

on his commitment to the Portsmouth Track Program.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF DAVID CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. GREG CASAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Mr. CASAR. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize the David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church's celebration of its 100th anniversary this year.

In 1924, 28 African American members founded the Church out of a former blacksmith's shop in Austin, Texas. David Chapel would move twice, landing in its current site at MLK and Chestnut in 1958. Its membership continued to expand, and the need for larger accommodations became clear. At the height of racial segregation in the American South, White-owned banks refused to provide the loans necessary for the building of a new space of worship.

Undeterred, David Chapel pursued the funds, development, and construction they needed for the structure, becoming a truly community-driven project. Additionally, the building was designed by John Chase, the first Black graduate of the University of Texas at Austin's School of Architecture. Through the commitment and dedication of many, the construction of the current David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church building was finished only a year after it started.

Since 1992, David Chapel has been led by its Senior Pastor, Rev. Joseph C. Parker, Jr., Esq., D. Min. Under Rev. Parker's leadership, David Chapel has increased its community involvement by developing and implementing the Chestnut Neighborhood Plan, and co-founding the Texas Congregations United for Empowerment (TCUE), an organization of Black churches in Central Texas working to increase their economic and community empowerment.

As the Congressman representing the 35th District of Texas, I am honored to congratulate Rev. Packer and David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church on its 100th anniversary of providing spiritual guidance and serving the needs of our community in East Austin and beyond.

PROTECTING OUR WILD HORSES

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD a statement from Josselyn Wolf, a young woman from Rhode Island, who appears with me in the documentary film "Wild Beauty: Mustang Spirit of the West" about the plight of America's wild horses. She is an advocate for H.R. 3656, the Wild Horse and Burro Protection Act, of which I am an original cosponsor, and has some insightful thoughts to share about how the Wild Horse and Burro Program is being run by the Bureau of Land Management. This is her statement:

"We need the tonic of wildness." This powerful sentiment, articulated by Henry David Thoreau in his reflective piece *Walden*, was embodied when millions of children sent letters to Congress—more letters than any non-war-related movement has generated in American history—begging for the protection of one of our nation's most treasured species: the wild horse.

Harnessing the power of our democratic republic, these voices inspired the unanimous passage of the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act. The Act reserved roughly 47 million acres of Western rangelands for the unbridled existence of wild horses and burros and promised the dwindling numbers of mustangs—then at extinction level—protection from "capture, branding, harassment, or death."

Over fifty years since the passage of that vital legislation, half of designated herd management areas have been eliminated and the protections promised by the Act continue to be grossly and sometimes violently violated under a system that misleads and misinforms Congress, the media, and the American people.

Each year, Congress allocates over one hundred million dollars to the Bureau of Land Management to support the Wild Horse and Burro Program: a system that endangers, kills, incarcerates, and separates close-knit equine families through the use of traumatic helicopter-induced stampedes and dismal holding facilities, a system overseen by land managers who claim to restore the land while destroying it, a system that has sent thousands of wild horses—wild horses: the icons of freedom and grit that define our great nation—to the slaughter pipeline.

Why? To support millions of livestock who produce less than two percent of American beef, much of which is shipped overseas to China. Livestock who, by the Bureau of Land Management's own statistics, graze nearly six times more public land than wild horses, vastly outnumbering them on their own designated territories. Not only does public grazing of cattle and sheep degrade biodiversity, it also subsidizes billion-dollar cattle corporations at the expense of hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars: a stark contrast to small ranchers who are forced to pay rising grazing fees.

As human beings, we wield unprecedented power to disrupt the thriving natural ecological balance of our planet and therefore unprecedented responsibility to sustain it. As the National Academy of Sciences along with a multitude of independent scientists and researchers have attested, our land's ecological harmony is, in its current state, fundamentally broken. As law scholars have passionately voiced, our legal compliance with the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act is fundamentally broken. As Indigenous representatives have testified, our relationship with the land is fundamentally broken.

You, Members of Congress, wield the power to defend this untamed wildness that is the history and heart of America before it reaches extinction level. Each of you, Members of Congress, are in a unique position to rectify this dysfunctional system that is compromising our environment, our economy, and the natural wonders and gifts we are collectively responsible for, to pass down to our children untarnished and undestroyed.

Therefore, I am not asking for a radical, partisan rewrite: I am asking for a conversation. It is up to you to reevaluate the priorities of our nation . . . before it's too late. As a sixteen-year-old constituent, it is of imperative importance to me that the planet of my future is managed sustainably, and that carelessness does not forever eliminate the tonic of wildness that makes our Earth a home.

RECOGNIZING PROFESSOR
MARIELAINE MAMMON FOR EX-
CEPTIONAL SERVICE TO OUR
STATE AND ACADEMIC COMMU-
NITY

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Professor Marielaine Mammon as she is honored as a recipient of the 2024 Dale P. Parnell Distinguished Faculty Award. This national award recognizes exemplary faculty members from America's community colleges. Through her decades of service to the County College of Morris (CCM) in New Jersey's Eleventh Congressional District, Professor Mammon continues to inspire classes of students.

Professor Mammon dedicated her education and career to the performing arts. Of her 51 years of teaching experience, she dedicated 47 years to CCM and has made a lasting impact on our community. Professor Mammon is a tremendous mentor and she inspires her students to see their full potential while honing the skills needed to reach their goals. Through her extraordinary career in the performing arts, including performances at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, Professor Mammon leads her students by example.

Outside of the classroom, Professor Mammon is deeply involved on campus, whether she is chairing Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations, leading choir performances at local senior living facilities, or creating interdisciplinary opportunities for students. She has served on numerous committees, including the Pandemic Response Team, Academic Standards Committee, and Curriculum Committee. Through these extra-curricular efforts, Professor Mammon hears directly from both students and faculty on their needs on campus and she brings this understanding to her work.

I am honored to recognize Professor Mammon for her exemplary career and congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition.

RECOGNIZING QUIRINA OROZCO

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to Join the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce in recognition of the 2023 Al Geiger Memorial Award Honoree, West Sacramento City Council Member Quirina Orozco, for her ongoing exemplary public service to the Sacramento region. Council Member Orozco is an excellent leader in our community who demonstrates that the Sacramento region's approach to everything from economic development, innovation, community outreach, and advocacy can and should be a model for the rest of the country. Council Member Orozco's commitment to public service illustrates the very reason why I love my congressional district. Our leaders have always sought to innovate, to push the envelope, and—most importantly—to deliver for our constituents.

Even before her time in elected office, Council Member Orozco had demonstrated a commitment to public service, serving in the White House while crafting federal education policy and later as an advisor to then Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante on tribal community and veteran issues. To this day, Council Member Orozco continues her service to the public as a prosecutor for the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office, with a focus on sexual assault and child abuse cases. Council Member Orozco's commitment to our community has been an ongoing facet of her life—a commitment that the West Sacramento community is both grateful for and counting on.

As a member of the West Sacramento City Council, Council Member Orozco has continued to champion the West Sacramento chapter of the Downtown Streets Team to create opportunities for unhoused individuals who are seeking to break out of the cycle of recurring systemic trauma and incarceration. Council Member Orozco's support was critical for the West Sacramento Home Run program, which provides community members with access to high-quality early learning for young children, college savings accounts, and internships. Council Member Orozco's service continues to demonstrate how diligent and focused advocacy can create real change in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor West Sacramento City Council Member Quirina Orozco for her extraordinary service to the City of West Sacramento and the Greater Sacramento Region for many more years to come.

COMMEMORATING SIXTH BAPTIST CHURCH'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JENNIFER L. McCLELLAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Sixth Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia.

In 1923, Reverend Edward D. Caffee led 25 members from Mount Carmel Baptist Church to establish a Mission, initially known as St. Luke's Mission. Despite initial challenges in obtaining recognition, on December 12, 1923, the Mission was officially recognized as St. Luke Baptist Church.

Under Reverend Caffee's guidance, the church flourished, moving to North Sixth Street in 1924, where it held its first service on December 28, 1924. In November 1927, the Reverend Joseph Arrington was appointed as pastor of Sixth Baptist Church. At Arrington's recommendation and with the congregation's consent, the church officially changed its name from St. Luke Baptist Church to Sixth Street Baptist Church.

Despite financial struggles during the Great Depression, the church persevered, paying off its mortgage in 1944. In 1952, recognizing the changing landscape of Richmond, the congregation moved to the West End, renaming itself Sixth Baptist Church. Under the leadership of Reverend Arrington, the church's membership grew to an astounding 350 members.

After 33 years of faithful service, Reverend Arrington stepped down as pastor, paving the way for the appointment of Haywood Knight

as Sixth Baptist Church's new senior pastor. Under Reverend Knight's leadership, the church renovated its fellowship hall and established the Fellowship Club and Youth Church. Reverend Knight served as pastor until 1968, when Reverend Dr. Emmett L. Fleming Sr. became the fourth pastor of the church.

Under Reverend Dr. Fleming's tenure, the church embarked on ambitious projects, including erecting an educational building and renovating the sanctuary. His legacy of community outreach and ministry development laid a strong foundation for the future.

In 2001, Reverend Dr. Yvonne Jones Bibbs became the fifth pastor of Sixth Baptist Church, continuing the tradition of stewardship and community engagement. As pastor, Rev. Dr. Bibbs has overseen the church through two phases of construction and renovations to improve facilities and worship spaces for the growing congregation.

Throughout its 100 years, Sixth Baptist Church has remained a steadfast place of worship for congregants and members of the Richmond community. As we celebrate Sixth Baptist Church's centennial, we honor the past, embrace the present, and look forward to a future filled with continued growth and service.

HONORING SPARTA UNICO'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sparta UNICO on its 25th anniversary.

As the name UNICO attests, this organization is truly unique. It combines a celebration of Italian-American culture with a passion for charitable initiatives and local community service. From awarding students in our school districts with academic scholarships, to fundraising for local food pantries and other charities, Sparta UNICO has impacted the lives of many residents in New Jersey's Seventh District. Our communities have certainly benefited from the noble efforts of Sparta UNICO, and I am grateful to have such an exemplary organization operating in our district.

I wish UNICO a wonderful 25th anniversary. I thank them again for promoting such incredible cultural diversity in our communities, and for admirable dedication to making our district a healthier, safer, and more vibrant place to live.

RECOGNIZING KIM HUSTON

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kim Huston on her retirement from nearly 30 years of working in local economic development in Nelson County.

As President of the Nelson County Economic Development Agency and Bardstown Industrial Development Corporation, Kim has been a tireless advocate for Nelson County

and ensuring their economic success. During her time in economic development she has overseen more than \$1,500,000,000 in investments in her area and made sure Nelson County had a seat at the table in a global economy by building relationships with business leaders worldwide.

Kim has been a champion for making Nelson County a global tourist destination. Alongside keeping Bardstown the Bourbon Capital of the World, she oversaw the city being named the most Beautiful Small Town in America by USA Today and Rand McNally in 2012. Her passion for Nelson County is felt by everyone who has met her and she captured that passion by proudly authoring three books about her hometown.

I want to thank Kim for her work in Nelson County and wish her a happy retirement as she spends more time with her family.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF REVEREND DR. TOMMIE L. LEWIS AS PASTOR OF BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PRATT CITY

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of a faithful servant leader, Reverend Dr. Tommie L. Lewis, as he celebrates his retirement as senior pastor of Bethel Missionary Baptist Church Pratt City after 42 years of service to the Birmingham community.

Pastor T.L. Lewis answered the call to ministry on January 6, 1973, becoming licensed to preach at the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, and was ordained by incumbent Reverend G.W. Sloan on July 29, 1973.

Pastor Lewis is an accomplished biblical scholar. He attended the Birmingham Easonian Baptist Bible College, earning a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Theology before earning a Master of Divinity degree at Universal Bible Institute in Brunswick, Georgia. Pastor Lewis received two honorary doctoral degrees from both his alma maters for his contributions to ministry through his public service.

Pastor Lewis accepted his first pastoral assignment at the First Baptist Church Carver in Bessemer, Alabama. He then served at the Antioch Baptist Church in Gadsden, Alabama. In 1982, Pastor Lewis was commissioned to his final home in Birmingham as head pastor of Bethel Baptist Church Pratt City, where he has remained for the past 42 years of his career.

During his tenure, Pastor Lewis has served "Bethel Nation," well, expanding its congregation to thousands and positioning the church to its status as a beacon of hope in the Pratt City community. Pastor Lewis' legacy has been fueled by his servant's heart, commitment to community, and passion for improving the lives of others. His position as a powerful force for good extends far beyond the sanctuary walls.

Pastor Lewis has dedicated his life to building a coalition of community servants that will far outlast him. His tutelage led to fifty-three