

Mr. Augustus for his life and we keep his friends and loved ones near and dear to our hearts.

Madam Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Franklin Augustus.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PETER VANG

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of Mr. Peter Vang. Peter passed away on Friday, May 18, 2019 in Clovis, California. He was a beloved and well-respected member of the community, and he will be missed by all who had the pleasure of working with him.

Peter was born on January 20, 1960 in Laos and immigrated to the United States with his family as a refugee after the Vietnam War. He was an embodiment of the American Dream. Peter and his family came to settle in the United States to start a new beginning. His own experiences as a refugee motivated Peter to help those in the Southeast Asian community assimilate to life in the United States. Peter loved the United States and became a naturalized citizen. He was very proud of this accomplishment.

Peter served as the Executive Director of the Lao Veterans of America, Inc., in Fresno, California where he helped the Lao and Hmong soldiers who fought in the Special Guerrilla Unit (SGU) during the Vietnam War. Peter was a driving force in assisting my office with the creation of the Hmong Burial legislation that became Public Law 115-141 on March 23, 2018.

Peter was a hard-working individual who dedicated his life to serving others. During his career, Peter worked for the Fresno County Department of Social Services for over 21 years, until his retirement in 2015. He also spent many years with the Lao Family Community of Fresno. In addition to his professional career, Peter served on numerous community boards and committees and received awards and recognitions during his lifetime. It was most fitting and appropriate that I appointed Peter to the Fresno County Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), where he served with distinction as a commissioner for 22 years. His service to the community will not be forgotten.

Peter was preceded by his mother, See Yang and by his son, Richard Vang.

Peter is survived by his son, Billy Vang who is currently serving in the U.S. Army, stationed in Okinawa, Japan, Billy's wife, Ryoko Vang and their child, Haruka Vang; his daughter, Sarah Vang; his daughter, Mindy Ruz, her husband, Anthony and their children, Valerie and Audrey Ruz; his daughter, Sylvia Phillips, her husband, Matthew and their children, Andrew and Charlotte Phillips; his father, WaCheng Vang; brother, Yeu Vang; sisters, Kaying Moua, Mee Vue and Betty Vang-Do, a long with his nephew and nieces. Peter was a wonderful son, brother, father, uncle and grandfather.

I will remember Peter's good humor, his willingness to always help, his calming demeanor and his smile. He was a great friend and advi-

sor. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the life and career of Peter Vang, a hero to his family, a wonderful role model for his children and grandchildren, his siblings and friends and an exemplary member of the community.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES "JIM" ALBERT CULLUM, JR.

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of jazz legend Jim Cullum, Jr. who passed on August 11, 2019. Mr. Cullum hails from my hometown of San Antonio. For 60 years he exemplified what it means to be an artist. He is survived by his longtime companion, Donna Cloud; sister, Mary Conoly Hester; children, Bonnie Cullum, Blanquita Sullivan, Lené Conner-Foley, Chris Cullum, James Cullum, Katie Cullum, and Catlin Cloud; and six grandchildren. Although the San Antonio and Jazz community will mourn the loss of Jim Cullum, Jr., his impact will endure for many years to come.

James "Jim" Albert Cullum, Jr. was born on September 20, 1941 to James Albert Cullum and Conoly Prendergast Cullum. At an early age he was drawn to music, listening to his father's records and who was a well-respected jazz clarinetist and saxophonist. In 1953, the family moved to San Antonio from Dallas.

In 1963, the Cullum family established the Landing Jazz Club in the basement of the Nix Hospital, becoming the first nightclub on San Antonio's historic Riverwalk. For decades, the Landing played six nights a week until the passing of Jim Cullum, Sr. Shortly after, the band renamed itself the Jim Cullum Band. Since then, the band performed over 300 jazz masses across the United States. The band and its members became ambassadors of the City of San Antonio, and played in venues like the Carnegie Hall, Austin City Limits, the White House, and the Kennedy Center.

Jim Cullum carried his performances throughout the world and taught music workshops locally. He served as the president of the San Francisco Traditional Jazz Foundation and created the Cullum Riverwalk Jazz radio program, syndicated on National Public Radio broadcasting. The weekly program reached across 200 stations for 25 years.

Cullum was a historian at heart. He dedicated much of his time advocating for the preservation of San Antonio's historic sites. He was known to live by the Golden Rule, holding strong convictions of integrity and respect. Notably, he inspired many to pursue their interest in music and would bring light into every room he occupied.

A mentor, artist, and activist are just a few words to describe such a remarkable individual. Madam Speaker, I am proud to stand and recognize this brilliant bohemian who dedicated his life to music and community. He will be greatly missed.

RECOGNIZING ELI PANNELL ON WINNING ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION'S CLASS 1A STATE FINALS BOYS WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eli Pannell, a senior from Fulton High School, who won the Illinois High School Association's Class 1A State Finals Boys Wrestling Tournament.

Eli Pannell finished his final year at Fulton High school with 34 victories, a record single-season. He won the finals by pinning his opponent in 5 minutes 3 seconds. Due to his victory he not only won the State Finals, but holds multiple records at Fulton. As a former athlete, I appreciate the fortitude Eli displayed to achieve his dream of being a state champion and commend him for his determination and attitude. Eli is an example of the importance of dedication and a strong work ethic. I am proud there is such young talent in our community, and to see him represent Fulton so well throughout the state.

It is because of student leaders such as Eli that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Eli Pannell on his Class 1A State Finals title in Wrestling.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CENTENNIAL OF THE WALDORF EDUCATION SYSTEM

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Waldorf education system.

The first Waldorf school was established in 1919 in Stuttgart, Germany to reflect the principles of education outlined by Rudolf Steiner, an Austrian philosopher, artist, and scientist. These principles aim to nurture the needs of growing children from preschool through twelfth grade and enable them to fully develop their intellectual, artistic, emotional, and physical skills. A Waldorf education allows children to experience music, theater, literature, and writing in unique ways that help them cultivate their imagination and creativity and truly be confident of their place in the world.

The Waldorf Education system plays an important role in our community. Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor, one of the over 160 Waldorf schools across North America, opened its doors in 1980, beginning as a school for grades one through four. Since then, the school has significantly transformed. Today, Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor offers a complete pre-k to 12th grade program and continues to encourage students to take risks, be passionate, and strive to reach their personal goals. Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor is truly dedicated to inspiring our nation's next generation and preparing them to tackle life with confidence, self-knowledge, and a true understanding of the world.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the centennial of the Waldorf education system. We are grateful for its impact on the children of our community and wish it many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO GRACIA MOLINA
ENRIQUEZ DE PICK

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I stand today to remember Gracia Molina Enriquez de Pick, who passed away on August 11th at the age of 91.

A fierce feminist, educator, and philanthropist, Gracia will be remembered for her work in both Mexico City and San Diego. She was a tireless activist whose incredible contributions to San Diego and the world will not be soon forgotten.

Gracia was born into a politically active family in Morelia, Mexico. As a teenager, Gracia had the opportunity to meet Diego Rivera and Frida Khalo, whose words—“the importance of social responsibility mandates fighting for those who cannot defend themselves”—became a lesson Gracia would return to many times during the course of her work.

Before moving to San Diego, Gracia fought for women’s suffrage while living in Mexico City in the early 1950s. Gracia was known for taking a literal soapbox to the city’s open-air markets and advocating for the right to vote to anyone who would listen. Mexican women were granted full citizenship and suffrage in 1953. While living in Mexico City, Gracia met Richard Allen Pick, whom she would later marry and relocate with to San Diego in 1957.

Gracia earned her Bachelor of Arts degree, teaching credentials, and her Master’s degree from San Diego State University and went on to teach junior high school in the National City neighborhood of San Diego. She later became a faculty member at Mesa College, where she helped found one of the nation’s first Chicano Studies programs. Gracia went on to teach at Third College (later Thurgood Marshall College) at the University of California, San Diego.

In addition to teaching, Gracia was involved with politics in San Diego. She served as the Chicana Caucus Chair of the National Women’s Political Caucus and the National Council of La Raza (now UnidosUS). She was a published author, whose 2008 book “Mujeres en al Historia & Historias de Mujeres” explored the history of indigenous women in Mexico.

Later in life, Gracia turned to philanthropy. She donated money to scholarships at UC San Diego and Mesa College and helped fund the construction of the Logan Heights library branch.

Gracia is survived by two sons and a daughter. She will be remembered by her life of service and her commitment to uplifting her communities.

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE PASADENA BRANCH

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Pasadena Branch upon its centennial anniversary.

Established on September 8, 1919, the NAACP Pasadena Branch was founded when a small group of citizens gathered at the request of John Wright, founder, NAACP Pasadena Branch, to address the needs of Pasadena’s minority population. As the recipient of the national NAACP’s 16th charter, the Pasadena Branch emerged during the NAACP’s initial period of membership growth and meteoric rise to national prominence. The Pasadena Branch’s founding mission was to serve as the voice of all people who were denied the basic dignities rightfully due to human beings, especially African American residents in Pasadena.

Over the past century, the national NAACP has proven itself as the country’s premier civil rights organization, fulfilling its mission of ensuring the educational, political, social, and economic equality of minority groups in the United States and eliminating prejudice based on race. Among its many national achievements, the NAACP played crucial roles in the establishment of the Fair Employment Practices Committee in 1941, the integration of the U.S. Armed Forces, the passage of the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1964, and 1968, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Locally, the NAACP Pasadena Branch followed the national organization’s course of action by petitioning for school and municipal employment, home ownership, and access to public swimming pools for African Americans. Under the leadership of Ruby McKnight Williams in the 1970’s, the Pasadena Branch also supported two national precedent-setting school integration cases in the Supreme Court, paving the way for a more just and inclusive education system in our public schools.

Today, the Pasadena Branch continues its commitment to racial justice and equality through community engagement, partnering with local organizations to find solutions for issues such as affordable housing, a livable minimum wage and law enforcement matters. To inspire and prepare the next generation of leaders, activists, and engaged citizens, the Pasadena Branch organizes the Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological, and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO) to encourage and stimulate academic and cultural achievement among high school students. In addition, the branch awards the Maurice Morse Scholarship to high achieving African American students in the Pasadena area pursuing higher education.

I am honored to recognize the NAACP Pasadena Branch for 100 years of outstanding service to the community and its commitment to eliminating racial barriers. I ask all Members to join me in congratulating the Pasadena Branch for its remarkable achievements.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF JOAN ANN STARCHER LATIMER

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Joan Ann Starcher Latimer, who passed away on Saturday, August 10th.

Mrs. Latimer was born on May 31, 1946, in Alum Creek, West Virginia and was a proud resident of Horn Lake, Mississippi. Joan was the wife of Horn Lake Mayor Allen B. Latimer. She and Allen shared a 42-year long marriage. Throughout her life in Horn Lake, she worked for the Federal Reserve Bank, Sacred Heart School, and the City of Southaven.

Left to cherish her memory is her husband, Allen B. Latimer of Horn Lake, MS; her step-daughter Collen Latimer Sears; her two grandchildren; as well as many other beloved family and friends.

Joan’s life was one of service, grace, love for her family, and community. She will be greatly missed by all who she encountered.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FORMER LOUISIANA GOVERNOR KATHLEEN B. BLANCO

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Mr. RICHMOND. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of former Louisiana Governor Kathleen B. Blanco. Governor Blanco passed away on Sunday, August 18, 2019 at the age of 76.

Governor Blanco was a giant whose life and presence in Louisiana politics made an indelible mark in history, and I am saddened by the news of her passing. As Louisiana’s first woman to serve as governor coupled with her time spent in the Louisiana State House, Governor Blanco was a trailblazer whose work and dedication to the state of Louisiana remains unquestionable. Her legacy of leadership during the plight of Hurricane Katrina will be marked by her championship of all Louisianans.

It has been an honor to work with Governor Blanco during my career, and I am grateful for her service. I send my sincere condolences, prayers, and strength to the Blanco family during this difficult time. May her soul rest in peace.

Madam Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Governor Kathleen B. Blanco.

RECOGNIZING THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BROOKSIDE SHOPPING DISTRICT

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate one hundred years of Brookside, Kansas City’s first suburban shopping area. It brings me great joy to