

and help Madison County in its efforts to contain the Quaker Run fire. Notably, volunteers—many of them local farmers and bear hunters—helped install large containment lines to keep the fire away from the community and also helped distribute food and water. The collaborative effort between the Virginia Department of Forestry, Virginia Department of Emergency Management, Virginia National Guard, National Park Service, USDA Forest Service, local fire and emergency services, law enforcement, and more than 140 volunteers and nearly 20 fire and EMS companies is a true reflection of the caring individuals who lent their time and a helping hand to assist in containing the fire and keeping Madison County residents safe.

On November 3, 2023, the fire had spread to roughly 1,500 acres. On November 9, 2023, the State of Virginia declared a state of emergency. Finally, on November 17, 2023, the Quaker Run fire was declared 100 percent contained with about 3,397 acres of private, state, and federal lands affected by the fire. The efforts made by volunteers and first responders from Madison County and across the Commonwealth were crucial to preventing further damage and ensuring the safety of residents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking and celebrating the courageous men and women who came together—from volunteers to first responders—to help their neighbors and provide support to one another as they fought to contain the Quaker Run fire. Their unwavering commitment to helping their community during this time of need is a source of inspiration and I am honored to represent them in Congress.

RECOGNIZING BRIAN NEWMAN

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a man whose service and leadership have left a lasting mark on everyone he's worked with throughout his career. Brian Newman is the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of UPS, he recently announced he will depart in June after having served the company for five pivotal years.

The United Parcel Service, commonly referred to as UPS, operates in over 200 countries and territories, with 500,000 employees globally, including nearly 7,000 in the state of Minnesota. Each day, 22.3 million packages and documents make their way through the UPS network.

Hockey players thrive under pressure, rely on their teammates, and appreciate the rewards of hard work, dedication, focus and discipline. Brian, a fellow ice hockey player and fan, embodies the hockey ethic.

Brian began his career in 1990 as an investment banker working for PaineWebber in New York City. He then spent 26 years with PepsiCo and served in a variety of finance leadership roles spanning Europe, Asia, and North and South America. He also served as Executive Vice-President for PepsiCo's Global Operations and as Chief Strategy Officer.

During his five-year tenure as UPS's Chief Financial Officer, Brian navigated the company

through some challenging situations. Under his leadership, Brian delivered results that supported employees, customers and communities. His list of accomplishments during just five years with UPS is impactful, and his leadership through the COVID-19 pandemic cannot be overstated. He has left an indelible mark on UPS's people.

Brian is an effective executive and financial expert, always ensuring his people, investors and shareholders understand the complexities of UPS's financial standing. He is a trusted advisor to his peers, a leader for UPS employees around the world, and a member of UPS's executive leadership team. Brian embodies UPS's purpose statement of moving our world forward by delivering what matters.

Brian also serves on the board of Colgate-Palmolive as well as his alma mater, Georgetown University and Delbarton School. A native of New Jersey, he still considers the tri-state area his home.

I know Brian will be missed by all who had the opportunity to work with him throughout his impressive career. His positive impact on UPS will continue to be felt for years to come. We all wish Brian, his wife, Lynne, and their children, Kendall, Shay, Conor and Finley, the best as they begin the journey ahead of them.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THERESA M. CLAIBORNE, THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE PILOT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. JENNIFER L. McCLELLAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lt. Colonel Theresa M. Claiborne, who was the first African American female pilot in the United States Air Force. Aside from her many accomplishments, Claiborne is flying her last commercial flight this month.

Captain Claiborne was born on May 25, 1959, to Wayne Morris, Sr. and Dorothy Claiborne in Emporia, Virginia. She attended California State University, Sacramento, where she earned a degree in Communication, Culture, and Media in 1981. Claiborne completed the University of California-Berkeley Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) program and was commissioned as a United States Air Force second lieutenant on June 20, 1981.

Following the completion of pilot training at Laughlin Air Force Base in Texas, Lt. Claiborne graduated as the first African American female pilot in the United States Air Force on September 16, 1982. During Claiborne's active-duty years, she rose in rank to Captain and served as a KC 135 pilot at Loring Air Force Base, Maine. Captain Claiborne credits the Tuskegee Airmen as dutiful servicemen who paved the way for her and the Black women and men to follow.

After 9 years of dedicated service, Captain Claiborne retired from active-duty service and joined the United States Air Force Reserves as a flight commander and an instructor pilot, becoming a Lieutenant Colonel in November 2001.

Concurrently, after leaving active-duty service, Captain Claiborne joined United Airlines

as a flight engineer, working her way up to the rank of captain. She remained one of only 15 Black female pilots at United Airlines until 2019.

On January 6, 2003, Lt. Colonel Claiborne retired from the U.S. Air Force Reserves but maintained her position as Captain with United Airlines, accumulating over 15,000 civilian flying hours.

However, Lt. Colonel Claiborne's service did not stop there. In 2016, she co-founded the Sister of the Skies with pilots Christine Angel Hughes and Nia Wordlaw, with the mission of supporting and building a diverse aviation workforce by offering workshops, mentorships, and scholarships.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Lt. Colonel Claiborne for her more than 20 years of service to our armed forces and for paving the way for a new generation of Black female pilots.

HONORING MARY YVONNE MYERS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mary Yvonne Myers, a beloved wife, mother, and grandmother, and cherished Oakland community member. She was born on October 29, 1937, in Hattiesburg, Mississippi as the eldest child to parents James Calvin and Nancy Stewart Slaughter. Mary, later known as 'Yvonne' moved from Mississippi to San Diego, California in 1953 with her family. Her family flourished in their business ventures and elite social circles in California. In San Diego, Yvonne was mentored by her Aunt Mae, who was part of a group of African American entrepreneurs and community leaders in the area.

After completing her high school education at San Diego High School, Yvonne and her family moved to Northern California in 1959. Yvonne began a fellowship with the Faith Chapel Church of God in Christ, where she met Minister Levi Young. They were married in August of 1961, and had three wonderful children together, along with Levi's son from a previous union. Through this marriage, Yvonne developed a love for ministry as she walked in the office of First Lady of the Revelation Church of God in Christ. Under the leadership of her husband and pastor she was licensed as a Missionary in the Church of God in Christ, and as the First Lady, Yvonne mentored many young women as they began their Christian journey. As the Executive Administrator of Charles Harrison Mason Bible College, Yvonne ensured that students were successful in their quest to get a deeper understanding of the Word of God. In the late 70s, Yvonne and Levi amicably took separate directions in life, dissolving their union.

Yvonne remained very involved in Christian churches and continued to mentor young women in the church. In the late 1980s, Yvonne met the love of her life Reverend Clayton Myers, Jr. In July of 1989 the two were united in holy matrimony, a match truly made in heaven. Together, they led the auxiliary ministry of Evergreen's senior living facility, The JL Richards Terrace.

Later, Yvonne returned to the Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church, and served in a variety of ministry positions: Usher, Missionary, Hospitality, Greeter, Sunday School Department, and more. She used her positions to help children in the community, leading the 'Kids Closet', which aimed to ensure that all children had adequate clothing and basic supplies. Her passion and support for children continued outside of the church, as she used the office of PTA President to bring about many changes for students and families at Washington Elementary School.

She continued her involvement in the Oakland community, serving as Commissioner of the Parks and Recreation Commission, championing many efforts to preserve the historic Children's Fairyland. She also worked on the Oakland Parental Education Program (P.E.P.), where Yvonne and her team trained parents through extensive workshops and training

courses. She later returned to schools as the on-site Parent Coordinator for Peralta Elementary School, where she created Black History programs and led holiday donation drives. Yvonne considered the programs she implemented for kids and parents over her life to be her greatest accomplishments.

Mary Yvonne Myers was thankful for her opportunity to hold leadership within her community. She was thankful for her family, and for the many roles God entrusted her with, including wife, mother, friend, and cousin. Yvonne Myers was the Matriarch of her family, and was proud of the accomplishments of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, who she considered "future world changers". As the Matriarch, she was often fondly referred to as the "Queen." She became popular on social media in her later years and ending her videos with "Peace Out" was her signature.

With family by her side, The Queen gave her final "Peace Out" on December 11, 2023, at 5:05 p.m. Her presence will be missed but her spirit and influence will live on for generations to come.

She is survived by sons Donald Scotty Young, Kenny (Kelly) Young, daughter Regina (Kelvin) Alexander, grandchildren Charles (Shane) Young, Andre Young, Brittney Young, Kelvin (Rochelle) Alexander, Keena Young, Rochad Young, Korey Alexander, Shaun Young, Demarcus (Shannon) Young, Dominik Young, one godson Antoine (Charisse) Jones. Fourteen great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren, first cousins Rev. Dr. Clyde Oden, Jr., Dr. Robert Stanley Oden, Douglas Oden, Esq, Barbara Ann Slaughter, Fredrika Slaughter-Newton and a host of other cousins and friends.