Masters—J. Luther Snyder and Carl Meiss; two National Grange officers—J. Luther Snyder and Fae Snyder—and it is the home of several past State Grange officers and youth ambassadors.

Valley Grange No. 1360 has also been very committed to its community throughout the years, supporting organizations such as 4-H, the Boy Scouts, the local Little League and has contributed to countless charitable endeavors.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I thank the members of Valley Grange No. 1360 for their dedicated service to their community and congratulate them on their 110th Anniversary. We wish them continued great success in the years to come.

HONORING STANLEY, THE ENGLISH BULLDOG

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Stanley, an English Bulldog in my district, who has become an inspiration to many of my constituents and continues to serve his community.

Stanley was born with a bilateral cleft lip, requiring the need for surgery to tooth problems and holes in his sinus passages. The community came together and raised the funds for the surgery. Now, Stanley goes to schools and community events and has become a source of inspiration for kids with his anti-bullying message. Stanley has also recently joined with the American Childhood Cancer Organization to form the first local chapter of the Founding Hope program, helping to raise funds and awareness to help children with cancer get the support they need.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Stanley and the Pack family for their continuing service to their community, and for serving as an inspiration for children who face bullying and cancer diagnoses.

IN HONOR OF COMMISSIONER LUKE POPE STRONG, JR.

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I pay tribute to an outstanding civic leader and public servant of Georgia, a pillar in the Colquitt County community, and a friend of longstanding, Commissioner Luke P. Strong, Jr. Commissioner Strong passed away on Sunday, September 24, 2017. A funeral service was held on Friday, September 29, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at Lakeside Assembly of God in Moultrie, Georgia.

Commissioner Strong was born on April 4, 1947, to the union of Luke Strong, Sr. and Mamie Brown-Strong. He was a product of the Colquitt County School System and graduated from the historic William Bryant High School in 1964. After graduation, he received a greater calling upon his life when he enlisted in the United States Army. He served proudly and honorably for five years. But, this was not the only calling that he would receive in his lifetime. He attended Gepson-Janes School of Mortuary Science in Atlanta, Georgia. He also was a graduate of the ABAC Police Academy and served as a police officer for one year at the McRae Police Department and four years as a deputy with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department. He then served, alongside his father, as the Vice-President of Strong Enterprises.

In 1986, he was elected as the first and only African American Colquitt County Commissioner, which launched a historic career in public service that would lead him to become the longest seated elected official in Colquitt County. In 1995, he founded Luke Strong and Son Mortuary, L.T.D, which has grown to be one of the leading funeral establishments in South Georgia.

Shirley Chisholm once said that, "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Commissioner Strong paid his rent and he paid it well. He gave his time and talents to many social and civic organizations to include: the Moultrie Colquitt Branch of the NAACP, The Georgia Association of County Commissioners, Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials (GABEO), The National Association of County Commissioners, The Moultrie Men's Club, American Legion Post 533, and Moultrie Technical College Board of Directors. In 2016, he was the recipient of the Ram Round-Up and Community Service Award. Commissioner Strong was also a God fearing man. He was a member of the Grant Chapel A.M.E. Church where he was a member of the Board of Stewards, Board of Trustees and the Sons of Allen.

The great agricultural chemist George Washington Carver once said that, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with young, compassionate with aged, sympathetic with striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these people." Commissioner Strong never forgot this lesson and was a man who would give you the shirt off of his back. He never advertised what he did for others, but was the true epitome of "Servant Leadership."

On a personal note, Commissioner Strong and his family have been dear friends to my wife Vivian and me for many years and I will miss the wise counsel that he imparted to me over the years.

Commissioner Strong has accomplished much in his life but none of this would have been possible without the love and support of his family. His legacy lives on through his wife, Betty, his six children, four grandchildren and all of those that he touched in a very special way.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with a multitude of other people all across Georgia, salute Commissioner Luke Pope Strong, Jr. for his outstanding public service and his everlasting commitment to improving the quality of the Colquitt County community. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest condolences to Commissioner Strong's family 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.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on October 2, 2017, I missed the following votes due to a flight delay. Had I been present, I would have voted:

On Roll Call Vote 544, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and pass H.R. 1547, I would have voted Aye.

On Roll Call Vote 545, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and pass H.R. 965, I would have voted Aye.

#### TRIBUTE TO REX BROWN

**HON. RODNEY DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Rex Brown, a friend and beloved member of the Decatur community, who passed away earlier this month.

After finishing law school in 1957, Rex moved his family to Decatur where he built his career as the Senior Partner at his firm Brown, Hawkins, & Basola. He was a recipient of the Board of Governor's Award from the Illinois State Bar Association and enjoyed teaching Business and Real Estate Law at Richland Community College.

Not only was Rex well-respected as a lawyer in Decatur, but also as a prominent community member with a passion for serving his neighbors. He served as Chairman of the

Macon County Board from 1971 to 72. As Chairman, he commissioned and created the Macon County flag and seal and instituted their display in the county's courtrooms. He was a part of over twenty community organizations and committees, including the Lincoln Trails Council for Boy Scouts, Optimist Club, Elks Club, the Metro Decatur Chamber of Commerce, and the YMCA.

I am thankful for the many contributions Rex made to the Central Illinois community during his lifetime. He has made an impact on many people and will be truly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Marilyn, and their family during this time.

**THE HEARTS OF TEXAS ARE UPON US**

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my neighbors in South Texas who continue to experience the devastation of Hurricane Harvey. Our hearts and prayers go out to all of those families for their lost loved ones and those who have been displaced by the storm. We stand with Texas this day and every day. I include in the RECORD this poem penned in their honor by Albert Carey Caswell.

The Hearts of Texas are upon us  
All here to so remind us  
All in our hearts to so find us  
All in what we do in our time this  
As their faith and hope,  
and compassion come into view  
Reminding us what is true  
All in this land of that old Red, White, and.

Blue

For in this our country tis a thee  
There has and will always be  
Such men and women of great faith as these  
Who bond together all in their darkest times  
of need

Who built The West all in this creed  
While, against all odds helping this Nation  
to succeed

And that's what Texas has always been  
agreed  
So means to me

Neighbor helping neighbor continually  
Who are color blind and can not see  
Brothers and Sisters reaching out a hand in  
their time of need

With smiles upon the faces in what their love  
begins to breed

Built on the bedrock of God, Country, and  
cherished Family

Shining throughout this day across our  
country tis of thee

Teaching us what we need

Catching on from sea to sea

Like The Cajun Navy who they helped in the

midst of their tragedy  
Showing us that giving is better than taking

As this giant heart we call Texas has so  
awakened

With another heroic chapter written in their  
history

Whether, remembering The Alamo,  
in times of war Texas has always battled for  
victory

And that's why everything is bigger in Texas  
you see

As Hearts of Texas are upon you and me  
So clearly on this day for the world to see

Teach your children about them and what a  
real American can be

All in their most patriotic hearts which  
bleed  
Red, White, and Blue  
For what is true  
In Texas today you're watching some of  
America's real Who's Who  
As TEXAS STRONG comes into view  
Yea, The Hearts of Texas are upon us  
To teach us all and to so remind us  
About faith and courage, and how not to be  
discouraged and make it through  
All in this wonderful nexus that we call  
Texas True Of God, Family, and Coun-  
try in all they do  
And yes there will be many dark days ahead  
For all those who have died and bled  
With homes and lives ripped apart let it be  
said  
But in America,  
Texas Faith and their pioneer spirit has al-  
ways led  
With their hearts to get through the storms  
Take a knee now and say a prayer for them  
all so very warm  
And remember all the courage and faith and  
humanity which will live on  
And what the human spirit can accomplish  
in hearts so worn  
All in their most heroic Texan hue  
All in their lessons they have taught to me  
and you  
Bringing our Nation together,  
all in this beautiful song of Texas Strong  
they do  
Because, on this day we understand what is  
True,  
as The Hearts of Texas are upon us for all to  
view.

**HONORING ERNEST FREDERICK SCHOWENGERDT**

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ernest Frederick Schowengerdt. Mr. Schowengerdt, a World War II veteran, is celebrating his 95th birthday on September 2, 2017.

In 1944, Mr. Schowengerdt joined the Navy to become a pilot and serve his country during World War II. After his discharge in 1945 he continued his passion for flying and got his pilot's and aircraft mechanic's licenses at the Lambert Field Airport in St. Louis. He also continued helping at his family farm in Chamois, Missouri, until the Missouri River's flooding took its toll in 1958. Mr. Schowengerdt continued his career as a plant engineer for the Central Electric Power Plant and later as the Director of Plant Management for Lake Ozark General Hospital where he worked with the Missouri Hospital Association and Nuclear Energy Commission in disposing of hazardous and radioactive wastes.

Mr. Schowengerdt has had many life-long interests and passions. He has been involved in music for 76 years, playing numerous band instruments. Mr. Schowengerdt was also a passionate civil servant as he served 2 terms in the Chamois city council and four years as the Osage County Republican Committeeman. He helped organize the Rural Fire Department of Chamois, was the American Legion president, and was involved in many more boards and organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in wishing Mr. Ernie Schowengerdt a happy 95th

birthday, and thanking him for his lifetime of dedication to his family, community, and his country.

**CELEBRATING TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY**

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish the people of Taiwan and Americans celebrating Taiwan's National Day this October 10th a Happy Double Ten Day.

Over the past 40 years, this key partner in the Asia-Pacific has transformed itself into a high-tech, multiparty democracy which is a significant contributor to the global economy. This is chiefly due to the hard work of the 23.5 million people on Taiwan who value education, science, and progress, and whose young people are not only plugged into global cultural trends, but are also contributing to them. Taiwanese are also the third largest tourist group to Guam and a cornerstone of our island's economy.

Americans share these values, which is why we have also contributed to Taiwan's success not only through our support and friendship, but through the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances, cornerstones of our relations with Taiwan. Our security relationship is an integral element of United States engagement in the Indo-Asia-Pacific and we must continue to work cooperatively together. The people of Guam, neighbors to Taiwan, understand and appreciate the need for strengthening alliances and partnerships in the region.

Two recent events have served to remind me of the imagination and drive of our two peoples—the end of our spectacular Cassini mission to Saturn, and the successful launch this summer of Taiwan's Formosat-5—the latter being the first Taiwan's first major indigenously-developed remote sensing satellite, which will be engaged in Earth observation for the next five years. We are expanding our knowledge of our small planet, our solar system, and the universe at large. Whatever the challenges this planet is presented with in future years, I am confident that our two, talented peoples, along with likeminded societies across the globe, will be able to meet them.

This is a day to celebrate, and to be optimistic. I ask my colleagues to join me in recommitting ourselves to the U.S.-Taiwan relationship, and in wishing Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day.

**PAM O'TOOLE TRUSDALE**

**HON. LYNN JENKINS**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my constituent and friend Pam O'Toole Trusdale, on the occasion of her retirement as Executive Director of the National Association of Trailer Manufacturers (NATM). Pam is a longtime resident of my district and lifelong Kansan, attending Parsons Senior High and Washburn University. She joined