

Producer, Rapper, and King of DJ'ing, Mr. Byron Otto Thomas, best known by his stage name, Mannie Fresh. Thomas is applauded for his work with Birdman's Cash Money Records, both solo and as a member of the label's then flag-ship group, Hot Boys in the late 1990s and early 2000s.

Byron Otto Thomas (born March 20, 1969), better known by his stage name Mannie Fresh, is an American record producer and rapper. He's best known for his productions on Cash Money Records releases, as well as being half of the hip hop duo (alongside label co-founder Baby, later known as Birdman) the Big Tymers. He produced most of the songs on the 17 multi-platinum, platinum, or gold albums for Cash Money from 1998 to 2004 before leaving the label. He was also their only in-house producer when the company started in 1991.

Thomas was born and raised in the 7th Ward of New Orleans. Influenced by his father DJ Sabu, Thomas became a DJ for New Orleans hip hop crew, New York Incorporated, in 1984 at age 15. In the late 1980s, he began a partnership with New Orleans rapper MC Gregory D. They released their first album together, *Throwdown* in 1987, with Mannie Fresh producing and MC Gregory D rapping. They released two more records together in the late 1980s and early 1990s. After their last album together, in 1993, Thomas met Bryan "Baby" Williams, who gave him an opportunity to become the in-house producer of his record label Cash Money Records. With Williams' help, Thomas made chart-topping albums for the Hot Boys, which was composed of Lil Wayne, B.G., Juvenile, and Turk, producing all the group's albums. He also produced all tracks on the members' solo works as well.

Later, Thomas formed the Big Tymers along with Williams, as Mannie Fresh and Birdman respectively, bringing him fame, and released five albums. In 2004, he released his own debut solo album *The Mind of Mannie Fresh*, which consisted of 30 tracks and featured the single "Real Big," which peaked at No. 72 on the *Billboard* Hot 100. In 2005, he split from Cash Money and later joined Def Jam South, to which he is currently signed. On October 27, 2009, Mannie Fresh released his second solo album, *Return of the Ballin'*. The album was entirely produced by Fresh himself and featured prominent guests Rick Ross and Lil Jon.

Mannie Fresh is most deserving of the highest recognition for proudly representing the city of New Orleans and the state of Louisiana as a globally recognized musical artist. I am proud to acknowledge Byron Otto "Mannie Fresh" Thomas for his musical and cultural contributions, recognizing his pivotal role in popularizing the New Orleans Rap and Bounce style of music around the world, extending sincerest wishes that he continues to flourish in all his endeavors, both in Louisiana and across the country.

HONORING THE CAREER OF BOB
HAMMERSCHMIDT

HON. ERIC BURLISON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career and celebrate

the retirement of Bob Hammerschmidt, my constituent in Springfield Missouri.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to Mr. Hammerschmidt for his exceptional 49-year career in banking and finance, and especially his 35 years of service to Commerce Bank. Mr. Hammerschmidt's unwavering commitment to excellence throughout his tenure at Commerce Bank has had a profound impact on the financial community of Southwest Missouri.

From his early days as a young professional to his current position as Chairman of Commerce Trust Co., Mr. Hammerschmidt has consistently demonstrated his expertise and integrity to the benefit of countless businesses and individuals in our community.

At the young age of 28, Mr. Hammerschmidt became the youngest bank president in the history of the state of Arkansas. After serving the first 13 years of his career in Arkansas, Missouri was lucky to gain Mr. Hammerschmidt's talents in 1988, and we have been blessed by his knowledge and experience ever since.

As Mr. Hammerschmidt prepares to celebrate his retirement with Commerce Bank after 35 years, it is my privilege to honor him in this way, and to represent him here in Washington, D.C.

CELEBRATING THE MANCHESTER
LIONS CLUB CENTENNIAL ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Manchester Lions Club for their centennial of service, devotion, and benevolence. As New Hampshire's first chapter, all members strive to uphold the centenary tradition of service not for oneself. The Manchester Lions Club supports and empowers underserved Granite Staters, and ensures our veterans receive the proper care and respect they deserve. It is through their generosity and altruism that we may grow as a community, and as the Granite State.

The Lions Clubs International began as a 1917 experiment by founder Melvin Jones in testing the benefaction of citizens in improving their communities. The result is an organization with more than 1.4 million members across 48,000 global clubs. The admirable mission of Lions Clubs International extends far beyond the borders of local communities. They acknowledge and employ the power of community service as a force to change the world. There is no task too small or too inconsequential for Lions Clubs International, and it is through that ethos that they affect and uplift our communities. As the local chapter of this organization, the Manchester Lions Club holds close the importance of service, and the global mission of Lions Clubs International.

The Manchester Lions Club's unfettered dedication to service over self is a valuable contribution to our community, and the epitome of their distinguished motto, "We serve!" From health-related services such as fighting hunger and providing accessibility devices, to protecting our environment and honoring our veterans, you represent the very best and brightest that our community has to offer. Your

service is of the highest quality and maintains a high standard for all of us to strive for. Your continued investment into the Queen City of Manchester will yield unprecedented results and growth for generations to come.

On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I commend the Manchester Lions Club for 100 years of service and dedication to our communities. We are fortunate to call them trusted investors and protectors of our community and our success. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, I was not present to vote due to a minor medical procedure. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: YEA on Roll Call No. 249, On Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 495; YEA on Roll Call No. 250, On Agreeing to H. Res. 495; YEA on Roll Call No. 251, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3099; NAY on Roll Call No. 252, On Passage of H.J. Res. Res. 44; YEA on Roll Call No. 253, On Passage Objections of the President To The Contrary Notwithstanding, H.J. Res. 42; YEA on Roll Call No. 254, On Agreeing to Amendment No. 1 to H.R. 1615; YEA on Roll Call No. 255, On Passage of H.R. 1615; and YEA on Roll Call No. 256, On The Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 377.

REMEMBERING MRS. STEPHANNIE
FORTUNE

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor the life of community service of Mrs. Stephanie Fortune, who was taken from us too early by leukemia on June 13, 2023. Simply put, Mrs. Fortune was a loving champion of the Pikes Peak Region.

Stephanie Fortune had a remarkable career as a public servant in numerous capacities. Most recently she served on the Colorado Springs City Council and was a champion for the U.S. Olympic Museum which opened in July, 2020. Early in her career, Stephanie was part of President George H.W. Bush's advance team; served as Assistant Director and Legislative Liaison for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment; as Executive Director for University Partnerships and Public Policy at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs; as President of Governmental Affairs and Public Policy for the Greater Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce; as Chief of Staff to Lt. Gov. Jane Norton; and as Chief of Staff to U.S. Congressman Scott McInnis. Everywhere she served, she made an impact with her strong will, determination, and compassion.

Stephanie's love for community was also evident in her service on numerous non-profit

boards. Her impact was felt by: Pikes Peak United Way, the Colorado Springs Conservatory, Pikes Peak Workforce Investment Board, the Girl Scouts of Colorado, Colorado Springs Leadership Institute, the Colorado Springs Chamber's Center for Regional Advancement, Care and Share, and the YMCA.

In particular, Mrs. Fortune loved the youth of our community. She led church youth groups at First Presbyterian Church, mentored younger co-workers, and at Pikes Peak United Way helped start Colorado Springs Promise, providing life coaching to local high school students. She also worked to reopen the Westside Community Center.

In 2016 Stephanie married her true love, Kent Fortune. Their marriage was a vivid representation of how Mrs. Fortune lived, exhibiting mutual respect and sacrificial love.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in Congress join me in honoring the life and love of Stephanie Finley Fortune, who lovingly served and sacrificed for her community, family, and Colorado's 5th Congressional District.

HONORING PETTY OFFICER 3RD CLASS HARRY GLASCO, HOMETOWN HERO

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Petty Officer 3rd Class Harry Glasco, Hometown Hero.

Born and raised in Camden, New Jersey, longtime resident, Petty Officer 3rd Class Harry Glasco enlisted to serve in the United States Navy at the age of sixteen years old. From November of 1964 to November of 1968, Petty Officer 3rd Class Harry Glasco bravely served on active duty in the United States Navy. He was stationed in San Diego, California and saw three tours of duty in Vietnam. During his time in the service he exemplified commitment and exemplary conduct which earned him several accolades including the Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Vietnam Champion Medal. His dedication was recognized, and he was promoted to the rank of Petty Officer 3rd Class Gun Fire Control.

After four years of active-duty service, Petty Officer 3rd Class Harry Glasco was honorably discharged from the United States Navy. When he returned home, he began his career with Lockheed Martin and his prior training allowed him to work on televisions. His commitment to making a positive impact on his community pushed him to pour his heart into mentoring athletes and teaching them the true value of teamwork, discipline, and determination. Petty Officer 3rd Class Harry Glasco's coaching left a lasting impact on his players as he instilled in them a sense of pride and camaraderie.

As a civilian, Petty Officer 3rd Class Harry Glasco continued to care for the fellow men and women who served, becoming an active member of the American Legion Post 473. The American Legion is dedicated to supporting veterans and their families which provided him a platform to continue his service beyond the Navy. His commitment to his fellow veterans and guidance from his brother,

Robert, a Korean War veteran, led him to become Commander of Post 473, which he remains to this day. Petty Officer 3rd Class Harry Glasco works tirelessly to ensure that the veterans in his community receive the care, recognition, and support that they deserve. He has been able to assist both friends and other veteran communities through programs such as Home of the Brave. He has exemplified the qualities of a true leader, devoted patriot, and compassionate community member with an unwavering dedication to serving his country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring and commending Petty Officer 3rd Class Harry Glasco of Camden, New Jersey, as a resident dedicated to his community, country, and those who have bravely served and defended the United States of America.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS AND PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE EMPLOYMENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Courts and Public Defender Service Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would apply the District of Columbia Human Rights Act of 1977 (DCHRA) to employees of the local D.C. courts and the D.C. Public Defender Service (PDS). Last year, the D.C. Court of Appeals held in *Robertson v. District of Columbia* that the DCHRA, which protects employees of the D.C. government and private employers from discrimination, does not apply to employees of the local D.C. courts. The court has not ruled on the applicability of the DCHRA to PDS employees.

The local D.C. courts and PDS are unique entities, and they sometimes fall through the regulatory cracks. They are neither federal nor D.C. government entities, though both were created and are funded by Congress, and their employees are treated as federal employees for some employee benefits. This bill would ensure that their employees have comprehensive protections from and remedies for employment discrimination.

While employees of the local D.C. courts and PDS are protected by federal anti-discrimination laws, the DCHRA provides much broader protections and remedies for employees than federal anti-discrimination laws.

While the D.C. Council may have the authority to pass such a bill itself, only Congress has the clear authority to do so, given the express limitations in the D.C. Home Rule Act on the Council's authority to legislate on matters affecting the operations of the local D.C. courts, and given that Congress has generally served as the legislative body for PDS.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOLLYWOOD SIGN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the iconic Hollywood Sign in Hollywood, California. This year, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and Hollywood Sign Trust will celebrate the Hollywood Sign on its Centennial Anniversary as one of Los Angeles's memorable historical landmarks.

The Hollywood Sign will celebrate its centennial on December 8, 2023. In December 1923, a large sign spelling out the word Hollywoodland was illuminated by an array of lightbulbs on top of Mount Lee in Hollywood. The sign, with its over-forty-foot-tall letters, was created as a revolutionary form of advertising for a new housing development in the Hollywood Hills.

Although the Hollywood Sign originally represented a new beginning for residents of Los Angeles up in the gleaming Hollywood Hills, the sign also began to capture the limelight, a symbol of the emerging film industry within the area and throughout California.

In 1938, the sign was reflective of positive change when the 20 acres behind Mount Lee, which is named after renowned entrepreneur Don Lee, became the location of the Don Lee Network that broadcast a vast range of televised programming including remotely filmed and in-studio shows. After the Hollywoodland housing development fell through, the sign fell into disrepair, stirring debates about tearing it down. Fortunately, as owners of the sign, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce stepped up to repair and reimagine the sign by removing the last four letters—at which point the Hollywood Sign was born.

Thirty years later in the mid-1970's, the Hollywood Sign, which had been made a cultural landmark, began to fall apart again. However, with a renovation fund campaign led by Hugh Hefner and others in 1978, the Hollywood Chamber once again restored the sign to its now amazing stature.

Other memorable moments in the sign's history include the 1997 photoshoot of Michelle Yeoh, who daringly performed a stunt in a helicopter over the sign for a National Geographic cover story. Then in 2013, the sign became the backdrop for a photo of the beloved mountain lion, P-22, who was captured roaming the trails in the Hollywood Hills.

The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and Hollywood Sign Trust will celebrate the Hollywood Sign on its 100th birthday throughout 2023 and 2024. These celebrations will highlight the transformation of the sign from a real estate marketing effort to a cultural monument, beloved community icon and global symbol of glamor and imagination.

I am proud to recognize the Hollywood Sign upon its 100th Anniversary and I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring this timeless icon.