

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 ENG- LAND

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.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEATING, REFRIGERATING, AND AIR-CONDITIONING ENGINEERS AND NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Anthracite Chapter of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) as it celebrates National Engineers Week. The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers was originally formed in 1894 as American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers. With its international membership of over 56,000, ASHRAE works to make sustainable advancements in technology for heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration.

Since 1951, National Engineers Week has celebrated the countless contributions engineers have made to our country. National Engineers Week is formally recognized by a coalition of more than 70 engineering, education, and cultural societies, with over fifty corporations and government agencies dedicated to raising public awareness on the effect engineering has on daily life. National Engineers Week honors also the parents, teachers, and mentors who instill the importance of math, science, and technological literacy in students and motivate them to pursue careers in engineering.

Many of the major challenges of our time have been resolved by modern engineering. From designing efficient building systems to rebuilding towns devastated by natural disasters, the efforts of engineers contribute to our nation's well-being and quality of life. It is a great privilege to recognize these honorable men and women, who are committed to using their scientific skills and specialized knowledge to create and innovative ways to fulfill society's needs.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SAVING AMERICA'S POLLINATORS ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, our nation's food system is in a crisis right now, and it goes beyond the state of the farm economy. Between 2016 and 2017, it's estimated that the United States lost one-third of its honey bee colonies. Over the past decade, documented incidents of honey bee colony collapse disorder and other forms of excess bee mortality have been at a record high. Some beekeepers reported repeatedly losing 100 percent of their operations. While this may not sound like a crisis to some, these insects play a critical role in pollinating a number of our nation's crops.

Honey bees and native bees jointly provide U.S. agriculture an estimated \$18 to \$27 billion in pollination service annually. One of every three bites of food we eat is from a crop pollinated by bees. This dramatic decline

threatens these crops, and thousands of scientific studies have implicated neonicotinoid pesticides, or neonics, as key contributors to this trend.

That's why today I am proud to reintroduce the Saving America's Pollinators Act. This bill would protect the health of honey bees and other critical pollinators and suspend the use of bee-toxic neonics. It also requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to complete a thorough assessment and ensure that any use of these insecticides does not cause unreasonable and adverse effects on pollinators.

The health of our food system depends on the health of our pollinators, and the EPA has a responsibility to get to the bottom of this issue. I urge my colleagues to join me and pass this legislation so that we can save our pollinators. The future of our food depends on it.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CIVIL WAR DEFENSES OF WASHINGTON NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill to recognize and preserve the Civil War Defenses of Washington located in the District of Columbia, Virginia, and Maryland. The defenses of Washington, including forts, unarmed batteries and rifle trenches, created a ring of protection for the nation's capital during the Civil War. This bill would redesignate the 22 Civil War Defenses of Washington currently under National Park Service jurisdiction as a national historical park, and allow other sites associated with the Civil War Defenses of Washington that are owned by the District of Columbia or a unit of state governments to be affiliated with the national historic park through cooperative agreements. This bill would also require the Secretary of the Interior to facilitate the storied history of the Civil War for both the North and the South, including the history of the Defenses of Washington and the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864, being assembled, arrayed and conveyed for the benefit of the public for the knowledge, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

The Civil War Defenses of Washington were constructed at the beginning of the war, in 1861, as a ring of protection for the nation's capital and for President Abraham Lincoln. By the end of the war, these defenses included 68 forts, 93 unarmed batteries, 807 mounted cannons, 13 miles of rifle trenches, and 32 miles of military roads. The major test of the Civil War Defenses of Washington came with the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864, when Confederate Lieutenant General Jubal Early, directed by General Robert E. Lee, sought to attack the nation's capital from the north, causing Union forces threatening to attack Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy, to be withdrawn. General Early was delayed by Union Major General Lew Wallace at the Battle of Monocacy on July 9, 1864, and was stopped at the northern edge of Washington at the Battle of Fort Stevens on July 11 and 12, 1864. The Shenandoah Valley Campaign ended when Union Lieutenant General

Philip Sheridan defeated General Early at the Battle of Cedar Creek, Virginia, on October 19, 1864.

Nearly all the individual forts in the Civil Defenses of Washington—on both sides of the Potomac and Anacostia rivers—were involved in stopping General Early's attack, and the Battle of Fort Stevens was the second and last attempt by the Confederate Army to attack Washington.

Taken together, these battles were pivotal to the outcome of the war and the freedom and democracy that the war represented for this country. It is therefore fitting that we recognize these sites by redesignating them as a national historic park.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDGE GREGORY D. BILL FOR RECEIVING THE 2018 PURPLE SPORT COAT AWARD

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judge Gregory D. Bill for receiving the Tertzag Tribute Dinner's 2018 Purple Sport Coat Award for his distinguished work as a judge. His commitment to justice and the Detroit community throughout his career with the 3rd Circuit Court of Michigan is worthy of recognition.

After receiving his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and his J.D. from Western Michigan University's Cooley Law School, Judge Bill began his own practice with a specialization in aviation law. He has always had a passion for public service and served as a legislative aide for a member of the Michigan State Senate, where he honed his knowledge of the state's issues and policy procedures. Judge Bill served as a member of Michigan's 20th District Court before receiving an appointment to the Wayne County Circuit Court, a position he has held since 2000. Throughout his tenure, he has served in a variety of capacities and currently serves in the criminal division.

Judge Bill has been an outstanding public servant throughout his decades of work with the judiciary and is widely recognized and respected for his legal expertise. His colleagues have previously recognized him for his work, including being awarded the Michigan Special Legislative Tribute for Outstanding Service to the People of Michigan. The Purple Sport Coat award is granted in honor of the late Judge Kaye Tertzag who was known for his integrity and strict interpretation of the law. Judge Bill lives up to the legacy of public respect and judicial integrity that Judge Tertzag is remembered for and is truly deserving of this award. He has provided outstanding service to our state throughout his career as a judge, and I look forward to his continued work in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Judge Gregory Bill for being named the recipient of the 2018 Purple Sport Coat Award for his distinguished work as a judge. Judge Bill has been an outstanding public servant during his legal career.