

and ending with Katherine Rose Woody, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of June 29, 2020; PN2071 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (5) beginning Erin Elizabeth McKee, and ending Dana Rogstad Mansuri, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of June 29, 2020; PN2072 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (27) beginning Lawrence J. Sacks, and ending Bruce F. McFarland, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of June 29, 2020; and PN2073 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (3) beginning Deanna Scott, and ending Christopher Walker, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of June 29, 2020?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING THE REVEREND DR. C.T. VIVIAN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, in his powerful eulogy for Congressman John Lewis, President Barack Obama described John Lewis as a man who “brought this country a little bit closer to our highest ideals.” President Obama went on to say, “And someday when we do finish that long journey towards freedom, when we do form a more perfect union—whether it’s years from now or decades or even if it takes another two centuries—John Lewis will be a founding father of that fuller, fairer, better America.” Such a beautiful and fitting epitaph.

Another founder of that “fuller, fairer, better America” was the Reverend Dr. C.T. Vivian. C.T. Vivian and John Lewis departed this life on the same day. The timing of their leaving is proof, perhaps, that Mark Twain was right when he said that history does not repeat itself, but sometimes it rhymes.

Who was C.T. Vivian? Martin Luther King called him “the greatest preacher ever to live.” The Reverend Gerald Durley, who met C.T. Vivian in 1960 when Durley was a member of the Nashville Student Movement and who delivered the eulogy at his home going, called Dr. Vivian “the most patient impatient man” he ever met. Patient with people but impatient with injustice.

C.T. Vivian was mentor to John Lewis, Diane Nash, and many other

brave young civil rights activists a half century ago. Before they sat at those segregated lunch counters or boarded those Freedom Rider buses, Dr. Vivian taught them about the tactics—and the transformative power—of nonviolent civil disobedience.

He was as a Baptist minister, an early civil rights organizer, and a member of Martin Luther King’s inner circle or advisers. As field general for Dr. King and his Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Dr. Vivian was the national director of some 85 local affiliate chapters of the SCLC from 1963 to 1966, directing protest activities and training in nonviolence, and coordinating voter registration and community development projects.

He led passive protests through angry mobs and was beaten viciously by segregationists, but he never once struck back. He received his first beating in 1961 on a Freedom Ride to Mississippi. In 1964, a white mob beat him with chains and nearly drowned him in the Atlantic Ocean in St. Augustine, FL.

In Selma, AL, in 1965, 2 weeks before Bloody Sunday, Dr. Vivian was trying to register Africa-American residents to vote when Sheriff Jim Clark punched him in the mouth so hard that the blow sent the minister reeling down the courthouse steps. Sheriff Clark then ordered deputies to arrest him for “criminal provocation.” Television coverage of Dr. Vivian being dragged away, blood streaming down his face, helped galvanize the voting rights movement.

C.T. Vivian was a hero to all Americans, but many in my State feel a special connection to him because of the formative years he spent among us. He was, like many great Illinoisans, an adopted son of the Land of Lincoln.

He was born Cordy Tindell Vivian in Boonville, Missouri, on July 30, 1924, the only child of Robert and Euzetta Tindell Vivian. His father left the family when he was a baby. His mother lost the family farm in the Depression and the family home in town to arson.

When C.T. was 6, he moved with this mother and maternal grandmother to Macomb, Illinois. The women chose Macomb because its public schools were integrated. They had great expectations for C.T. and they believed in the power of education. C.T. Vivian joined his first protest in Peoria, IL, in 1947, helping to desegregate a downtown cafeteria. In many parts of Illinois at the time, segregation of public facilities was not a law, but it was a custom rigidly enforced.

He first heard Dr. King speak in 1957, while studying for the ministry at the American Baptist College in Nashville. In 1959, he met the Reverend James Lawson, who was teaching nonviolent strategies to members of the Nashville Student Movement, including a young John Lewis.

After leaving the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1966, Dr. Vivian returned to Illinois—this time to

Chicago—to direct the Urban Training Center for Christian Missions, where he trained clergy, community leaders and others to organize. He worked to advance civil rights and educational and economic opportunities for African Americans, and to reduce the gang violence that ensnared to many young Black men.

He left Chicago in 1972 to become dean of the Shaw University Divinity School in Raleigh, NC. He moved to Atlanta later in the 1970s and founded the C.T. Vivian Leadership Institute, to continue to train the next generation of leaders in the principals and tactics of nonviolent change.

In 2013, Dr. Vivian received the Presidential Medal of Freedom—our Nation’s highest civilian honor, from President Barack Obama. It was a moving and historic moment and I was honored to be there.

He died on July 17, 2 weeks shy of his 96th birthday. He is buried in Atlanta next to his fellow foot soldier for justice, Dr. King.

In the last calendar year, we have lost Elijah Cummings, the Reverend Dr. Joseph Lowry, John Lewis and Dr. C.T. Vivian—all giants in the civil rights movement. This is the passing of a great generation, founders of the “fuller, fairer, better America,” as President Obama said. As we mourn their passing, let us also give thanks for their lives, and resolve to use the blueprints they left us to continue towards a more perfect union.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BABU PRASAD

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, in 1971, a young doctor named Babu Prasad boarded a plane in his native India, headed for America. He was 24 years old and 1 year out of medical school. His first stop was Canton, OH where he worked for a short while before moving to Chicago to complete a residency in anesthesiology at the University of Illinois-Chicago.

He spent the following decade practicing medicine in Alabama before returning to Illinois, this time to the Springfield area, where he spent the next 18 years practicing anesthesiology at HSHS St. John’s Hospital before retiring in 2004.

Two weeks ago, this doctor who arrived in America as a young man with no money announced that he was donating \$1 million to HSHS St. John’s to support a major expansion of the hospital’s neonatal intensive care unit. An article in The State Journal-Register, Springfield’s hometown newspaper, called Dr. Prasad’s gift his “love letter to the hospital and community.”

At a press conference announcing his donation, Dr. Prasad said simply: “I want to give back to a country that has given so much to my family and me.”

“Children are our future, so I wanted to direct by gift to the neonatal intensive care unit, to give the babies a healthy start in life,” said Dr. Prasad.

Dr. Prasad and his wife, Dr. Sudah Prasad, an immunologist, have been quiet and consistent donors to St. John's NICU over the years. Their latest gift of \$1 million will support a major expansion of St. John's neonatal intensive care unit. The expansion, expected to be finished in February, will more than double the size of the current NICU and provide single-family patient rooms for premature and critically ill infants.

As a father whose first baby came into this world with serious health challenges, I have a sense of what such supportive accommodations will mean to families of sick and fragile babies, and I am grateful to Dr. Prasad for his generous support of this worthy cause.

St. John's was one of the first hospitals in Illinois to establish a NICU for premature and critically ill infants. Each year, about 2,00 babies are born at St. John's, and about 700 babies from 35 Illinois counties receive care in the hospital's NICU.

In announcing Dr. Prasad's donation, Beverly Neisler, chief development officer for the HSHS St. John's Foundation said, "Dr. Prasad's gift is a beautiful testament as to who he is as a person. He is a generous and kind man who has built a successful life through hard work, dedication and determination. He means so much to us."

"A golden opportunity" is how Dr. Prasad remembers his chance to come to America nearly a half-century ago. "It felt like heaven," he says, nothing like India in the 1970s. At 24, he had never before seen TV.

Nearly 50 years later, Dr. Prasad is a father of three and grandfather of six. Two of his daughters have followed him into the medical profession. Dr. Prasad himself continues to practice anesthesiology and pain management 2 weeks each month at a private medical practice in the Springfield area.

The current COVID crisis reminds us daily how much we depend on the skills and sacrifices of front-line medical workers and how many of those medical workers are, like Dr. Prasad, immigrants. We are fortunate and we are safer and healthier because they have chosen to make America their home. On behalf of the families of Illinois, I want to thank Dr. Prasad again for keeping two generations of Illinoisans healthy and for his generous gift to future generations.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I rise to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, providing suffrage for all sexes in the Constitution of the United States.

The amendment states that the right to vote "shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." The suffrage Movement opened the doors to women's participation in the electoral process and contributed to equitable civic leadership and engagement.

Today, I honor the historic milestone of the women's suffrage movement, and the contributions from my home state of Vermont, while acknowledging the barriers to voting that have harmed and continue to harm some of the most marginalized people in our country.

Vermont's contributions to the suffrage movement ranged from participation on the local level to the national marches. Vermonters fought for women's legal civic participation in our schools, municipal offices, and our State legislature, along with the national right to vote. I am grateful to every Vermonter who fought a more equitable political system.

Notable Vermont suffragists include Clarina Howard Nichols of Townshend, who fought for women's property rights. Annette Parmalee of Washington, one of the most outspoken suffragists in my State, who fought for suffrage locally, statewide and nationally. And Lucy Daniel of Grafton, who used civil disobedience to lend her weight to the fight. I am proud of every Vermonter's contribution to the movement and helping our country expand access to the ballot box.

Suffragists were women of races, ages, and political backgrounds. Yet after the 19th Amendment, millions of women—particularly African-Americans in the Jim Crow South—remained shut out of the polls for decades. Many States and municipalities continued to ignore the 15th and 19th Amendments, effectively withholding voting rights from women, Black people, and anyone who was low-income or "uneducated". The harm was most profound at the intersection of marginalized groups.

I find the efforts to stop people from voting to be deeply unpatriotic—then and now. In our long history, the United States has made it harder for some individuals to be civically engaged because of their gender identity, their income, or race. We know that the literacy tests kept those shut out of the education system from the electoral process. We know that poll taxes kept poor people from casting a ballot. And we know that barriers to voting still exist today.

We have seen people from majority Black districts wait in line for double the amount of time as their neighboring white districts. We have seen eligible voters turned away because of inaccurate voting roll purges. From gerrymandering, to archaic voter ID laws, to limiting voter registration, discriminatory efforts still exist that harm our democracy and deprive Americans of a government that represents them. In my view, voting should be a simple process. We should be passing laws to make it easier to vote, not harder.

First and foremost, we must restate the Voting Rights Act. We need to make election day a national holiday so that more people are able to get to the polls without losing time or wages from work. We need to expand automatic voter registration, early

voting and vote-by-mail capabilities. We need to address voter suppression head on. And we must overturn the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision and reform campaign finance laws to prevent large corporations and billionaires from having an outsized voice in the electoral process.

Today in honor of the centennial of the 19th Amendment, I call on Americans to pursue equity with the same vigor as the suffragists. Question rules and laws that obstruct political participation. Speak out against injustices. And continue to fight for policies that center our Nation's political process on "we the people."

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF PASSAGE OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of a significant anniversary in our Nation's history. Thirty years ago, on July 26, 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed into law the Americans with Disabilities Act, ADA. Because of the monumental impact on individuals with disabilities, the ADA remains one of the most celebrated pieces of civil rights legislation today.

Behind the ADA is a specific vision: a more equitable, accessible and inclusive America. This watershed legislation sought to eradicate the discrimination that long confronted individuals with disabilities in the United States in many areas—including employment, education, transportation, and government services. The ADA established a clear and comprehensive national mandate to ensure individuals with disabilities have equal opportunities to participate in their communities.

We can be proud of organizations in Arkansas dedicated to providing services and life-enhancing skills so individuals with disabilities can engage in everyday activities and independent living.

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the ADA, the Senate recently passed S. Res. 661 recognizing this landmark legislation and the importance of independent living for individuals with disabilities that was made possible with this law.

In celebration of this milestone, I am proud to recognize the advancement of disability rights in Arkansas and nationwide.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 153, motion to proceed to the House message to accompany S.178, a bill to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China.