

died anonymous deaths, as prisoners of this system. We owe it to the millions of descendants of these slaves, for they are the heirs to a society of inequities and indignities that naturally filled the vacuum after slavery was formally abolished 154 years ago. The Judiciary Committee hearing held in the 116th Congress was the first time in history that the House of Representatives held a hearing on H.R. 40, we held another earlier this year on February 17, 2021, before marking up this landmark legislation on April 14, 2021. It was fitting that the first hearing occurred on the 19th of June, also known to many in this room, as Juneteenth—the day that, 154 years ago, General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas and announced the freedom of the last American slaves; belatedly freeing 250,000 slaves in Texas nearly two and a half years after Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

Juneteenth was first celebrated in the Texas state capital in 1867 under the direction of the Freedmen's Bureau. Juneteenth was and is a living symbol of freedom for people who did not have it. Today, Juneteenth now is both the oldest known celebration of slavery's demise and the nation's newest national holiday. It commemorates freedom while acknowledging the sacrifices and contributions made by courageous African Americans towards making our great nation the more conscious and accepting country that it has become. Let me end by noting that the recently passed 400th commemoration of the 1619 arrival of the first captive Africans in English North America, at Point Comfort, Virginia. With those dates as an historical marker for today's hearing, let us proceed to the work of repair with free hands, full hearts, and a passion for achieving justice. Let us also do the work in the spirit of reconciliation and understanding that H.R. 40 represents.

RECOGNIZING THE EASTPOINTE FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

HON. ANDY LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2021

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Eastpointe Fire and Rescue Department, which is celebrating its 100th year of service to the community of Eastpointe.

This Fire Department started from humble beginnings in 1921, when Eastpointe was known as the Village of Halfway. Local firemen used hand-pulled hose carts, a model T truck and pure grit to protect their small community. Over the decades, the Fire Department adapted to meet the needs of the city's growing population.

Firefighters banded together in 1946 to raise funds for the city's first ambulance, and in 1956, the city built the fire station, which continues to serve citizens of Eastpointe today. In recent decades the Fire and Rescue Department has made huge advances in prehospital care. Today, Eastpointe Fire and Rescue operates two advanced life support fire engines that bring state-of-the-art emergency medical services straight to the scene.

But one cannot recognize the Eastpointe Fire and Rescue Department without acknowl-

edging the brave individuals who work every day to keep residents safe. Twenty-some paramedics and fire staff stand at the ready to serve the community of Eastpointe 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. I am exceptionally proud to have the honor of recognizing them today and to mark this important centennial for the city of Eastpointe. Congratulations on one hundred years of service."

RECOGNIZING THE COLLIN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2021

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Collin County Soil & Water Conservation District (CCSWCD) on their 75th Anniversary.

The mission of the Texas State and Water Conservation Board is to work in conjunction with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) in order to encourage the wise and productive use of natural resources, ensuring needs are met for future generations in a manner that promotes a clean, healthy environment, and strong economic growth. As such, on August 12, 1946, the Texas Secretary of State signed and sealed the Certificate of Organization for the Collin County Soil Conservation District No. 535.

The Collin County Soil & Water Conservation District, is a locally organized, self-governing body tasked with "preserving natural resources, controlling floods, preventing impairments of dams and reservoirs, assisting in maintaining the navigability of rivers and harbors, and promoting the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of this state."

In addition to the many functions and responsibilities of the CCSWCD, they also serve a valuable role by planning measures to prevent the flooding of thousands of acres of rich soil in Collin County, hosting local work group meetings to address natural resource conservation needs at a local level, and working with local landowners to develop water quality management plans to address non-point source pollution in the Lake Lavon watershed.

Now upon this milestone anniversary, I congratulate the Collin County Soil & Water Conservation District and wish them continued success as they meet the local needs of Collin County while ensuring the conservation of our most valuable resources.

RECOGNIZING SOUTHEAST PENN- SYLVANIA'S GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR 2020

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2021

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the following individuals for receiving the Girl Scouts of the United States of America Gold Award, the highest achievement a Girl Scout can earn. To receive this distinguished accolade, a Girl Scout must demonstrate outstanding accomplishments in

the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development.

On behalf of all residents of the First Congressional District, I congratulate these emerging leaders on their achievement. We are incredibly grateful for their commitment to service and the lasting impact they will have on our community.

Name and Troop No.:

Amylynn F. Garner, 7656.

Anne P. Johnson, 2670.

Anusha Sindia, 7271.

Catherine J. Smith, 2974.

Caylee Elizabeth Jumbelic, 229.

Corinne E. Carlson, 2044.

Georgia J. Moon, 2670.

Julia K. Trainer, 2135.

Kathryn Myer, 2401.

Mary C. Gordon, 21267.

Megan L. Swirsding, 2056.

Rebekah Atkins, 2056.

HONORING LORI ROSALES AS A 28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2021

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Lori Rosales of the Atwater Village neighborhood of Los Angeles, California.

Born and raised in Colorado, Ms. Rosales attended the University of Northern Colorado and received her Master's in Education with Administration Credentials from Loyola Marymount University. With a firm belief that all children need to be educated fairly and are valued, to that end, she has spent nearly two decades in education: as an elementary school teacher, a high school principal, an educational consultant, and in her current position working for the University of California Los Angeles Center X Math Project.

It is motherhood and her volunteer career with Friends of Atwater Elementary (FoAE), a parent support group for Atwater Elementary School, that are the most near and dear to Lori's heart. A longtime Atwater Village resident, for the last four years, Lori has served as president of FoAE, bringing her community-building skills to the organization. Under her stellar leadership, she organized and succeeded in the effort to bring the Spanish Dual Language Immersion Program to the school, an effort she considers her greatest accomplishment. In addition, FoAE raised funds for beautification and projects such as the Innovation Lab, the garden program, the installation of new murals, and a bilingual math program.

During the coronavirus pandemic, Ms. Rosales organized volunteers to sort and pack books so all the school's children would receive books to read at home, sent 350 stuffed animal bears (Cubby the Bear is Atwater Elementary School's mascot) to the children for emotional support, and fundraised for school supplies for each child in the 2020-2021

school year. Additionally, when the school became aware of a few families who experienced the loss of loved ones or employment loss due to the pandemic, they contacted Lori, who swiftly responded, gathering financial donations from neighbors in the community for those families, enabling neighbors to become directly involved in helping their neighbors.

Lori is married to her college sweetheart from Colorado, Craig Rosales, and they have three children: Estes, Tyson, and Vinny.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Lori Rosales.

IN RECOGNITION OF MIGUEL
CONCHAS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2021

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and achievements of Miguel A. Conchas, one of Laredo's pre-eminent business leaders and a distinguished member of our community. Miguel has served for 29 years as President of the Laredo Chamber of Commerce, nourishing and advancing the quality of business, economic vitality, and community standards. Our city has undoubtedly flourished because of his outstanding enthusiasm and commitment to his work.

Mr. Conchas began his career as an Elementary school teacher and served as an Administrator for the College of Education at Laredo State University. His fondness for teaching unquestionably influenced his success in training and cultivating local business development. After his career in education Miguel served as the Laredo Convention and Visitors Bureau Director, targeting promotional programs to improve Laredo tourism.

Appropriately, his impressive career as President of the Chamber includes a long list of awards, often recognizing his success and diligence in trade and business expansion in Laredo. He received monumental recognition from state and federal leaders for his activism for NAFTA, which was instrumental in the legislation becoming law.

Throughout his long career, Mr. Conchas has sought to better his city through education, activism, and professional development. He and I have worked closely over the years on trade projects, and I consider him a close friend. Miguel is the embodiment of hard work and optimism, and I wish him a long and very happy retirement with his wife, Cynthia. May this ending bring many new beginnings for him and his family.

IN HONOR OF VIVIAN CREIGHTON
BISHOP

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2021

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and admiration that I rise today to honor and commend an extraordinary public servant, wife, mother, political operative

and friend to many, The Honorable Vivian Creighton Bishop, upon her retirement as the elected Clerk of The Municipal Court of Columbus, Georgia. Ms. Bishop retired on December 31, 2020 after 28 years of distinguished service. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a retirement celebration was delayed and combined with a belated birthday party that was held at 6:30 pm on July 23, 2021 at Warehouse Nine, 920 9th Street, Columbus, Georgia.

Vivian Francine Creighton was born July 9, 1951 to the late Frank Richard Creighton and Evelyn Rushin Creighton at Martin Army Hospital, Fort Benning, Georgia. Because her father was a career noncommissioned officer in the United States Army, she and her older sister, Jacqueline and her younger brother Frank, Jr. as military dependents lived and traveled in multiple places across the United States and abroad. Vivian graduated high school in Wurzburg, Germany, but frequently during her childhood and adolescence, the family lived in Columbus, Georgia where she and her siblings would attend school. Following graduation in 1969, she was accepted to the University of Maryland Campus in Wurzburg but had to withdraw when her father received orders for Viet Nam. She attended Columbus Technical College, Atlanta Junior College and Georgia State University. After perfect scores on the Georgia State Merit Exams she secured employment in Atlanta with the Department of Family and Childrens' Services and later with the Georgia State Department of Education where she managed Human Resources for Georgia Public Television.

In 1999 she married Meldon Owens and they produced a daughter, Aayesha. They moved to Columbus where she was hired as an Accounting Clerk in Operations and Purchasing at Jack T. Rutledge State Prison where she rose through the ranks to become comptroller at the Prison, being among the first African Americans and females to do so at the Georgia Department of Corrections. Although her marriage ended in divorce, she worked hard in her career and was named Georgia Department of Corrections "Employee of the Year for Administrative Support" after she developed an innovative program for managing inmate accounts that was utilized system wide. After 16 years, Vivian left State government to become an entrepreneur, opening a gift and flower shop, "Baskets of Delight."

In 1992, Vivian was asked by a friend who was a victim of domestic violence to go with her to get a warrant from the Municipal Court of Columbus, Georgia. Witnessing the rude treatment she was receiving from Court employees, Vivian questioned their conduct and was told that if she did not like the way the office was being run she should run for it herself. And run she did. Vivian Creighton was elected countywide and became the first African American female to win countywide office in Muscogee County, Georgia—a position she held for 28 years. As Clerk she reorganized the office to maximize customer service, promote efficiency and achieved flawless audits with special recognition noted to City Council regarding her exit audit. During her years as Clerk she was loved and respected by all who used the court as being competent, kind, compassionate and helpful.

In 2001, Vivian Creighton married yours truly, Congressman SANFORD BISHOP, after a long courtship. We recently celebrated our

20th wedding anniversary, having survived as a political couple in spite of conflicting views. She was Co-Chair of the Georgia Hillary Clinton Presidential Campaign and I was Co-Chair of the Georgia Barack Obama Presidential Campaign. In her own right she helped elect countless state and local officials including me, mentored others and is constantly sought out for political advice and counsel.

Vivian was elected President of the Congressional Black Caucus Spouses. She was the first Georgian and the only African American elected President of the prestigious Congressional Club, the Congressionally Chartered bi-partisan organization of the spouses of members of Congress, ambassadors, Supreme Court Justices, and Cabinet secretaries. She chaired the annual "First Lady's Luncheon" with First Lady Michelle Obama. Moreover, she raised over \$1 million for the National March of Dimes Gala and won top awards as a celebrity chef.

On the local level Vivian has been active in numerous groups, including NAACP, Rotary Club, Girls Inc., The Links, Inc., American Cancer Society, Muscogee Democratic Party and more. She is a longtime member of M.L. Harris United Methodist Church although she regularly attends Mount Zion Baptist Church of Albany, Georgia wherein I am a Deacon.

Vivian has accomplished much in her life but it would not have been possible without the continuous love and support of her family—daughter, Aayesha; granddaughter, Londyn; sister, Jacqueline, nieces, nephews, cousins and legions of friends, all of whom love her dearly. And beyond the shadow of a doubt, she is the love of my life.

It has been said that "Service is the rent we pay for the space we occupy on this earth." Vivian Creighton Bishop has paid her rent and paid it well. She has done so much for so many for so long.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues of the House of Representatives join me, along with the more 730,000 people of the 2nd Congressional District in honoring and commending The Honorable Vivian Creighton Bishop for her outstanding career of public service and her many contributions to her community, her State and this nation. Best wishes to her as she enters this new chapter of her life.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF
COLORADO SPRINGS,
COLORADO

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2021

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the heart of Colorado's Fifth Congressional District, Colorado Springs, Colorado. This July 31st, we celebrate 150 years since General William Jackson Palmer, a Civil War hero and railroad magnate, founded Colorado Springs in 1871.

The region's first inhabitants were Native Americans, such as the Ute, Cheyenne, Arapaho, and many others. They gathered at the base of Pikes Peak, known today as America's Mountain, near its abundant springs in what is now called Garden of the Gods Park. As they followed vast herds of bison, the Ute