

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF TOMMIE LOUISE
CAUDLE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the 100th birthday of Tommie Louise Caudle.

Ms. Caudle was born on June 5, 1919 to J.H. Caudle and Sallie White Caudle in Sylacauga, Alabama. She graduated from Sylacauga High School in 1937 and started working at Southern Bell Telephone as a telephone operator at age 16.

She attended Judson College her freshman year during which she was a member of Baptist Young People's Union. She also attended the University of Alabama. Ms. Caudle worked for South Central Bell until she retired in 1974.

Madam Speaker, please join me in wishing Ms. Caudle a happy 100th birthday.

WELCOMING CHAPLAIN THOMAS E.
FUSSELL, JR.

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize today's guest chaplain, Chaplain Thomas E. Fussell, Jr., and welcome him to the United States House of Representatives.

Chaplain Fussell, a major in the United States Air Force, is currently assigned to the 45th Space Wing, stationed at Patrick Air Force Base in Brevard County, Florida. The duties of the 45th Space Wing—including supporting the Department of Defense (DOD), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and commercial manned and unmanned space programs at Patrick Air Force Base—are critical to the success of space programs operating out of Cape Canaveral.

As Deputy Wing Chaplain to the 45th Space Wing, Chaplain Fussell advises commanders and first sergeants, ensures the free exercise of religion, and provides spiritual care, moral and ethical advice, and pastoral care and counseling to all military personnel and their families. Along with other chaplains serving in the Space Command, he is part of the spiritual backbone of American operations in space.

Chaplain Fussell received his Master of Divinity degree from Asbury Theological Seminary in 2000. In 2004, he was ordained as an elder in the South Georgia Conference and, in 2005, he commissioned as a chaplain.

In light of his many years of service, I am thankful that Chaplain Fussell could be with us today and offer a prayer in anticipation of Memorial Day. May the Lord bless all the brave men and women in uniform who have given their lives to protect our great nation, the United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, on May 22, 2019, I was unable to vote due to a classified briefing. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 222.

RECOGNIZING LAVEDA BROWN

HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. FLORES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Laveda Brown of Waco, Texas, who is retiring as the president of the Cen-Tex African American Chamber of Commerce.

Laveda comes from a strong business background and knows the value of hard work. Prior to joining the chamber, Laveda worked as a Procurement Specialist/Business Consultant at McLennan Community College Small Business Center and the Caruth Small Business Development Center at Abilene Christian University.

Her successful history of business development made her a compelling choice to lead the Cen-Tex African American Chamber of Commerce. Laveda's many years of experience in minority business certification, purchasing, economic development, and government contracting has helped her provide many small businesses with the tools to succeed.

When Laveda assumed leadership of the Chamber in 2007, its membership hovered around 30 members and numbers were dwindling quickly. Thanks to her efforts, membership is now above 250 members and their financial support has expanded dramatically.

Some of her biggest contributions, however, go beyond numbers. Under Laveda's direction, the chamber opened Esther's Closet, an initiative to assist unemployed women by providing interview and workplace clothing at no cost. Additionally, Esther's Closet assists with resume writing, interview skills, job performance, and financial management. Since its grand opening in 2016, Esther's Closet has helped more than 400 individuals and provided more than 5,000 outfits.

In addition to her chamber duties, Laveda has been a member of many organizations including the Waco Education Alliance, the Baylor Research and Innovation Collaborative, the City of Waco Policy Academy, and the Junior League Advisory Committee. She also served on the boards of the City of Waco Public Improvement and Development, the Texas Partnership for Out of School Time, and the YMCA of Central Texas. She was also the Vice President of the Texas Association of African American Chambers of Commerce.

She is a person of great courage, faith, insight and wisdom who has a very unselfish and loving spirit. She has dedicated her life to sharing her wealth of knowledge and experience to enlightening and motivating those around her to do their best. Laveda has a way of getting others to see the big picture and to overcome their differences in order to work together for the common good of all. Her great-

est gift is her passion for encouraging and empowering others.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Laveda Brown for her many years of impactful service to our Central Texas community. I wish her the best in her future endeavors and look forward to seeing the Cen-Tex African American Chamber of Commerce's continued success.

I have requested that a United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize the community service and accomplishments of Laveda Brown.

I urge all Americans to continue praying for our country, for our veterans, for our military men and women who protect us, and for our first responders who keep us safe at home.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND FRAN
HAYES FOR HER EXEMPLARY
SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY OF
DEARBORN

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend Fran Hayes for her tireless work in service of the residents of Dearborn, Michigan. She has been an instrumental member of the community as the head of the Dearborn Area Interfaith Network.

Reverend Fran Hayes has served the Dearborn community for 22 years as the pastor of Littlefield Presbyterian Church. A graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, Reverend Hayes dedicated her career to celebrating diversity of faith and culture. As the head of the Dearborn Area Interfaith Network; she has made a concerted effort to celebrate the vibrant, diverse community of Dearborn by building deep relationships between Christians and Muslims. Under her leadership, the church has engaged in deliberate efforts to educate parishioners in Islamic scripture through interfaith programs and activities.

Reverend Hayes' work represents a celebration of creed and culture. A staunch advocate for diversity, Reverend Hayes leaves a legacy of inclusivity and justice through her continued efforts to transcend barriers of faith and culture. We thank Reverend Hayes for her commitment to embracing people of all faiths and cultures and we congratulate her on her retirement. Her dedicated leadership will be missed, but we wish her good health and every happiness in her retirement years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Reverend Fran Hayes for her exemplary service to Dearborn. Her work celebrating diversity of faith is worthy of commendation.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE LAFAYETTE
CHURCH OF CHRIST

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lafayette Church of Christ in honor of their 150th anniversary on June 19, 2019.

A longstanding pillar in the Macon County community, the Lafayette Church of Christ is widely known for its heart for service, love for others, and commitment to Christian principles. The congregation was founded by Isaac T. Reneau on June 19, 1869. Upon its founding, members met in various locations throughout Macon County. On January 11, 1874, the congregation held its first worship service in their first building on the town square in Lafayette. In 1963, a new building was constructed at 212 Church Street in Lafayette, which is where the congregation continues to meet. Today, that building is now part of a 9.5-acre campus that also includes a new auditorium, Fellowship Hall, and Refuge building for youth activities. However, the congregation's most enduring legacy will be its commitment to spreading the Gospel throughout its community.

The Lafayette Church of Christ has a rich heritage of upstanding families and strong believers. In efforts to care for their neighbors, the congregation offers a food pantry, utility bill assistance, furniture for those in need, and eager volunteers ready to answer the call of those in their community. Following the devastating tornado that hit Lafayette in 2008, it is well remembered that the members of the congregation eagerly coordinated response crews to those needing assistance and their fellowship hall served as a resource distribution center for the community.

The Lafayette Church of Christ is faithfully led by Elders Bobby Bransford and Barry Doss, along with Pulpit Minister Jeny Mercer and Youth Minister Cameron Miller. Today, the Lafayette Church of Christ is comprised of 250 members and routinely hosts local chapters of the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and American Red Cross blood drives. The congregation faithfully follows God's Biblical commands and seeks to be Christ's church in its community. The congregation is anchored in knowing that God gave His only begotten Son so that through baptism, we might live. I pray that this group of Christians may continue under our Father's protection in preaching, teaching, and sharing the great story of Christ.

To my House colleagues today, I hope you will join me in congratulating the Lafayette Church of Christ on 150 years of service to the community and unwavering faith. I am confident their impact on Macon County will continue for generations to come.

SUPPORTING THE SECURE ACT

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act—The SECURE Act.

Almost 60 percent of Americans do not have any retirement account assets. That means they haven't put away a single dollar for retirement. Not one.

The SECURE Act includes many provisions to expand opportunities for Alabamians to increase their retirement savings.

The bill: makes it easier for small businesses to offer retirement plans to their employees; provides retirement benefit opportuni-

ties to home care workers; allows long-time, part-time workers to participate in a 401(k) plan; and much more.

Also included in the SECURE Act is a provision that I introduced with my colleagues earlier this month. It will deliver an urgently-needed fix for Gold Star military families who saw a drastic tax hike as a result of the Republican tax bill.

The SECURE Act goes a long way in ensuring that Americans get the economic security they deserve, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PHYLLIS WATT WUSTENBERG

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Phyllis Watt Wustenberg a constituent of mine from Bay City, Oregon who recently passed away at the age of 92.

Phyllis was a remarkable woman and beloved member of the community who leaves behind an incredible legacy of a life that was dedicated to service. The Tillamook County area won't be the same without her. Today I would like to include in the RECORD Phyllis' obituary and extend my sincere condolences to Phyllis' family and the people of Tillamook County.

OBITUARY FOR PHYLLIS WATT WUSTENBERG

Phyllis Wustenberg, age 92, passed away peacefully on May 7, 2019 while seated at the desk of her home in Bay City, OR. There were messages on the answering machine, minutes and notes from recent nonprofit board and public commission meetings, and treasured memories from five generations of her Oregon family within arm's reach. Phyllis Watt Wustenberg—pioneer, matriarch, scholar, mink rancher, gardener, civic leader, philanthropist, sorority sister, and great grandmother—was busy living right to the last moment. It was a life well lived, dedicated to the betterment of her family, community, and state she loved so dearly.

She was born July 25, 1927 in Vancouver, WA to Robert, son of settler, farmer, logger and lumber mill owner Robert Watt, and Jean Morris Watt, who he met in Haines, AK. The Watt family journey from Scotland and contributions as pioneers in the coastal region are documented in the 1974 book, *Five Watt Brothers*. Phyllis attended Bay City school with siblings Barbara, Joan and Robert. She graduated in 1945 in a class of nine, received her B.S. from Oregon State University in 1949 and was one of the first women to achieve a Master's in Fisheries Management in 1951. Phyllis was on faculty at OSU from 1951 to 1953, where her work was described in *Fur Animal Research* where, in 2000, editor J.E. Oldfield remembers: "I moved from U.B.C. to Oregon State University in 1949 and found a mink research program in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife (then "Fish and Game") which was ably directed by Phyllis Watt (now Wustenberg). If I needed any encouragement to continue my interest with mink, Phyllis certainly supplied it. Raised on a mink ranch at Bay City, Oregon, she combined her knowledge of the industry and its needs with her research abilities to form an effective program which she operated with great good humor."

She met and married Donald Wustenberg of Chico, CA in 1953 while at OSU, and in

1955, after he graduated with a Master's in Fisheries Biology. They relocated to the farm in Bay City to create a life closer to their shared ideal for raising a family. Mark was born in 1954 and William (Bill) in 1957. Don and Phyllis combined their unique research skills in animal science and genetics to create innovative data management practices that produced among the finest natural black mink in the world for over 45 years. During that time they were active leaders in the Ninth American mink industry: Phyllis served as chair of the National Mink Farmer's Research Foundation and was in demand as a renowned speaker; Don was on the board of the Great Lakes Mink Association during years of the famous "What Becomes a Legend Most" Richard Avalon ad campaign.

Phyllis served her community and state with a gifted ability to see possibilities and respect history. She believed that people's lives can be improved, young and old, with a free book, a trip to a museum, a walk in a nature center, or a scholarship for higher education. Near to her heart was the Watt Brothers Scholarship Trust, where she served as chair for over 30 years, that annually gifts about \$100,000 to Tillamook County graduates. She was a dedicated founder of the Bay City Planning Commission, Tillamook County Pioneer Museum and Kilchis Point Reserve boards, serving until her last day. She sat on the Tillamook County Extension Committee and Tillamook County Library Board. In 1994 Phyllis was appointed to the Oregon State Board of Higher Education and served until it was disbanded in 2004. She was the Board's representative to the Center for Applied Agricultural Research Board during that period and was a tireless advocate for Oregon State University Cascades to ensure four-year university education was available to the eastern half of the state. Former Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Shirley Clark reflected with great admiration that, "Phyllis changed the world and made friends along the way."

Phyllis did indeed bestow her deepest love upon family and close friends. She nurtured her sons through Willamette University and Oregon State Veterinary College and was deeply proud that they each accomplished distinguished careers and raised close-knit families with core values that mirrored her own. Her home was a destination for large gatherings of family, annual OSU Delta Delta Sorority picnics, international guests, drop-by visitors, and the occasional elected official seeking advice. She is survived by: son, Dr. Mark Wustenberg (Judy), Bay City, OR; Dr. William Wustenberg (Wendy), Farmington, MN; four grandchildren—Dr. Ben Wustenberg (Dr. Leticia), Carlton, OR and their children Tristan and Emma; Liam Wustenberg (Jennifer), Forest Grove, OR and their son Everett; Russell Wustenberg, living in Toronto, CA; and Lauren Wustenberg, South Royalton, VT; her sisters Barbara and Joan; beloved nephews and nieces and extended family by birth and marriage here in the United States and abroad. She is preceded in death by her husband, Don, both parents and her brother Robert.

Mark recalls that his mother said, "Heaven is our memories carried forward in the lives of those we love and hold dear." The public is invited to join the family at Tillamook County Pioneer Museum, 2106 2nd St. Tillamook, OR 97141, Sunday June 9, 2019 from 2-5 p.m. Memorials are requested in lieu of flowers to honor Phyllis' lifelong dedication to the good works of the Watt Brothers Scholarship Trust, c/o Simpson & Roesener, LLP, 2216 4th St. Tillamook, OR 97141 and the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum, c/o Gary Albright, 2106 2nd St. Tillamook, OR 97141.