

community, Dr. Cornforth has always provided care with the highest standard of excellence. Dr. Cornforth's dedication to serving others extends far beyond practicing medicine. In 2012, he and his wife, Edna, donated one million dollars for the cancer center at San Joaquin Community Hospital, its lobby now named the Cornforth Family Pavilion. Dr. and Mrs. Cornforth's generosity to those in need is truly commendable and has made a lasting, positive impact on the Central Valley community.

Today, Dr. Cornforth retires from his practice in Delano, Donald E. Cornforth, M.D., Inc., and from his position as Chief Medical Officer at the San Joaquin Community Hospital, where he also served as the head of their nationally recognized Stroke Center for three years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in thanking Dr. Cornforth for his service to his country, the medical community, and the Central Valley.

#### CONGRATULATING THE THOUSAND ISLANDS BRIDGE AUTHORITY ON ITS 80TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 17, 2018*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Thousand Islands Bridge Authority on its 80th anniversary.

On August 18, 1938, President Franklin Roosevelt and Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King officially opened the Thousand Islands Bridge System, marking a key connection between the North Country and Ontario. Made using 30,000 barrels of cement, 6,550 tons of steel, and 575,000 Canadian and American man hours, the system of five bridges covers 8.4 miles and serves over 2,000,000 vehicles annually in the Thousand Islands region of the St. Lawrence River. For 80 years, the Thousand Islands Bridge System has not only served as a key economic route for American and Canadian businesses and tourists, but has also fostered the sharing of knowledge and culture between the United States and its important ally.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to commemorate the Thousand Islands Bridge Authority and its 80 years of service to the North Country and Ontario.

#### IN MEMORY OF ARETHA FRANKLIN, LEGENDARY PERFORMING ARTIST, CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST, CULTURAL ICON, AND FIRST LADY AND QUEEN OF SOUL

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 17, 2018*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the extraordinary and consequential life of Aretha Franklin, the "First Lady and Queen of Soul."

Aretha Franklin passed away this morning at the age of 76 at her home in Detroit after waging a long and valiant battle against pancreatic cancer.

For more than a half-century the world was thrilled, inspired, and captivated by the scintillating presence and magical voice of the woman instantly known and recognizable the world over simply as "Aretha."

Born in 1942 in Memphis, Tennessee, Aretha's family eventually relocated to Detroit, where she was raised and learned to sing.

When Aretha was 10, her mother passed, and a number of women, including the legendary gospel singer Mahalia Jackson helped take care of Aretha and her siblings.

It was around this time that Aretha started playing piano, singing and performing gospel songs at her father's church in Detroit.

On singing in church Aretha once remarked, "You have the ethereal feeling there. It is the house of the Lord. It is the Supreme Being. So there is no greater space to sing in than the church."

Aretha recorded a gospel album when she was just 14 and four years later signed with Columbia Records then Atlantic Records, where she achieved international recognition for internationally loved songs such as "Rock-a-Bye Your Baby with a Dixie Melody" and "Natural Woman."

Aretha's music defined a modern female archetype: sensual and strong, long-suffering but ultimately indomitable, loving but not to be taken for granted.

Aretha's contributions to music and pop culture received several honors throughout her life.

She won a total of 18 Grammy awards; the first in 1967 for "Respect."

Aretha's "Respect," the Otis Redding song that became her signature anthem, was never just about how a woman wanted to be greeted by a spouse coming home from work.

It was a demand for equality and freedom and a harbinger of feminism, carried by the voice of a woman who would accept nothing less.

Aretha's rendition of "Respect" resonated beyond individual relationships to the civil rights, counterculture and feminism movements.

As Aretha wrote in her autobiography, "It was the need of the nation, the need of the average man and woman in the street, the businessman, the mother, the fireman, the teacher—everyone wanted respect."

Aretha was later honored with a Grammys Legend Award in 1991 and a Lifetime Achievement Award in 1994.

In 2014, Aretha reached a new milestone by becoming the first woman to have her 100th hit on Billboard's Hot R&B and Hip-Hop Songs Chart.

In a career spanning more than 50 years, Aretha's performances marked certain pivotal moments in U.S. history.

A longtime family friend of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., she sang "Precious Lord" at the civil rights leader's memorial service.

Aretha was the first woman inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987.

Aretha's stirring rendition of the "Star Spangled Banner" at the 1992 Democratic Convention in New York City is considered one of the greatest of all time.

Aretha performed "America (My Country 'Tis of Thee)" at the inauguration of President Barack Obama.

And Aretha brought President Obama—and much of the audience—to tears six years later when she surprised Kennedy Center honoree Carole King with "Natural Woman" in 2015.

Aretha's legacy goes far beyond music.

By the standards of Paradise Valley, the business district and entertainment center of a densely-populated African-American residential area in Detroit, Aretha was a young woman of status and privilege.

Nevertheless she suffered the same humiliations as any black woman travelling through the South or venturing into the white precincts of Detroit.

By the time of the murder of Emmett Till, in 1955, her father, Rev. C. L. Franklin had opened New Bethel Baptist Church to the movement, and, from his pulpit, he denounced segregation and white supremacy.

When Dr. King came to Detroit, he stayed at the home of the Franklins.

On June 23, 1963, Rev. C. L. Franklin helped Dr. King organize the "Walk to Freedom," the march of more than a hundred thousand people through downtown Detroit that set the stage for the March of Washington two months later.

At Detroit's Cobo Hall, Dr. King, acknowledging "my good friend" Rev. C. L. Franklin, delivered a speech filled with passages that would become world famous two months later when spoken at the March on Washington: "This afternoon I have a dream," he told the crowd. "I have a dream," that "little white children and little Negro children" will be "judged by the content of their character and not the color of their skin."

Dr. King later confided to Rev. C. L. Franklin, "Frank, I will never live to see forty."

At Dr. King's funeral, in April, 1968, Aretha was asked to sing Thomas Dorsey's "Precious Lord."

Aretha was now a central voice in both the black community, eclipsing her father, and in the musical world.

In 1970, Aretha offered to post a \$250,000 bond to free Angela Davis, the demonized black activist then being held on charges of conspiracy, kidnapping and murder—charges of which she was later acquitted.

Quoted in Jet magazine at the time, Aretha said: "Angela Davis must go free. Black people will be free."

Mr. Speaker, it is easy to forget how unusual this was in an era when Aretha's Grammy-winning albums were still sold in segregated "race music" sections of record stores and when even the suggestion that a black woman might one day appear on the cover of September Vogue, as Beyoncé now does, would have seemed like a pipe dream.

It is important, too, to note that wearing an Afro or the head wraps Aretha was early to adopt was once as risky a political statement as taking a knee would later become.

And while many of her musical contemporaries rarely ventured from their sartorial safe zones, Aretha remained boldly and exuberantly unconstrained in her tastes, confident about demonstrating both her individuality and her economic might by doing as another powerful black woman, Oprah Winfrey, one day would.

Mr. Speaker, Aretha was a musical, spiritual, and cultural leader for America and around the world.

Aretha exemplified the best of America—powerful, compassionate, fearless, and kind.

Aretha personified the community from which she came: forever young, gifted, and black.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of one of the

greatest performing artists in American history, the inimitable, indomitable, and irrepressible Aretha Franklin, the First Lady and Queen of Soul.

# SOROS MUST STOP MEDDLING IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS OF OTHER NATIONS

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 17, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, billionaire George Soros is undermining our democratic allies in Europe. For decades he has spent billions of dollars financing activists, journalists, and politicians to challenge democratically elected leaders who do not prescribe to Mr. Soros' left-wing worldview. His meddling in foreign politics is far from a noble cause and should be discouraged.

Mr. Soros has targeted much of his efforts on our NATO ally Hungary, where he opposes the policies of the democratically elected prime minister. By trying to subvert an elected leader, Mr. Soros and his network of well-paid activists are working against the will of the Hungarian people. Through his propaganda networks and so-called "policy institutes" he is trying to manipulate public opinion to support his left-wing causes and tarnish the image of our Hungarian allies.

Like every sovereign democratic nation, Hungarians have the right to elect their own leaders and not be the target of some billionaire's schemes. Mr. Soros is even using his lavishly funded organizations to lobby other European states to pressure Hungary. This is unacceptable. We too, as an independent free nation, do not want big money or foreign influences meddling in our political process.

Mr. Soros must cease undermining our freedom-loving allies. His foreign wealth should not afford him outsized influence to push his left-wing agenda on the people of Hungary. If we want money and foreign influence out of politics here, we must expect that wealthy Americans show the same respect abroad.

And that's just the way it is.

# CONGRATULATING THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS NATIONAL SPEECH AND DEBATE ASSOCIATION TEAM

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO  
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 17, 2018*

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the 28 young men and women from the Northern Mariana Islands who competed laudably at this year's National Speech and Debate Association National Tournament in Fort Lauderdale, Florida in June. Members of the Marianas team in both the junior and senior divisions performed excellently, some even placing in the top 10 in the country.

The Junior Team earned handsomely with Elaine Fernandez of Francisco Sablan Middle School and Jonathan Wolf of Dandan Middle School both making it to the finals and placing

number five in the nation in their categories, Story Telling and Humorous Interpretation, respectively. Vladimir Palma of Hopwood Middle School placed in the semi-finals, finishing top eight in the nation.

Placing in the quarter finals for the Junior Team were Jonathan and Lars Wolf, who finished top 24 in the nation, with Jonathan also placing top 24 in Poetry Reading. Vladimir Palma placed top 30 in the nation in Prose Reading.

The rest of Junior Team members performed excellently and included Patreisha Concillado and Elaine Fernandez from Francisco Sablan Middle School; Dane Hodges and Cevina Huang from Saipan International School; Juliet Innocencio, Oceana and Issa Teigita from Dandan Middle School; Vivien Liu and Edgardo Palma from Hopwood Middle School; Jill Mallari from Mount Carmel School and Christian Pamintuan from Green Meadow School.

On the Senior Team, Kate Ishida of Marianas High School placed in the semi-finals, earning number 12 in the nation in Poetry Reading. She also placed in the quarter finals in Prose Reading, finishing in the top seven percent in the nation. Elizabeth Rose Jones of Kagman High School placed in the quarter finals and earned number 15 in the nation in Expository Speech.

Senior Team members who placed highly include Shea Hartig of Saipan International School who places in the top 17 percent in the nation for Impromptu Speech and top 38 percent in Poetry Reading. Su Min (Melody) Woo of Grace Christian Academy finished in the top 36 percent for Prose Reading. Nina Validismo of Kagman High School, Jeremiah Fernandez of Saipan Southern High School and Elijah Joshua Pajarillaga from Grace Christian Academy all placed in the top 40 percent in the nation in their respective categories: Story Telling for the two former and Impromptu Speech for the later.

The rest of the Senior Team members performed superbly and included Neamah Fernandez from Saipan Southern High School; Jeff Melchor from Mount Carmel School; Esther Park, Kelvin Wolf, Joseph Zhang and Emma Timmons from Marianas High School; and Lanz Jabez Victoria from Grace Christian Academy.

These young orators were able to compete at such a high level with the guidance of all their coaches. The Junior Team was coached by Criselda Aldan from Mount Carmel School, Cary Bertoncini from Saipan International School, Lorelisa Espiritu from Great Meadow School, Maria Mettao from Francisco Sablan Middle School, Victoria Nishida from Hopwood Middle School, and Kristine Wolf from Dandan Middle School. Junior team coordinator and CNMI Representative to NSDA was Harold Easton.

The coaches for the Senior Team were Frank Borja from Saipan Southern High School, Grace Duran from Grace Christian Academy, Joy Jones from Kagman High School and Dencio Manglona from Marianas High School.

In addition to their performances in competition, the team was also able to meet fellow orators from the continental United States, at last connecting with a network of fellow students passionate about speech and debate. The team also made contact with colleges and universities that especially recruit speech and de-

bate students. Overall, it was a thoroughly enriching experience.

Please join me in congratulating the Marianas Team for their exceptional performances at the 2018 National Speech and Debate Association National Tournament.

# RECOGNIZING THE WHITAKER FOUNDATION

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 17, 2018*

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Whitaker Foundation and its pivotal role in developing the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES), which is now in its 50th year.

The Whitaker Foundation was founded in 1975 by Uncas A. Whitaker and other residents of Arlington, VA. Since its inception, the Whitaker Foundation has nurtured educational opportunities at universities across the United States through grants, faculty recruitment, and new educational programs, including no fewer than 30 biomedical engineering programs. These programs have increased the size and diversity of our engineering workforce by attracting the broadest representation of students to the pursuit of biomedical engineering.

BMES began in Atlantic City, NJ with a gathering of 83 founding scientists and engineers eager to make an impact upon medical care and human health. Since then, BMES has nurtured new disciplines within engineering, biomedical engineering, and bioengineering, which have led to new industries, career opportunities, and educational programs across the globe.

We honor the Whitaker Foundation today for its investment in BMES as we also celebrate BMES's 50th anniversary. In promoting BMES, the Whitaker Foundation created a permanent home for the educational and career development of biomedical engineers nationwide and promoted the development of biomedical engineering as the distinct discipline it is today.

# IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF DELIMA "DEL" GENARD

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 17, 2018*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Delima "Del" Genard, a resident of Acushnet, Massachusetts, who turns 100 years young on August 18th.

Del was born in Thetford Mines, Quebec, Canada in 1918 to parents Cesaire and Rose Anna Darcy. She was one of six children, with four brothers and one sister. Her family moved to the United States when she was an infant. During the Great Depression, Del left school in the 6th grade and began working to help support her family.

In 1939, Del became a United States Citizen, and two years later she married Alcide Genard on November 20, 1941. She was a devoted and loving stay-at-home mother to their three children: Priscilla, Robert, and Florence. During World War II, Del took care of