

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DINA TITUS**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Ms. TITUS Mr. Speaker, I was absent October 2, 2017 through October 10, 2017 due to the horrific 1 October tragedy that occurred in my district. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

Roll no. 544—H.R. 1547—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill: YEA

Roll no. 545—H.R. 965—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended: YEA

Roll no. 546—H. Res. 548—On ordering the previous question: NAY

Roll no. 547—H. Res. 548—On agreeing to the resolution: NAY

Roll no. 548—H.R. 36—On motion to recommit with instructions: YEA

Roll no. 549—H.R. 36—On passage: NAY

Roll no. 550—S. 782—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended: YEA

Roll no. 551—H. Res. 553—On ordering the previous question: NAY

Roll no. 552—H. Res. 553—On agreeing to the resolution: NAY

Roll no. 553—H. Con. Res. 71—On agreeing to the amendment: YEA

Roll no. 554—H. Con. Res. 71—On agreeing to the amendment: YEA

Roll no. 555—H. Con. Res. 71—On agreeing to the amendment: NAY

Roll no. 556—H. Con. Res. 71—On agreeing to the amendment: YEA

Roll no. 557—H. Con. Res. 71—On agreeing to the resolution: NAY

Roll no. 55—H.R. 1858—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill: YEA

Roll no. 559—H.R. 2464—On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill: YEA

# HONORING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY'S NEWPORT NEWS ALUMNAE CHAPTER

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 80th anniversary of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's Newport News Alumnae Chapter.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority was founded in 1913 by 22 students attending Howard University. These women all saw education and community service as the key to pushing forward the cause of civil rights and progress for the African American community, and that mission remains strong to this day. Today, Delta Sigma Theta has grown to an organization with over 250,000 members and over 940 local chapters operating all over the United States and the world.

The Newport News Alumnae Chapter was originally chartered in 1937 as the Beta Kappa Chapter. It was then changed to the Gamma Iota Sigma Chapter in 1947 before officially becoming the Newport News Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority in 1960. The

Chapter was dutifully led in these early years by Charter members Marian Palmer Capps, Clara Pannell, Ethel Pannell, Sallie Watkins Roberts, Dorothy Roles Watkins, Olivia Williamson, and Christine Jefferson Haynes.

The women of the Newport News Alumnae Chapter are committed to the same honored tradition of community service that has driven all of Delta Sigma Theta's members since its inception. Delta Sigma Theta's sisterhood has always been guided by the sorority's Five-Point Programmatic Thrust of Economic Development, Education Development, International Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health, and Political Awareness and Involvement. It is with these principles in mind that the Newport News Alumnae Chapter established the programs that continue to serve their local community to this day.

Delta Sigma Theta's unwavering commitment to serving the needs of African Americans has been truly reflected through the good work pursued by the Newport News Alumnae Chapter over the years. The Dr. Betty Shabazz Delta Academy provides young girls between 11 and 14 years old with the opportunity to pursue their interests in math, science, and technology. The Delta GEMS program offers college and career planning to at-risk teenage girls who may otherwise not understand the opportunities available to them. The EMBODI program addresses the challenges facing African-American boys by providing middle and high schoolers with counseling and support in subject areas such as fostering healthy relationships, fiscal management, physical and mental health, self-efficacy, and more. These programs provide an invaluable service to the youth of Newport News.

Mr. Speaker, as the Newport News Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority celebrates this exciting milestone, its members can feel affirmed that these past 80 years of fellowship and outreach have left the Newport News community stronger and more united than it otherwise would have been. I would like to congratulate Chapter President Joyce Melvin-Jones and all of the members of the Newport News sisterhood on this special occasion.

## RECOGNIZING THE 275TH ANNIVERSARY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a momentous anniversary. This year marks the 275th anniversary of Fairfax County, which I am proud to represent in this chamber and which I represented prior to my election to this body for 14 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including five years as Chairman.

In 1737, Lord Thomas Fairfax of Cameron took possession of a piece of land that included all of what is now Loudoun, Arlington and Fairfax Counties in addition to the cities of Falls Church, Fairfax and Alexandria. At the time, all of this land was part of Prince William County. Installing his cousin William as the managing agent for that land, Lord Fairfax de-

parted back to England to cement his claim. In 1742, William arranged for that piece of land to be officially designated as Fairfax County.

This new county was home to many Americans who would have an impact on our country, most notably future President George Washington. In addition, Fairfax was home to the man who many credit with the creation of the Bill of Rights, George Mason. Working with a member of Virginia's congressional district (and future President himself) James Madison, Mason argued for the creation of amendments to the newly-created U.S. Constitution to protect individual freedoms. Indeed, Mason was one of only three delegates to the Constitutional Convention to refuse to sign the new document because of his concerns that the federal government would be abusive of its authority absent a document like the Bill of Rights.

Fairfax County also played a role in another pivotal time on our Nation's history, the Civil War. The courthouse in Fairfax City served as a headquarters for the U.S. Army and the remains of several forts can still be found throughout the county today. The founder of the Red Cross, Clara Barton, treated wounded soldiers at St. Mary's Church in Fairfax Station, an experience that would eventually lead her to found that organization. While the County was largely spared from major battles (with the exception of the Battle of Ox Hill in 1862), raids and skirmishes between Union and Confederate forces were frequent and portions of the County changed hands several times over the course of the war.

Mr. Speaker, the history of Fairfax County is intimately intertwined with the history of the United States. Although the founders of this County could not have known the future that awaited their holdings, I suspect the evolution from a rural farming community to today's suburban community of over 1 million would please them greatly. Fairfax County has consistently been rated among the best places in the country in which to live, work, raise a family and start a business. Indeed, it stands as an example of a community that consistently sees beyond the years. I was proud to serve it on the Board of Supervisors and have been proud to represent it in this body. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Fairfax County on this important anniversary.

## CIVIL RIGHTS

SPEECH OF

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 23, 2017*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative VEASEY, and our colleague Congresswoman EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, for joining me at the Center for African American Studies at the University of Texas at Arlington last Thursday evening. It was a wonderful experience for me and President Vistasp Karbhari, Dr. Jason Skelton and my longtime friend Dr. Marvin Delaney were perfect hosts.

Earlier this month, Sergeant La David T. Johnson died a hero's death in a distant land on a mission few Americans know about or understand.

This weekend, his grieving family, including his pregnant wife, took him to his final resting

place in Florida. Sgt. Johnson's tragic death leaves this young family fatherless.

Mr. Speaker, in his Second Inaugural address, President Abraham Lincoln called on our nation to endeavor "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan. . . ."

Unfortunately, rather than comfort Sgt. Johnson's grieving family, the current occupant of the White House has chosen to use them as his latest prop in his constant effort to sow discord and division in this country.

The President and White House Chief of Staff John Kelly, who happens to be a Four-Star General, have insulted and smeared an honorable public servant who happens to be a Five-Star Congresswoman, and in effect called her and her grieving widowed constituent liars.

Congresswoman FREDERICA S. WILSON has been a champion for the people of South Florida for decades. It is no mystery—and it was not political—that she was accompanying Mrs. Johnson and her family to receive her husband's remains. She had mentored Sgt. Johnson throughout his childhood.

Mr. Speaker, I have participated in several of Congresswoman WILSON's 500 Role Models events and have spoken for one of their graduations. I often wear a red tie to this floor helping her highlight their efforts. And her passionate work on behalf of those kidnapped girls of Boko Haram is unmatched.

As the husband of a five-star African American woman for more than 56 years and the father of three African American daughters who are working hard to earn their stars each and every day, I feel compelled to respond to General Kelly and completely debunk his concocted misrepresentation.

Mr. Speaker, we can have political differences here in Washington, D.C. That comes with the territory. But people need to have the common decency and basic humanity to refrain from exacerbating the pain of those already suffering so much.

I was taught from childhood that silence gives consent. I want the White House to know this, I and the members of the Congressional Black caucus will not be silent or silenced.

#### TRIBUTE TO TAMMY SMITH

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Tammy Smith as the 2017 Taco John's International Manager of the Year.

Tammy's leadership has helped the team at the Creston Taco John's achieve record-setting sales levels by providing great service and a friendly smile. Tammy was quoted in the Creston News Advertiser as saying "It isn't just me. It's everybody in this store that makes something like that happen. You have to be doing everything right. There's no way I could come in and do it myself."

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent leaders like Tammy in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great State of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United

States House of Representatives join me in congratulating her for earning this outstanding award and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARCIA SHOWALTER

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Marcia Showalter, from the Mount Ayr Medical Clinic in Mount Ayr, Iowa. Marcia was awarded the 2017 DAISY Award at a ceremony earlier this year.

This award was created to express the public's profound gratitude to nurses for the work they do on a daily basis. Through Marcia's skilled and compassionate care she delivers an outstanding service to her patients and their families. Gordon Winkler, CEO of Ringgold County Hospital, stated, "Marcia epitomizes the exceptional people who provide exceptional care at the clinic and the hospital."

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Marcia for receiving this award and for providing excellent patient care to her fellow Iowans. I am proud to represent her and all the members of the Mount Ayr Medical Clinic in the United States Congress and I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Marcia on this outstanding achievement and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOKAYE AND RONNIE SHIELDS

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate JoKaye and Ronnie Shields on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. The couple married on September 22, 1957 and resides in Mount Ayr, Iowa.

JoKaye and Ronnie's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, 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 JoKaye and Ronnie on their 60 years together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARILYN AND JAMES SAVILLE

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Marilyn

and James Saville on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. The couple married on August 19, 1967 and resides in Mount Ayr, Iowa.

Marilyn and James' lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa's values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, 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 50 years together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Marilyn and James on this momentous occasion.

#### TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT HUNTER BECKER

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Hunter Becker of Urbandale, Iowa for earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout designation is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Approximately two percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Hunter raised \$1,750 and led 31 volunteers in 70 hours of service to prepare the Timberline Soccer Complex in Waukee for the season, including preparing the goals and building or refurbishing six picnic tables. The work ethic Hunter has shown not only in his Eagle Scout Project but through his many accomplishments during his scouting career speaks volumes about his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family and community demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent Hunter and his family in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating him on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

#### TRIBUTE TO LOIS AND BILL JAY

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 24, 2017*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Lois and Bill Jay on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. The couple resides in Creston, Iowa.