

IN RECOGNITION OF KAREN
BAYNES-DUNNING

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Karen Baynes-Dunning for her noteworthy work as a lawyer and former Juvenile Court judge in the state of Georgia. Ms. Baynes-Dunning will be honored at the 18th Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 in Atlanta, Georgia. Since 1998, the Benham Awards have been presented to Georgia lawyers and judges in recognition of their commitment to volunteerism and the positive contributions to their communities.

Karen Baynes-Dunning earned a bachelor's degree in Politics from Wake Forest University in 1989 and a juris doctorate degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1992. She began her legal career as an associate at Alston & Bird in Atlanta. In 1996–1998, she served in the Fulton County Juvenile Court as the first Executive Director of the new Court Appointed Special Advocates program and then as Director of Program Development. In 1998, she was appointed as an Associate Judge in the Fulton County Juvenile Court.

Following these legal roles, Ms. Baynes-Dunning became involved in the world of academia. She served in the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia and was appointed as an Associate Professor at the University of Alabama College of Human Environmental Science. Drawing upon her experience with juveniles in the court system, she was appointed in 2013 to lead the State Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, an Alabama statewide juvenile justice reform effort. In Georgia, Ms. Baynes-Dunning now serves as President of Baynes-Dunning Consulting and as one of two Federal Monitors overseeing reform efforts in the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services.

With a passion for improving the lives of children and young adults in the court system, Ms. Baynes-Dunning has been a strong advocate for juvenile justice reform. She served on the American Bar Association's Project for Judicial Excellence in Child Abuse and Neglect Proceedings and taught a juvenile justice course as a Visiting Clinical Professor at Emory University School of Law.

Ms. Baynes-Dunning lives in Albany, Georgia, where her husband, Art Dunning, serves as president of Albany State University. She is an active member of many professional and civic organizations through which she continuously devotes her time to bettering the community, both in Albany and throughout the state of Georgia.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" Karen Baynes-Dunning undoubtedly lives by this philosophy. From her advocacy for young people in court to her efforts to reform juvenile justice, her work has made a tremendous impact on the lives of children and families.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, and the more than 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in congratulating Karen Baynes-Dunning on receiving a well-deserved

Justice Robert Benham Award recognizing her commitment and contributions to the community.

IN HONOR OF LIEUTENANT
COLONEL SAMUEL SILER

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Siler for his service in the U.S. Air Force and Army, his leadership with the Gloucester Township Council and as a community leader in many other areas.

Sam Siler passed away a week ago at the age of 84. He will be remembered by not only his wife Joyce, his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren but also by many people across this country. From Southern New Jersey to the Pentagon and beyond, Sam made a profound impression on the lives of many.

Lt. Col. Siler joined the armed forces and served with distinction in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He served with the United States Air Force for three years and with the United States Army for seventeen more.

Sam retired from the armed services in 1974 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and his honorable services with the armed forces earned him many medals, achievements and accolades that are a testament to the pride taken in him by his nation.

An active member of his community, Sam served on the Gloucester Township Council for over a decade including a year as President of Council.

Never forgetting his fellow veterans, Lt. Col. Siler never stopped volunteering for and leading efforts to support those less fortunate than himself. Additionally, the Blackwood Rotary Club benefited from years of his volunteering and fundraising efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Siler, was a great American whose dedication to serving our country and our community is an inspiration to us all. I join with his family, friends, and a grateful nation in honoring the selfless service of this extraordinary man.

TRIBUTE TO HANNA WOLLE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Hanna Wolle for being named a 2017 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2017 class of Forty Under 40 honorees

will join an impressive roster of 680 past business leaders and growing.

Hanna works in the Life Insurance Administration division of Principal Financial Group, but her true passion is music. A professional violinist, she plays with the Des Moines Symphony and has co-founded two musical groups, the classical string quartet, Quartet 515 and the DSM Dueling Fiddles group. She strives to break the traditional stereotypes of classical music, and through collaborations with musicians across genres, hopes to redefine how people interact and appreciate classical music.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Hanna in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize her today 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 Hanna on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2017 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

HONORING GREATER MOUNT ZION
AME CHURCH

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize the 108th Anniversary of Greater Mount Zion AME Church in Dania Beach, Florida.

First organized in 1909, Greater Mount Zion has a rich and inspirational history.

Not long after establishing its home in 1923, the church was demolished by a hurricane three short years later, leaving only a bible and the pulpit standing.

Church members worked faithfully and were determined to rebuild, even if only in spirit and worship, and under the stewardship of several pastoral leaders, the Greater Mount Zion family always pressed forward together.

Throughout the 1940s and 1950s Greater Mount Zion flourished as a spiritual beacon for Dania Beach residents and in the 1960s, a building fund was started with just five hundred dollars. This fund would increase over time and help the church continue to expand and grow until a permanent church home was built.

The resilience and determination of Greater Mount Zion is testament to the character and steadfast faith of leadership and parishioners alike.

They never allowed temporary setbacks to hold them down. With their unshakeable faith and hard work, members gained new strength with each year and in 1986, with the groundbreaking of a beautiful new church, they witnessed a dream become a reality.

Today, under the leadership of Reverend Paul R. Wiggins, Greater Mount Zion has elevated its congregation with an enthusiastic spirit to meet the needs of all its members, from the elders who persevered to keep the congregation alive, to the new generation who follow in the footsteps of their ancestors.

It is with great admiration that I commend the visionary leadership of Greater Mount Zion

AME Church and offer my heartfelt appreciation to the members for keeping the hopes and dreams of its founders alive for a century.

Thank you for being a blessing and bright light for so many in Broward County and congratulations on one hundred and luminous years. May you celebrate and serve the needs and spirits of many for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
HONORABLE LEROY JOHNSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work and service of a prominent attorney, exemplary civil rights leader, and former Georgia State Senator, the Honorable Leroy Reginald Johnson. Senator Johnson will be honored at the 18th Annual Justice Robert Benham Awards for Community Service on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 in Atlanta, Georgia. Senator Johnson will be awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award, the highest recognition given by the State Bar of Georgia and the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism to a lawyer or judge who has demonstrated an extraordinarily long and distinguished commitment to volunteer participation in the community throughout his or her legal career.

Leroy Reginald Johnson was born on July 28, 1928 in Atlanta, Georgia. He graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1945. He went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Morehouse College in 1949 and a master's degree from Atlanta University (now Clark Atlanta University) in 1951. From 1950 to 1954, Senator Johnson taught social science in the Atlanta school system. He then enrolled in law school at North Carolina Central University, earning his law degree in 1957.

Following his graduation from law school, Fulton County hired him as a criminal investigator, the first African American to be hired by the solicitor general's office (now the district attorney's office). As the Civil Rights Movement ramped up, he became involved in demonstrations and protests. When black college students conducted mass sit-ins at Rich's Department Store lunch counters in October 1960, he was present as one of the several community leaders advising the students, who included Julian Bond.

In 1962, he was elected to the Georgia State Senate, making him the first African American to be elected to the Georgia General Assembly since the end of the Reconstruction Era. He was also the first African American elected to public office in the Southeast United States that year. In the beginning, Senator Johnson faced many obstacles due to segregation but rose above the adversity, becoming an influential lawmaker and attaining the position of chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

All the while, Senator Johnson has maintained a successful law practice. He was the driving force in getting the legendary Muhammad Ali's boxing license reinstated in 1970. Ali had been stripped of his boxing license in the prime of his career due to his opposition to the Vietnam War. After big cities across the country refused to host a match in which Ali would

participate, Senator Johnson offered Atlanta as a location where the fight could take place. Senator Johnson fought behind the scenes to get state and local officials to agree so that ultimately, Muhammad Ali could fight inside the ring in a match that would lead the way for Ali to eventually reclaim the heavyweight crown.

Over the years, Senator Johnson received many awards and accolades for his legal, political, and social work. In 1996, his portrait was hung on the third floor of the State Capitol near the Senate chamber where he served for twelve years. In 2000, the Senate passed a resolution renaming a portion of Fulton Industrial Boulevard as Leroy Johnson-Fulton Industrial Boulevard. Senator Johnson has accomplished much in his life but none of this would be possible without the love and support of his wife, Cleopatra, and son, Michael Vince.

On a personal note, I have had the great pleasure of knowing Senator Johnson since high school in 1964 when he spoke in Montgomery, Alabama at the Alabama State Association of Student Councils' meeting where I was presiding as State Student Council President. I was inspired by this successful lawyer and public official and was motivated to emulate his career path. I became a lawyer and twelve years after meeting him, I was elected to the Georgia General Assembly and later, to the U.S. Congress. I have truly been blessed by Senator Johnson's friendship, counsel and mentorship throughout the years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and my wife, Vivian, and the people of the state of Georgia, in honoring former State Senator Leroy Johnson for his outstanding professional achievements and service. We congratulate Senator Johnson on receiving the Justice Robert Benham Lifetime Achievement Award.

TRIBUTE TO MAGGIE WHITE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Maggie White for being named a 2017 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2017 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 680 past business leaders and growing.

Maggie is a staff attorney at EMC Insurance and a 2013 graduate with honors from Drake University School of Law. During her time at Drake University she served as the Projects Editor for the Drake Law Review. Before joining EMC, she spent three years in private practice focusing on employment litigation, and since 2015 has been recognized as a Great Plains Rising Star by Super Lawyers. In

her free time, Maggie enjoys running half marathons, trying new restaurants with her dinner club, and conquering the New York Times Sunday crossword.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Maggie in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize her today 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 Maggie on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2017 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

HONORING REVEREND JENNIE LOU
DIVINE REID

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor South Florida spiritual leader Reverend Jennie Lou Divine Reid.

Reverend Reid serves as spiritual leader of St. Faith's Episcopal Church in Cutler Bay, Florida and is retiring after seventeen years of service as an ordained minister.

Reverend Reid has provided religious guidance to church members and their families, enhancing their spiritual lives through music, art and liturgy. She has continuously uplifted vulnerable populations through her selfless work with the parish food pantry, her dedication to seniors in a nearby retirement community, and her work with Episcopal Charities.

Further demonstrating her commitment to social justice, Reverend Reid has ensured everyone may worship comfortably and created a Spanish congregation and a regular service for those affected by AIDS.

Reverend Reid's heart is larger than life. Her compassionate nature serves as an example for not only church members, but for all who are fortunate enough to be touched by her generous spirit.

Her wisdom and guidance will certainly be missed by parishioners whom she has counseled and cared for throughout the years. Under her leadership, St. Faith's has grown and thrived as a beacon of hope in the South Miami-Dade community.

I am proud to call Reverend Jennie Lou Reid my good friend and congratulate her on a well-earned retirement.

IN HONOR OF CHARLES J. COLGAN

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I, along with my colleague Representative ROBERT WITTMAN, rise today to honor the life of Virginia State Senator Charles J. Colgan, who passed away on January 3, 2017 at the age of 90. As the longest serving member of the Virginia Senate, he was well known for his bipartisan approach to serving Virginians and his constituents. His exemplary demeanor and