

Bishop James is a former member of the White House Advisory Board on Historically Black Colleges and Universities and of the U.S. State Department's Advisory Board on Religious Freedom and served as National Vice President of the Interfaith Alliance. Bishop James is a life member of the NAACP and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and is a 33rd degree Mason. He was also the first African American to serve on the board of directors at the National Bank of South Carolina and as a member of the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce.

Among his many honors, Bishop James holds an honorary doctorate of humanities from Monrovia College in Liberia. He received South Carolina's highest honor, the Order of the Palmetto, in 2003. In 2020, Bishop James received the Leon A. Love Lifetime Achievement Award from the South Carolina African American Heritage Foundation and "Columbia SC 63: Our Story Matters." He has been inducted into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame and the Columbia Housing Authority Wall of Fame.

Bishop James married Theresa Gregg on December 30, 1944, and the couple enjoyed 76 years of marriage before she passed away on January 25, 2021.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in celebrating the centennial anniversary of Bishop Fred James' birth. He was a mentor to me and so many others as he preached the gospel and the need for equality and justice for all. This important milestone, is a good time to let Bishop James know that we all feel blessed by his efforts to fulfill the charge of Micah to, "act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly."

HONORING L.A. BLACK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD EARL "SKIP" COOPER II

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the legacy of Earl "Skip" Cooper II as he retires from the Black Business Association of Los Angeles.

For the last 50 years, Skip Cooper has fought tirelessly to break down barriers and uplift not only African American businesses, but all minority businesses. He has developed programs to assure that businesspeople, artists, and entrepreneurs had access to the financing, contracting, mentoring, and support that it takes to succeed, and he has served as an advisor to both the Latin and Asian business associations in Los Angeles prior to their formation. As a result, he has played a pivotal role in the success of countless businesses across the Los Angeles region.

Young Skip had a newspaper delivery route by age 10, and he never forgot the power of relationships and mentoring. Skip would go on to serve as a medic in the Vietnam War, and he returned home from service to study at Oakland's Merritt College, where he became one of the first in the country to earn an AA degree in African American Studies. He would later earn bachelor's and MBA degrees as well.

Early in his career, Skip interned at a Los Angeles area minority business resource cen-

ter where he saw the need to promote and support minority-owned businesses. At the end of Skip's internship, he joined the staff of what became the Los Angeles Economic Development Corp. where, as program manager, Skip oversaw a state initiative that helped minority owned businesses secure purchasing contracts with public and private sector organizations. That led him to join the BBA where, in 1976, he embarked on its first trade mission to Washington, D.C.

Over decades of advocacy, Skip has had a significant role in the passage and implementation of legislation and regulations at the federal, state and local levels. He worked closely with legislators, especially the late California Asm. Gwen Moore and the late U.S. Rep. Parren Mitchell, to pass laws to address the historic disadvantage of minority businesses that had been shut out of public and private programs and funding opportunities.

The BBA will continue its annual salutes to Black history, Black women and Black music, its twice-annual veterans' procurement conference, and its e-commerce venture: a Black business shopping guide, all of which will further Skip's legacy, and his lifelong commitment to economic empowerment for people of color.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF GRADY WIGGINTON

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Grady Wigginton, as he passed away on February 12, 2013.

Mr. Wigginton was born just west of Guntown, MS on June 30, 1937. Mr. Wigginton was proud to grow up in rural Mississippi where he was able to learn about the nature and creatures of God's creation. After graduating from High school Mr. Wigginton decided to join the USMC. In his time serving the country he achieved the great accomplishment of being promoted to the rank of Sergeant (E-4) in just twenty-two months. He believed in God first, Country second, and family third. We thank him for his commitment to service.

After Mr. Wigginton's service to his country he worked for CPI. At CPI he went on to become both a district and regional manager. He enjoyed hiring and working with new employees as he saw it was his responsibility to motivate them to do their jobs to the best of their ability. Due to his commitment to a hard-working staff both his district and regional teams won multiple awards for sales and profit.

Mr. Wigginton will be greatly missed, and we thank him for his service to his country and community.

DOMINIC SANCHEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dominic San-

chez for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Dominic Sanchez is a 12th grader at North Valley School for Young Adults and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Dominic Sanchez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dominic Sanchez for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

HONORING CRAIG MCLEAN ON FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Assistant Administrator Craig McLean on his retirement after forty years of distinguished service in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). This son of New Jersey grew up on the Passaic River and turned a childhood passion for ocean diving and exploration into a forty-year career that started as a commissioned NOAA Corps deck officer charting the ocean floor and culminated as a preeminent champion of NOAA's mission to understand and predict changes in climate, weather, ocean, and coasts.

Craig started working on diving boats as a teenager. As a college student at Rutgers University, where he earned his B.A. in Zoology in 1979, he investigated barges dumping toxic sludge into waterways. While serving as a NOAA Corps officer and, later as a senior executive of NOAA, Craig was instrumental to founding NOAA's Ocean Exploration and Research Program and its mapping of U.S. waters to advance oceanographic scientific knowledge and discover deep ocean secrets including new species, historical shipwrecks, and undersea mountains. With Craig's leadership, NOAA mapped two million square kilometers of the ocean floor, collected ocean data in the waters of sixteen countries and the high seas, and contributed to key conservation decisions for vital marine habitats such as establishment of new marine national monuments and deep sea protection areas.

Craig served as Assistant Administrator for NOAA Oceanic and Atmospheric Research for over six years. He expertly led an enterprise of ten federal laboratories across the country and six major programs. Under his tenure, NOAA Research achieved vital advancements for the benefit of the Nation, including improved forecasting of weather extremes such as hurricanes, winter storms, and excesses and deficits of precipitation, enabling society to be better prepared to reduce the severe impacts of these events on life and destruction

of property. These advancements greatly increased our understanding of the earth's climate system, improved modeling of the weather and climate seamlessly across timescales, and strengthened the scientific basis for investigating climate change.

On the international stage, Craig helped broker a consensus on the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO for global biogeochemical Argo sensors that enabled a \$53 million commitment to expand deployments to improve ocean health and climate forecasting. He championed a global framework under the U.N. Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development initiative to ensure ocean science can support countries and achieve the United Nations' 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Craig boldly stepped forward as a complainant when NOAA experienced high-level, public political interference, putting himself at risk to uphold NOAA's scientific integrity and reputation. Afterward, he worked with other federal agencies on the National Science and Technology Council's effort to restore public trust in government through scientific integrity in policymaking.

On behalf of the Committee on Science, Space and Technology, I thank Craig for his forty years of service. His leadership and personal commitment to scientific integrity and the public good exemplify the highest ideals of public service. I wish Craig a long and joyful retirement.

RECOGNIZING BOB WILLIAMS

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, my heart is heavy as I rise today with Rep. GARY PALMER to honor the life of my dear friend, Bob Williams, who passed away on March 15, 2022. My prayers are with Bob's wife Jane, his family, and all who loved him as we mourn his passing.

Bob was a humble public servant who loved Washington with all his heart. He dedicated a decade of his life to serving the people of Washington in the State House of Representatives and even made a run for governor in 1988.

Shortly after, I met Bob for the first time in Olympia. I had just been elected to the State House, and I remember being struck by his big smile and even bigger heart. We became fast friends, bonding over our common pursuit of a more perfect Union. I was inspired by Bob's commitment to individual liberty, free enterprise, and a limited accountable government.

In 1991, he founded the Freedom Foundation to advance those very ideals we both held dear. Since its founding, the Freedom Foundation has been a beacon of Bob's vision for America, and his legacy will live on in their work for years to come.

Bob was one of the brightest minds I've ever known, and I will always miss him stopping by the office with a new idea or a word of encouragement. His commitment to fighting for freedom and opportunity for all was unwavering, and it inspires me to this day. He believed in the importance and value of covering

every day in prayer and impressed upon me how time on the plane was prime time to read my Bible and pray. Each and every one of us who had the privilege of knowing Bob in this life are better because of it, and I thank God for giving me the blessing of calling him my friend.

Madam Speaker, Bob Williams lived an amazing life that deserves to be celebrated. In honor of his legacy, passion, and contributions that inspired so many, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bob Williams. May God grant him eternal peace in His kingdom.

RECOGNIZING THE ANNUAL MAY FAIRE EVENT OF MATHEWS COUNTY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mathews County's annual May Faire event on Saturday, May 7, 2022. In the event is a joyous celebration that brings the entire community together to celebrate its rich history. May Day Festivities were commonplace in Mathews from the early 1900 to the 1980s.

The Mathews Historical Museum reintroduced the festival concept in 2016 renaming it 'May Faire'. May Faire honors the heritage of Mathews County each year exploring different themes from the county's past. The last and past event in 2019, celebrated Mathews' veterans on its "Wall of Remembrance" posting over 800 photographs of their sons and daughters dating back to the War of 1812 and to the war in Afghanistan.

This year's theme, "Celebrating Mathews Watermen" will be a tribute to the residents who work or have worked on the water. Some of the local watermen have made their living on the water for over 50 years, including several working as successful menhaden captains. There will be a photo display, much like the veterans "Wall of Remembrance", that will display those local watermen and a permanent part of the museum.

The Mathews May Faire event will be held on the Historic Court Green, at the Historic Court House as well as in the Mathews Historic Museum, Saturday, May 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The opening ceremony will include thanking the Coast Guard for remaining in Mathews. The day will proceed with hosting conversations with watermen, exhibits on crab pot making, net mending and a traditional 'May-pole' dance by local school children.

The Museum will host for its first traveling exhibit, "Bay to Belly" on loan from the Yorktown Watermen's Museum from April 1–May 30. During that time Mathews school children will be able to tour the museum to learn about the Chesapeake Bay and its incredible resources.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the celebration of Mathews County's May Faire 2022 and their rich history it symbolizes.

SAGE SCHLEGEL-CRISTENSEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sage Schlegel-Cristensen for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Sage Schlegel-Cristensen is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sage Schlegel-Cristensen is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sage Schlegel-Cristensen for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I strongly support passage of S. 3294, legislation to obtain and place statues in the Capitol or Capitol grounds of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the first two women to serve as associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States. I would have voted in favor of this legislation; however, I was regrettably unable to be present on the floor because I was attending and asking questions at a hearing of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. I offer my congratulations to the family and friends of Justice O'Connor and Justice Ginsburg and my gratitude that these statues will provide inspiration to millions of Americans upon visiting their Capitol for decades to come.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF POLICE CHIEF MITCH NABORS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the service of Fulton Police Chief Mitch Nabors. Chief Nabors has been serving the great state of Mississippi for the last 30 years. He has served the force since shortly after his 22nd birthday, and announced his retirement this year.

Chief Nabors is a well renowned leader within the department. His colleagues speak to his loyalty and commitment to those with which he served. The city of Fulton is a better and safer place because of him.

I congratulate Chief Nabors on a successful career in public service, and thank him for his lifetime commitment to the community.