

This year, the Chamber selected Barbara Webber for her embodiment of professional excellence, her commitment to the community through years of service, and for her encouragement of fellow women leaders as she guides and assists them in reaching their full potential.

Barbara has an unprecedented number of qualifications that helped earn her this award. Moving to Jefferson County in 1968, she quickly became known in the community as a beloved teacher and a familiar face at public meetings and events. For her more than 30 years of service as an educator, Barbara was recognized by the Carthage Central School District as a Distinguished Contributor and was inducted into their Hall of Achievement. Barbara made history when she was elected to serve as the first African American woman on the Jefferson County Board of Legislators. She has been steadfast in her support of Fort Drum and our troops, and was named one of the original Women of the Mountain for her dedication. As a member of dozens of volunteer-based organizations in the North Country, Barbara continues to devote her life to serving others. Her commitment to advancing young women stood out through her role on the New York State Board of Directors for the Miss New York Scholarship Pageant, where she has inspired hundreds of young North Country women to strive for excellence.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to congratulate Barbara Webber on her well-deserved award, and thank her for her commitment to strengthening our North Country community. Barbara sets a powerful example for serving others, and I am proud to recognize her for a lifetime of achievements.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT
JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great enthusiasm that I honor Saint John the Baptist Church in Gary, Indiana, as the congregation commemorates the church's 100th anniversary. The church members and leaders will be celebrating this momentous milestone, "100 Years on the Vine," with a Gala Banquet on September 21, 2018, followed by morning and evening services on September 23, 2018.

For the past 100 years, Saint John the Baptist has had numerous influential pastors lead its congregation in faith and community, including Reverend A.J. Allen, Reverend T.L. Ballou, Reverend Leon Davis, Reverend Ivor Moore, Reverend Julius James, Reverend Raymond McDonald II, Reverend Rodney Griffin, and the current pastor, Reverend R.E. Robinson, to name a few.

Saint John the Baptist's great history includes many poignant and significant moments. Because of Reverend Julius James' close friendship with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Dr. King made his first visit to Gary, Indiana. After the passing of Dr. King, Pastor James established the Ecumenical Celebration, which honors the legacy and goodwill of Dr. King. At that time, the church also started its not-for-profit housing development, The Saint John's Homes, which supported fair employment and housing in Gary.

Reverend R.E. Robinson and the congregation continue to serve the citizens of Gary as well as the entire community throughout Northwest Indiana. Under Pastor Robinson's leadership, the congregation continues to grow, and numerous community projects have been completed. For their service and guidance to those most in need, the members and leadership of Saint John the Baptist Church are worthy of the highest praise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Saint John the Baptist Church of Gary, Indiana, on its 100th anniversary. The congregation and leadership deserve the highest commendation for their devotion and commitment to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond.

HONORING BMC RACING

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize BMC Racing for their success in the 2018 Tour de France.

BMC Racing is headquartered in Santa Rosa, California, in my district. Headed by former American cyclist Jim Ochowicz, who serves as President and team manager, the team sent six cyclists to the Tour this year, including Tejay van Garderen of Tacoma, Washington.

At the 2018 Tour de France, BMC proved its abilities once again at the highest levels of competition in the cycling world. The team finished eighth overall in the 2018 Tour de France, emerged victorious in the Stage 3 Team Time Trial, and earned seven yellow jerseys—along with five stage victories. Individual team members also did well: Greg Van Avermaet stood in first places for eight consecutive stages, while Damiano Caruso finished in 20th place overall.

The BMC organization regularly trains in Santa Rosa and the wine country area. They are also active in the community. Their "Cycle with Champions" ride is done in conjunction with Team Swift, a local youth cycling organization, and many organization officials have ties to the Santa Rosa region. BMC has a history of producing champion cyclists, and once again displayed their resilience and dedication in 2018. At the finish line, Damiano Caruso summed up the overall morale of the team, saying, "At the end of three weeks, I can say that my experience was positive."

Mr. Speaker, BMC Racing has deep roots in the Santa Rosa community, and continues to inspire generations of young cyclists. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor the cyclists and owners on their accomplishment in this year's Tour de France.

THANKING MR. JOHN LARRY CARTER
FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE
HOUSE

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, on his retirement on October 3, 2018, I rise today to thank John

Larry Carter for over 36 years of outstanding service to the United States House of Representatives.

John "Larry" Carter is a rarity, in that he spent nearly his entire career at the U.S. House of Representatives. He also joined the U.S. Navy Reserves in October 2000 and continues to serve the Reserves today, rising to the rank of Chief Petty Officer, conferred on September 16, 2016.

Thinking at first it was an April Fool's joke, Larry began his Congressional journey on April 1, 1982 as a laborer under the Clerk, Don Anderson, moving furniture throughout the House campus and working as a store-room clerk. Due to his outstanding work ethic he quickly moved up the ranks to Inventory Control Specialist and began inventorying furniture and completing service orders.

In the span of 3 short years, Larry was a laborer's helper, group leader, warehousing specialist and eventual finisher in the Finishing Shop. It is here in the Finishing Shop with the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) that Larry really shined. He spent the bulk of his career in the Finishing Shop, utilizing his experience from vocational school, to work on such projects as the House Floor, chairs and seats in the House Chamber, the dais, the House Speaker's Chair, and the page desks in the back. One of his major accomplishment is the original lectern still used today on the House Floor. Larry's imprint is on many furniture pieces in Congress and will no doubt be his legacy.

Larry was promoted to Manager of Furnishings in 1999, a position he still holds today, and considers one of his greatest career accomplishments. Larry's enthusiasm for doing the right thing and helping others to understand the challenges of safety and perfection for finishing furniture is immeasurable. Larry's list of accomplishments is long, and some of his most exemplary work can be seen on Speaker Tip O'Neill's Desk and the desk of Speaker Tom Foley, which included hand-painted birds on the desk. The finishing work that he and his staff completed in the House Chamber on the chairs and dais, will surely stand the test of time. He also made major contributions to 17 Congressional Transitions, assisted with Departmental budgets, developed his employee's training plans, and mentoring them to accept greater responsibilities and an appreciation for fine furniture.

Larry, as an aviation enthusiast, has mentioned as one of his fondest Congressional memories, besides all his finishing work accomplishments, is when he had the privilege to meet the Tuskegee Airmen at the Rayburn House Office Building. They were being feted and awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, Congress's Highest Civilian Award, bestowed in 2006.

His compilation of the great antiquities found on the Hill truly is a great legacy he will leave behind since it will help future historians better understand the Capitol's and House of Representatives' true treasures. Mr. Carter has always been prompt, courteous, and helpful in dealings I have had with him. His expertise, skill, and knowledge will be missed.

Following his retirement, Larry intends to stay in Military Service and would like to spend more time with his wife of 25 years, Debby, and his three children. He plans to continue his active lifestyle, fishing, running, teaching aviation, and spending quality time with his family.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend congratulations to Larry for his many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish him many wonderful years in fulfilling his retirement dreams.

HONORING SGT JESSE LEE
BUCHANAN, SR.

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Sgt Jesse Lee Buchanan, Sr.

Jesse was born on March 3, 1947 to the late John G. Sr. and Margaret Buchanan in Anniston, Alabama. Jesse attended Thankful Elementary School and graduated from William C. Overfelt in San Jose, California. He attended San Jose City College, Daniel Payne and in 1965 attended Florida A&M and played semi-professional football for the 1967 San Jose Patches. He also played with the Oakland Raiders before being drafted in the U.S. Army.

While serving in Vietnam, Jesse was wounded after being shot 18 times.

After being wounded, he was medically discharged with the Awards and Declarations which include: The National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal and the Purple Heart.

Jesse re-entered San Jose City College, San Jose State and then became employed with the State of Veteran's Administration and San Jose City as a traffic engineer. He later worked for Eastman Kodak where he retired.

Jesse has been married to Diane for 36 years and has four children: LaShawn Dearing, Celeste Paige, William Buchanan and Jesse Jr. They have also been blessed with eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Jesse attends Gaines Chapel A.M.E. Church and serves as a Trustee and Finance Advisor.

He is a member of the Thomas A. Williams Elks Lodge and was "Brother Elk of the Year" in 2014. He is also a member of the American Legion Post and the Masonic Jackson Pride.

In 2018, Jesse flew to Washington, D.C. with the Alabama Freedom Flight to see the Vietnam Wall and Korean Memorial.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Jesse for his service to our country.

TRIBUTE TO MARCIA AND STEVE
FRESE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Marcia and Steve Frese of Bridgewater, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Marcia and Steve's lifelong commitment to each other truly embodies our Iowa 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 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Marcia and Steve Frese on this meaningful occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued happiness.

HONORING PLEASANT HOPE
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable historical church, Pleasant Hope Missionary Baptist of Lambert, Mississippi and the great leadership it is under, Rev. Reginald G. Griffin.

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, sitting on the banks of Cassidy Bayou in Vance, Mississippi was originally granted to the African-American sharecropping community around 1902 to be used as a church and a school for African-American students. In those days especially in rural plantation settings where you had many sharecropping families, they only had church schools to attend. After the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the case of *Brown vs The Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*, changes had to be made in the delivery of education to African-American students. Due to the fact whites were trying to delay the impact of this landmark court decision that of separate but equal which later led to the forced integration of schools, they began to build public schools in the Mississippi delta, supposedly separate but equal in the 1950's and early 1960's. Therefore, as a result, New Hope Church was no longer needed to serve as a school; it was used solely for the edifying and uplifting of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the surrounding communities. Many of the members in the mid to late 20th century came from the A. L. King, E. Q. Vance and William Yandell plantations in South Quitman and Tallahatchie Counties in Mississippi.

Former Pastors were: the late Jim Jones, Jordan Taylor, Jim Lee, Joe Survillian, T. Terry, L.J. Rodgers, M.L. Long and former Pastor Oswald G. McCaskill. In February of 2002 Reverend Reginald Griffin answered his call to Pastor New Hope Missionary Baptist Church.

October 2005, Reverend Reginald Griffin, Pastor of the New Hope M.B. Church called a meeting with members of New Hope and Pleasant Ridge Missionary Baptist Church of Lambert, Mississippi, his former church prior to coming to New Hope. At this meeting, he put forth a plan to merge the two churches since both had declining memberships because of declining populations in the mostly sharecropping community. Through Divine intervention, the members of New Hope and the members of Pleasant Ridge agreed to the merge. The members of both congregations were given the task of renaming the new church. Pastor Griffin jokingly made the suggestion to name the new church Pleasant Hope and that name and other suggestions were voted on. By a slim majority vote in No-

vember 2005 the combined church officially became Pleasant Hope Missionary Baptist Church.

Pleasant Hope Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Reginald Griffin was officially chartered in the small town of Vance, Mississippi on Cassidy Bayou, located on the Southwest corner of the intersection of Highway 3 (Charley Pride Highway) and Walnut Road.

The oldest member of New Hope at the time of the charter was Mother Corrine Jackson Thomas, age 84, and the oldest member now is still Mother Corrine Jackson Thomas at age 97.

Since many of the members had long since moved from the plantations and had settled in nearby Lambert and Marks, and the fact that the historic building of New Hope was no longer suitable for conducting services, the membership set sites on a more secure and suitable location to build a new sanctuary further North where most of the members had moved.

After much prayer and searching, Pastor Griffin and the Deacons were led to an overgrown parcel of land in the heart of Lambert (the Town of Hope) which was perfect for Pleasant Hope's new location. The parcel was purchased, cleared and the new edifice was erected. There were many struggles along the way including but not limited to a straight wind storm that blew many of the rafters down on July 4, 2012, but on September 12, 2012 the first worship service was held in the newly built church at 945 Sixth Street in Lambert, Mississippi.

The decision was made to demolish the old structure that was Pleasant Ridge, and plans are in place to preserve the cemetery and use the land in a way that benefits the present membership of Pleasant Hope. Sadly, the original sanctuary of New Hope that had been reconstructed under the leadership of Rev. Myles Long in the 1980's was accidentally or intentionally burned to the ground on April 10, 2016. The origin of the fire has not been determined. The land on which the old New Hope Church sat, was also a cemetery and will be preserved as such in the years ahead. However, the original building held many memories since most of the current membership confessed a home in Christ there.

Pastor Griffin was led to change church service times from 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, and 11:00 a.m. morning worship to holding Sunday School inclusive with morning worship beginning at 9:00 a.m. The church's motto is "We are a church on the move for Christ, our doors and hearts are always open and you are always welcome". Over the years the congregation has grown spiritually. We now have two Associate Ministers: Minister Gloria Richmond Jackson and Minister Tanya Shegog Thomas. Church Officers Board of Deacons and Board of Trustees, Weddie Jackson, Sr. Emeritus, Tommie L. Jackson, Chairman, Jack Clark, Jr., Vice Chairman, Larry Thomas, Church Clerk/Secretary, Elizabeth S. Goins, Treasurer, Andrew Jarriett, Jr., Assistant Treasurer, Robert L. Jackson, Member, Charles Beasley, Jr., Reginald G. Griffin, Pastor.

Pleasant Hope Missionary Baptist Church welcomes members of the Lambert, and surrounding counties of Quitman, Tallahatchie, Coahoma and Panola to utilize our sanctuary for weddings, funerals, baptisms, and other