

passed away on April 1, 2020 at the age of 90. He was a well-known advocate in the Fresno, California community and a role model for many in the Central Valley. A true trailblazer, Floyd and his brother James were the first African American fire fighters in the City of Fresno.

Floyd White, Sr. was born in Oklahoma; he and his family moved to Fresno, California when he was young. He excelled in sports and academics at Edison High School and Fresno City College, playing football and running track and field. Floyd was a veteran of the United States Army, serving in the Korean War and earning the rank of Sergeant.

On September 1, 1954, Floyd White, Sr. and brother, James White made history as the first African American firefighters in the City of Fresno. Floyd would make history as Fresno's very first African American Fire Chief. Throughout his career, he fought for equal rights, higher education, and fair employment for all. Floyd won a historic lawsuit against the City of Fresno for racial discrimination alongside Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, then Commissioner of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. During his time in the force, he was mentor to young African American fire fighters and made sure they had an ally to turn to. He truly had a passion for standing up for what is right and helping others during times of need.

Floyd dedicated much of his time to the community he loved dearly. He was an honorary Deacon of Saint Rest Baptist Church and was past Commander of the American Legion Post 511. Floyd was a lifetime member of The Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and an Eternal member with Highest Honors of the 33rd Degree Free Masons Raisin City Lodge Number Five. Following his retirement from the Fresno Fire Department, Floyd was sure to stay busy. He became a business owner, worked as a corrections officer, substitute teacher and bus driver.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Whelma Jean White; sons Floyd L. White, Jr. and Cedric W. White, Sr.; and daughters Carolyn J. White, Jennifer L. White, Rae L. White and Donzetta White Hale. He also leaves behind his brother James Porter White, sister-in-law Joyful White, and many nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and loving friends.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in celebrating Mr. Floyd White, Sr. I join his family, friends, and the community in celebrating his great life.

HONORING GRANDMASTER CHAN PUI AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR ASIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Grandmaster Chan Pui is one of the leading pioneers in introducing martial arts to the United States. After immigrating to the United States in 1968, he began teaching the Wah Lum Kung Fu System in Boston, MA. In 1980, he moved the

headquarters of the Wah Lum System to Orlando, FL where he built the first kung fu temple in the United States, the Wah Lum Temple.

He was the first person to begin the tradition of Chinese New Year celebrations in Central Florida and used these events as an opportunity to educate his community on the Chinese culture. Grandmaster Chan has been featured in magazines and documentaries for his revered style and prowess in the martial arts industry. Most notably, his life is captured in a documentary directed by his daughter titled Pui Chan: Kung Fu Pioneer. Along with this documentation of his work, his skill and prowess are also exemplified through his inductions in several martial arts Halls of Fame. In addition to his many accolades, Grandmaster Chan has also trained a professional demonstration team that performs at all the major theme parks in Central Florida. Through his philanthropic efforts, he has raised over \$30,000 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Recognized and esteemed by many, Grandmaster Chan has been an integral part of contributing to and preserving martial arts knowledge in the world. Of all his endeavors and accomplishments, most important to him is his love for his family, his pride in his students, and his whole-hearted practice of his system's motto of integrating respect, kindness, fellowship, and strength in martial arts. In his life, actions, and practice of martial arts, his philosophy is evident, it's not just a job, but a way of life.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SAMITA JACOBS

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Samita Baumritter Jacobs. Sookie, as she was known, passed away at her home on April 27, 2020 at the age of 89. Throughout her extraordinary life, I am told she spread her unique warmth, spirit, goodness, and generosity to all who were lucky enough to know her.

The daughter of Ted and Florence Baumritter, Sookie grew up in New York City. After being set up on a blind date with Howard Jacobs, it soon became clear that they were soulmates. Sookie and Howard married on June 5, 1952, and for the next 63 years they were partners in everything.

After starting a family in New York, Sookie and Howard moved their young children to southern California so they could start their own furniture business. Sookie was the aesthetic force in the endeavor while Howard handled the business side. With their complementary talents and temperaments, their one Ethan Allen store soon turned to five—and they were known for their excellence, value, and integrity. Customers and staff not only respected Sookie, they loved her.

Nothing was more important to Sookie than being with her family, and she cherished trips and visits with her children and their families. In their later years, Sookie and Howard moved to Rancho Santa Fe in the 49th Congressional District to be closer to their daughter Ami and

her family. Sookie's devotion to Howard knew no bounds, caring for Howard's every need through his declining health and difficult bout with Alzheimer's.

Sookie taught her family by example that a glass could be half full. She faced numerous health challenges in her life. When she had her first bout with cancer in the late 1970s, the doctors gave her a less than 10 percent chance of living for more than three years. She made up her mind quickly that she was going to be one of the 10 percent. Her courage and determination were simply inspirational. Throughout her life she met every challenge with her fierce determination and loving care for those around her.

CONGRATULATING BULGARIAN SUCCESS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as Co-Chair of the Congressional Bulgaria Caucus, I commend the government of Prime Minister Boyko Borissov for its handling of the unprecedented Wuhan Virus pandemic. After a state of emergency declaration lasting ten weeks, the Bulgarian government announced on Tuesday that the country's famed archeological treasures, monasteries, mountain havens along with world-class Black Sea resorts, marinas, sports centers, restaurants, bars, and cafes will reopen on June 1st.

As of this week, Bulgaria has reported 2,460 confirmed coronavirus cases, including 133 deaths, a relatively low number for Europe. Prime Minister Borissov and Health Minister Kiril Ananiev started relaxing the lockdown back in April, while still enforcing strict social distancing and other important measures which succeeded in containing the spread of the Invisible Enemy.

The Bulgarian government deserves high praise for its handling of this unique public health crisis and for exhibiting an impressive level of leadership in the face of this challenge. The American people will continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with the people of Bulgaria, and we look forward to seeing our friends in Sofia in better days with warm Bulgarian hospitality.

Bulgaria is ably represented in Washington with Ambassador Tihomir Stoychev who is serving in the tradition of Ambassador Elena Poptodorova.

RECOGNIZING THE 102ND REPUBLIC DAY OF AZERBAIJAN

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, as one of the House Co-chairs of the Azerbaijan Caucus, I am honored to recognize the Republic Day of Azerbaijan, commemorating Azerbaijan's 102nd year of independence and democracy. On May 28, 1918, Azerbaijan became the first secular democratic state in the

Muslim East. Though it was absorbed into the Soviet Union in 1920, Azerbaijan again declared its independence seven decades later in 1991, following the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Azerbaijan's Republic Day serves as a time to highlight and reflect on some of the country's best qualities, including its strong relationship with Israel, its focus on energy security, and its key role in regional stability.

A Muslim-majority country, Azerbaijan also hosts a thriving, secure Jewish community, and the Azerbaijan-Israel bilateral relationship is strong.

Additionally, Azerbaijan is committed to protecting global energy security, especially through its efforts regarding the Southern Gas Corridor, which will decrease the Caspian region's dependence on Russian oil.

A stalwart U.S. ally, Azerbaijan has aided U.S. and NATO forces by providing critical refueling stations, and Azerbaijan's troops have fought side-by-side with U.S. troops in Afghanistan. In addition, Azerbaijan has contributed to the security of Kosovo and Iraq and supports peacekeeping operations under the United Nations and NATO. Azerbaijan is also committed to global nonproliferation efforts and participates as a member of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Azerbaijan is a significant U.S. partner in a strategically important area of the world, and I urge my colleagues to join me to commending the people of Azerbaijan on their Republic Day.

HONORING PAULINE HO AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR ASIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Pauline Ho is a U.S. Certified Public Accountant in both Florida and Washington, as well as a U.K. Chartered Accountant. Besides having a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Hong Kong, her hometown, Pauline has obtained a master's degree in administration from Andrews University of Michigan, and a master's degree in accounting from the University of Central Florida.

In 2008, she founded Laus Consulting Services LLC, a company providing accounting, payroll, tax, and consulting services to small businesses. During this COVID-19 pandemic, she proactively seeks to assist her clients by helping them navigate loans and secure financial assistance in these challenging times. Pauline is highly active in the local communities as well. She is the former President of the Chinese American Association of Central Florida, Vice Chair to both Finance and Business Development Committees of Asian American Federation of Florida in Central Florida, and a Board of Directors member at Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra.

Furthermore, Pauline actively holds the positions of Advisor of the Chinese School of CAACF, Auditor and Past Scholastic Award Chair of Asian American Heritage Council of Central Florida, Chair of REACH of Central Florida, which is a high school non-profit organiza-

nization dedicated to serving the local communities, Board of Director of Mills 50, Board of Director of the Sharing Center, Board of Director of United Against Poverty, and CPA of numerous nonprofit organizations.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF ELMIRA V. GILBERT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of, and express sadness over, the passing of an extraordinary woman, Elmira "Nana" V. Gilbert: Elmira moved to West Palm Beach, Florida when she was five years old and lived there for nearly nine decades. She passed away on March 5, 2020, just a few months shy of her 105th birthday.

She was one of 52 members to graduate from the first high school for African Americans in Palm Beach County in 1935 and served as the vice president of her Class Reunion Committee for many years. She always lived her life to the fullest, embracing her role as matriarch of the Shederick, Gilbert, King, Brown I, and Brown II French families.

Elmira was an extremely resilient woman having survived the many injustices of segregation and numerous hurricanes, including the deadly hurricane of 1928. I extend my heartfelt condolences to Elmira's many family members and friends. Our nation grieves with you, and I pray that you may find comfort during this extremely difficult time.

FRATERNITY SERVES

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity has proven itself of serving the community as we all work to defeat the Wuhan virus. The Aiken Standard on May 25th in an article by Matthew Enfinger presented the following acts of kindness. A presentation photo highlighted fraternity members Ray Williams, Everett Chandler, Anthony White, and Will Jones. Fraternity buys lunch for Aiken police Officers.

"In an effort to show support and thanks to local police, Aiken Omega Psi Phi chapter provided lunch to officers at the Aiken Department Public Safety on Thursday.

Around noon, members of the local chapter carried boxes of food and drinks provided by Chick-Fil-A in Aiken. [Owned by Tom Johnson]

Ray Williams with the Sigma Pi chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., said it's a way to give back to area officers who work daily to keep Aiken safe.

In addition to serving Public Safety, another group from the fraternity served lunch to We Care Nursing Home in New Ellenton.

"We wanted to show some support for our Aiken Public Safety by providing them lunch because they're putting themselves out on the line every day to protect and serve us regardless of the COVID-19 pandemic. 'They're still out there doing our best to keep us safe.'"

Chief Charles Barranco with ADPS said the support from the community through lunches and simple thank you's has meant a lot to the law enforcement division.

"We're part of the community and when the community partners with us it's pretty cool to see the engagement especially when there's a fire call or police call going on," Barranco said. "Many groups, such as the Omegas, have been part of COVID-19 response and we're very thankful."

HONORING THE LIFE OF ARTIST MARGARET HUDSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Mr. TJ Cox to honor and pay tribute to the life of local artist Margaret Hudson, who passed away on February 2, 2020 at the age of 93. Her iconic clay sculptures of California wildlife and young children were loved for generations.

Margaret Metzler was born to David and Sadie Metzler in Fresno, California. From a young age, Margaret enjoyed spending time outdoors with animals at her parent's home in Fresno's Old Fig Garden neighborhood. She and her family also loved hiking and camping, especially in Sequoia National Park. Her appreciation of the Central Valley's beautiful landscape grew from a young age, which would later influence her art.

Margaret attended college in New England and studied art and theology. She would go on to serve as a missionary in Japan for several years. Margaret met and married her husband Gilbert Hudson in 1955 and shortly after moved to South Korea as missionaries. Gilbert taught physics, and Margaret taught English, at the University of Daegu. They had four sons in South Korea and lived there until 1967.

After returning to the United States, the Hudson family lived in various parts of the country. Her love for art blossomed when living in New York, where she first began to experiment with materials such as decaying barn wood and automotive trims. In Maryland, she began working with red clay. Margaret finally found her style of art in red clay and began sculpting from her memories of South Korea.

In 1968, the family moved to Coalinga, California, but after her husband became ill with Valley Fever, they moved to Fresno to be closer to family. Margaret realized after Gilbert's recovery that she would need to help support the family financially. In 1972, she decided to open a business, Earth Art's Studio and became one of the first female arts entrepreneurs in Fresno.

In 1988, Margaret lost her father, son, and mother within one year. She used art as her therapy and created pieces that were much larger than her original work. After 20 years of working with clay, Margaret attended Fresno City College to expand her artistic abilities to include paint. In 1992, she went to London and Paris and was inspired to paint on canvas. That same year, Margaret held her first art show.

Margaret's artwork is a fixture throughout the Central Valley. Her "Mama Bear" sculpture is displayed at Valley Children's Hospital,