

civil rights leader and legal trailblazer that our country lost on April 28, 2019 at the age of 96.

When Judge Damon J. Keith was nominated by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1967 to serve as Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, it was at a time when there were very few African American federal judges.

Judge Damon J. Keith said, "I never had a black teacher. . . . There wasn't a black police officer above the rank of sergeant. There were no black judges. There were not black elected officials."

Judge Damon J. Keith's appointment to the U.S. District Court was the same year that Thurgood Marshall was nominated and confirmed to the Supreme Court Bench as an associate justice.

When Judge Damon J. Keith was later nominated by President Jimmy Carter to serve on the federal court of appeals, he was the sixth African American appointed to serve on a U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The sixth.

Judge Keith made a series of landmark decisions that changed the social and legal landscape of this country throughout his 52 years of service on the bench, including:

*Davis v. School District of City of Pontiac*, 309 F. Supp. 734 (E.D. Mich. 1970), which ordered citywide buses to integrate and helped integrate Pontiac public schools.

Judge Keith stood up to the KKK with this ruling and it became the first case to extend federal court-ordered integration to the North.

Then, Judge Keith ruled that President Nixon and U.S. Attorney General John Mitchell did not have the right to wiretap in domestic security cases without a court order in *United States v. United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan*, 407 U.S. 297 (1972).

That same year Judge Keith ruled in *Garrett v. City of Hamtramck*, 335 F. Supp. 16 (E.D. Mich. 1971), that Hamtramck practiced so-called "Negro removal" under the guise of urban renewal and ordered the city to build new public housing.

In *Stamps v. Detroit Edison Co.*, 365 F. Supp. 87 (E.D. 1973), Judge Keith ordered Detroit Edison to pay 4 million to black employees and start an affirmative action program in a historic job-discrimination case.

Furthering integration of public spaces and jobs, in *Baker v. City of Detroit*, 483 F. Supp. 919 (E.D. 1979), Judge Keith ordered the Detroit Police Department to carry out Detroit Mayor, Coleman Young's plan to integrate.

And in *Detroit Free Press v. Ashcroft*, 195 F. Supp. 2d 937 (E.D. 2002), he upheld a lower court's decision prohibiting the Justice Department from barring the public and press from deportation hearings involving people suspected of supporting terrorism.

Judge Keith did his job amid death threats and the obstacles of racial bigotry.

Judge Keith's dedication to civil rights and civil liberties came from a life dealing with racial inequality as a soldier and a young man.

Judge Damon J. Keith was born July 4, 1922.

Judge Keith was the grandson of slaves and the son of a Ford factory worker who made 5 dollars a day.

Judge Keith was youngest of seven children and he was the first member of his family to earn a college degree.

Once Judge Keith graduated from college during World War II in 1943, he enlisted in a segregated U.S. Army.

Judge Keith recalled the three years he spent in the Quartermaster Corps during World War II in Europe as "absolutely degrading," partly because the "all-colored" unit did not have a single black officer.

After Judge Keith was discharged in 1946 as a sergeant, he returned home to experience White German soldiers riding in the front seats of buses and dining in restaurants where he was not welcome.

Judge Keith's experience seeing African American soldiers being treated with less respect than White German prisoners of war, made him vow to fight for civil rights here at home.

So, Judge Keith attended and graduated from Howard University Law School with his JD in 1949.

While in law school, Judge Keith helped research civil rights cases, participated in mock trials and watched rising legal stars, like Thurgood Marshall, the NAACP's chief legal counsel, practice his legal arguments and argue cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

After Judge Keith graduated law school in 1949, he went on to not only pass the bar but found one of the first Black law firms in Detroit city.

Judge Keith was a man dedicated to change and as he climbed the legal ranks, Judge Keith brought women and minorities up with him, not just African-Americans but also Hispanics and Asians.

Judge Keith hired more minorities law clerks than any other federal judge and encouraged those he helped to do the same for other young minorities.

But, not only should Judge Keith be rewarded for what he has done as judge, but for what he has done as a man.

Judge Keith became the surrogate father and guardian for Willie Horton, guiding the young athlete from a troubled neighborhood into manhood and to stardom with the Detroit Tigers.

It was also Judge Keith who came to Rosa Parks's rescue in 1994 when the Civil Rights icon had been attacked by a burglar in her Detroit home.

Judge Keith helped her find a safe place to live in the aftermath.

Judge Keith's eldest daughter, Cecile Keith, said Saturdays was spent with their father, who would take them to dance classes, music lessons, and choir rehearsals, and afterward they would go out for hamburger and French fries.

Judge Keith took his children to the movies, Tiger games, played ball in their backyard, and he taught them how to ride bikes.

Judge Keith was more than a civil rights activist and he was more than a trailblazer.

Judge Keith was also a father and husband.

Judge Keith was a man dedicated to his wife, family, and to his community.

Judge Keith has always been a beacon of justice and we are a better country because of his work and are forever in his debt.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 2019*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably detained with district

matters and missed the following votes. I would have voted "Yes" on roll call vote 218, and "Yes" on roll call vote 219.

CONGRATULATING MICHAEL ALLEN ON HIS NEW POSITION AS NATIONAL CHAIR OF THE HEALTHCARE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

#### HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 2019*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Michael Allen for his promotion to National Chair of the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA). Mr. Allen will rise from the position of Chief Financial Officer at OSF Health Care in Peoria, Illinois.

Mr. Allen began his career after earning an accounting degree from Illinois State University and a master's degree in healthcare administration from the University of Minnesota. Mr. Allen then went on to gain more than 25 years of experience in business and the healthcare industry—making him well qualified to take on this new role with the nation's largest membership organization for healthcare financial management executives and leaders. Leadership experience is something Mr. Allen gained in his 19 years as Chief Financial Officer for health systems and eight years in public accounting. Mr. Allen is no stranger to HFMA—he has been a member since 1993, and has chaired the Board of Examiners and served on the National Advisory Council. Mr. Allen will bring a new set of eyes to HFMA, having selected "Dare You to Move" as this year's theme to encourage members to get out of their comfort zone. I want to thank Mr. Allen for his work in healthcare and for his service to the Peoria community.

It is because of dedicated leaders like Michael Allen that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Michael Allen on his promotion to National Chair of the Healthcare Financial Management Association.

DOCTOR DAMORDARA RAJASEKHAR RETIRES AS PRESIDENT OF THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

#### HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 2019*

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of the President of the San Bernardino County Medical Society, Dr. Damordara Rajasekhar, who will be completing his term on June 20, 2019.

Dr. Rajasekhar earned his medical degree in 1976 from Madras Medical College in India. Afterwards, he went on to serve his pediatric internship and residency at the University of Connecticut John Dempsey Hospital, and completed a fellowship in neonatal perinatal medicine at the University of Massachusetts Memorial Health Care. Dr. Rajasekhar began

his term as President on June 20, 2018, serving the 2,800 member physicians with distinguished leadership over the past year. Dr. Rajasekhar also served as the chief of medical staff at Victor Valley Community Hospital and has a solo practice in Apple Valley. He believes that the physician-patient relationship is a key factor in providing quality health care, and he has always worked to promote the betterment of the medical profession.

Dr. Rajasekhar's leadership and commitment are greatly appreciated by his colleagues and the public he served. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I would like to thank Dr. Damodara Rajasekhar for his years of public service and wish him the happiest of retirements.

RECOGNIZING FRAME FACTORY  
OWNER SALVADOR MOYA

**HON. JACKIE WALORSKI**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 2019*

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Salvador Moya, owner of the Frame Factory in South Bend, Indiana.

For years, Salvador has been a pillar of the northern Indiana arts community. He has an unparalleled passion for creative expression and for helping Hoosier artists discover, celebrate, and share their talent with the world.

I am grateful for the steadfast support Salvador offers young artists across our state. He has contributed so much to our community, and his continued leadership and philanthropy are true testaments to his compassion. He can always be found helping others and lifting spirits. Throughout his distinguished career, he has made a difference in the lives of countless aspiring artists by giving them opportunities to succeed that they would not otherwise have had.

Since 2003, Salvador's business, the Frame Factory, has delivered high-quality products and services to its customers. Small businesses like this are the backbone of our economy, and entrepreneurs like Salvador exemplify the American Dream. Driven by his enthusiasm for cultural enrichment and sense of community, Salvador's selflessness and hard work do not go unnoticed.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Salvador for his invaluable service to the northern Indiana community and to the State of Indiana.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 2019*

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 218 and "yea" on Roll Call No. 219.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIM BURCHETT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 2019*

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, on March 5th, I missed all called votes because my flight from Knoxville, Tennessee, to Washington, D.C., was cancelled and I was unable to arrive until after conclusion of the day's votes.

On Friday, May 17, I was being treated in the Emergency Department at George Washington University Hospital and was unable to vote on H.R. 5. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted against the bill.

HONORING E. RICHARD JONES AND  
THE E. RICHARD JONES FAMILY  
FOUNDATION

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 2019*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Rick Jones and the E. Richard Jones Family Foundation for their contribution to our Napa Valley community, and Community Health Initiative.

Mr. Jones received a Bachelor of Arts from Princeton University and a Master in Business Administration from the Stanford Graduate School of Business. For as long as he has resided in the Napa Valley, Mr. Jones has been deeply involved in and committed to our community. Mr. Jones has worked to better the health and well-being of Napa residents through his foundation, The E. Richard Jones Family Foundation. The Foundation has been critical to the success of Community Health Initiative. The Foundation provided seed funding to Community Health Initiative to become the first non-profit health insurance broker in California that is motivated by the need to assist vulnerable populations and provide access to health care services in the public and private markets. Additionally, The E. Richard Jones Family Foundation was instrumental in registering over 18,000 people for health insurance and providing them with access to care.

Mr. Jones is active in our community in addition to his work with his foundation. He is a current Board Member and former Board President of the Napa Valley Vintners Association, the Board Chair of OLE Health and Raising a Reader, and a Board Member of NapaLearns, St. Helena Hospital, and the St. Helena Hospital Foundation. Through his work on these boards and through Community Health Initiative, Mr. Jones is admirably working to improve the health of the residents of Napa County.

Madam Speaker, Rick Jones is a friend of mine, a kind and generous person and his organization, the E. Richard Jones Family Foundation, is essential to the continual improvement of our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor them both here today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 2019*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I had an unavoidable family commitment and so I missed Roll Call vote number 218 regarding the "Intercountry Adoption Information Act (H.R. 1952)." Had I been present, I would have voted "Yes."

I also missed Roll Call vote number 219 regarding the "Denouncing female genital mutilation/cutting as a violation of the human rights of women and girls and urging the international community and the Federal Government to increase efforts to eliminate the harmful practice (H. Res. 106)." Had I been present, I would have voted "Yes."

DENOUNCING FEMALE GENITAL  
MUTILATION/CUTTING AS VIO-  
LATING HUMAN RIGHTS OF  
WOMEN AND GIRLS

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 20, 2019*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 106 denouncing female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) and urging the international community and the Federal Government to increase efforts to eliminate this harmful practice.

Female genital mutilation is a clear human rights violation and must be ended immediately.

In many parts of the world, female genital mutilation is still performed by a religious leader, town elder, or a medical professional with limited training using crude instruments which can include broken glass, kitchen knives, and razor blades, however, antiseptics and anesthesia are rarely used.

Leaving these young women, many of which are between the ages of 4 and 13, susceptible to elevated risk of HIV transmission, hemorrhaging, chronic pelvic inflammation, septicemia, and delayed menarche.

In about 15 percent of cases, infibulation, the most severe form of FGM/C, involves the removal of the labia and the suturing together of the vulva.

This practice may place the victim's life at risk and victims of infibulation must be cut open to have intercourse and may be repeatedly opened and closed at the husband's will to ensure fidelity.

The practice of FGM/C abroad has persisted due to strong sociocultural influences which ensure that it is secretly done and underreported.

And despite many international efforts, anti-FGM/C legislation has not ended the practice in many countries.

FGM/C is still embraced by practitioners of all the major faiths—Christianity, Islam and traditional worship on the contents of Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

In the past, the U.S., largely through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the World Health Organization