

TRIBUTE TO OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY'S GOSPEL LYRES CHOIR

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House the 50th anniversary of the first concert of Ohio Wesleyan University's Gospel Lyres Choir.

From its founding in October of 1972 by students Cheryl Smith and Martea Pitts, the Gospel Lyres Choir provided a place for African American students at Ohio Wesleyan to gather in fellowship and friendship and to use their musical gifts to praise God. At its debut concert on campus on November 4, 1973, the Choir numbered an impressive 22 members.

Through the years, Choir members served as unofficial ambassadors of Ohio Wesleyan, performing at churches not just in the city of Delaware, Ohio, but across our great state and beyond. Its members formed strong, lifelong bonds as they touched countless lives with the Gospel message they shared through their music.

Mr. Speaker, Choir alumni will gather on campus during Ohio Wesleyan's homecoming weekend this October for a reunion concert and celebration. On behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I thank the members of the Gospel Lyres Choir for contributing so richly to the musical landscape of our great state. I wish them all the best as they mark their golden anniversary.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
KATHY BAILEY

HON. GLENN THOMPSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Kathleen Bailey who passed away surrounded by her loved ones earlier this month.

Born and raised in Northwest Pennsylvania, Kathy was known throughout Oil City for her love and dedication to the region. She was a true advocate for Oil City, working hand-in-hand with local businesses for the betterment of the community. Those who knew Kathy could attest that her enthusiasm was infectious.

Aside from her work in the community, Kathy was passionate about the arts. In her free time, she sang in the Barrow-Civic Theater and the Erie Philharmonic Choir. She also played the organ for St. Stephen Church and St. Joseph Church.

Mr. Speaker, scripture in Thessalonians 4: 13–18 instructs us with these words:

"Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope."

Kathy lived to bring hope and optimism to so many in her community. Let us also count our blessings that we were fortunate enough to know Kathy Bailey. I send my sincere condolences to her husband, Scott, and their family during this difficult time.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING
THE LIFE OF COLONEL BOB DILL

HON. JEFF DUNCAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect on the life and military service of Colonel Bobby Dill, who passed away on August 14, 2023, at the age of 91.

Colonel Dill was a native of Greenville County in South Carolina. He was a 1955 graduate of Clemson University and earned a master's degree from Oklahoma University. In the U.S. Army, he served in Korea, Vietnam, Germany and on Army Staff at the Pentagon.

After retiring from military service, he spent several years investing in the next generation by working as a substitute teacher. Later, he would leave retirement to take on a new career as a newspaperman—working diligently to keep his community informed. With his wife LaVerle at his side, he wrote articles, attended countless meetings, and remained devoted to printing the truth.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Bob Dill's life was devoted to serving his country and his local community. Solomon tells us in the book of Proverbs that "a good name is to be chosen rather than great riches." Colonel Bob Dill was a kind man who loved his country, and his memory will live on in the Third District of South Carolina.

HONORING GREG AND CAROL
KUPP UPON THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY
OF KUPPY'S DINER

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to recognize Greg and Carol Kupp upon the auspicious occasion of the 90th Anniversary of "Kuppy's Diner" on August 6, 2023.

Kuppy's is located in the heart of Middletown, Pennsylvania, and has remained a beloved landmark since Percy Kupp founded the establishment in 1933, during the Great Depression. Kuppy's has been owned and operated by Fourth Generation Kupps (Greg and Carol) since 1991, with the Fifth Generation (Rachel) working alongside them daily, and even mentoring the Sixth Generation (Jackson) to take over someday. The Kupp Family is dedicated to continuing the tradition of their small, hometown, hardworking, friendly, and community-based establishment where all are welcome and treated like family.

Kuppy's Diner has enjoyed and earned extraordinary success, due in no small part to Percy Kuppy's philosophy, "if you serve good food at reasonable prices, people will be satisfied." But perhaps the most significant factor in Kuppy's longevity, popularity, and legacy is the Kupp Family's tireless dedication to and appreciation of their customers and community for nearly a century.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 10th Congressional District, and surrounding communities, I'm honored and humbled to commemorate Greg, Carol, and the entire Kupp Family upon the 90th Anniversary of Kuppy's Diner in Mid-

dletown, Pennsylvania. I wish them continued God's blessings for all they have built, achieved, and contributed, not only to the communities of Central Pennsylvania, but to the United States of America.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF JOAN
KAPLAN DAVIDSON

HON. MARCUS J. MOLINARO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Joan Kaplan Davidson, a philanthropist and champion of conservation in New York State who recently passed away at the age of 96.

Joan spent her life advocating for the restoration and conservation of New York's treasures and her legacy is one of vision and action. She served as the leader of the J.M. Kaplan Fund, as the New York State Commissioner of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, and gave her time to countless nonprofit boards and committees. I had the pleasure of working alongside her to designate the Hudson River as New York's first Heritage River and to work to advance numerous local waterfront development plans and historic preservation projects. Joan chose to make a profound impact through the power of small, decisive actions, and her work has inspired me and countless others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the enduring legacy of Joan Kaplan Davidson, a woman who made a profound difference in the Hudson River Valley and New York State.

HONORING ALABAMA LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SENIOR
TROOPER CHRISTOPHER
CARLTON

HON. BARRY MOORE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the heroic action of Senior Trooper Christopher Carlton with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency.

On February 17, 2023, at approximately 4:38 P.M., Senior Trooper Carlton responded to a vehicle crash on Highway 84 in Houston County, Alabama. Senior Trooper Carlton rescued Jessica Joy Thrasher of Lynn Haven, FL and 4-year-old Simon Thrasher, from the scene.

Upon Trooper Carlton's arrival, a member of Wicksburg Rescue advised Carlton that another ambulance would be required for both patients since they needed immediate medical attention. Without hesitation, Carlton transported Simon to Flowers Hospital in his patrol vehicle to ensure rapid treatment and care.

Physicians, nurses, and hospital staff were able to stabilize Simon after the incident, and both Jessica and Simon are expected to make a full recovery.

I am confident Trooper Carlton's quick and selfless actions saved the lives of Jessica and Simon.

I would like to thank Senior Trooper Christopher Carlton for his service. He serves the State of Alabama with integrity and always answers the call of duty. I extend my gratitude for his hard work and diligence in public service. The Second Congressional District of Alabama is blessed to have such an outstanding citizen.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
MARIE A. MAK, DIRECTOR OF
CONTRACTING AND NATIONAL
SECURITY ACQUISITIONS, GOV-
ERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OF-
FICE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedicated public service of Ms. Marie Mak, Director of Contracting and National Security Acquisitions at the Government Accountability Office (GAO), upon her retirement from Federal service. Ms. Mak has devoted over 36 years of service to the Federal Government, including at Naval Air Systems Command and the U.S. Coast Guard, before joining GAO in 2002.

Since entering the Senior Executive Service in 2014, Ms. Mak has skillfully led numerous GAO teams to conduct insightful analyses of acquisition programs and contracting processes within the Departments of Homeland Security and Defense, resulting in high quality reports for Congress. Her wide-ranging portfolio has also included assessing the Federal Government's response to hurricanes, wildfires, and other natural disasters, as well as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Throughout her GAO career, Ms. Mak has taken a balanced, fact-based approach to reviewing Federal programs—a fundamental cornerstone of what Congress and the American public value about GAO. Drawing on her experience at the Coast Guard, where she helped develop strategic plans and performance measures, and allocate resources, she was able to understand the challenges that agencies often confront in their day-to-day management efforts. She coupled that experience with a critical eye to recommended actions that agencies can take to improve their acquisition processes to deliver better, timelier, and more affordable systems used to execute their missions. She has testified be-

fore Congress several times on a variety of Coast Guard acquisition and disaster response contracting issues and delivered numerous briefings on key defense acquisition programs. As a result of Ms. Mak's work, Congress is able to hold agencies accountable to first responders, warfighters, and the American public.

Ms. Mak has received numerous GAO awards throughout her career, including the Customer Service Award and John Henry Luke Mentoring Award. While Ms. Mak's work has saved taxpayer dollars, she has also positively impacted the growth and development of the people with whom she works. Ms. Mak embodies GAO's people values of ensuring others are respected, valued, and treated fairly, and has served as a trusted mentor and advocate that invests her time in coaching and developing people. Her focus on staff development will benefit the next generation of GAO leaders to the advantage of Congress and taxpayers for years to come.

I congratulate Ms. Mak on her well-deserved retirement and thank her for her distinguished service to Congress and the American public.

HONORING DR. ROBERT WHITMORE

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to formally commend Dr. Robert Whitmore of New Bern, North Carolina for more than 40 years of service as a physician and his exemplary record of service. He has attended to our Eastern North Carolina community and our Nation honorably.

His reputation and accolades for patient experience are a testament to the great care and expertise he has consistently provided throughout his career. As a urologist myself, I understand that providing top quality medical care is more than simply treating a disease but taking the time to listen to patient concerns and answering their questions. His standing in our community as a caring doctor, who personally follows up with patients, shows his commitment to the profession and his great character. Furthermore, his CarolinaEast Beacon of Service Award attests to his expertise and ability to touch the lives of so many others.

I would be remiss if I failed to say thank you for Dr. Whitmore's service to our Country as a

staff urologist in the U.S. Army. Military doctors endure so much, and it takes a special person to do the job. Dr. Whitmore is a true servant-leader with a heart for others and is revered among America's heroes.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring this incredible physician for all he has done and continues to do for the people of Eastern North Carolina.

RECOGNIZING DALE HAMILTON'S
60 YEARS OF SERVICE TO NORTH
CONWAY

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dale Hamilton on his retirement from the North Conway Fire Department after an impressive 60-year tenure as a firefighter. His position as the longest-serving member of the department speaks to his tireless dedication to maintaining the safety of the North Conway community, and his love for his work is an inspiration to those he serves with and those he strives to protect. His distinguished lifetime commitment to public safety is vital to keeping New Hampshire safe, and I commend his years of service to North Conway and the Granite State.

A longtime resident of North Conway, Dale joined the North Conway Fire Department in 1963, and has remained a fixture in the department ever since. Dale's experience in all positions, including operator of Engine 3, the ladder truck, and dispatcher, has made him an integral member of the North Conway Fire Department. Through his kind demeanor, dedicated work ethic, and his love of his craft, Dale has become a beloved and renowned member of the North Conway community. While we can never fully repay our debt of gratitude to Dale, we recognize his decades of service and immeasurable impact.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to congratulate Dale Hamilton on his well-deserved retirement and the work he has done to protect and serve the North Conway community. He will serve as a shining example for future North Conway firefighters, and I look forward to seeing what his next chapter holds. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.