

exceptional performance over an extended period of time. Dr. Paul Antonik has been recognized among the handful of individuals for the meritorious senior professional award for his work in the Department of the Air force. These individuals are recognized for a sustained record of exceptional professional, technical, and/or scientific achievement.

It is truly an honor to represent such talented, dedicated individuals in Congress. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I want to thank him for his exceptional work and wish him the best throughout the rest of your career.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 18, 2019*

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I missed the first vote series on Wednesday, December 11th, due to a groundbreaking ceremony for a business in my district.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 668; NAY on Roll Call No. 669; NAY on Roll Call No. 670; and NAY on Roll Call No. 671.

#### IN HONOR OF LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA, PRINCE WILLIAM, INC. THE REWARDS AND RECOGNITION NIGHT

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 18, 2019*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the Literacy Volunteers of America, Prince William, Inc. and the 2019 award recipients. These honorees have dedicated themselves to promoting educational opportunities and to continuing their own education.

LVA-PW was formed in 1991 by a local librarian, joined by other librarians and teachers to provide adult literacy services. Its mission is to teach adults the skills of reading, writing, and speaking English in order to help individuals increase their chances of success and expand their professional and personal opportunities. With the help of more than 220 professionally-trained volunteer tutors, this program helps over 700 adults each year. It is the largest adult literacy non-profit in the county and is tuition free. At the Rewards and Recognition Night LVA-PW honors the Tutor of the Year, Student of the Year, and Volunteer of the Year. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the 2019 award recipients:

Tutor of the Year—Richard Cantu: Richard has been an LVA-PW volunteer tutor for over five years. He also been a 1-1 tutor and tutored an Adult Basic Education class to help low-level students improve their reading and writing skills so that they can successfully enter the GED program. Richard has been instrumental in helping over 250 students during his time in our program. His hard work and dedication have positively impacted the lives of over 800 family members. Since becoming

a volunteer, he has contributed over 550 tutoring hours and over 220 hours on other activities including lesson-planning. His students have told our staff how much they look forward to Mr. Rick's class—he always has a smile and positive outlook and is encouraging to every student he tutors.

Student of the Year—Mashood Ahmed: Mashood is originally from Pakistan and moved here less than two years ago to be with his family. Mashood has been a student in the program for just over one year. He joined this program to better his life and further his education. His goal is to improve his reading and writing to earn his GED credential and eventually attend Northern Virginia Community College. Mashood works part-time at a local school cafeteria and Wendy's in Dale City, where he practices his English on the job. Since enrolling in our program, he has had over 150 hours of instruction, is passionate about improving his literacy skills and is committed to excellence at all levels. His tutors are proud of his work and Mashood sets an example for his classmates.

Volunteer of the Year—The Waite Family: Joe, Tiffany, Dora, and Maggie are examples of exemplary citizenship and nurturing spirit in the community. For over 10 years they have supported Literacy Volunteers of America-Prince William, Inc. They are also active in Azalea Charities and numerous other national and community endeavors. Their consistent involvement has helped elevate the LVA-PW program this last decade.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me once again in congratulating Richard Cantu, Mashood Ahmed, and the Waite Family, on being honored by the Literacy Volunteers of America-Prince William, Inc. and I wish them continued success.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND MILITARY SERVICE OF MR. ANDREW "CLYDE" NEAVES

### HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 18, 2019*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and military service of World War II veteran, Mr. Andrew "Clyde" Neaves, of Saultillo, Mississippi.

Mr. Neaves served as a Weapons Repair Specialist for the 1804th Aviation Ordnance with the United States Army Air Corps beginning in 1942. During his service, he spent over two and a half years in the South Pacific. He completed his service in 1945.

After the war, Mr. Neaves returned to Saultillo, Mississippi and was an employee of Phillips Day-Brite Industries for 35 years. He started a family and had four children with his wife, Mrs. Agnes Marie Neaves. Mr. Neaves has remained active in his beloved community of Saultillo. He has served on the Saultillo Board of Alderman, was Vice-Mayor, and was a recipient of the Saultillo "Citizen of the Year" award.

This year, Mr. Neaves celebrated his 98th birthday. Mr. Neaves is an American patriot who served our great nation and continues to set an example for others to follow. I wish him many more years of good health.

#### HONORING VERONICA McMILLIAN FOR RECEIVING THE WOMAN IN THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

### HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 18, 2019*

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Ms. Veronica McMillian on receiving the 2020 Outstanding Woman in the Community Service Award for the Tide-water Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. This award was developed to honor women who are making significant contributions to their community through their time, actions, talents and dedication. This is an amazing accomplishment.

This award recognizes Ms. McMillian's lifetime of service and commitment to the uplifting and inspiring presentations on empowerment and love. She generously serves the community with civility and justice.

Ms. McMillian grew up understanding the importance of being an entrepreneur and serving her community. She is a Non-Profit Consultant & Trainer, renowned for her inspiring presentation. She is the Founder/President of The Micro-Nonprofit Network Inc. founded to help small organizations grow and to provide impactful and effective programs in the communities they serve. She also serves on the board of The World-Wide Women's Group Inc. and Beacon of Hope Inc.

Ms. McMillian devoted 25 years to education, training, community outreach, program development and counseling. Using her knowledge as an educator and trainer, she has helped empower individuals and transform organizations. In 2019, she was awarded the Community Impact Award from Christian Women Alliance. In 2018, she was awarded the MLK Nonprofit award from Global Ministries. In 2011, she received The Career Engineer's Non-Profit award. And in October 2009, Mrs. McMillian received the FBI's Community Director's Award for the Boys to Men program she created in 2008.

Ms. McMillian's dedication to educating and strengthening bonds among people is truly inspiring. I am proud to honor and recognize Ms. McMillian's leadership and the role she plays in making our community a better place. Coastal Virginia has significantly benefited from her presence.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF EVELYN M. VERNIG

### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 18, 2019*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary woman, Evelyn M. Vernig who passed away on November 30, 2019 at the age of 93.

Evelyn Margaret Mary Theresa Brandenburger Vernig is lovingly remembered as a devoted mother, grandmother, sister, friend and community supporter by her 7 children, 19 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren, 6 great-great grandchildren, 4 siblings and countless other family and friends. In

fact, family and friends came to call her “Evelyn of the Angels” for the love she showed for all through her many good deeds.

One of Evelyn’s dear friends who will fondly remember her endless warmth and kindness is Mamie Singleton, a retired Sergeant in the Saint Paul Police Department and founder of Youth Initiative Mentorship Academies (YIMA). YIMA uses aviation to bring at-risk youth and adults together to foster authentic relationships and build confidence.

Throughout her life, Evelyn brought people together and served as a positive role model for youth, so it’s no surprise that she and Mamie became friends and partners through YIMA. This work reached soaring heights when, at the age of 90, Evelyn took controls of her first YIMA flight, realizing a lifelong dream to fly an airplane. According to Mamie, Evelyn was incredibly proud of her contributions to the lives of young people—and was thrilled by her exciting turn at the controls.

Madam Speaker, thank you for rising with me to pay tribute to Evelyn “of the Angels” Virnig for her incredible and lasting contributions to her family and our community.

**HONORING POLICE CHIEF JAMES “WOODY” CHAVIS, JR. FOR 37 YEARS OF SERVICE**

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 18, 2019*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief of Police James “Woody” Chavis, Jr. for 37 years of service to the City of Kannapolis, located in North Carolina’s Eighth Congressional District.

Chief Chavis is a compassionate leader and has been a stabilizing influence in the Kannapolis Police Department during a period of unprecedented growth. He began his career in 1974 with the United States Army Military Police and retires today as the Kannapolis Police Chief.

As a small child, Chief Chavis dreamed of giving back to his community through law enforcement and joined the Kannapolis Police Department in 1983. He served in every division during his distinguished career and through his leadership, Kannapolis Police Department become a stand-alone organization, received national accreditation, and tripled in size. Chief Chavis prides himself on the City’s low crime rate and on never having to fire his weapon.

Chief Chavis has volunteered and served on numerous boards in pursuance of mental health and juvenile justice reforms. While most would be overwhelmed performing his duties with the Kannapolis Police Department, Chavis also worked for 17 years as NASCAR legend Dale Earnhardt’s jackman on his pit crew.

Chief Chavis now plans to spend more time with his wife of 19 years, Deena; daughter, Kaci; stepson, Shane; and beloved canine companions, Sadie and Major. He will continue to care for our community’s elderly population and hopes to spend more time on the golf course. I know I speak for everyone in our community when I say we are truly grateful for his service and wish him a long and happy retirement.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Chief James “Woody” Chavis, Jr. for his 37 years of service to our community.

# PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RALPH NORMAN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 18, 2019*

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I missed a vote on the Rule yesterday. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 684.

**HONORING FRANCINE HUMPHREY FOR RECEIVING THE WOMAN IN THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

**HON. ELAINE G. LURIA**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 18, 2019*

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Ms. Francine Humphrey on receiving the 2020 Outstanding Woman in the Community Service Award for the Tidewater Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. This award was developed to honor women who are making significant contributions to their community through their time, actions, talents and dedication. This is an amazing accomplishment.

This award recognizes Ms. Humphrey’s lifetime of service and commitment to the promotion of respect among people of diverse backgrounds. She generously serves the community as a CEO of Issues Concerning Women and the former CEO/Co-Founder of Focuss Group, LLC a business Development and career Services company.

Ms. Humphrey is a Bank One Master Financial Trainer and Financial Coach and loves working with the Financial Empowerment Team and the community. She hosts and teaches a monthly small business workshop at her office.

In 2007, Ms. Humphrey established Issues Concerning Women (ICW) Inc., which focuses on women reaching their long-term and short-term goals by assisting women in housing, financial, and life skills. ICW provides advocacy and services to stabilize households and foster a sense of community involvement, self-worth, and determination among women.

In 2013 she was presented the “Beacon of Hope Award” from the Urban League Guild of Hampton Road. Additionally, she was named Small Business Guru in 2016 by G. Paris Media Group and received the Presidential Drum Major Award from President Obama in 2017.

Ms. Humphrey’s dedication as an inspirational speaker, spiritual coach, and author is incredibly inspiring. I am proud to honor and recognize Ms. Humphrey’s leadership and the role she plays in making our community a better place. Coastal Virginia has significantly benefited from her presence.

TRIBUTE TO PAULA PENEBAKER

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 18, 2019*

Ms. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the career and ongoing legacy of Milwaukee’s own Paula Penebaker. Ms. Penebaker, the President & CEO of the Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA) of Southeast Wisconsin, is retiring on December 31, 2019.

Paula enjoyed a successful career in the for-profit sector in the Management Systems Division at The Procter & Gamble Company and later with First Wisconsin Bank in Training & Development, departing as the Vice President & Diversity Manager, prior to joining YWCA. She decided to take her talents to the non-profit sector and joined YWCA as the Chief Human Resources and Facilities Officer in 1999. Five years later, she was appointed Executive Director and later designated the President & CEO of the agency.

As the head of this prestigious organization, Paula was dedicated to eliminating racism and improving the lives of all women. Under her leadership, the YWCA strategically promoted and advanced racial justice, economic empowerment, and health and safety for women and girls of color. The programs offered included High School Equivalency Diploma and GED Preparation & Testing, Employment Readiness, Personal Financial Management, as well as resources and programs that created lasting and meaningful change to their clients.

Even while performing her duties as President & CEO of the YWCA Southeast Wisconsin, Paula found time to serve on the board of directors for the Rotary Club of Milwaukee and Milwaukee World Festival, Inc., and as a member of the Milwaukee Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. and the Milwaukee Chapter of The Links Incorporated. She was also a trustee for the Public Policy Forum and Milwaukee County Federated Library System. Furthermore, her devotion and commitment to service has been recognized with awards from the Milwaukee Business Journal, Community Brainstorming Conference, North Central Service Club, the Medical College of Wisconsin, BizTimes, Professional Dimensions and the Greater Milwaukee Foundation.

Paula is a pioneer who has spent her life carrying a torch of justice to ignite and empower generations of women to fight back. She changed her career trajectory because she wanted to ensure that each day she was using all her might to fight and eliminate injustices toward women and people of color in this country, not for personal recognition.

Madam Speaker, Paula Penebaker has made the 4th Congressional District, Wisconsin and the nation a better place. She is a staunch defender and advocate for justice, and I applaud her contributions. As she embarks upon a new chapter of her life, I know that her fight and quest for justice will not end.