

was created to support the involvement and achievements of African Americans in Plano.

For four decades, the multi-ethnic and multi-cultural Plano Community Forum has provided a voice for the people of Plano and its members have become known as valued and respected leaders. The heart of the organization is community involvement which has created opportunities for people to connect with local food pantries and programs that assist with transitional living and homeless youth.

In recognition of scholarship recipients and to honor the service of local educators, business owners, and community leaders, the Forum hosts an Annual Gala and Awards Program. The proceeds from the event allow the organization to continue providing scholarships and other opportunities to support future generations. Since 1983, the non-profit organization has awarded more than \$300,000 in scholarships.

Further, through expression contests, bootcamps, and the sponsorship of events such as the Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Weekend, the Plano Community Forum has supported cultural enrichment for the community.

Now as we recognize the Plano Community Forum on their milestone anniversary, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring their selfless acts of service and wish them great success in all their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHANIE N. MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 21, 2021

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on Roll Call 319 on October 20, 2021. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 319.

IN RECOGNITION OF CLARA BELLE HUNTER DOUTLY

HON. RASHIDA TLAI

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 21, 2021

Ms. TLAI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of Ms. Clara Doutly, a resident of Michigan's 13th Congressional District and one of our country's "Rosie the Riveters," as she celebrates her one hundredth birthday.

Ms. Doutly was raised in Detroit, as the youngest of six siblings and attended Cass Technical High School. At nineteen years old, she began working at Briggs Manufacturing, where she helped produced parts and riveting components for B-24 and B-29 bombers for World War II. Ms. Doutly was one of among 300,000 other women who worked as riveters, assembling warplanes across Michigan during the 1940s. Clara Doutly, Detroit's own "Rosie the Riveter," contributed to our country to victory and became an icon of women's empowerment and strength.

We owe our gratitude to Clara Doutly and the countless other Michigan women who stepped up to serve as the critical workforce

and labor our country needed. Even now, Ms. Doutly continues to show up for her community and others through her many years of service work at the St. Patrick's Senior Center in the 13th Congressional District. Ms. Clara Doutly is a true example of Detroit's strength, resiliency, and power of its people. We recognize Ms. Doutly and all of our "Rosie the Riveters" across our state and country for breaking down barriers to women in the workforce and for their contributions to our history.

Please join me in wishing Detroit's Rosie the Riveter, Ms. Clara Hunter Doutly, a happy one hundredth birthday as we recognize her contributions to our country and to our community in the 13th Congressional District.

REMEMBERING MP SIR DAVID AMESS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 21, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I would like to express my condolences to the family of MP Sir David Amess. As a member of Parliament, Sir Amess dedicated himself to his constituents and their concerns, often holding meetings with them on Fridays and was popular among his colleagues.

People who knew him described him as very approachable, who had a passion for animal welfare and pro-life issues. In the House of Commons, Amess was a loyal supporter first of his heroine, Margaret Thatcher, then successive leaders after her except where Brexit came into play.

Our office is especially appreciative of his service as Chief of Staff Jonathan Day worked with Sir Amess in London.

Much of his career was spent on committees and on campaigns to improve the health treatment for people with arthritis, asthma, and other conditions. Over the last three years he supported improved treatment for endometriosis, a cause he took up after meeting a constituent, and he recently supported a plan to erect a memorial to Vera Lynn on the white cliffs of Dover. He was knighted in 2015.

He is survived by his wife, Julia Arnold, and five children.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 21, 2021

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed a vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 319.

CELEBRATING TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MEMORIAL

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 21, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to mark the 10th anniversary of the dedication

of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial on the Tidal Basin, between the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials.

The location of this Memorial, the only memorial on the Mall dedicated to a person not an office holder or employed by the United States, is especially fitting, situated as it is between the author of the Declaration of Independence, which contained the audacious boast that "we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal and born with certain inalienable rights," and the greatest of all American presidents, the Great Emancipator Abraham Lincoln, who understood that this nation could not survive "half slave and half free" and preserved the Union through the great contest, testing whether this nation, or any nation, can long endure."

Dr. Martin Luther King was a dreamer but he was not just an idle daydreamer; he had an active faith that led him to share his vision of the beloved community where equal justice and institutions were facts of life.

When Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence in 1776, declaring "that all Men are Created Equal," it was equally true that at that time and for centuries to come, African-Americans were historically, culturally, and legally excluded from inclusion in that declaration.

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" Speech, delivered 50 years ago, on August 28, 1963, was a clarion call to each citizen of this great nation that we still hear today.

The request was simply and eloquently conveyed—he asked America to allow of its citizens to live out the words written in its Declaration of Independence and to have a place in this nation's Bill of Rights.

The 1960s were a time of great crisis, conflict, and promise.

The dreams of the people of this country were filled with troubling images that arose like lava from the nightmares of violence and the crises they had to face, both domestically and internationally.

It was the decade of the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Vietnam War, and the assassinations of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Malcolm X, Presidential Candidate Robert Kennedy, and the man in whose honor the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial is dedicated.

Dr. Martin Luther King's dream helped us turn the corner on civil rights.

It started with a peaceful march for suffrage that started in Selma, Alabama on March 7, 1965—a march that ended with violence at the hands of law enforcement officers as the marchers crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

But the dream did not die there.

Dr. King led the Montgomery Bus Boycott, often with Rosa Parks, a boycott that lasted for 381 days, and ended when the United States Supreme Court outlawed as unconstitutional racial segregation on all public transportation.

Dr. King used several nonviolent tactics to protest against Jim Crow Laws in the South and he organized and led demonstrations for desegregation, labor and voting rights.

When the life of Dr. Martin Luther King was stolen from us, he was a very young 39 years old.

People remember that Dr. King died in Memphis, but few can remember why he was there.

On that fateful day in 1968 Dr. King came to Memphis to support a strike by the city's sanitation workers.

The garbage men there had recently formed a chapter of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees to demand better wages and working conditions.

But the city refused to recognize their union, and when the 1,300 employees walked off their jobs the police broke up the rally with mace and billy clubs.

It was then that union leaders invited Dr. King to Memphis.

Despite the danger he might face entering such a volatile situation, it was an invitation he could not refuse.

Not because he longed for danger, but because the labor movement was intertwined with the civil rights movement for which he had given up so many years of his life.

The death of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will never overshadow his life; that is his legacy as a dreamer and a man of action.

It is a legacy of hope, tempered with peace; it is a legacy not quite yet fulfilled.

I hope that Dr. King's vision of equality under the law is never lost to us, who in the present, toil in times of unevenness in our equality.

For without that vision—without that dream—we can never continue to improve on the human condition.

For those who have already forgotten, or whose vision is already clouded with the fog of complacency, I would like to recite the immortal words of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.:

“I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and

the sons of former shareholders will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the State of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but for the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day down in Alabama with its vicious racists, with its Governor having his lips dripping with words of interposition and nullification—one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough place will be made plain and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.”

Dr. King's dream did not stop at racial equality, his ultimate dream was one of human equality and dignity.

There is no doubt that Dr. King supported freedom and justice for every individual in America and he was in midst of planning the 1968 Poor People's Campaign for Jobs and Justice when he was struck down by the dark deed of an assassin on April 4, 1968.

Therefore, it is for us, the living, to continue that fight today and forever, in the great spirit that inspired the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

In his 1837 Lyceum Address titled “The Perpetuation of Our Political Institutions,” Abraham Lincoln warned that mobs or people who disrespected U.S. laws and courts would always pose the most dangerous threat to the perpetuation of United States:

“All the armies of Europe and Asia . . . could not by force take a drink from the Ohio River or make a track on the Blue Ridge in the trial of a thousand years. No, if destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher.”

But Lincoln advised us of the best defense against domestic threats and attacks on our democracy: public reverence for the Constitution and rule of law as “the political religion of our nation.”

Madam Speaker, democracy in America is not an act, it is an activity; it is never finished or complete but always in the process of making our union more perfect; and the nation will always be confronted with challenge of confirming the proposition that this nation, or any nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all are created equal can long endure.

Since the assassination of President Lincoln, who extended malice toward but charity for all, no one understood this better than the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

That is why he is one of the greatest Americans to have graced our Nation.

That is why he is so worthy of the national honor of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial.