

Joan also strongly believed in community service. She spearheaded the Wayne County Annual Senior Citizens Picnic at Hines Park. She was a steadfast volunteer at the Butzel Family Center, assisting for many years with their annual Thanksgiving turkey distribution.

Joan was truly in her element when she was engaging with people. She was always willing to volunteer her time and always with a smile on her face. Her presence will truly be missed.

Please join me in recognizing the many outstanding contributions of Joan Robinson Cheeks to the communities of Michigan's 13th District Strong as we honor her memory.

HONORING REGISTER OF DEEDS
JUDY MARTIN FOR EXCEPTIONAL
SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 2, 2022

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Moore County Register of Deeds Judy Martin for 33 years of service to Moore County. As the longest-serving county officeholder, Registrar Martin has dedicated her career to her position.

Registrar Martin first began working with the Moore County Register of Deeds in 1989. She served as assistant to the Register of Deeds for ten years prior to being appointed Register of Deeds in 2001. She was then elected to the office in 2002 and has held the position ever since. Registrar Martin's leadership helped the office successfully digitize its system of records to accommodate modernization and improve its function. Additionally, she has brought noteworthy state recognition to Moore County. In 2010, the state association of registrars awarded her the Shining Star Award in recognition of her excellent track record and service to her county and state. She was later recognized as Outstanding Register of Deeds by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. In the same year, she served as president of the North Carolina Register of Deeds and was presented the Eunice Ayers Distinguished Service Award for exceptional service in the position.

Registrar Martin will retire from her position at the end of the year. Through her outstanding service and leadership, she has helped strengthen Moore County's capability to adequately serve its citizens. She will long serve as an exemplary figure in public service, and I know I speak for the rest of our community in wishing her well as she begins the next chapter of her career.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Register of Deeds Judy Martin for her career of exemplary servitude to her community.

HONORING DANIEL VASSEL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 2, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Daniel Vassel

and Daniel Vassel was born and raised in Mound Bayou, Mississippi, a town founded in 1887 by former slaves. Mr. Vassel is 50 years old, and a retired County Administrator of Coahoma County. He was the first African American to hold that position in Coahoma County. He is the Owner of the Vassel Consulting Group, LLC. Mr. Vassel's highly effective programs on leadership development, team building, and motivation have received rave reviews from leaders and aspiring leaders in many states. As a certified and accomplished facilitator, Mr. Vassel has shared proven techniques from his many successful years in economic development and public service. He motivates others to not only learn, but to also practice the leadership skills he teaches.

As the featured speaker at hundreds of conferences, leadership seminars, and company meetings over the last 15 years, his customized presentations have provided participants with "best in class" tools to make them better leaders. He has spoken to groups from five to five hundred people and still renders the superior delivery and passion he has become known for. He is also the Owner of Daniel Vassel Photography, LLC., where specializes in wedding, children, engagement, and event photography.

Mr. Vassel is best known as a man of compassion, dedication, wisdom, and insight. He regularly attends and serves at Compel Church in Horn Lake, MS. Mr. Vassel attended and graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in Mound Bayou. After earning his high school diploma, he enrolled at Alcorn State University, where he obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree. Upon graduation from Alcorn State University, he began his professional career with the Mississippi State University Extension Service as a Farm and Family Economic Education Agent, where he conducted educational programs and information on the sources, uses, and interpretation of economic data.

After working for Mississippi State for 10 years, he began working for Delta Council in Stoneville, Mississippi as the Business, and Industry Outreach Coordinator. At Delta Council, he served as a resource and coordinator for development strategies including industrial and business recruitment, business retention programs, Delta informational database, as well as the Delta Project (A partnership between Delta Council and Mississippi State University). He furthered his career later with Tunica County as the Program and Project Coordinator, where he coordinated and assisted with existing and new county projects. Mr. Vassel later served as Special Projects Officer, Assistant County Administrator, and County Administrator of Coahoma County.

He has served on numerous Boards and Committees including the Clarksdale/Coahoma County Industrial Foundation Board of Directors, Chairman; Coahoma County Industrial Foundation Board Marketing Committee, Vice President; Carnegie Public Library Board of Directors; Rho Alpha Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; Tunica County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors & Education Committee; Robinsonville Rotary Club; Clarksdale/Coahoma County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Past Chairperson; Clarksdale/Coahoma County Chamber of Commerce Education Committee, Board Member; Clarksdale Municipal Public School District; Leadership Clarksdale Board of Directors, Member

and Past President; Clarksdale Habitat for Humanity; Youth Leadership Clarksdale Board of Directors; Mississippi State University Extension Service Marketing Task Force; Friends of the Carnegie Library Board of Directors, Team Leader; Coahoma Community College Rural Community College Initiative, Founding Member and Past President; Clarksdale Crime Stoppers Board of Directors, Past President; A Proactive Approach for Children; North Delta Community Development Corporation Board of Directors; Coahoma Community College District Workforce Council; and, Northwest Community College District Workforce Council. Mr. Vassel and Tana Lisa Pittman Vassel are the proud parents of Daniel Vassel, Jr. and Alyssa Grace Vassel.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Daniel Vassel for his dedication to serving his community and this great state.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LIONEL R.
BORDEAUX

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 2, 2022

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Lionel R. Bordeaux, Wakinyan Wanbli, (Thundering Eagle), of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and the President of Sinte Gleska University in Mission, South Dakota. President Bordeaux passed away on November 16, 2022 at the age of 82.

President Bordeaux led an amazing life dedicated to the service of his people. He was a pioneer in expanding upper education access for Native Americans through his advocacy and work at Sinte Gleska University, which became the first tribal university in the nation during his leadership.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life and memory of President Lionel R. Bordeaux, a constant fighter for Indian Country and a great American. I am honored to include in the RECORD this memorial.

LIONEL R. BORDEAUX, WAKINYAN WANBLI, PRESIDENT OF SINTE GLESKA UNIVERSITY FOR 50 YEARS, DEPARTS FOR SPIRIT WORLD

Lionel R. Bordeaux, Wakinyan Wanbli (Thundering Eagle), an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe in South Dakota and the president of Sinte Gleska University, departed for the spirit world on November 16. This is a tremendous loss for his family, Sinte Gleska University, the Sicangu Lakota Oyate, and Indian Country. For all who knew him, he was a grounding force in stormy times; a paragon of goodwill, solidarity, and wisdom; and the heart and soul of the Tribal College Movement to which he was fiercely devoted.

Lionel R. Bordeaux was born in 1940 and raised by his grandfather, Alex Bordeaux Jr., and his grandmother, Mary Jordan Bordeaux. His mother, Ella, had moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to work and eventually own her own business. Lionel attended the Horse Creek Day School, St. Mary's School in Winner, South Dakota, and a public school in White River, South Dakota. He later attended public schools in Lincoln, Nebraska, returning to the Rosebud reservation where he graduated from St. Francis Indian Mission, a Roman Catholic boarding school.

He went on to enroll at Black Hills State Teachers' College where he earned a BA in composite history and social science, with a minor in psychology. Bordeaux later took classes at Adams State College in Alamosa, Colorado, and George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He eventually transferred to the University of South Dakota where he completed a master's degree in guidance and counseling.

Bordeaux's career included working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as a counselor on the Jicarilla Apache reservation in Dulce, New Mexico, a job he credited with giving him good early career experience. From there he entered the BIA's management training program and relocated to Washington, DC, where he trained in various federal agencies. His experience in DC was later instructive for his role at Sinte Gleska, helping him pursue passage of federal legislation to support tribal colleges and universities. After transferring to Dallas, Texas, Bordeaux learned about the needs of Native people living in cities due to the federal government's relocation program.

Bordeaux relocated to Pine Ridge, South Dakota, and taught guidance and culture classes at high schools and grade schools in various communities. In an interview with Tribal College Journal, he shared that his goal was to finish his career as a superintendent in Rosebud and later serve as the BIA area director in Aberdeen, South Dakota. It was while living in Pine Ridge that he completed his master's degree at the University of South Dakota.

Bordeaux continued his graduate studies at the University of Minnesota where he completed his doctorate coursework in educational administration. Before completing his dissertation, Stanley Red Bird Sr., founder of Sinte Gleska College, approached Bordeaux and told him traditional healers had held spiritual ceremonies and directed Red Bird to seek out the graduate student, who knew the tribal language and history of the Sicangu Lakota people, and request that Bordeaux withdraw from his doctoral studies and return to the Rosebud reservation to serve as president of Sinte Gleska College. Bordeaux consulted with his wife Barbara, who told him that if that was their calling, they must follow it. Shortly thereafter, Bordeaux and his family returned home where on February 3, 1973, 12 Lakota medicine men inaugurated him as president of the college, a position he held ever since. President Bordeaux's career, and indeed his passion, for the next 50 years was focused on culturally based Native higher education and serving his community, making him the longest serving college or university president in the United States. Known as the "Dean of the Tribal College Movement," President Bordeaux oversaw the expansion and development of Sinte Gleska College into the first tribal university. Throughout his career there, he worked to strengthen Lakota culture and language. He also forcefully advocated locally, regionally, and nationally for Native peoples' educational sovereignty over curriculum and a tribally based accreditation body rooted in spirituality and traditional laws. Family, kinship, spirituality, and culture were the driving forces in everything he did. President Bordeaux credited the spirituality, prayer, and ceremony of the medicine men for the success of Sinte Gleska University and his long-term presidency.

In addition to his role as a tribal university president, Bordeaux had a long-established history in the tribal college movement. He was a founder of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC), which serves as the voice of the 35 tribal colleges and universities in Washington, DC. He was also a founder of the American Indian

College Fund, the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium, and Tribal College Journal.

President Bordeaux also served in leadership roles as a councilman in the Rosebud Sioux tribal government for 14 years; chair of the tribal education committee and education board; board member of the South Dakota State Education and Planning Commission; board member of the Native American Rights Fund; board member of the Phelps Stokes Fund; regent of the Haskell Indian Junior College in Lawrence, Kansas; and president of both AIHEC and the National Indian Education Association.

Bordeaux received presidential appointments to serve on the National Advisory Council on Indian Education and the Advisory Board of the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities. He co-chaired the historic White House Conference on Indian Education.

President Bordeaux is and was among the most honored Native American educators in the United States. His generosity went beyond the borders of the Rosebud reservation by providing support to relatives on other Lakota and Dakota reservations. This included assisting tribes like Lower Brule and Ihanktonwan in achieving their dreams of having a tribal college.

Among the many honors President Bordeaux received include Outstanding Administrator of the Year (Black Hills State College in affiliation status with Sinte Gleska College), Outstanding Educator of the Year (South Dakota Indian Education Association), Tribal Government award (the National Congress of American Indians), Outstanding Indian Educator of the Year (National Indian Education Association), American Indian Distinguished Achievement Award (American Indian Resource Institute), Human and Civil Rights Award (South Dakota Education Association/National Education Association), First Lifetime Achievement Award (National Indian Education Association), and two Living Legend Awards (National American Indian Enterprise Development and the National Indian Gaming Association).

President Bordeaux earned the Outstanding Alumni Award from the University of South Dakota and was named as one of the top 25 graduates in the history of Black Hills State University in South Dakota. He received two honorary doctorate degrees, one from South Dakota State University and another from Augustana University in South Dakota. The tribal holiday "Lionel R. Bordeaux Day" was named in his honor on the Rosebud reservation, and he was inducted into the South Dakota State Hall of Fame. In July of 2017, President Bordeaux spoke at the World's Indigenous People's Conference on Education in Toronto, Canada, where he was presented with an honorary doctorate degree by the World's Indigenous Nations University in Hawaii. In October of 2017, his alma mater, Black Hills State University, named a residence hall on its campus the "Lionel R. Bordeaux Residence Hall" in honor of his many lifetime achievements. In 2018, Bordeaux was also among the inaugural inductees into the Native American Hall of Fame for his educational leadership. The state of South Dakota issued an executive proclamation from the Office of the Governor, Dennis Daugaard, proclaiming February 9, 2018, as Lionel R. Bordeaux Day. Carrie Billy, president and CEO of AIHEC, said, "President Bordeaux was the heart—the drumbeat—of the Tribal College Movement. We feel his loss profoundly, but his songs and stories will never leave us. His legacy will endure for generations and that gives us peace and hope for the future of the Tribal College Movement. Please say a pray-

er for President Bordeaux's wife, Barbara, his children, grandchildren, and the students, faculty, and staff at the college he loved so profoundly Sinte Gleska University. I pray that the Holy Ones watch over all of us."

Many people who worked with President Bordeaux throughout his career have shared their messages of congratulations and gratitude for his service over the years, illustrating his legacy. Dr. Justin Guillory, president of Northwest Indian College wrote on his 45th anniversary, "The TCU movement is alive and growing stronger because of warriors like you who paved the way for us."

John Forkenbrock, who first met President Bordeaux when Forkenbrock served on the staff of the House Labor and Education Committee under the leadership of Representative Michael Blouin of Iowa, wrote, "Your role in the passage of the Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act was instrumental. If not for your continued optimism and your continued efforts at keeping the House committee's efforts moving forward, I know without hesitation that this legislation would not have crossed the finish line."

President Bordeaux said in a 2012 interview with Tribal College Journal, "I see tribal colleges and universities standing alone, as other institutions do not have the same calling or vision to strengthen tribal nations as we do. We are undoing the damage that was previously done and rebuilding nationhood according to tribal prophecy and the dictates of the four directions, ah! Waste' yelo!"

In addition to President Bordeaux's remarkable legacy as an educator and activist for Native higher education, his legacy is no less strong in the loving and devoted family he created, including his wife, Barbara, who survives him, his daughter, Debra, and sons, Shawn and Brian, all of the Rosebud reservation, along with 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his beloved son Scott, his brother Lynwood Fallis, his daughter-in-law Jodie, and granddaughter Jordan.

A celebration of life is being held at the Wakinyan Wanbli Multipurpose Student Center on December 1, 2022, at 10:00 AM located on the Sinte Gleska University Lake Campus. For more details, please visit the Sinte Gleska University website at <https://www.sintegleska.edu/>. President Bordeaux's services will be live streamed with the link accessible on the university's website.

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE
JOHN SZOKA FOR EXCEPTIONAL
SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 2, 2022

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor North Carolina State Representative John Szoka for 10 years of service to the people of Cumberland County. A beloved member of our community, he has set an exemplary standard for others in public service to emulate.

Since 2013, Representative Szoka has worked diligently to represent District 45 in the North Carolina General Assembly. He holds leadership positions on many different committees, including his roles as Senior Chairman of the Finance Committee and Chairman of Energy and Public Utilities Committee. Perhaps most impressively, Representative Szoka currently serves as Conference Chair for the