

HONORING MARSHALL'S MUSIC
AND BOOK STORE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the oldest Black-owned bookstore in the Nation, Marshall's Music and Book Store.

Jackson, Mississippi, is home to the oldest Black-owned bookstore in North America. Marshall's Music and Book Store in the heart of downtown Jackson is a family business that opened in 1938.

The quaint store on the almost empty Farish Street has shelves stacked high with books, music, and everything in between. The walls are also plastered with photos of unsung African American heroes with roots in Mississippi.

Pastor Louis Wilcher of the Greater Pearl River Missionary Baptist Church first opened the store 85 years ago on the corner of Farish and Oakley streets. Now, Primm is the third-generation owner of the store. She believes in teaching people about the past, saying that Black history didn't begin with slavery.

Her newfound hope now lies in opening a school. Primm believes that the way to stop the surge of violent youth crime is to teach children about hope.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Marshall's Music and Book Store for its longevity and dedication to serving the community.

RECOGNIZING THE LOSS OF A
GREAT COMMUNITY LEADER
AND OUTSTANDING LIFE OF
SGT. STEPHEN BURDICK
"STEVE" HAND

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an outstanding gentleman and blessing to the City of New Orleans, Sgt. Stephen Burdick "Steve" Hand. He was born in Bronxville, New York on July 21, 1941, to Faith Seiple Hand and Edward Sayer Hand, Sr. and grew up in Scarsdale, New York. Mr. Hand was deeply committed to our beloved city. He served as a leader in the initiative to preserve and restore New Orleans through his work at the Vieux Carré Commission, and the French Market Corp during the 1980s and 1990s. After living a full life dedicated to serving others, Steve (82 years old) passed away on January 8, 2024.

Steve was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1963. His training took place in Fort Benning, Georgia, with the 17th Artillery 2nd Infantry Division under Battery C 7th Battalion ("Garry Owen"). He served one tour of duty in 1965 to Vietnam in which he was stationed at An Khe with the 3rd Brigade 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). Mr. Hand earned the title of Sergeant before being honorably discharged from the Army.

Upon returning to the United States, Steve returned to his studies and ultimately graduated from Bowdoin College in Brunswick,

Maine with a bachelor's degree in economics. After graduating, Steve began his career, working in Communications and Public Service. He fondly reflected on his experience working on Capitol Hill as a Legislative Assistant and Press Secretary to Senators Winston L. Prouty of Vermont and Edward Brooke of Massachusetts, the first popularly elected Black senator. He went on to earn a master's degree in Landscape Architecture at LSU in 1982, where he developed an appreciation for the state of Louisiana and the Gulf Coast. At LSU, he wrote his thesis, about the historical, cultural, and political influences that have contributed to the development of the gardens and courtyards within the French Quarter. This thesis was instrumental in his future experiences in New Orleans, where he was dedicated to preserving, enriching, and educating others about the local landscaping and architecture that makes our city so special.

As a hardworking and dedicated Director of the Vieux Carré Commission, Steve used his expertise in the French Quarter's architectural landscape to preserve the historical and cultural character of New Orleans's oldest neighborhoods. Among his many accomplishments in this role, Steve was able to have the golden equestrian statue of Joan of Arc, relocated at Place de France. Additionally, he worked tirelessly alongside the City Council and Mayor's office to ensure that the integrity of this neighborhood and the needs of its residents were protected, pioneering an effort to keep the French Quarter safe and clean. Mr. Hand also served the New Orleans community as the Executive Director of the French Market Corp. in 1994, through which he supported the effort to revitalize and renovate the French Market, leading this historical landmark to flourish in our city's economy.

Steve Hand's legacy will continue to live on through the spirit of this city, which he loved so dearly. It will live on through all of the people, the long-lasting friendships that he made and cultivated, and those whose lives he touched around the Nation. Most importantly, Steve Hand's legacy will live on through his dear, loving family: Bear, his goldendoodle; his brother Edward S. Hand and sister-in-law Susan O. Hand; three nieces Samantha Fratus, Lindsley Rice, and Bailey Jeffrey and their families around the world. Stephen Burdick Hand is an inspiration to all those who dedicate their lives to serving their community. I, too, hope to carry his legacy with me as I continue to serve the people of Louisiana.

HONORING NORTH RICHLAND
HILLS MAYOR OSCAR TREVINO

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Oscar Trevino as he retires as Mayor of the City of North Richland Hills. In doing so, he concludes a total of 25 years of dedicated public service as a member of the NRH Council, 22 years of which he led the City as Mayor. He steps down as the longest-serving Mayor in the history of North Richland Hills.

Privately, Mr. Trevino was the owner of O. Trevino Construction, having graduated from

Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1979. Mr. Trevino was first elected to the NRH City Council in May, 1999, and resigned during his second term after being elected Mayor in June 2002. During this time he not only served as a City official and business owner, but also engaged actively with a number of Local, State and National organizations. These included active board leadership positions with the National League of Cities; the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO); the Tarrant Regional Transportation Council (TRTC); Tarrant County Mayors Council; the Regional Transportation Council (RTC); Partners in Mobility; North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG); the Coalition for Better Transportation; Regional Transit Initiative Committee; Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) Advisory Council; North Texas Commission; TEX-21 Committee; North Texas Super Bowl XLV Host Committee Council of Mayors; Birdville ISD Foundation of Education; Medical City North Hills Board; Northeast Leadership Forum; and the Northeast Tarrant Chamber of Commerce, to name but only a few.

Utilizing his considerable organizational and public skills as Mayor, residents of not only North Richland Hills, but from across the North Texas region as well, benefitted greatly from his educational background and the experience and connections he earned as a successful heavy-highway contractor. Awards including the NCTCOG William J. Pitstick Regional Excellence Award, the FWHCC Businessman of the Year and John V. McMillan Hall of Fame Award, and the Excalibur Award from the NE Tarrant Chamber are a sampling of the acknowledgement he received from his peers for his well-regarded impact.

As the 3rd largest municipality in Tarrant County, North Richland Hills grew from 55,000 to over 70,000 during Mayor Trevino's terms in office. Supporting this growth, Mayor Trevino worked to ensure adequate infrastructure, including over \$100 million on the city's streets. He also sought to build strong regional partnerships to increase mobility through highway improvements and the addition of TEXRail as legacies to benefit the community for generations.

Leading the Council and staff as stewards of public funds, Mayor Trevino sought to invest in high-quality services, with a sensitivity of the tax burden for senior citizens and homeowners. Investments in parks, equipment and staff were made to ensure the needs of the City's expanding population were met. Significant updates to aging facilities accomplished during his tenure included a new City Hall as well as new fire and police stations, expanding and equipping the City's professional responders with the best training and tools available to ensure safety and security remained a hallmark in support of NRH's quality of life. Additionally, a modern library, recreation center, animal shelter and senior center were also completed, along with improvements to Iron Horse Golf Course and NRH20 Family Water Park. These facilities provided citizens with community amenities that have allowed the City to provide unique recreation programs and host numerous annual special events. As investments, they also supported NRH with an identity as a desired destination location to support the Nation's second Peppa Pig Theme Park.

These improvements also supported economic efforts within the City to reduce the retail vacancy rate to 6.3 percent, the lowest since his early days on council. This was a significant accomplishment in spite of significant challenges including the pandemic and recessions. The achievement was accomplished by focusing not only on the newly developed neighborhoods, but also including the City's historic areas to redevelop park areas and infrastructure to keep the areas vibrant. The economic vitality is evidenced with the additions of Babe's, Sweetie Pie's, Patriotic Pig, Floor & Décor, Winco, Platinum Music Complex, Painted Tree, Gritr Sports, Seconds & Surplus, Warespace, Truby Hilton Hotel and the development of Volli Entertainment. These private investments only foreshadow the potential of the former mall property redevelopment as new businesses and a Homewood Suites by Hilton are developed around the City's new City Hall.

As the Mayor steps down from his duties, I am proud of all he has accomplished for his beloved City and for the region that has been blessed with his public leadership and service. I have appreciated his wisdom and insight on many occasions and I will personally miss his counsel and friendship. However, I also understand the sacrifice public service requires of family. I wish Mayor Trevino a long retirement with his wife Carol, his children and his granddaughter Reis, to make-up for the time lost as he served. The City, our region and our State are all better as a result of his service.

HONORING GREATER HINDS
STREET MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pillar of the community, Greater Hinds Street Missionary Baptist Church. Greater Hinds Street Missionary Baptist Church has served as a catalyst for the African-American growth in Washington County and the State of Mississippi.

The history and purpose of the Greater Hinds Street Missionary Baptist Church is to participate and promote the Kingdom of God through Jesus Christ in evangelism, discipleship, Christian education, missions, ministries, social service, and any other objective that the church may consider to be appropriate and desirable.

The Greater Hinds Street Missionary Baptist Church was established in 1911 when a group of members chose to leave First Baptist Church, located in Greenville, Mississippi, and start anew. Namely, Deacon John Gray, Deacon John Collins, Deacon Robert Moore, and his wife, Sister C.L. Bean, who were all members of Penthian Hall, begin to hold church meetings in the association's building, located on Cately and Nelson Streets. They eventually moved to 502 Nelson Street, currently known as Doe's Eat Place. In January 1926, "Hinds Street" was founded at its present site under the late Rev. Lynke Williams.

In 1954, Hinds Street underwent a new look with new restorations and 1955 became a new dawning for the Church. A new pastor was

elected, Rev. E.D. Simpson, and a massive renovation took place. The renovation led to a desire to rename the church. Henceforth, it became known as the Greater Hinds Street Missionary Baptist Church.

In 1994, the Church committed to continuous improvement of the building. As improvements were made, the church also elected Youth Pastor, Rev. Cedric Reed. Sadly, the year brought the end of era. Rev. E.D. Simpson passed away in October 1994, thus bringing an end to the longest tenured Pastorate of the church.

In March 1995, Rev. Thomas Morris, Sr. became the Pastor. Then, Mr. Frank Seid and married couple, Napoleon and Maurice Thomas, donated property to the church for expansion. Throughout the years, the Church purchased several portions of land in the surrounding neighborhood. In October, the Hinds Street Baptist Church Community Development Corporation was established.

In 1997, the church acquired additional property at 434 Hinds Street. In 1999, Mr. George Lynch generously donated property at the corner of Hinds and Alexander Streets to the church.

In March 2002, the church broke ground for the Greater Hinds Street Church Family Life Center.

In the fall of 2012, the church purchased a small 4-unit apartment complex and a vacant lot across the street, aiming to renew the building for future use and benefit to the church and community. A community garden has since been established on the vacant lot.

In 2013, renovations began to update both the Church and the Family Life Center. This effort, aimed at reinforcing the unity of the church and its facilities, supported spiritual growth and community service.

Countless individuals have been baptized and converted to Jesus Christ for the forgiveness and remission of sin. The church's history is storied with decades long service and contributions by numerous members and friends, who are God-fearing and God-loving, both named and unnamed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Greater Hinds Street Missionary Baptist Church for its rich heritage and dedication to serving others and giving back to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY FEENSTRA

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on H. Res. 1215. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 233.

CELEBRATING SAGE ELDERCARE'S
70TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my warmest congratula-

tions to SAGE Eldercare on its 70th Anniversary.

I am truly grateful to be celebrating this monumental milestone with you all. Over the past 70 years, SAGE Eldercare has made a deep impact on the lives of older adults in our community. Through delivering meals, restoring family heirlooms, providing companionship, and much more volunteers provide the support for older adults to live the most independent and active lives possible. I am proud to have such dedicated volunteers and organizations committed to helping people in our community within the 7th Congressional District.

I look forward to watching them all flourish in the coming decades. I wish SAGE Eldercare a wonderful anniversary. May their next 70 years be filled with as much success as this one.

RETIREMENT OF COLONEL JOY
LYNN ALEXANDER

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to honor the incredible career of Joy Lynn Alexander, who recently retired as a Colonel after thirty years of dedicated service in the military. Colonel Alexander is a highly decorated officer who rose through the ranks of the Mississippi National Guard, eventually becoming the Commander of Camp McCain Training Site.

Throughout her career, Colonel Alexander completed all the necessary professional military education courses, including the U.S. Army War College. Her numerous awards include the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star Medal. She served in various roles, from tactical to strategic positions, and even completed a combat tour in Iraq in 2009 through 2010, where I had the honor of serving alongside her.

Colonel Alexander spent countless days, weeks, months, and years traveling across Mississippi, the United States, and the world to support and lead critical missions. Her dedication and hard work have taken her to many places, all in service to our country and state.

As one of the most influential leaders in the Army, Colonel Alexander always maintained the highest standards, even during some of the most challenging times in history. She is a true American hero and a proud Mississippian. We are deeply grateful for her unwavering commitment to our country and to Mississippi. Her legacy of service and leadership will continue to inspire us all.

HONORING JIMMY WILLIAMS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedicated efforts of JW Cleaning & Maintenance, owned, and operated by Jimmy Williams. A true entrepreneur, an enthusiastic and self-motivated business owner from Cleveland, Mississippi.