

member of the Dumfries United Methodist Church, Eileen has served in various capacities supporting the church and her community.

Eileen's love and dedication for the Town of Dumfries is clear, and the work she does on behalf of her community serves as a pillar of inspiration across Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and thanking Mrs. Eileen Thrall, a Living Legend, for her contributions to the community and the Town of Dumfries.

**HONORING THE LATE JAMES C.
"SAM/SAMMY" BRADFORD**

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of James C. "Sam/Sammy" Bradford.

Sammy was born on July 11, 1942, in Memphis TN. Mr. Bradford started trying to make a difference early in the NAACP youth chapter. In March of 1961, he became the youngest of the "Tougaloo Nine" to desegregate the Jackson Municipal Library System. It was during that selfless act of service he created the concept "You can recognize what's the right thing to do . . . because the right thing is rarely comfortable, convenient or popular".

Sammy graduated from Douglass High School and began his freshman year in 1960 at the esteemed Tougaloo College in Tougaloo, MS where he studied music. His love for music and beautiful tenor voice is what joined him with the love of his life, his wife, Shirley Ann Faulkens.

In December of 1969, Sammy married Shirley Ann Faulkens. They were married for 53 years and 10 months and had two children together, Ako and Pili.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the late James C. "Sam/Sammy" Bradford for his dedication, advocacy, and sacrifices to the Civil Rights Movement.

**HONORING THE GLOBAL MEDICAL
RESPONSE 2023 STARS OF LIFE
AWARD RECIPIENTS**

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Global Medical Response Stars of Life award recipients for 2023.

Each year, the American Ambulance Association (AAA) honors a select group of Emergency Medical Services professionals for their commitment to patient care, integrity and compassion through the Stars of Life program. Global Medical Response, a member of the AAA and the world's largest provider of emergent and non-emergent medical transportation and healthcare services, has identified 32 of its frontline heroes for this distinction, representing the best of the best in the air and on the ground.

We will find these heroes all around us in our communities. From a small village outside

Anchorage, AK, where a pilot landed his aircraft with nothing but the community's off-road vehicle headlights for light to the paramedics in Buffalo, NY and Jackson, MS, who showed immense strength in leadership and skill while saving multiple lives during mass casualty incidents to the several brave individuals, who voluntarily went into harm's way to support the communities of Florida and face Hurricane Ian head on and to Temple, TX, where the innocent life of a small child was saved by a paramedic following an accident on a ride-on mower.

There are many stories to share and so much that we can learn from the day-to-day lives of these heroes. We must learn to exhibit integrity in everything we do and everything we say. We must act with compassion and grace in even the most daunting and challenging of situations. We must be vigilant, never wavering in our commitment to doing what is right for the community and answering the call to serve.

So that we will never forget the immense contributions to our communities made by the 2023 Global Medical Response Stars of Life award recipients, I include in the RECORD their names to honor their service and humbly thank them for showing us what it means to truly serve, while providing care to the world at a moment's notice.

Global Medical Response

2023 STARS OF LIFE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Danny Abalama, B200 Instructor Pilot of Anchorage, AK.

Jacob Ambach, Paramedic of Spokane, WA.

Michael Arquette, Operations Supervisor of Buffalo, NY.

Jack Asbury, EMT of Bushnell, FL.

Cindy Betts, Base Medical Manager of Wichita, KS.

Jason Burns, Flight Paramedic of Salida, CO.

Ian Carroll, Flight Nurse of Logan, WV.

Preston Crotwell, Paramedic of Jackson, MS.

Zach Dayton, Firefighter Engineer/EMT of Mesa, AZ.

Victoria England, Flight Nurse of Mather, CA.

Rick Fikes, Paramedic/Field Training Officer of Abilene, TX.

Marlon Flanders, Paramedic of GMR Trinidad and Tobago.

Sean Fuller, Paramedic/Field Training Officer of Clackamas, OR.

Karina Galvez-Martinez, Paramedic of North Las Vegas, NV.

Kelly Hamill, Flight Nurse of Mattoon, IL.

Andy Hardy, Paramedic of Athens, TN.

Fidencio Hernandez, EMT/Field Training Officer of San Jose, CA.

Matthew Kohl, Paramedic of Evansville, IN.

Daniel Lee, Flight Nurse of Klamath Falls, OR.

Jesse Mascarenas, Flight Nurse of Salida, CO.

Stephanie Nocita, Paramedic of Monterey, CA.

Randall Roberson, Advanced EMT of Prestonsburg, KY.

Hiram Sanchez, SOS EMT of Napa, CA.

Dakota Shadwell, Flight Nurse of Mattoon, IL.

Jay Shintaku, Firefighter Paramedic of Tempe, AZ.

Brad Sparks, Flight Nurse of Oceanside, CA.

Rob Spencer, Paramedic/Field Training Officer of Temple, TX.

Michael Taboniar, Paramedic of Lihue, HI.

Bill Weber, Paramedic/Field Training Officer of Lake Havasu City, AZ.

Riley Wolfe, Paramedic of Redlands, CA.

Danny Workman, Flight Paramedic of Concord, CA.

Daniel Yandell, EMT of Vancouver, WA.

**RECOGNIZING NEWTOWN BOROUGH
TREASURER PATRICIA OURS**

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent from my district, Patricia Ours. Patricia began serving as Bookkeeper for the Borough of Newtown in 1997. Since then, she has worked tirelessly to support the Borough and its citizens as bookkeeper and as treasurer. Now, after more than 26 years of dedicated public service and professional commitment, Patricia is transitioning from her public position. I am proud to recognize and celebrate Patricia as an exceptional administrator who has provided outstanding financial guidance and general stewardship to the benefit of the residents of Newtown. Patricia finishes her government career as the Borough Treasurer, where she is widely respected for her accurate, strategic, and careful financial advice. She is recognized and respected as deeply knowledgeable in all areas of governmental financial management, whether it be budget planning or perceptive awareness of potential impacts to the Borough. She has demonstrated an extraordinary ability to overcome complex challenges, including those innumerable challenges that have arisen because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Patricia's expert guidance and thoughtfully caring leadership have helped the Borough community face challenges and overcome adversity. Her dedicated and diligent work has contributed to keeping our citizens well cared for.

We are incredibly grateful for the positive impact Patricia has had through her long career of public service, and we wish Patricia countless blessings during her new chapter.

**HONORING ROBERT GEORGE
CLARK, JR.**

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a trailblazer, the Honorable Robert George Clark, Jr. He has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a strong desire for change.

Robert George Clark, Jr. was elected to the Mississippi House of Representatives in 1967. He was the first African American elected to the Mississippi State Legislature since the Reconstruction era and remained in office until 2003.

Clark was born on October 3, 1928 to the Late Mr. Robert and Mrs. Julia Anne Clark of Ebenezer, Mississippi, the youngest of three children. He attended Holmes County Training School in Durant, Mississippi, and later received his B.A. from Jackson State University

in 1952. In 1959, he earned a Master's Degree in Administration and Educational Services from Michigan State University. In 1979, while in the Mississippi State Legislature, Clark served as a teaching fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

After earning his B.A. degree, Clark worked as a teacher in Holmes County. His first experience in politics was running for and winning an elected board position Holmes County Community Action Program (CAP) in 1966. In 1967, he agreed to run for state legislator on Holmes County's Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) ticket. He won the election and became the first black person elected to the Mississippi House of Representatives since Reconstruction.

Clark's election signaled the emergence of black electoral politics in Mississippi. As late as 1964, only ten black people were registered to vote in Holmes County, though the county was roughly 75 percent African American. By 1967, the black community of Holmes County built one of the strongest and most sophisticated political organizations in the state.

Ten years after he was first elected, Clark became the first black committee chairman in the Mississippi House of Representatives when he was named to head the Education Committee. During his term as chair, the legislature passed the 1982 Education Reform Act and the 1984 Vocational Education Reform Act. The 1982 act significantly reformed Mississippi's educational system, helping to modernize school classrooms and other physical facilities, replace worn-out textbooks and purchased replacement school buses.

In January 1992, Clark was elected as Speaker Pro Tempore, serving in that post until 2000. When he retired from the Mississippi House of Representatives in December 2003, he was the longest-serving member in continuous House service. I stand on the shoulders of men like him as I am encouraged to continue fighting to make Mississippi a better place for all of its citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Honorable Robert George Clark, Jr. for his dedication and years of service to the state of Mississippi.

RECOGNIZING THE EXEMPLARY SERVICE OF MR. BARRY CHASTAIN

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding citizen, Mr. Barry Chastain, a remarkable individual who has devoted over 38 years to federal service. Currently serving as the Area Port Director for Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in North Carolina, Mr. Chastain's contributions to the Carolinas and our Nation are immeasurable. In his capacity as the Area Port Director, Mr. Chastain shoulders the responsibility of overseeing six international ports of entry in North Carolina, where he manages a workforce of more than 150 dedicated employees. These ports collectively process over 3.5 million passengers and handle over 4 billion dollars in imported goods annually. Under his vigilant leadership, the seamless flow of legiti-

mate trade coexists with stringent security measures to safeguard our national interests. Mr. Chastain serves as the senior CBP representative to all federal, state, and local law enforcement partners in North Carolina. His ability to foster cooperation and collaboration among these agencies is integral to the safety and well-being of our citizens.

Mr. Chastain's illustrious career extends beyond his current role. His previous leadership assignments within the United States Department of Agriculture's Plant Protection and Quarantine Division in North Carolina exemplify his unwavering dedication to protecting our agricultural and biological resources. He also served as the Officer in Charge in South Carolina and Eastern Georgia, where he provided leadership and innovation to shield our natural resources from invasive plant pests and foreign animal diseases.

Mr. Chastain's career within Customs and Border Protection includes various leadership roles, such as serving as the Assistant Area Port Director for Trade Operations and the Assistant Area Port Director for Passenger and Tactical Operations. In these roles, he managed international passenger clearance programs, trade processing, maritime and military clearance operations, and led all CBP enforcement programs for the Area Port of Charlotte.

Mr. Chastain's commitment to national and regional security extends to his involvement in high-profile national projects, including the Democratic National Convention, the G-8 Summit, and numerous FEMA Region IV hurricane response events. His capacity to manage complex and critical tasks on a large scale is a valuable asset to our nation. Moreover, Mr. Chastain has excelled in establishing stakeholder partnerships and currently serves as an Executive Steering Committee Member of the North Carolina Joint Terrorist Task Force (JTTF). His contributions to this task force are crucial to our state's security efforts. Mr. Chastain's outstanding career in federal service, his commitment to national security, and his exemplary leadership in Customs and Border Protection are truly commendable. The Carolinas and our Nation are fortunate to have such a dedicated public servant. We extend our heartfelt appreciation for his remarkable service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WORDS MATTER FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Words Matter for the District of Columbia Courts Act, which would remove the term "retarded" from Title 11 of the District of Columbia Code and replace it with more appropriate and respectful terminology. I am pleased that Representative MARC MOLINARO is the co-lead of this bill.

Removing the term from the law has bipartisan support. In 2010, Congress removed several instances of the term from federal law by passing Rosa's Law (P.L. 111-256). Earlier this year, I joined both Republican and Democratic colleagues in introducing the Words Matter Act, which would remove several more instances of the term from federal law.

The term is used three times in Title 11 of the D.C. Code, and, under the D.C. Home Rule Act, only Congress can amend Title 11 of the D.C. Code.

There was a time when the term was a clinical term, but in more recent years, it has become a slur used against people with intellectual disabilities. Words indisputably matter, and I know our country is better than keeping such language in our law.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING CVSOA PRESIDENT BRUCE WILBER

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Bruce A. Wilber, who has dedicated his life to serving both his country and his community. Mr. Wilber's journey is one of resilience, dedication, and unwavering commitment to those he serves.

Born in June 1957 on the Menominee Indian Reservation in Keshana, Wisconsin, Mr. Wilber emerged as a beacon of leadership, being the oldest of seven children. His father's legacy as a Korean War veteran instilled in him a profound sense of duty to his country and eventually inspired him to join the military. After answering the call to serve, Bruce Wilber became a motor transport operator stationed in Caserma Ederle, a base in Livorno, Italy.

Upon concluding his military service, Mr. Wilber transitioned to the civilian sector, where he contributed to the logging industry and later served in law enforcement. Unfortunately, his law enforcement career was cut short due to an injury. However, this setback did not deter him. Mr. Wilber's tenacity shone through as he pursued an associate degree in alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA) counseling from the College of Menominee Nation.

His journey took a significant turn as he assumed the role of an AODA counselor at the Maehnowesekiyah Wellness Center, the treatment facility for the Menominee Nation. In this capacity, he was instrumental in establishing and maintaining mental and physical wellness programs for veterans and members of the Menominee Tribe for a decade. At each stop in his career, he continued to serve a greater purpose and those around him.

In August 2016, Mr. Wilber became the Tribal Veterans Service Officer (TVSO) and a County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) for the Menominee Nation and Menominee County, respectively. He extended his service by joining the Wisconsin County Veterans Service Officers Association (CVSOA), a vital organization that represents all 11 recognized tribes and 72 counties in Wisconsin.

After several years as a CVSO, it is with great pride that we acknowledge Mr. Wilber's election as the first Native American president of the State County Veterans Service Officer Association (CVSOA). I am sure that with his experience and unwavering dedication to the veteran's community, Mr. Wilber will excel in this new role.

Mr. Wilber's dedication also extends to his family, having celebrated 30 years of marriage and having raised seven children. The Wilber family's sacrifices have been profound, including the loss of a son who served with the Marines in Iraq and tragically passing away in an