

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” Vurnig 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.

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.

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 Focus 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.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

HON. DONNA E. SHALALA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of Christopher Columbus High School, which celebrated its first football state championship last week.

This recent victory is the result of the hard work and determination of student-athletes, coaches, parents, and the entire Columbus community. This strong character is what helped the Columbus Explorers pull off a dramatic victory with a two-point conversion in the final seconds of the championship game. This year's state title put Columbus' reputation for resilience and hardwork reputation on full display.

In the state championship game, Columbus was faced with what may have been its biggest challenge all season. With little over four minutes left, the Explorers were down 20–7. In spite the odds being stacked against them and the early celebrations of opposing team, Columbus came out on top once again.

The Explorers overcame obstacle after obstacle. They scored 14 unanswered points, with the final two points coming with eight seconds left to take the lead and win the championship game.

The state title is reflective of Columbus' success not only as a football team, but also as an institution. For decades, Columbus has produced illustrious alumni who have contributed to our community, our country and the world. This success is only made possible through the school's fighting spirit and integrity, which is exactly what the football team left on the field for all to see.

HONORING THE VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF ON THE DEDICATION OF THE NEW ARMED FORCES SERVICE CENTER AT THE SAINT PAUL-MINNEAPOLIS AIRPORT

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the dedicated volunteers and staff of the Armed Forces Service Center at the Saint Paul-Minneapolis Airport as they prepare to dedicate a new, larger location. Since the center was opened nearly 50 years ago, more than one million active-duty military personnel, dependents and retirees have received a warm Minnesota welcome and hospitality from its volunteers.

During the Vietnam War, Naval Petty Officer Scott Purdum wrote letters to his mother suggesting that dedicated space in the airport be provided for service members to rest and help boost their morale. He encouraged his mother Maggie to pursue creation of such a place. Sadly, Petty Officer Purdum was killed in a plane crash at the Da Nang Air Base in March 1970. Channeling her grief into action, Maggie started working with airport authorities to make her son's dream a reality for current and future members of the U.S. Armed Forces. She was

granted 600 square feet in a corner of the main floor of the airport, and on November 22, 1970, just four days before Thanksgiving, the doors to the Servicemen's Center were opened for the first time. Those doors have never closed.

The Armed Forces Service Center continues to serve traveling members of the U.S. Armed Forces, family members and veterans 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. With the full co-operation of the Metropolitan Airports Commission, the new space is now located behind security and is double the size of the old center to allow for more bunks, a laundry room, a place to store baggage, and even a children's playroom and a place for nursing mothers. This expansion will allow the Armed Forces Service Center to enhance their mission of "Serving Those Who Serve" as they begin their 50th year of service.

While it is supported by a small staff including Executive Director, Debra Cain, and four part-time employees, the non-profit center is run and staffed by nearly 200 volunteers—many of whom are veterans. One of the volunteers for the very first shift in 1970, Jeanne Morford, continues to serve at the center every Monday evening. Operating independently of any national organization, the center relies solely on donations from the community.

It has been a privilege and honor to support the center for many years as a volunteer and as an auxiliary member of the North Saint Paul VFW Post 1350 American Legion Post 39. I have seen firsthand the impact that center volunteers make providing hospitality to our servicemen and women, veterans and their families.

The success of staff and volunteers has not gone unnoticed. In 2012 the Saint Paul-Minneapolis Airport Armed Forces Service Center was named winner of the Joining Forces Community Challenge and honored at the White House by First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden as part of their Joining Forces Initiative.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to our U.S. Servicemen and women and the selfless volunteers of the Saint Paul-Minneapolis Airport Armed Forces Service Center as they enter a new era of providing excellent hospitality to U.S. servicemen and women, veterans and families.

HONORING LISA LUCAS-BURKE 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 Lisa Lucas-Burke on receiving the 2020 Outstanding Woman in the Service Award for the Tidewater Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. This award was developed to honor persons who are making significant contributions to their community through their time, actions, talents and dedication. This is an amazing accomplishment.

This award recognizes Lisa Lucas-Burke's lifetime of public service and commitment to the City of Portsmouth, Virginia, as she gener-

ously serves as the City of Portsmouth Vice-Mayor.

Mrs. Lucas-Burke has been employed with the City of Portsmouth for over thirty years and has broken barriers in becoming the only African American female since 1988 to obtain the position of Computer Programmer Analyst in the City of Portsmouth's Information Technology Department. Mrs. Lucas-Burke continues to serve her community with her family business as Program Director and currently serves as Executive Director and partner with Lucas Lodge entities operating at Lucas Professional Center in Portsmouth.

Her service to Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Steering Committee, and the Portsmouth Democratic Committee demonstrates her heart for service. She put enormous efforts in strengthening ties to the local community with her civic involvement with various organizations. Mrs. Lucas-Burke's dedication as a leader within our community is truly inspiring. I am proud to honor and recognize Mrs. Lucas-Burke's leadership and the role she plays in making our community a better place. The Tidewater Region has significantly benefited from her presence.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on Thursday, September 26th, due to a family emergency.

Had I been present, I would have voted on NAY on Roll Call No. 549; NAY on Roll Call No. 550; YEA on Roll Call No. 551; NAY on Roll Call No. 552; NAY on Roll Call No. 553; YEA on Roll Call No. 554; and NAY on Roll Call No. 555.

HONORING KENDALL W. LANE, MAYOR OF KEENE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kendall W. Lane for his service as the Mayor of Keene, New Hampshire.

After completing four-terms as the Mayor of Keene, Kendall announced his retirement this year. Kendall has a long history of public service and serving the city of Keene, which is marked by his service on the Keene City Council from 1986 until 1993 and again in 2007 until 2011. As Mayor, Kendall has many significant achievements during his time in office, including the redevelopment of Marlboro Street, renovations to the Keene Public Library, and the completion of the Keene Ice Arena in 2016.

As Mayor, Kendall has made climate change a focal point of the City's efforts, and during his tenure, the Keene Community created a clean energy committee and committed to transitioning to 100 percent renewable energy in ten years. Mayor Lane's distinguished