

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply saddened by the passing of Representative Elijah Cummings—my colleague, friend, and a true fighter for social justice. While Representative Cummings may no longer be with us, he leaves behind a remarkable legacy of service, leadership and humility. Notably, he served Maryland's 7th Congressional District for 23 years and was a strong force in his role as Chairman of the Oversight Committee.

He is the realization of the American Dream. Born to sharecroppers, young Elijah Cummings declared he would become a lawyer at 11-years old. Despite social and economic challenges before him, he would go on to achieve that dream and more. Representative Cummings became the first African-American Speaker Pro Tempore of the Maryland State House of Delegates and then continued his work in this House. He was a dedicated public servant, devoted husband, and loving father.

Representative Cummings was a maverick among us all, and I will deeply miss his wise counsel and presence. May we all aspire to be a portion of the leader he was for America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on October 17, 2019 during roll call No. 561, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 1815, Huizenga of Michigan Part B Amendment No. 1. Had I been present, I would have voted "No." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 562, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 1815, Gottheimer of New Jersey Part B Amendment No. 2. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 563, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 1815, Wagner of Missouri Part B Amendment No. 3. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 564, On Passage, H.R. 1815, SEC Disclosure Effectiveness Testing Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING GEORGE FORMAN

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize George Forman, who has been a champion for tribes and tribal sovereignty for more than 50 years.

I am honored to represent eleven federally recognized tribes in my district. Each of the

eleven tribes has had to fight for their rights and their sovereignty at every turn.

Standing with tribes in that fight and leading with them are the attorneys who represent them in the court of law.

George was instrumental in securing victory for tribes in the Cabazon case that set the groundwork for tribes to transform their on-reservation economies and conduct gaming operations, which has empowered tribes' self-sufficiency to provide adequate housing, schools, and other needed social services for tribal members.

He has successfully helped several tribes fight their unjust termination and achieve recognition as federally recognized tribes.

And over the decades, George has served my constituents, the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, providing advice and counsel with the highest of integrity.

I want to thank George for his work and wish him a long, happy retirement filled with well-earned family time.

HONORING TALLWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Tallwood Elementary School on earning the U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon award.

Tallwood Elementary's performance certainly merits this well-earned recognition. Because of so much hard work, Tallwood Elementary is now placed in the Exemplary High Performing Schools Category. I would like to thank the faculty and staff for providing exceptional services to our community as educators, administrators, and specialists in their field.

Our public school system is an integral part of preparing the 2nd Congressional District's next generation of well-informed critical thinkers. I thank them for all the valuable work they do to engage and enrich these young minds.

It is my honor and privilege to recognize Tallwood Elementary for this achievement. I am extremely proud to be their representative.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRED KELLER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I had a commitment in Pennsylvania preventing me from returning in time for votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 568 on Motion To Table H. Res. 630; "yea" on rollcall No. 569, H.R. 4406; and "yea" on rollcall No. 570, H.R. 4407.

IN HONOR OF 81 AIRBORNE SOLDIERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ARMED FORCES

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 81 Airborne Soldiers of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces, whose remains will finally be laid to rest on Saturday, October 26th, in Little Saigon, Orange County, California, part of my 47th Congressional District.

In 1965, an American C-123 carrying four American crew members and 81 South Vietnamese Airborne soldiers was shot down in a remote and contested area during the Vietnam War, killing all those onboard. In 1974, the crash site was visited, and the remains were recovered, however, they were commingled together. The American crew members were later identified and were given a proper burial.

The remains of South Vietnamese soldiers were never identified, and they were believed to have been members of the 72 Company of the elite 7 Airborne Battalion of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces. These unknown heroes are now "Men Without a Country," for that the Republic to which they gave their lives on behalf of no longer exist. Their remains have been sitting at the U.S. military's POW/MIA lab in Hawaii since 1986 and the current regime in Vietnam has twice declined to accept their return.

It was unclear how these 81 unknown soldiers could receive proper honor and burial until the efforts of former Navy Secretary and Senator Jim Webb, who served as a Marine infantry officer in Vietnam. Senator Webb has spent the last two years working intricately with both diplomatic and legal fronts to successfully arranged for the proper honoring and interment of these heroes. Finally, these Airborne soldiers will be laid to rest with full military honor and proper protocols of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces. They will be remembered and honored with a ceremony at the Vietnam War Memorial, also known as Freedom Park in the City of Westminster, California and interned at the Vietnamese Boat People Cemetery inside the Westminster Memorial Park, one of the largest Vietnamese American cemeteries in our nation. This marks an end to an epic journey of soldiers who fought and died for the ideals of freedom and democracy to be rested with the people whom they defended.

I thank Senator Jim Webb, the Lost Soldiers Foundation, the Republic of Vietnam Airborne Association's National and Local Chapter, and everyone involved for working together to finally honor these 81 soldiers of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam after 54 years of their sacrifices. The United States honor the sacrifices of our ally, the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces.

KASHMIRI PANDITS BRIEFING

HON. RO KHANNA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. KHANNA. Madam Speaker, I was moved by the stories of loss, displacement,

and suffering of the Kashmiri Pandits at a briefing hosted by my dear friend and mentor, Congresswoman ANNA ESHOO. I appreciated the Pandits coming to Capitol Hill to tell their stories. I want to recognize and thank Jeevan Zutshi, my constituent, for his leadership in organizing this forum.

I was encouraged to see other key leaders of Congress attend like ZOE LOFGREN, ELIOT ENGEL, and MIKE THOMPSON. As we consider the complexities of South Asia, we need to make sure that all Kashmiri stories of loss are heard and recognized, and be sure to stand up for human rights of all faiths. India was founded on the promise of a pluralistic society, and Madam Speaker, it's now more important than ever to stand up for those ideals.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. COLLINS. Madam Speaker, I was absent due to a family emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 568; "yea" on rollcall No. 569; and "yea" on rollcall No. 570.

IN RECOGNITION OF GRACE QUINN GOODPASTURE

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Grace Quinn Goodpasture for being selected as a recipient of a Student-Athlete-Scholarship from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

Grace attends the Steward School in Ashland, Virginia, where she played 4 years of Varsity Soccer, lettering all four years. She was also a member of the Varsity Cross Country and Dive team, lettering in those as well. She says community service is a core value of her family and has always been a part of her life. She has earned her Gold Award in the Girl Scouts and was a Senate Page for the Virginia Senate. Her spirit of service should inspire all of us.

I commend her on receiving this recognition for her distinguished scholastic, leadership, and sportsmanship attributes and the importance of high school athletics in her life. Recognition of her work in the community, in the classroom, and on the athletic field is a testament to her commitment to hard work and service to others. She is an example of the leaders that we will need to guide our nation and the Virginia Commonwealth in the future.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Grace Goodpasture for her achievements in her community. May God bless Grace and her family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I was not present for the following vote which took place on October 21, 2019. However, if I had been present, I would have voted "yea" on: H.R. 4407—SCORE for Small Business Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF BELL'S SEED STORE

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bell's Seed Store on the 100 year anniversary of their founding.

In 1919, Bell's Seed Store was opened by William M. Bell. Bell's Seed Store quickly became a staple in Fayetteville. As the city grew and rural roads and farms gave way to streets and industry, Bell's Seed Store continued to thrive, adapting to changing consumer demands.

In 1957, the store moved from its original location beside the old courthouse on Gillespie Street to its current home on East Russell Street, where it occupies an impressive four-acre campus that houses four separate facilities, two for retail and two for storage. While mainstay agriculture products such as animal feed, hay, and fertilizers originally comprised the majority of Bell's sales, many customers today are also interested in a unique selection of home and garden accents.

At its core, Bell's Seed Store is a family business spanning generations. William M. Bell Jr. took over operations from his father, managing the store until the late 1980's. Stewart Bell, William Jr.'s son, started working at Bell's right after college. Today, he has since become the third Bell to take the reins of a business which has expanded and developed into one of Fayetteville's oldest and most cherished family-run enterprises. As I extend my gratitude to Andrew Bell for his service as Chief of Staff here in Washington, I know he will be a welcome fourth generation to this family business.

100 years in business means 100 years of gaining the trust of the community by providing excellent service and reliable products. Bell's Seed Store has truly ingrained itself within Fayetteville, as generations of customers have walked out of its store satisfied, continuing a tradition which, like Bell's Seed Store, spans a century.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Bell's Seed Store for 100 years of business.

CONGRATULATING COREY BOBY ON RECEIVING THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fourth District educator Corey Boby for receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

It is an honor today to recognize his hard work and dedication to excellence in teaching mathematics and science. Mr. Boby has long been a devoted educator to the students of the Fourth District of Arkansas. After serving for several years as an educator within the Arkansas school system, Mr. Boby now serves at the Dawson Education Cooperative in Arkadelphia, one of the state's fifteen education cooperatives.

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is one of the highest honors which is bestowed upon a kindergarten through 12th grade science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or computer science teacher. I am pleased to see one of the Fourth District's own ranked among the finest educators our nation has to offer.

I take this time to congratulate Mr. Boby on this tremendous honor, but also to thank him for his commitment to advancing the STEM skills and academic excellence of Arkansas students.

CONGRATULATING RICHARD APPLE ON RECEIVING THE NATIONAL CITIZEN SCIENTIST CHAMPION AWARD FROM THE GLOBAL ALZHEIMER'S PLATFORM FOUNDATION

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Richard Apple, the recipient of the first ever National Citizen Scientist Champion Award from the Global Alzheimer's Platform Foundation. This award recognizes Mr. Apple for his advocacy for Alzheimer's clinical trial participation in Illinois.

A resident of Rockford, Illinois, Mr. Apple's passion for Alzheimer's research advocacy stems from losing both of his grandparents to Alzheimer's and having been the primary caregiver to his uncle and his mother, both of whom died from the disease. He has since devoted his time to aiding in research, enrolling in his first trial at Great Lakes Clinical Trials in Chicago, IL immediately after he retired and has participated in four since then. I want to thank Mr. Apple for his contributions to science and furthering the cause to find a cure for Alzheimer's.

It is because of community leaders such as Richard Apple that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Richard Apple on his receipt of