

CONGRATULATING JASMINE  
EVERS OF THE EUGENE EAGLES

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2018*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jasmine Evers of the Eugene Eagles for her first-place finish in the Discus Event at the 2018 Missouri Class 2 State Track and Field Championship.

Jasmine and her coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Jasmine Evers for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF RETIRED MISSISSIPPI FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT CHANCERY JUDGE CHARLES D. THOMAS

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2018*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of one of Mississippi's most devoted citizens and public servants, retired Chancery Judge Charles D. Thomas. Judge Thomas passed away on Thursday, April 19, 2018. Judge Thomas was born on August 28, 1936, in Collins, Mississippi. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. William Otis Thomas, Sr.

Upon graduation from high school, Judge Thomas attended school at Marion Institute in Alabama. He earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of Mississippi School of Law. Following graduation, Judge Thomas began a distinguished career practicing law at the Doty and Thomas Law Firm in Pontotoc, Mississippi. Judge Thomas was well-known for his skills as an attorney which served him well when he entered into public service as the First Judicial District of Mississippi Chancery Court Judge in 1993. Governor Kirk Fordice appointed Judge Thomas to fill the remainder of the term that was vacated by First Judicial District Chancery Judge Jim Roberts.

Bill Benson, Lee County Chancery Court administrator, said that Judge Thomas was a good judge who was known for being fair. "Judge Thomas was a fair judge with rulings that were on point," Benson said. "He was well in command of his courtroom. You had no doubt who was in charge."

Judge Thomas was also known to be a loyal friend. If you were his friend, he would go to any lengths to help you. Danny Weatherly, a devoted friend of Judge Thomas in Pontotoc, said he was a person who enjoyed conversations with people from all walks of life. "He was an intelligent, successful man and down to earth," Weatherly said. "He loved to fellowship with everyone—especially those who loved Ole Miss Athletics as much as he did."

Judge Thomas made friends in both the civilian and military worlds. He was a U.S. Army veteran. He served as a commander in the Pontotoc National Guard. Additionally, Judge

Thomas was a member of the Pontotoc American Legion Post #16 and the Pontotoc Masonic Lodge #81. Judge Thomas was an active member of the Pontotoc Rotary Club. He also served on the First National Bank Board of Directors.

In 2006, Judge Thomas retired from public office and spent much of his time studying his favorite book—the Holy Bible. He was known as a scholar of the Bible and enjoyed studying scripture in a variety of translations. His favorite Bible verse was John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Judge Thomas is a man I am grateful to have known. His devotion to God, America and his fellow man will always be remembered. My thoughts and prayers are with Judge Thomas' family and friends.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENTIAL AWARD WINNER DR. MARIA DELORES CIMINI OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT ALBANY

**HON. PAUL TONKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2018*

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate an extraordinary constituent, Dr. Maria Delores Cimini, who was recently awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring by the National Science Foundation.

As a leader and mentor, Dr. Cimini has helped countless individuals, especially women with disabilities, study science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Drawing on her background as a psychologist and her own experience living with a visual disability, she has paved the way for many to follow their curiosity and realize their potential through STEM education.

Dr. Cimini currently works as an Adjunct Clinical Professor in the School of Education at the University at Albany, a position she's held for more than 20 years. She has also served as Assistant Director for Prevention and Program Evaluation of the University's Counseling Center for more than 10 years.

Our National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Department of Education have both recognized Dr. Cimini with numerous awards for her extraordinary work. In 2012, President Obama recognized her in a White House ceremony as a "Champion of Change in STEM." Her repeated national recognition reflects her enduring work that has changed the lives of so many.

I am honored to congratulate Dr. Cimini for earning her most recent impressive distinction, and thank her for her selfless commitment to serving and educating others. We can all learn from her example.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2018*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, I was unavoidably detained and

was unable to make votes that evening. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" for:

Roll Call 314, H.R. 5793—Housing Choice Voucher Mobility Demonstration Act; and Roll Call 315, H.R. 5749—Options Markets Stability Act.

CONGRATULATING HARRISON  
FRAN OF THE RUSSELLVILLE INDIANS

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2018*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Harrison Fran of the Russellville Indians for his first-place finish in the 800m Run at the 2018 Missouri Class 2 State Track and Field Championship.

Harrison and his coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Harrison Fran for a job well done.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LYNN JENKINS**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2018*

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for Roll Call votes No. 316, 317, 318, 319, and 320 on the evening of July 11, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 316; Yea on Roll Call No. 317; Yea on Roll Call No. 318; Yea on Roll Call No. 319; Nay on Roll Call No. 320; and Yea on Roll Call No. 321.

HONORING MENTIS, NAPA'S CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2018*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mentis, Napa's Center for Mental Health Services, for its 70 years of service to Napa County, California.

Mentis opened in 1948 as Family Service, an agency dedicated to assisting Napa's veterans and their families. In 2015, the organization moved to a new, expanded clinic and changed its name to Mentis, Napa's Center for Mental Health Services, to reflect the expansion of its work to accommodate residents of every age, stage, and income level.

The staff at Mentis is committed to giving the best possible assistance and seeks to meet clients wherever they have need, including at schools, senior living homes and family resource centers county-wide. The dedicated staff members provide bi-lingual services that are tailored to the clients' backgrounds and cultures. Through these efforts, Mentis is able to assist community members that may have

no other options available. Mentis achieves excellent results well above the national average, with 80 percent of its clients reporting improvements in emotional wellness and daily functioning.

Mentis is the oldest continually operating non-profit in Napa County, and in its 70 years of service, Mentis has proven to be a mental health champion for all of our Napa community. With the help of partners all around the County, Mentis runs a diversity of programs including supportive housing programs, dementia and depression interventions for older residents and those recovering from natural disasters. Its work was invaluable during the October 2017 wildfires. The staff at Mentis provided support and counsel for 700 individuals and families who were affected by the fires that tore through our community.

Mr. Speaker, Mentis, Napa's Center for Mental Health Services, has been an incredible resource for our community for the last 70 years. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor its continued service here today.

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CONGRATULATING ANNA HEACOCK  
OF THE FESTUS TIGERS

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2018*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Anna Heacock of the Festus Tigers for her first-place finish in the 300m Hurdles at the 2018 Missouri Class 2 State Track and Field Championship.

Anna and her coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Anna Heacock for a job well done.

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TRIBUTE TO JOHN MACK

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2018*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American and South Carolina native, John Mack. John, the former longtime President of the Los Angeles Urban League who spent eight years on L.A.'s Police Commission passed away June 21st after a long battle with cancer. He was 81 years old and will be sorely missed.

The Los Angeles Times recently wrote John Mack was "one of L.A.'s most influential black figures" on the subject of police reform. He led the Los Angeles Urban League through wide-ranging and significant changes for nearly 36 years. He saw the election of the first black mayor in Tom Bradley, the advancement of African Americans in prominent positions in the city and the emergence of a growing black-Latino coalition, and gained international recognition in 1992 when leading then-President George H.W. Bush on a tour after the 1992 Los Angeles riots that were precipitated by the arrest and videotaped beating of Rodney King by members of the Los Angeles po-

lice Department; and called for the resignation of then-Police Chief Daryl F. Gates.

The Times continued, "[t]hrough the Urban League he offered services to some of L.A.'s most disenfranchised citizens" and "improved the lives of countless black and brown people in the city." Even after his retirement from his official duties, Mack remained influential behind the scenes and recently played a key role in the hiring of a new police chief strong on police reform and the effort to eradicate police brutality and racism within the LAPD.

John Mack was born in Kingstree, South Carolina on January 6, 1937, and grew up in Darlington, South Carolina. His father was a Methodist minister and his mother a public school teacher. Being PKs (preacher's kids), was a bond we shared throughout our many years of friendship. He attended North Carolina A&T State University, where he was the president of the NAACP chapter. He graduated in 1958 with a degree in applied sociology. He later earned a master's degree in social work from Clark Atlanta University.

John began his professional career in Oxnard, California at the Camarillo State Mental Hospital. He later served as the executive director of the Flint Urban League in Flint, Michigan from 1964 to 1969. He returned to California for good in 1969.

In 1959, John married Harriet Johnson Mack, an elementary school teacher, who preceded him in death. They had three children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in acknowledging the work and leadership of the late great John Mack.

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CONGRATULATING EMMA  
HOMFELDT OF THE CALVARY  
LUTHERAN LIONS

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2018*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Emma Homfeldt of the Calvary Lutheran Lions for her first-place finish in the 800m Run at the 2018 Missouri Class 1 State Track and Field Championship.

Emma and her coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Emma Homfeldt for a job well done.

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PAYING TRIBUTE TO LARRY LANDIS  
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS  
RETIREMENT AS EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR OF THE INDIANA  
PUBLIC DEFENDER COUNCIL

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2018*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Landis on the occasion of his retirement as Executive Director of the Indiana Public Defender Council. For the past 41 years, Larry has devoted his life to ensuring those unable to afford counsel have ex-

ceptional legal representation. For the entirety of his career, Larry was instrumental in public defense reforms, developing and advising talented lawyers, and encouraging others to become public defenders. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for Larry's commitment to the law and for educating decades of Indiana law students.

A lifelong Hoosier, Larry was raised in Highland, Indiana. He attended Indiana University where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in business in 1969. Interested in the legal system, he earned his juris doctorate from the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law in 1973. A true public servant, Larry began his law career as a deputy state public defender. His passion for legislation advocacy led him to work on criminal code reform in 1976, 1977, and in 2014, which focused on ensuring Indiana's criminal justice system values restoration over punishment. Throughout his career, Larry worked with the Indiana General Assembly in crafting criminal and juvenile justice bills. His many appearances testifying before the Indiana General Assembly, as well as providing significant input on most bills affecting the criminal justice system has been invaluable to the state of Indiana.

An exceptional leader, Larry helped establish the Indiana Public Defender Council when it was created in 1977. In 1980, he became Executive Director where he conducted over 350 seminars and workshops, published six manuals and numerous articles on criminal defense, and lectured on a variety of criminal justice topics. He later drafted legislation that created the Indiana Public Defender Commission in 1989, an organization that recommends standards for low income defense in capital cases, adopts guidelines of salary and fee schedules for individual county reimbursement eligibility, and reviews and approves requests for reimbursement in capital and non-capital cases. Ever dedicated to the Commission's mission, Larry now serves as an advisor.

Passionate about education, Larry became an adjunct professor in trial advocacy at IU McKinney Law School in 1981, where he founded the Trial Skills Practice course. Larry recruited a network of highly respected and qualified trial lawyers and judges to teach, providing students with an exceptional experiential learning experience. As a third year IU McKinney Law student in 1985, I am among the countless lawyers who benefited from Larry Landis's Trial Skills Practice class. More importantly, a multitude of clients have benefited from the enhanced skills of those fortunate enough to have participated in this critically important course for future trial lawyers.

Larry has been honored with numerous awards in the public and private sectors. Notably, he received the Hoosier Freedom Award from the Indiana Trial Lawyers Association in 2012, the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) in 2010, as well as the Part-Time Teaching Award from Indiana University President Michael McRobbie, in 2010. Additionally, he received the Marc Emery Award from the Marion County Public Defender Agency Board of Directors in 2007, the Distinguished Teaching Award from Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis in 1998 and 1999, the Reginald Heber Smith Award from the National Legal Aid and Defender Association in 1996, and the Criminal