

PITTSBURGH SUPERCOMPUTING
CENTER RETIREMENTS

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note a major milestone in the life of the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center, a federally supported research facility in southwestern Pennsylvania. Three people responsible for founding and building the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center are retiring after many years of stellar leadership there.

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center, an institution established and managed by Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh, provides both public and private-sector researchers nationwide with access to high-performance computers for unclassified research. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center is also a leading partner in the Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment, the National Science Foundation's cyber-infrastructure program.

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center was founded in 1986 by two physicists, Michael Levine from Carnegie Mellon University and Ralph Roskies from the University of Pittsburgh, along with Jim Kasdorf, the Manager of Engineering Computer Services at Westinghouse. They believed that the Pittsburgh region needed a national high-performance computing center run by and for researchers.

Working with leading-edge suppliers, co-directors Levine and Roskies attracted and fostered a team that has designed and built highly advanced and productive high-performance computing systems. Back in 1986, Jim Kasdorf was the Manager for Engineering Computer Services at Westinghouse, where he was responsible for everything—planning, computer acquisition, systems programming, day-to-day operations, and user support. Despite those demands, he also took on spearheading Westinghouse's support for the new facility. Jim eventually joined the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center as Director of Special Projects, where he assisted with ongoing funding opportunities and technology developments.

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center rapidly earned a reputation for acquiring, installing, and deploying systems that were "serial number 1" or "serial number 2" and/or the first to ship to a customer, making it a highly productive research leader. As a result, each new system enabled a new generation of research to be conducted:

In 1987, Levine and Roskies established a biomedical group that created a unique resource for exploring the subcellular structure of the nervous system and also developed unique capabilities in the growing field of bioinformatics and spawned formal graduate and undergraduate programs across the country.

In the 1990s, Roskies personally made arrangements for time to be set aside on the center's Cray C90 for tornado prediction efforts that led to today's tornado predictions—the first time a supercomputing center had dedicated time to a single application for such societally important, time-sensitive work.

In 2001, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's Terascale Computing System ranked

number 2 on the Top 500 list of the world's most powerful computing systems.

In 2010, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center formed an internationally respected Public Health Applications Group.

Today, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's systems have increasingly focused on Big Data analytics, empowering a new generation of research in artificial intelligence, the life sciences, the social sciences, and the digital humanities.

The retirement of these three pioneers from their leadership posts at the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center offers an occasion for reflecting on their role in furthering the science of high-performance computing, expanding STEM and economic opportunities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and contributing to the region's expanding role as a hotspot for computing innovation.

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's work has had a profound impact on the Western Pennsylvania region and the Commonwealth as a whole. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center has established a tradition of using the latest information technologies for the advancement of research, education and corporate competitiveness in the region and the state. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's culture of encouraging innovation and entrepreneurial activity enabled the creation of the Three Rivers Optical Exchange, which today provides high-bandwidth research networking and/or low-cost commodity Internet to a growing list of institutions in the region and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including universities, research facilities and high schools.

To help build the region's STEM workforce, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center offers educational programs for students and teachers at the K–20 level. Open education resource materials (available on the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center website at www.psc.edu) are offered online as well as by many of these programs. The Bioinformatics Education for program STudents exposes teachers to modern molecular biology concepts by incorporating computational biology and bioinformatics into high school curricula. The Bioinformatics Education for program STudents curriculum has been adopted at 15 regional high schools.

In economic impact, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center has brought over \$500 million in outside funds into Pennsylvania, empowering high-performance computing-driven research findings at Carnegie Mellon and Pitt, as well as many of the region's other universities. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center has been responsible for generating 1,600 jobs and over \$200 million in annual economic activity. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's impact also includes helping to meet the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's need for a growing STEM workforce.

In addition to supporting the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center has put the state "on the map" in the high-performance computing community. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center has innovated high-performance computing software and architecture that has helped drive research around the world. The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's work in networking has helped provide the critical connections that enable researchers to make productive use of powerful resources that their in-

dividual institutions would never be able to afford. Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center software researchers have created a family of open-source tools that are helping to power Big Data analytics on a similar scale. Its biomedical and Public Health groups are fueling the fine-scale exploration of brain structure and revolutionizing public health efforts by optimizing medical supply delivery and revealing how offering people more options can encourage vaccination. And its championing of the creation of supercomputers tailored to new communities of researchers with Big Data needs—typified by the new Bridges system, which has set new standards for accessibility to researchers without supercomputing experience—have supercharged research efforts in fields that never before used high-performance computing.

This innovative approach to high-performance computing has touched scientists, engineers, and humanities researchers across the country and the world. In collaborations such as the Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment, the National Science Foundation's network of supercomputing centers, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center has played a leading role, providing computational, storage, and human resources that continue to power research projects coast to coast. The result has been a host of tremendous scientific advances made possible by its high-performance computing systems.

In the educational sphere, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center's NIH-funded Minority Access to Research Careers bioinformatics program helped 12 minority-serving institutions across the country institute classes or full curriculums in bioinformatics, preparing their students for 21st-century life sciences careers; the Minority Access to Research Careers program's summer institute offered summer research projects to undergraduate and graduate students at these institutions as well.

Levine and Roskies created an environment for innovation at each stage: assembling the team that won the first National Science Foundation award; hiring key people with unique skills; and then empowering them to make innovative contributions. Their 31 years of service in leading the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center fostered a community of scientific and computing researchers that enable scientific discovery by re-thinking the architecture and software of the systems they make available.

I want to commend Dr. Levine, Dr. Roskies, and Mr. Kasdorf for their more than 30 years of important contributions to science and the economy of Southwestern Pennsylvania. I want to congratulate them on a well-earned retirement and wish them the best in the years ahead.

IN HONOR OF MINISTER OLLIE W.
TARVER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and Happy Birthday wishes to a dedicated woman of God, community servant, and friend of longstanding, Minister Ollie W. Tarver, who is celebrating her 82nd birthday on Saturday,

February 17, 2018. On this day, there will be a celebration at Dawson Elementary School located at 180 Northstar Drive in Columbus, Georgia.

Minister Ollie Woods Tarver was born on February 17, 1936 in Hatchechubee, Alabama to the union of the late Mr. William Woods and Minister Mattie Mae Woods. A product of the Russell County School System, she graduated from Russell County Training School, and went on to earn a Bachelor's of Science degree from Albany State University and a Master's of Science degree from Fort Valley State University in Elementary Education. Throughout her career, she taught in the Muscogee County School System for 31 years.

Minister Tarver is not only a profound educator but also a strong spiritual leader. Throughout her pastoral career, she has played a leading role in several religious-affiliated and community-based organizations. In addition to serving as pastor of Ollie Tarver Ministries, she has also served as Chaplain for several institutions and entities including: Christian Life School of Theology; Beacon University; Columbus Chamber of Commerce; Columbus City Council; and Fountain City Care and Rehabilitation.

George Washington Carver once said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Minister Tarver has gone far in life because her everlasting faith in the Lord is vivid testimony of His greatness to all whom she encounters. Her love and commitment to Christ is reflected in her compassionate leadership, which makes her a guiding light within the community.

Minister Tarver has accomplished many things in her life but none of these would have been possible without the grace of God and her loving husband, Otis; their son, Earl; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. On a personal note, my wife Vivian and I have truly been blessed by Minister Tarver's sage counsel, encouragement, and enduring friendship over the many years that we have known her.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 constituents of the Second Congressional District of Georgia ask my colleagues in the House to join us in commending and recognizing Minister Ollie W. Tarver for her selfless service to God, the church, and to humankind. We extend our best wishes to her as she and her family and friends celebrate her 82nd birthday.

RECOGNIZING MS. HOLLY ADAMS FOR HER INTERNSHIP WITH THE UNI-CAPITOL WASHINGTON IN- TERNSHIP PROGRAMME

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Holly Adams. Holly has been an intern in my Washington, D.C. Congressional office since the beginning of January, through the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme (UCWIP).

For the past 19 years, the program has paired students from nearly a dozen partner universities in Australia with offices on Capitol Hill, giving hundreds of students the opportunity to work in the halls of Congress. I have been honored to host a number of extremely talented interns through the UCWIP. Holly is, of course, no exception.

Holly is currently enrolled at Deakin University in Geelong, Victoria, where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Laws Degree and a Bachelor of International Studies Degree. As a student of International studies, she has already travelled extensively, participating in international politics study tours in Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, New York, as well as Tokyo.

Holly has proven herself to be a very hard-working and dedicated individual. Throughout her internship, she has interacted extensively with my constituents, by drafting correspondence, helping to address questions, comments, and concerns for those contacting or visiting my office. She has also attended a number of hearings and briefings on a wide range of topics facing our nation and world.

Indeed, Holly proved herself to be so capable, she prepared a FY2019 Programmatic Request letter for circulation throughout the U.S. House of Representatives on rail safety. It is no wonder that she was chosen by her classmates to give the "valedictory" speech at her program's closing reception.

Last year, Holly was accepted to study international human rights at Kings College, London. I have no doubt that she will do great as she continues her studies. I am proud to congratulate Holly on all of her achievements, and to thank her for everything that she has done for my office, my district, state, and our country. She has a very bright and exciting future ahead of her, and I wish her the very best.

IN RECOGNITION OF JENNIFER FRIZZELL FOR HER 15 YEARS OF SERVICE AT PLANNED PAREN- THOOD OF NORTHERN NEW EN- GLAND

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere gratitude for Jennifer Frizzell as she moves on after fifteen years from her role leading public policy work for Planned Parenthood of Northern New England.

Throughout Jennifer's long career as an advocate for reproductive rights and improved access to family planning resources, she has helped support women across New Hampshire in obtaining well-deserved quality healthcare. Whether it's been advocacy to protect buffer zones outside of clinics or fighting against a lawsuit to prevent the opening of a Planned Parenthood in downtown Manchester, Jennifer has made invaluable contributions to our state and the country. Her commitment and compassion have improved the lives of countless women in need, and she has cultivated a better future for Granite State women and families.

On behalf of New Hampshire's Second Congressional District and all those who have

benefitted from Jennifer's work, I thank her for her incredible service and congratulate her on all that she has accomplished. I wish her the best of luck in the years ahead, and I look forward to our continued work together to make New Hampshire an even better place to live, work, and raise a family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote for Roll Call vote 70 on February 13, 2018. Had I been present, my vote would have been the following: Yea on Roll Call Vote 70.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I will miss votes scheduled for Wednesday, February 14 and Thursday, February 15, 2018 due to the planned funeral of my oldest brother George LoBiondo in Rosenhayn, New Jersey.

HONORING RONALD E. JACKSON FOR OVER 50 YEARS SERVING IN THE ESSEX FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ronald E. Jackson for over 50 years of service in the Essex Fire Department.

Ron joined the Essex Fire Department in 1964, where he held the roles of Fire Lieutenant, EMS Captain, Fire District Commissioner, Assistant Fire Chief, and Fire Chief. He remains active in the Department to this day, responding to fire and EMS calls as a volunteer member of Department.

For Ron, fire fighting runs in the family. He followed his father Gerald's lead in becoming a firefighter, and was glad to pass on the torch to his son, Craig, and his grandsons, Warren and Benjamin, who all currently serve.

Ron is truly dedicated to his community. When tragedy struck New York on September 11, 2001, Ron bravely served as a responder at Ground Zero in the days following the attack. A true public servant, Ron now serves as Essex Town Supervisor and formerly chaired the Essex County Republicans.

I would like to thank Ron for his many years of public service to the people of New York, especially to the town of Essex. His commitment to serving others sets a wonderful example for the residents of New York's 21st District.