

Dr. Ravi Chaudary—Science and Technology

Dr. Ram Reddy—Entrepreneur

Dr. Prashanth N. Bharadwaj—Education

Mr. Jay Mandal—Journalism

Dr. Rajesh Mehra—Medicine

Ms. Swati Sharma—Arts and Culture

Northern Virginia, which I am proud to represent in Congress, is blessed by its diversity. We are home to more than 40,000 people of Indian descent and (one of) the largest number of Asian-American, including Indian-American owned small businesses and tech firms in the nation. This diversity enriches our entire community and contributes to our region being considered one of the best places in the country in which to live, work, raise a family, and start a business.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all of the recipients of the GOPIO Awards of Excellence on their accomplishments. I commend them for their service to their communities and to our nation, and I wish them success in all their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO A BORDER SECURITY EXPERT

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the professional achievements and service of my go-to border security guy and friend, Mr. Paul Anstine.

Paul has a long history of putting his country first. He served over seven years as a United States Marine, completing two tours in Iraq. But his service did not end there.

Paul found his way to the House of Representatives in 2007 with a determination to make this country safe from those who seek to do us harm. Paul spent the past eleven and a half years working in the halls of Congress, starting as a scheduler for my former colleague, Candice Miller of Michigan. Paul eventually worked his way up to become the Staff Director for the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security, also known as BMS, a position which he has masterfully held for the past seven and a half years.

Paul's role as Staff Director transcended beyond his leadership in conducting oversight of the Department of Homeland Security and crafting thoughtful, pragmatic legislative solutions. Paul's positive demeanor, data-driven mindset, and work ethic made his presence not only a valued component of the committee but also in my day-to-day role as Chairman. Paul served as a subject matter expert, confidant, and trusted senior advisor whose counsel I always held in the highest regard.

His expertise helped to inform new Committee members and elevate discussions at briefings and hearings. Paul's talents were most notably on display in his role crafting countless border and maritime security bills. Paul was also the lead author for over ten bills that were signed into law, including the first ever authorization of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the critical Visa Waiver Program Improvement and Terrorist Prevention Act. During his tenure, he also coordinated nu-

merous trips overseas and to the southwest border where he provided contextual information and expert analysis of the complex situation at the border to Members and Congressional staff.

Paul has left an outstanding legacy on the Committee especially with Steven Giaier, Jason Miller, Chad Carlough, Matt Coughlin, Keith Robinson, Mary Rose Rooney, Kris Ensley, Emily Trapani, Kris Carlson, Steve Roth, and Matthew Fournier, who he affectionately refers to as "Team BMS". Paul's quick wit, political savvy, and ability to see humor in all things will be missed profoundly.

Today, I am honored to be able to put the spotlight on him. I am hopeful that Paul's next chapter will allow him to spend more time with his wife, Rosella, and his two young boys, Alexander and Lucas. I know Paul's friendship and counsel will remain constant, and that his service to this Nation does not end here.

I thank Paul for everything, and I am excited to see what he will accomplish next.

CORPORAL ROSS BLANK

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable courage of Corporal Ross Blank, a law enforcement officer in Brush, Colorado.

On April 28, a man stole a semi-truck in Logan County, Colorado, and he proceeded to rampage through the town of Brush and the surrounding areas. With the police in pursuit, the semi-truck wrecked anything in its way—destroying cars, injuring several civilians, and nearly killing a police officer.

In the midst of this chaos, Corporal Blank began pursuing the semi-truck through town. He soon realized that the situation was becoming serious enough that he must resort to lethal force to stop the semi-truck. From his police car, Corporal Blank began firing at the truck's tires. As the chase led into open country, he then moved alongside the cab and fired several rounds at the driver, but even this did not stop the suspect. Later, Corporal Blank confronted the truck from the parking lot of a middle school. As the truck bore down on him, Corporal Blank bravely fired round after round after round through the truck's windshield. He escaped just before the semi-truck smashed into his patrol car. Undeterred, Blank grabbed his ammunition from the wreckage of his car and continued pursuing the truck on foot until the driver was eventually caught.

For his heroism, Corporal Blank was recently honored by Brush Police Chief Travis Anderson at a ceremony packed with town residents. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join the people of Brush in thanking Corporal Blank for his courage, quick-thinking, and dedication to protecting the people in our community.

HONORING KINGSLEY OWUSU OTOO AND DORIS TOLEDO

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kingsley Owusu Otoo and Doris Toledo for becoming QuestBridge College Prep Scholars, which is a national award that is given to low income youth.

Gainesville High School selected Kingsley and Doris from their junior class in recognition of their academic achievements and strong character.

As QuestBridge College Prep Scholars, Kingsley and Doris can interact with and receive feedback from college admission officers at the QuestBridge National College Admission Conference. This award also gives the chance for these two students to apply for the Quest for Excellence Award, which covers expenses for laptops and reimburses students for their college applications.

Because of receiving this award, Kingsley was selected to attend a summer program at Emory University this August, and Doris was selected to receive tele-mentoring from an Amherst College student.

I am proud to honor Kingsley Owusu Otoo and Doris Toledo for their excellent academic achievements and wish them the best of luck as they further their academic careers.

HONORING HER HOLINESS YUGA NAYAKI KARUNAMAYI AMMA

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Her Holiness Yuga Nayaki Karunamayi Amma, known simply as "Amma" to her many admirers, for her exemplary efforts in bringing peace and understanding not only to the people of India, but to all nations.

Born as Sri Vijayeshwari Devi in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, Amma was drawn to a spiritual existence and spent most of her young adult life absorbed in prayer and meditation. After a period of intense reflection, Amma began a life of advocacy for the poor and disenfranchised, publicly speaking throughout India on the issues of nonviolence, equality, and respect for all people regardless of gender, religion, race or social status. Her teachings have led her across the globe, speaking to countless followers and performing humanitarian work wherever the need is greatest.

To realize her vision of a more just world, Amma and her organization offer a host of services to underserved men, women and children in the United States, India and Africa. These services include organizing and providing, among other things, free medical care, clean water, free education, free food, leprosy care, and wheelchair distribution. Amma believes in pursuing sustainable development that enable families trapped in poverty to give a better future to their children.

Amma is beloved by many as a Hindu saint, and has a large following in my district. Her

humanitarian efforts have been recognized and celebrated by, among others, Congressman DANNY DAVIS, Congressman BILL FOSTER, Governor Pat Quinn, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, and President Jimmy Carter.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Amma's selfless and compassionate devotion to all people, and her work to bring peace and understanding to our world.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF BLACK FAMILY DEVELOPMENT INC. DURING ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorees of the Black Family Development Corporation's 2018 Community Champions Arise Detroit and Impact Detroit awards amid its 40th anniversary. The BFDI has played a critical role in helping empower families in Michigan by giving them the help they need.

Since its founding in 1978, the BFDI has promoted and provided excellent social services in Detroit that are suited to the particular cultural needs of communities. The Detroit Chapter of the National Association of Black Social Workers, which was the precursor to BFDI, was based on the community derived needs and resulted in a programmatic focus by BFDI on child abuse and neglect. The BFDI works on behalf of children and families in their own communities in a culturally competent and respectful manner. These services have improved the lives of both parents and children in Detroit for forty years, and the success of their programs suggests it has a very long and bright future ahead of it.

The BFDI's work has been indispensable in helping forgotten communities of color. Its efforts have increased graduation rates, improved the skills of parents, and set guidelines to develop positive behaviors in at-risk children. I am proud to recognize the outstanding efforts of the BFDI and its members, and it is my hope that they will continue to be an influential and positive voice for countless families.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Black Family Development Inc and its 40 years of success. Its work on behalf of neglected communities in Detroit has played a key role in caring for American families.

HONORING OFFICER ALEXIS HALL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable community servant, Officer Alexis Hall. Officer Hall has shown what can be done through hard work, setting goals, and aiming high.

Officer Hall has been with the Vicksburg Police Department since September 2015. Officer Hall is following in the footsteps of law en-

forcement professionals in her family. Officer Hall's mother and uncle, Lt. Penny Jones and Captain Milton Moore, have served the Vicksburg Police Department since 1999.

Officer Hall has gone above and beyond her duties as a law enforcement officer on several occasions. Officer Hall's prompt reaction to provide medical attention proved to be life-saving measures for the individuals involved. Hall's quick thinking was a commendable effort. Officer Hall received the 2017 Vicksburg Police Department Top Cop.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Officer Alexis Hall for her dedication to serving her community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RATIFICATION OF THE 14TH AMENDMENT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition and celebration of the 150th anniversary of the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment.

On July 9, 1868, 150 years ago, two great defects in the original Constitution were corrected.

First, Section 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment repealed the "three-fifths" provision in the original Constitution and declared that "any and all persons born or naturalized in the United States would be guaranteed all the rights and privileges of citizenship."

Second, the Fourteenth Amendment provided and guaranteed to all persons in the United States due process and the equal protection of the law.

I ask that we reflect upon the progress this nation has made in fulfilling its founding promise that "we hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal."

This promise of liberty and equality has been withheld from far too many for far too long.

While life and liberty is enshrined in our documents, this was not true for all.

Contrary to the spirit of the American Revolution, the Southern slave population at the time increased to 1.1 million in 1810 and then to nearly 4 million in 1860; by 1860 in my state of Texas, over 30 percent of the population was comprised of slaves.

Our democratic institutions—instruments of modern, civil government founded to ensure that barbaric tyrannies against humanity would be consigned to history—repeatedly upheld such blatant oppression in the form of legislation and judicial decisions that justified the horrific practices.

Even after the Thirteenth Amendment and the defeat of the Confederacy, "Black Codes," passed in numerous Southern States, continued to deny African Americans basic rights and privileges enjoyed by white citizens, such as the right to free travel, to own certain property, or to bring suit in court.

Therefore 150 years ago, the Fourteenth Amendment was ratified as an endeavor to reshape the fundamental fabric of race relations in America.

Let us remember, however, that the amendment is but a single mile marker in the ardu-

ous march of courageous Americans who sought to hold our nation accountable to its founding principles.

We must also remember that the Fourteenth Amendment, and the struggle and sacrifice that came thereafter, ultimately allowed this government to become a more diverse, dynamic body to better uphold the promise of America.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in this chamber on this occasion to reaffirm that I will not squander my hard-earned opportunity to fight for the rights of all Americans regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

And on the sesquicentennial of this very important moment for progress and equality, the current president plans to select a nominee to fill a seat on the highest court in the land.

I remind this body that the next jurist will replace a justice who recognized the importance of affirmative action as a necessary means to help heal the scars of segregation and Jim Crow; the next jurist will further likely be required to calibrate the balance of power between labor unions and their employing entities.

Given the importance of these and other issues, like voting rights, reproductive rights, the rights of the LGBTQ community, and countless others, those who believe the Court is the arbiter of fair justice, are looking for a jurist who will dispense fair justice for all Americans as guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment.

I call upon my colleagues in the Senate to put aside partisanship to ensure that the blood and sweat of patriots who gave their lives to safeguard our civil liberties shall not be in vain.

Mr. Speaker, the America that the Fourteenth Amendment saw is a nation with infinite potential for progress: that despite our history, we must continue to look toward finally achieving that shining city upon a hill.

I urge my colleagues in Congress, our faithful public servants in the myriad of federal institutions across the nation, as well as our friends in the Supreme Court to join me in celebrating that vision in this critical time of our republic by bravely choosing to step into the future by expanding civil liberties in our nation, not fumble in the past for a purportedly greater bygone era.

IN HONOR OF MR. RALPH PAIGE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding leader and dear friend of longstanding, Mr. Ralph Paige. Sadly, Mr. Paige passed away on Thursday, June 28, 2018. A funeral service was held on Friday, July 6, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at New Community Church in LaGrange, Georgia.

A LaGrange, Georgia native, Ralph Paige received his Bachelor's degree in Education in 1967 from what is now Fort Valley State University and attended graduate school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Ralph joined the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund (the Federation) in 1969 as a Grassroots Organizer and