

services to an ever-growing population of patients in need of care. In addition to the development of a low-risk delivery unit, he initiated the nurse-midwives program at Parkland. In 1987, Dr. Leveno recruited midwives across the U.S. and even abroad to launch Parkland's program, now one of the largest and most respected Certified Nurse-Midwives services in the United States. His groundbreaking research and development of innovative obstetrical care practices transformed Parkland's obstetric service and created a unified system that integrated prenatal delivery and postpartum care.

Dr. Leveno devoted more than fifty years of his life to the medical profession, including serving as the UT Southwestern Jack A. Pritchard Chair in Obstetrics & Gynecology and was recognized as the Distinguished Physician Award by Parkland Hospital in 1998. His positive impact and worthwhile contributions to the medical profession will be sorely missed by the patients he so diligently served and by the colleagues who held him in great esteem. I am deeply grateful for his friendship and service and pray for comfort and peace for his wife and family.

HONORING QUITMAN COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL
BOARD PRESIDENT LORENZO
“DC” WINDLESS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, it is an honor and privilege to recognize the Honorable, Mr. Lorenzo Windless, fondly affectionately known as, ‘DC’, was born and reared in Darling, MS. He is a supportive and dependable brother to six siblings and a dedicated and loving son to his mother, Ms. Fannie Windless of Sledge, MS. Lorenzo has a genuine love for family, for friends, for the community, for our nation and to simply put it he has a love for people.

We would like to share a few of Mr. Windless’ accomplishments and positions that he has proudly and effectively held within our communities: Lorenzo was born with a heart to help others—at the age of 18 he was Asst Fire Chief of Sledge MS’s volunteer Fire Department, and being the trailblazer that he is, he began as a Security Officer at Sam’s Town Casino in 1994, onto a Police Officer in 1998 promoted to Police Chief in Sledge, MS by 2000 (tactical training at Ole Miss University) and Mayor of Sledge MS 2001 to 2005. During his tenure, as the 1st African American male Mayor of Sledge, MS, a new and robust water system was installed, and the town of Sledge celebrated their very 1st ‘Sledge Day.’ With the sole purpose of engaging, understanding, and assisting and impacting the lives of other African American men, DC began a career as a Bail Bondsman in 2010 to current.

Mr. Windless is a ‘Man of many gifts.’ He started mowing lawns, transporting, and cooking for the elderly within the community or those less fortunate. Lorenzo became an entrepreneur and community-made businessman from 2008 to 2014: owning and operating such businesses as; Lorenzo Lawn Service, Big Dog BBQ Catering and Liberty Transportation, Wrecker Service and Used Cars.

Always seeking to inspire, motivate, nurture, and cultivate, Lorenzo became a member of the School Board and has served for two terms and is currently serving as President of the Quitman County School District. He is a board member of the Marks Project Community Work Force alliance, where they provide job training, certification and skill enhancement. Mr. Windless is also the Lambert Community Housing Manager. In the midst of it all, he is pursuing his own educational goals as a student of Strayer University College, studying Business Administration with an expected end of an MBA Degree.

All that we do is for naught if we are not doing it for the glory and edification of God. Minister Windless accepted his calling as a preacher in 2003, where he began as the Youth Minister at St Phillips Missionary Baptist Church in Sledge, MS. He became a pastor in 2004 and is currently the shepherd of the Zion Travelers Missionary Baptist Church in Farrell, MS. He was also the Chaplain for Memorial Hospice and Palliative Care. Pastor Windless believes that it is the heart of a man that rules him and if he can touch hearts, then minds will be changed, and our black heritage will thrive. Moreover, he works tirelessly and consistently towards that end.

All that God has allowed Pastor Windless to accomplish would not have been attainable if not for the sacrifices, support, and strength of his own family. Pastor Windless is adorned by his eloquent and graceful wife of over 20 years, Lady Sharonda Windless and his beautiful and respectful daughters: Gabrielle, Alesha and Zaria Windless. As he journeys through this life being the example and epitome of a wise, courageous, fierce, strong and loving black man—he does so through the love and encouragement of his family and by the grace of God. President Windless and his family not only open their hearts to those in need, but they also open their home to those God has directed to them. With their nest one child from being empty, they have taken on the responsibility of providing a home, helping to mold and teach three other young men. His life is not one of the words but actions and deeds.

A glimpse into the life of Mr. Windless is a reflection of ‘helping others.’ He is a man with a God-given vision, the will to press forward, and a zeal to change lives. No task set before him has gone undone; hurdles placed in his path, have made him stumble, but he has yet to fall; conflict, health issues and life itself have thrown darts of hatred, bigotry and dismay towards him but he does not bow down nor will he back down. President Windless is a man of fortitude, laughter, wisdom and truth, wise enough to be patient and humble enough to listen.

It has been an honor to recognize and present an outstanding and remarkable Man of God businessman, and community leader.

TRIBUTE TO BRETT R. BARBRE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and congratulate Director Brett R. Barbre on his retirement from the Mu-

nicipal Water District of Orange County’s (MWDOC) Board of Directors after nearly 20 years of valued service.

Director Barbre has been a valued member of MWDOC since he was elected to the Board in November 2000. He serves as the Director of Division I which includes the cities of Brea, Buena Park, La Habra, La Palma, Placentia, and Yorba Linda. In this role, Director Barbre has dedicated his career to ensuring there is an adequate water supply for Orange County residents and businesses. He has helped MWDOC secure millions of dollars in local, state, and federal funds to build projects to increase water reliability for his region. He was a driving force behind the construction of a desalination plant in Dana Point, and he has played an active role in finding other viable desalination sites in Huntington Beach and throughout our southern counties.

In 2009, Director Barbre was appointed to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California’s (MWD) Board of Directors. MWD delivers water to approximately 20 million residents and serves the largest population of any water district worldwide. He took on his role at MWD with enthusiasm and was recognized both in California and Washington, D.C., as a tireless advocate for our region. His vision to modernize our water supply systems has benefitted all of Southern California.

Director Barbre is an Orange County native, having left only to attend George Fox University in Newberg, Oregon. After graduation he moved back to Orange County and has been a Yorba Linda resident since 1969. He and his wife, Jean, have two daughters, Kimberly and Kathryn, two grandsons and one granddaughter.

The entire Southern California region thanks Brett for his many years of service, and I wish him all the best in his next chapter.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF TED ROWSE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ted Rowse, a wonderful constituent who just celebrated his 100th birthday. Mr. Rowse has honorably served our country in battle and as a public-spirited journalist, and he has been a popular member of the Chevy Chase community for over 45 years. This past Saturday, I was touched to join his loving friends and family who organized a drive-by parade of cars to celebrate Ted’s 100th birthday in a safe and festive way.

Ted left college in 1942 to enlist in the Army. During WWII, he served in North Africa and Italy and was awarded 4 battle stars for his courageous service. Following the war, Ted returned to education and received his MBA from Harvard Business School.

Ted led a fascinating career as a journalist, beginning at the Boston Globe before eventually moving to Washington to work as an assistant city editor of the Washington Post in 1960. He went on to serve in the Johnson White House on programs to help consumers. His distinguished career culminated in his generous creation of the Arthur Rowse Award for Press Criticism.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the important accomplishments of my distinguished constituent, Ted Rowse, and hope this chamber will join me in wishing him a very happy 100th birthday.

COMMEMORATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 70th anniversary of the National Science Foundation (NSF).

As the world responds to the novel coronavirus pandemic, it is more important than ever to invest in science and the next generation of scientists who will lead us through future global challenges.

My state is proud to be home to one of the eight NSF-funded Mathematical Sciences Institutes—the Institute for Computational and Experimental Research in Mathematics (ICERM).

In early 2019, scientists gathered at the Institute to study mathematical models related to treatment and prevention of infectious disease, research that has become glaringly necessary in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Investments like this are vital to prepare us for future challenges to Americans' health and welfare and are why I continue to champion America's research enterprise.

I hope you will join with me in celebrating the many accomplishments of NSF over the last 70 years, as well as the crucial work it continues to do.

RECOGNIZING GERRI BACKES OF KALISPELL

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Gerri Backes of Kalispell for supporting and caring for seniors in her community as we face this unprecedented time.

Gerri is the president of the Kalispell Senior Center. Since taking over last summer, she has made increasing social events a priority, with a goal of creating programs that seniors will look forward to. Gerri says this new approach has paid dividends and now their group is closer than ever. Last year, she set up a "90-plus" party for 17 members of the senior center, and dozens showed up to celebrate their long, fulfilling lives. She says parties like these promote community and build critical relationships that ultimately improve the life of her members.

She also oversees the center's "Warm It Up" program. Through this major project, seniors knit hats, scarfs, and quilts to donate to organizations and schools throughout Kalispell. In 2019 alone, they donated 3,000 items. Under her leadership, the center also offers exercise classes along with educational presentations on health care and fraud. They play Pinochle on Tuesdays and Fridays and

have a very popular weekly Bingo night. But all of that has come to a screeching halt.

Officials closed the center in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. As a result, seniors are confined to their homes, isolated and with little to no social interaction. Luckily for this Kalispell group, they have Gerri.

For Gerri, one of the best things in life is laughter. She says it keeps the soul happy and hopeful. While the center's doors are closed, Gerri has been making phone calls to check up on her friends, and she refuses to hang up until she gets a laugh. And that's not all she does.

During these long days at home, it's easy to get lonely and restless, so Gerri delivers puzzles and books to her friends. She says this group of Kalispell Valley seniors is her family, and she'll continue to help them whether the center is open or closed.

Madam Speaker, for delivering laughs and hope to Montana seniors, I recognize Gerri Backes of Kalispell for her spirit of Montana.

REMEMBERING JAMES WAYNE SMITH

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of James Wayne Smith of Jesup, Georgia, who passed away at 92 years old on April 22nd.

Known to some as "Hatchet," and others as "The Mayor of Doctortown," which had no mayor, he had a talent for making friends and was loved by many.

Wayne was a faithful member of Epworth United Methodist Church, and quite literally played a role in its foundation, as he graded the lot where the church now stands.

Although his dedicated work in highway construction for over 60 years sometimes took him away from home, he always returned to his beloved Jesup.

In his free time, he loved to fish and hike on the Altamaha River, but most of all, he loved spending time with his family and friends.

A renounced raconteur and spinner of yarns, Wayne's good humor never failed to bring a smile.

I am thankful for the immense impact he had on his community, and I know his legacy will remain.

My thoughts and prayers are with all who knew and loved Wayne during this most difficult time.

HONORING DEBORAH WRIGHT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and ambitious woman, Deborah Wright, who has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to serve others.

Deborah was born to the late Mr. Lee Grant Bridges and Mrs. Lutishia Bridges on November 6, 1961 in Rosedale, MS. She attended

Marshall Elementary, Brinkley Jr. High and Hinds A.H.S. then crossed over to Hinds Jr. College in Utica, MS.

Deborah Wright married in 1981 and two loving children, Laquita Shonta Sampson and Lawrence Douglas Sampson Jr., were born.

In 1995, Mrs. Wright received her Real Estate Degree from the Mississippi Realtors Institute in Jackson MS. With an unwavering passion to improve her community, create balanced mental health care regimes, and to encourage others to excel past adversity, Deborah became the epitome of women in business leadership. She has established herself as a trailblazer in the business industry for over 30 years with entrepreneurial experience in the state of Mississippi. After college in 1981 Deborah Wright was employed by Milwaukee Electric Tools as a repair person. In 1992, she incorporated her first business, Teen's World Activity and Community Center, which is a non-profit organization. In 1992, Deborah worked as the Public Relations Officer for Operation Shoestring, Inc. and later Deborah partnered with her mother, Lutishia Bridges and opened "Linda's Florist and Gift Shop" in Jackson in 1996 and she also worked in transportation for Jackson Public School District.

Mrs. Wright rose against adversity by becoming the first African American woman in the world and sole proprietor of Mississippi Truck Driving Training, Inc., located in Jackson, Mississippi. After closing the truck driving school Deborah started Sincere Trucking. She wittingly coined its name from her late grandson, Master Sincere Rachele Christian.

This Bolivar County native has always exhibited visionary strength, while achieving a ripple effect of empowerment for future endeavors within the Health Care Industries. She later started Sincere Home Care, LLC in June 2013, certified and licensed with MS Department of Mental Health and MS Health Department to provide a complement of services to the community. She patterned her mission statement after her non-profit organization: Helping Other People Excel (H. O. P. E.). She developed her companies to offer a solution for the need of a permanent mediator between mental health and health care.

Deborah is not a stranger to blazing paths; she is motivated by the belief to insure a healthy standard of care for every client. She has vowed to ensure that Sincere Home Care LLC would become a pillar of major change for the impoverished and unhealthy in every county in Mississippi. Her goal is to provide first-rate employment opportunities as well as outstanding health care services for all social classes. Some of her services include: Assisted Living; Supervised Living; Sincere Home Care, LLC: a Mental Health Headquarter which includes: Community Mental Health & Substance Abuse and Recovery, Supported Living, Community Respite, Peer Support, Disabled & Developmental Disabled Community Support, Home Nursing Respite, Private Duty Nursing and Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy; three Adult Day Service Centers: in Jackson, Louisville and Morton, MS.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Deborah Wright for her passion and dedication to serving many people and having the desire to make a difference in the communities.