

HONORING COACH JOHN VICTOR
PERRY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with Congressman JARED HUFFMAN, to honor Coach John Victor Perry for his service to young athletes as a dedicated little league baseball coach for over 50 years for Westside Little League in Santa Rosa, California.

Perry has supported little league players in 1,182 games and led them to 713 victories. From 1980 through 1988 and over the course of 143 games, Mr. Perry also coached little league senior teams. Throughout those seasons, hundreds of young athletes have benefited from Mr. Perry's leadership.

Aside from his teams' victories, he is very proud that two of his players, Aaron Willis and Kailee Diaz Randall, went on to earn National Little League Good Sport Awards. Both of his players' names are now displayed on a plaque at the National Little League Museum in Williamsport. It is noteworthy that Westside Little League remains the only little league in the Nation to have two of its players honored with this award.

Aside from teaching baseball fundamentals, Mr. Perry makes it a point to educate his players on the importance of hard work, public service, and the history of baseball. He has devoted his time to maintaining the baseball fields for the leagues. Moreover, Mr. Perry instructs his players to thank their parents in writing for their permission to play on the team, and he snips roses for the players to present to their mothers on Mother's Day.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Coach John Victor Perry has been a tireless volunteer and outstanding role model for the young athletes of Santa Rosa California for half a century. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING CHARLES EDWARD
CLARK, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a loving husband, dedicated father, doting grandfather, seasoned executive, benevolent public servant and dear family friend of long standing to my wife, Vivian, and me—Charles Edward Clark, Sr. Sadly, Charles transitioned from this life on March 27, 2023. On April 17, 2023, a memorial service celebrating his remarkable life was held at 11:00 a.m. in Columbus, Georgia at St. Luke United Methodist Church.

Charles Clark was born in Vienna, Georgia on August 26, 1939, to the union of Elbert and Elzada Clark. The oldest son of 11 children, his early education was in the Dooly County, Georgia School System. He went on to matriculate at Clark College (now Clark Atlanta University) in Atlanta where he became a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and earned a B.A. Degree in Business Administra-

tion in 1962. He proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam Era, rising to the rank of Corporal before receiving his Honorable Discharge.

Charles returned to Atlanta and went to work at the Urban League, beginning what would become a long and extraordinary career in government and community service. At the Urban League, he met the love of his life, Lillian "Bunky" McClung, daughter of former Columbus Mayor Pro Tem, A.J. and Mrs. Helen McClung. They were married in 1966 and to this blessed union were born two children: Charles "Chuck" Clark, Jr. and Candace Clark (Trinchieri).

Charles believed in education and demanded excellence from himself at every stage of his professional career. Hence, while working full time at the Urban League, he earned his law degree from the Woodrow Wilson College of Law in Atlanta in 1971. He began federal executive employment at the Office of Economic Opportunity regional office in Atlanta, moved to the Social Security Administration, then went on to earn a Master's Degree in Public Administration in 1973 from Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. He then returned to Atlanta to be Regional Director for Volunteers In Service To America (VISTA) and simultaneously earned a Master's in Organizational Psychology and Administration in 1976 from West Georgia College in Carrollton, Georgia.

Also in 1976, when his wife, Bunky, went to Washington, D.C. as part of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Transition Team, Charles became Special Assistant to Veterans Affairs Administrator and future U.S. Senator Max Cleland. He served in several positions in the VA, to include: Assistant Administrator, Office of Personnel and Labor Relations; Assistant to the Office of Human Goals; and Special Assistant to the Deputy Chief Medical Director. Charles later served as Associate Medical Director at VA Medical Centers in Reno, Nevada, San Francisco and Palo Alto, California. Because of his exceptional service, Charles received The Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award from the Department in 1995.

Upon retirement from the VA, Charles and Bunky moved back to Bunky's hometown of Columbus, Georgia where he served as Senior Vice President of Columbus Regional Healthcare System, Vice President of Columbus Regional Medical Foundation and Executive Director of Junior Achievement. In addition, Charles was active in community service, volunteering his time in several charitable organizations and was an active member of Saint Luke United Methodist Church.

In 2015, Charles was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. He used this challenge as an opportunity, becoming a staunch supporter of the Alzheimer's Association of Columbus and he led "The Annual Walk to End Alzheimer's" before moving to Sherman Oaks, California to live with his daughter, Candace, and her family.

It has been said that: "Service is the rent we pay for the space we 'occupy on this earth'". Charles Clark paid his rent and paid it well. He gave his time, talents and treasure to so many social and civic organizations. George Washington Carver once said: "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because

some day you will have been all of these". Charles Clark lived those words.

On a personal note, Charles was my friend. He was my supporter. He even served as my extraordinary campaign manager in 2008. He accomplished so much in his life. But, none of this would have been possible without the grace of God and the love and support of his wife of 57 years, Bunky; his children, Chuck and Candace; and a host of friends and family who will miss him dearly.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 765,000 people of the 2nd Congressional District of Georgia in honoring the life and legacy of Mr. Charles Edward Clark, Sr. and in extending our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, and all who mourn his loss. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF RUSSELL STOVER
CHOCOLATES

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Russell Stover Chocolates, a beloved American company that has become synonymous with quality and tradition. Founded in 1923 by Russell and Clara Stover, this Kansas City-based business has been delighting taste buds and warming hearts for generations. On this special occasion, let us take a moment to reflect on the last one hundred years.

The history of Russell Stover Chocolates began in Denver, Colorado, when Russell and Clara Stover began making candy in their bungalow home. The newfound company, originally employing just seven individuals, was first known as Mrs. Stover's Bungalow Candies. Within one year, the Stovers were operating five stores in Denver along with locations in Kansas City, Missouri, Lincoln, Nebraska, Omaha, Nebraska, and St. Louis, Missouri. In 1928, with business rapidly expanding, the Stovers opened their first factory in Kansas City, where all company operations would be moved in 1932. Committed to using only the finest ingredients in their exquisite confections, Russell Stover was already setting the standard for excellence in the chocolate world.

Business continued to grow in 1934, when the Stovers opened a drive-in store, ice cream parlor, and ice cream factory in Kansas City. Nine years later, in 1943, Russell Stover led the Committee for the National Confectioners Association in Washington, DC, the same year that the company officially changed its name to Russell Stover Candies.

While Russell and Clara Stover passed away in 1954 and 1975, respectively, the chocolate company they had built from scratch honored their memory by continuing to bring joy and sweetness to millions of Americans. Having grown to one of the largest and most respected candy makers in the United States, with chocolates sold in thousands of stores nationwide, Russell Stover acquired Whitman's Candies in 1993. The following year,

the company received further attention when a box of Russell Stover chocolates was featured in the Academy Award-winning film *Forrest Gump*, in which the title character quotes his mother as having said, “life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you’re gonna get.” Offering a piece of candy to a stranger sitting next to him on a park bench, *Forrest Gump* declared, “I could eat about a million and a half of these,” and viewers around the world agreed with the sentiment.

In 1998, Russell Stover launched a line of sugar free chocolates and quickly became the leading producer of sugar free candies in the United States. In 2002, Russell Stover was recognized for having the best-tasting toffee, chocolate covered cherries, fudge, truffles, nut bars, and sugar-free chocolates when the company was awarded six Gold Taste Awards by the prestigious American Culinary Institute. Wanting to ensure that all people could enjoy their delicacies, Russell Stover launched product lines for consumers with diabetes and those leading low-carb lifestyles in the early 2000s.

In 2014, Lindt & Sprungli—a manufacturer of premium chocolates worldwide—acquired Russell Stover Chocolates and Whitman’s Candies. Since then, the company has remained dedicated to its founding principles of quality and craftsmanship, ensuring that each piece of candy is a testament to the Stovers’ commitment to excellence.

On behalf of the 118th Congress, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to Russell Stover Chocolates for having reached their centennial anniversary. Hand-crafting the finest chocolates in the heart of America, Russell Stover is an American success story worth celebrating on this historic milestone. Here’s to another hundred years of delicious chocolates and sweet memories.

HONORING BUCHANAN MILES

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Buchanan Miles for being named Vacaville Unified School District 2022–2023 Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Miles has been a teacher at Hemlock Elementary School for 21 years. Throughout the duration of his impressive career, Mr. Miles has taught kindergarten and grades fourth through sixth. He spends his free time before and after school lending a helping hand around campus. He is always one of the first teachers to arrive in the morning, and one of the last teachers to leave. Mr. Miles prioritizes and finds joy in connecting and building relationships with students and their families.

Mr. Miles is intent on creating a positive school culture. For Hemlock’s Harvest Festival, Mr. Miles hosts a yearly haunted house that is extremely popular with students and families with the proceeds going towards field trips for his students. He also runs Hemlock’s student council and assists the students with campaigning and speeches so they can share their vision with the student body. He loves

encouraging and supporting students to run for student government because of his strong belief in the need to empower students. Mr. Miles also places a high priority on building relationships with staff and faculty by organizing the staffs monthly luncheons.

Mr. Miles’ commitment to public service extends beyond Hemlock. Before becoming a teacher, Mr. Miles served his country in the Air Force. He continued to serve as a reservist while teaching for the first few years of his tenure with Vacaville Unified School District. He now shares his expertise by coaching the Color Guard for Vacaville High School, as well as three other high schools in the surrounding area. This year, he helped guide Vacaville High School to the bronze medal at the National Color Guard competition.

Mr. Speaker, teachers of Mr. Miles’ caliber are an exceptional asset to the students and families they serve. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

CONGRATULATING THE PACE FAMILY AND BROOKHAVEN MONUMENT COMPANY ON 75 YEARS OF SUCCESS

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th year of distinguished service by a small business in the Third Congressional District of Mississippi—Brookhaven Monument Company. This also marks the 45th year that Mr. Dave Pace and the Pace family have operated the business.

Since 1947, Brookhaven Monument has served families throughout the state with honesty and empathy. Like so many other small businesses in Mississippi, Brookhaven Monument is family owned, creates jobs for its community, and provides exceptional service to its customers. Brookhaven Monument and Dave Pace have been a constant presence in Brookhaven and Southwest Mississippi. I commend them for their years of service and join with my fellow Mississippians in wishing them many more years of success.

RECOGNIZING PURPLE UP DAY AT BOURNE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bourne Intermediate School as the students celebrate Purple Up Day on April 15th during the Month of the Military Child.

April was first named the Month of the Military Child in 1986 by former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger to recognize military children and the social and emotional challenges they face with frequent moves, starting at new schools, and having their parents deployed. Military families often move every 2 to 3 years, which can greatly impact children.

Combining the colors of all the service branches, Purple Up Day is the day during the month of April to wear purple and show support for the 1.6 million children with a parent serving in the military. This day allows us to celebrate and honor military children and the sacrifice they make for our country. With Joint Base Cape Cod located in the ninth district, many students in our community understand the challenges and sacrifices that come along with having a parent serve in the military.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor military children at Bourne Intermediate School and across our country. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the resilience and strength that military children demonstrate each day as their parents serve our country.

HONORING ANITA KELLY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anita Kelly who is Vacaville Unified School District 2022–2023 Classified Employee of the Year.

Ms. Kelly has served as a dedicated and compassionate employee at Jepson Middle School counseling department for several years. Throughout her time at Jepson Middle School, Ms. Kelly’s range of skills and expertise have been a tremendous asset to students, teachers, and the school. Ms. Kelly’s institutional memory and talents are essential to keeping Jepson Middle School running smoothly. She goes above and beyond to assist others and helps teachers remain informed about their students in order to serve the student body and their parents more effectively.

Ms. Kelly is known to welcome new students and parents with a warm and inviting smile. Ms. Kelly’s role in translating for Spanish speaking students and parents allow all members of their school community to feel valued and connected.

Ms. Kelly also helps foster youth and students who are without a home to feel more comfortable and supported. Ms. Kelly prioritizes checking in with students and their families regularly, while monitoring their grades and progress to encourage student success.

Last year, Ms. Kelly supported the management of the virtual speech program to ensure that students could successfully access the resource. Even this year, she still maintains information for teachers involved in managing the virtual speech program. Ms. Kelly’s ability to effectively manage data provides the school with important information, including attendance and grades. This informs the school’s leadership about the work of the students and is crucial to guiding the school’s administration on which students may benefit from the school’s intervention program. For these reasons, she is an indispensable part of Jepson’s counseling department.

Mr. Speaker, employees of Ms. Kelly’s caliber are an exceptional asset to the students and families they serve. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.