

Moving forward, Pastor Young became an entrepreneur. She is the owner of Hattie's Kitchen. Also, she founded Word of God Ministries, Inc. seventeen years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor Hattie Young for her dedication to serving others and giving back to the community.

HONORING FIREFIGHTER FRANCIS COOK FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Firefighter Francis Cook for fifty years of active service with the Crown Point Fire Department.

Firefighter Francis Cook has been an instrumental member of the Crown Point Fire Department since he joined in 1968. He has held numerous positions in the Department, including Fire Chief for two years. Throughout his 50 years of service, Firefighter Cook demonstrated a superb work ethic and a commitment to becoming an outstanding firefighter. In 2018 alone, he responded to 96 emergency calls and attended 43 training events, totaling just over 223 active hours. He also took advantage of opportunities to become a card holder for CPR and First Aid to assist with first response calls, and earned multiple NYS Firefighting Certifications.

Mr. Cook devoted 50 years of his life to fire protection, and is an exemplary member of his community. On behalf of New York's 21st district, I would like to thank Firefighter Cook for a lifetime of sacrifices and dedication to keeping the Crown Point and the surrounding communities safe.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on Friday, November 16. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call Vote Number 419 (Passage of H.R. 5787, the Strengthening Coastal Communities Act): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 420 (Passage of H.R. 6439, the Manage our Wolves Act): NO.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MR. JIM PAGLIARINI, PRESIDENT & CEO OF TWIN CITIES PBS

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jim Pagliarini, on his remarkable 21 years as the President and CEO of Twin Cities PBS or Twin Cities Public Television (TPT). Under Jim's leadership, TPT has become one of this nation's most successful,

innovative and prolific public television stations. While not only launching and producing popular programming and community facing initiatives, the successes of TPT have gone on to become nationwide models for how other PBS stations interact with their audiences and the communities they serve.

After seeing the power that television has to educate communities, and children especially, Jim earned a Master's degree in education from Temple University and went on to found the PBS station in Reno Nevada. He was one of the youngest station leaders in the nation at 29 years old. After successfully running the Reno PBS station, he was encouraged to apply for the position of President and CEO of TPT here in Saint Paul, Minnesota. His arrival in Saint Paul in 1997 marked the beginning of a new era for TPT.

Jim is often spoken of as a keen listener who cares about the thoughts and visions of those around him. His strategic vision, as well as the staff and leadership team he oversees, has enabled TPT to be a national leader in serving the community with a variety of offerings both on television and the web. Twin Cities Public Television is consistently one of the most viewed stations in the country and excels in offering programming and content to people at every stage of life, spanning from early childhood to later adulthood. Jim has not only been an enormous positive force for TPT, but has leveraged his talents and knowledge for the betterment of public broadcasting nationwide. In addition to serving and being re-elected to the national PBS board, in 2006 he took a partial leave of absence to lead strategic planning for all public television stations around the country.

One of the many successes that TPT has had during Jim's tenure as President and CEO has been a partnership with the state's non-profits to help them use the power of media to broadcast their values and missions to viewers across Minnesota. This initiative helped to launch the Minnesota Channel in 2003, which became a national model for public broadcasting community partnerships. During Jim's time at TPT, the station completed a \$40 million campaign to modernize their headquarters and invest in new digital work. It was the most ambitious campaign in TPT's history.

Under Mr. Pagliarini's leadership, Twin Cities Public Television has thrived and grown into a model public broadcaster. TPT is a shining jewel for Minnesota, and the Fourth Congressional District, where it is located in Saint Paul. Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing Jim all the best in his retirement, and to honor him for his years of educating and enriching the lives of Minnesota residents through his work at Twin Cities Public Television.

HONORING SCOTT SILVEUS

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Scott Silveus for his contribution to our state.

During my entire tenure in Congress, Scott has been a loyal friend and wise adviser.

Scott is also a leader in Indiana's agriculture industry, serving as an executive at Silveus Insurance Group. Our state is better off today because of his extraordinary leadership and service.

On a personal note, Scott is a brother in Christ. I have appreciated his prayers and encouragement over the years. I want to thank him for his friendship and support of my work in Congress. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for his family.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF A PLACE CALLED HOME

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 25th anniversary of A Place Called Home, a nonprofit organization in South Los Angeles which provides a safe, nurturing environment for local youth and families.

Debrah Constance created A Place Called Home in 1993 to provide a safe haven for teens needing to escape gang violence on the streets of South Central L.A. From its humble beginnings in the basement of a church, the organization has grown into a beacon of hope and opportunity that has served more than 20,000 young people and their families.

Today, under the leadership of executive director Jonathan Zeichner and a committed board of directors and staff, A Place Called Home offers programs that prepare young people for employment or higher education. These young people also receive opportunities to access counseling, tutoring, college scholarships, vocational preparation, and internships. The organization offers classes for parents as well.

A Place Called Home is a focal point for many community activities. Its Marion Brucker Community Auditorium hosts a theater program, as well as cultural events, town hall meetings, and candidate debates. The organization also hosts events for the community throughout the year, including meals and distributions of food, beds, clothing, books, toys, and school supplies.

In addition, A Place Called Home teaches the importance of civic and community engagement, and provides opportunities for community service throughout the year. It also features three gardens where young people grow and harvest organic fruits, vegetables and flowers.

As A Place Called Home reaches 25 years of service, it remains fully committed to elevating the lives and futures of young people growing up in challenging circumstances, so they can become the leaders, healers, teachers, scientists, farmers, and builders our country needs. The organization embraces social and economic justice for all. It stands for the rights and well-being of all peoples, no matter who they are, where they come from, or how they worship.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of all the students, families, and communities helped by A Place Called Home, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating this distinguished organization on its 25th anniversary. I wish A Place Called Home the very best as it continues its mission of helping underserved

youth improve their economic conditions and lead healthy, fulfilling, and purposeful lives.

HONORING MORNING STAR
BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable historical church, Morning Star Baptist Church of Robinsonville, Mississippi.

Morning Star Baptist Church has been a cornerstone for many Black Families in the Robinsonville, MS area since the late 1800's. Morning Star Baptist Church is in northwest Mississippi in Tunica County, Mississippi at 4816 Kirby Road, Robinsonville, MS 38664. Over the 120-year history of Morning Star Baptist Church, the leadership and members have endeavored to serve the community.

Morning Star Baptist Church began in August the 14th day of 1898 as a spiritual space for the Dunn Family and Kirby Plantation. It began on Kirby Road on this very same land site in a log cabin with a small group of Christians. Morning Star Church started with a prayer meeting and Sunday School. Mr. Walter Dunn, Sr. and Mrs. Lizzie Dunn family was granted the use of the land for Morning Star Church in the late 1800s by Mr. John Anderson Kirby.

The Pastors of Morning Star Baptist Church have worked to show strong leadership in the community. Pastor Sam Brown was the 1st Pastor and he laid the first Corner Stone in 1898. Morning Star Church has a list of Pastors "Godly Shepherds" who have helped to advance the important work in northwest Mississippi: 1.—Pastor Sam Brown, 2.—Pastor Tom Matton, 3.—Pastor Stackhouse, 4.—Pastor E.P. Johnson, 5.—Pastor Wallace, 6.—Pastor London, 7.—Pastor Brown, 8.—Pastor Warn Thomas, 9.—Pastor Gabe White, 10.—Pastor Brown, 11.—Pastor Underwood, 12.—Pastor Jenkins (Great Worker), 13.—Pastor Henry, 14.—Pastor C.H. Payne [He laid the second corner stone in 1926], 15.—Pastor R.B. Starks, 16.—Pastor Holden, 17.—Pastor J.L. Linzy, 18.—Pastor R.H. Hendrick, 19.—Pastor A.W. Parker, 20.—Pastor I.S. Lewis, 21.—Pastor Lundy Jones, Jr., and 22.—Pastor Charles Bowles (current Pastor).

Mr. Willie Dunn, the son of Mr. Walter Dunn, Sr., carried on the productive church work of his father at Morning Star Baptist Church for many years. As a community family church, Morning Star Baptist Church evolved from the original log cabin, to a wooden structure, to a concrete block building, to the current new brick church.

The "Old White Brick" Morning Star Baptist Church building was a "good building" that had simply worn down over time since it was rebuilt in 1963. During the early 1990's to 2003, the Morning Star Church Members under the leadership of Pastor Lundy Jones, Jr. and Deacon Louis Harris, Sr. had to do several major structural repairs to the building. The plumbing, septic tank, and the floors had to be repaired and replaced. The shifting of the building foundation caused the walls to crack and a cable system had to be attached to the walls to keep them from falling.

During the winter months, it was bone chilling cold and during the summer months, it was sweltering hot because the building only had ceiling and floor fans. The Deacons would also arrive early on Sunday mornings to chase out the snakes, wasps, and other pests. After years of doing construction work to maintain the Old Church Building, and with the need to expand the Old White Brick Church building, a critical decision had to be made. Around the new Millennium of 2000, Deacon James E. Dunn provided leadership and shared his vision with the Church Leaders that it would be more cost effective to build a new church than to continue to repair the old building along with the expansion project. Morning Star Church Members under the leadership of the Deacons started to talk about the need for a new Sanctuary. After twelve months or more of talking, planning, thinking, and praying, the process to build a new Morning Star Church-Sanctuary was agreed upon.

In January of 2002, under the inspirational leadership of Deacon James E. Dunn, the beginning concept of the "New Building" for Morning Star M.B. Church was accepted by the Morning Star Leadership. In January of 2003, Deacon James E. Dunn transformed his ideas and his professional building designs for the (New) Morning Star Church into a working building plan that was developed with the assistance of Architects Wenzel and Associates on May 14, 2003.

On April 19, 2003, a ground-breaking ceremony was conducted for the expansion of Morning Star Baptist Church Building. At that time, the Morning Star Church Family was presented with the Deed of Trust for the land by Mr. James and Mrs. Louise (Kirby) Ellis.

October of 2004, was the start of the physical construction of the ("New") Morning Star Church Building. Deacon James E. Dunn volunteered his time and service along with Taylor Construction to lay the concrete.

On July 3, 2005, the Morning Star Baptist Church Congregation walked over from the Old Morning Star Church to the (New) Morning Star Sanctuary for the 1st Sunday Worship. Since that time, Morning Star Baptist Church Family has continued to grow physically and spiritually.

Morning Star Baptist Church continues today along with other churches in Tunica County to serve the needs of the African American Communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Morning Star Baptist Church for its dedication to serving our community and great country.

ENCINAL VETERANS POST OFFICE

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present H.R. 1211, which will re-name the post office facility located at 400 N. Main Street, Encinal, Texas, as the "Encinal Veterans Post Office". This bill, shows our appreciation to our veterans and ensures their service and sacrifices to our country is not forgotten.

Across my district, fine men and women of all walks of life have honorably served our

country. It is critical that we honor their service and dedication to our nation. Dedicating this post office to our veterans will serve as an enduring reminder of the sacrifices that our friends, neighbors, and family made while serving their country. These individuals put country ahead of self, and I am proud to recognize them with the dedication of this post-office facility.

Today, I want to acknowledge the service of Judge Frank Weikel of Encinal. Judge Weikel enlisted in the United States Navy after high school and served for eight years. After his discharge from the Navy he worked at several companies before serving on the Encinal City Council and as Mayor Pro tempore. Eventually, he was elected Justice of the Peace for Precinct 2 in La Salle County.

The courage and dedication of Judge Weikel represents what it really means to be an American. He is amongst the many veterans in the State of Texas, and across the nation, who have served their country faithfully.

I would also like to take a moment to thank the veterans' organizations throughout my district for their tireless work in providing the care our veterans need. And in the words of President John F. Kennedy, "as we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them".

RECOGNIZING AUDRA McGEORGE

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Foreign Affairs Committee's Communications Director, Audra McGeorge, for her nearly 13 years of service to my team. Her honesty, intelligence, dedication and humor have been tremendous assets to my office.

While serving in my personal office, Audra's tireless hard work was consistently recognized and applauded by peers, constituents and congressional liaison offices. Starting as a staff associate and working her way into a senior staff position as my communications director, Audra excelled in the Hill's challenging and demanding work environment. She helped me navigate the new opportunities provided by digital media, including telephone town halls and website redesigns. It was also her creativity and hard work that started my first annual women's conference and made following conferences a success. While excelling at her demanding work duties, Audra concurrently earned a master's degree in national security.

When I became Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee six years ago, I knew Audra would provide critical insight, so I had her bring her talents to the Committee. From demanding CODELs to high profile hearings to prominent foreign dignitary meetings to landmark legislation, Audra has handled her duties with expertise and a charming spirit. She has been a critical part of the Committee's many accomplishments—reforming food aid, combating the significant obstacles facing women and girls worldwide, and tackling wildlife trafficking.

I cannot thank Audra enough—especially for all of the laughs we've shared over the years.