

deployments, throughout his career. He concluded his career as the senior military officer assigned to the new Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) at the Department of Homeland Security. Handpicked by the Department of Defense during the initial creation of CISA by President Trump, Colonel Cushing led critical interagency coordination of national cybersecurity plans. During COVID, he led collaboration efforts between agencies, ensuring smooth flow of information, and informed vaccine distribution decisions. Colonel Cushing was the Commander of the Cyber Coordination Element for the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security for historic President of the United States elections in 2020, laying the groundwork for successful elections protection. His talent and impact moved us years ahead in mission assurance, intelligence exchange, and cyber teaming.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Colonel Cushing's outstanding service. May God bless Kenny in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BIG OAK BOYS' RANCH

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 50th anniversary of Big Oak Boys' Ranch in Gadsden, Alabama.

John Croyle founded Big Oak Boys' Ranch after working at a summer camp and meeting a little boy from New Orleans, Louisiana. The child's mother was a prostitute, and he was the banker and timekeeper for his mother. John ministered to this child about Christianity, and the following summer, the child shared with John how Jesus had changed his life. John knew his calling was to help children.

The Big Oak Boys' Ranch is known as a Christian home for children needing a chance, and it has certainly fulfilled its mission since opening in 1974. The Ranch has met the needs of over 2,000 children—giving them a Christian home and a chance to fulfill God's plan for their lives.

The Ranch started off as a single farmhouse serving five boys to seven ministry teams advancing the mission nation-wide. The Ranch follows these four promises: We love you, we will never lie to you, we will stick with you until you are grown and there are boundaries. The children find love, support, security and discipline within the promises.

A celebration will be held on Sunday, July 28th at the Big Oak Boys' Ranch to mark the 50th anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing this milestone for the Big Oak Boys' Ranch and thanking John for his tireless dedication to these children.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF MR. ALVIN IVY

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the retirement of Mr. Alvin Ivy of Trebloc, Mississippi. Ivy graduated from Houston High School in 1991. He attended Mississippi State University in 1995, where he enrolled in "Introduction to Broadcast."

For over two decades, Alvin Ivy has been an integral part of WTVA, skillfully capturing the essence of local life through his camera lens. From documenting school events and community festivals, to bravely facing severe weather, his commitment to visual storytelling is unparalleled.

Mr. Ivy has received many awards, including three Emmys, two of which he won this year for weather-related coverage. The first Emmy Ivy won was for the weathercast category in 2022 for the coverage of a 2021 tornado in Tupelo. The latest honors came during the 2024 Southeast Emmy Awards in the weathercast category, for the EF-3 tornado that hit Wren, Amory and Smithville in March 2023, and another for Weather News, for an interview series titled "Out of the Darkness," featuring interviews with a Wren woman who survived the tornado, but lost her husband and youngest daughter.

Beyond his professional achievements, Alvin Ivy remains deeply connected to his roots in Houston and Chickasaw County, using his platform to spotlight local events and issues that might otherwise go unnoticed.

In recognition of his exceptional career and steadfast dedication to our community, let us celebrate Alvin Ivy's achievements and contributions to the state of Mississippi.

HONORING TAMLA HUGHES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable servant, Tamla Hughes.

On April 20th Tamla was chosen as a state finalist for the 2024 Teacher of the Year award.

Tamla Hughes teaches 10th through 12th grade English. She is the president of the Zeta Delta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Sorority and is a very active teacher and parent of the Natchez Adams School District.

With hard work and dedication, her philosophy is "As a teacher, I may not be able to change the world but if I can reach one child, perhaps that child can."

Natchez High has never had a Teacher of the Year from Natchez Adams School District advance to the next level.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Tamla Hughes for her actions and achievements in the Natchez, MS community.

HONORING MR. RAY W. WRIGHT

HON. BLAKE D. MOORE

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity to honor the exceptional life and service of my constituent, Mr. Ray W. Wright, as he celebrates his 100th birthday. Mr. Wright has not only witnessed a century of history but has actively shaped it through his dedicated service to our nation during World War II and his continued contributions to our community.

While America was embroiled in the middle of war on multiple continents, Mr. Wright took the opportunity to serve his country and joined the Army Air Corps in June of 1943. A month later, his basic training was cut short when he and his fellow soldiers embarked from New York Harbor in July of 1943, evading German U-boats as they crossed the Atlantic to arrive in Scotland.

After being assigned to Burtonwood Air Base Depot No. 3 near Warrington, England, Mr. Wright began operations repairing incoming B-17 and B-25 bomber aircraft.

Specializing in engine repair, Mr. Wright and the repair teams kept allied aircraft running even as the enemy forces fired CV-2 Rockets and ran Buzz Bomb Raids throughout the United Kingdom. Thanks to their efforts the war ended, and Mr. Wright was reassigned to the 325th Troop Carrier Squadron and rebased to Ansbach, Germany to maintain C-47 aircraft.

Following his service, Mr. Wright returned to civilian life but remained committed to his fellow veterans and his community. He became actively involved in the American Legion, where he dedicated his time and energy to advocating for veterans' rights and supporting initiatives to improve the lives of those who served.

Today, as we celebrate Ray W. Wright's 100th birthday, we reflect not only on his remarkable achievements but also on the profound impact he has had on our Nation and the world. His life is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the enduring power of service to others. As we honor Mr. Wright, let us also reaffirm our commitment to upholding the values for which he and his fellow veterans protected for us all.

HONORING REV. JAMES D. TINDALL AND HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride and respect to honor Bishop James Dennis Tindall, Sr. for his decades of service and advocacy to the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri. On July 16th, Bishop Tindall will be honored for his dedication to the community at the 99th Convention of the Metropolitan Spiritual Churches of Christ, Incorporated. As we celebrate Bishop Tindall, let us be continuously inspired by his incredible devotion to his work and his fellow humans.

Bishop Tindall, son of Lottie and Wallace Tindell, was born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri. A graduate of the local Manual High School, Bishop Tindall furthered his education and deepened his religious understanding at the University of Missouri Kansas City, Carver Baptist Bible College, Western Baptist Bible College, Columbia School of Broadcasting, and the KPRS School of Broadcasting. His knowledge and expertise have allowed him to become such an influential beacon of Kansas City's Christian community. The church has always been a part of Bishop Tindall's life, from being a member of the Highland Baptist Church to taking on important leadership roles in international church communities. At the young age of 16, Bishop Tindall joined the church he would later serve as their Presiding Prelate—the Metropolitan Spiritual Church of Christ, as a choir singer. As Bishop Tindall grew older, he served as Superintendent of the church's Sunday School and on the church's Trustee Board, sharing his gifts with the diverse members of the community.

The Metropolitan Spiritual Church of Christ, founded in Kansas City almost 100 years ago in 1925, is one of the landmarks of the Black Spiritual Movement. The church has long stood as a space to support and elevate members of marginalized groups. At the time, while other churches and the laws of this nation excluded countless people, the MSCC opened its doors to women and the LGBTQ+ community to make meaningful contributions to the development of the religious community. The church soon expanded past its Kansas City home and now boasts churches across the United States, Jamaica and even Ghana. Bishop Tindall's hard work and dedication to fulfilling the needs of his community was recognized in 1976, when he was officially ordained and appointed as Pastor for the Metropolitan Spiritual Church of Christ. After a mere two months, he was promoted to be the church's permanent pastor. Bishop Tindall's excellence and service catapulted him to higher leadership positions within the church. He was not only appointed to be Chairman of the Board of Directors of the MSCC but was also elevated to the position of Bishop. In 2009, he officially became the International Presiding Prelate of the Church, representing the Church's everlasting values on a global scale, and after 42 years of service to the Church, he became Pastor Emeritus. Throughout his numerous roles in the Church, Bishop Tindall has never wavered in his relentless service to God and God's creations.

The church is not the only place where Bishop Tindall exemplifies his passion for helping others. Bishop Tindall has served on the Jackson County Governing Board and as a County Legislator, advocating for the rights of community members through his involvement as Chair of the Justice & Law Committee and as a member of the Anti-Drug and Health & Environment Committees. In addition to over two decades of service in local government, Bishop Tindall is also the founder and President of the Urban Summit of Kansas City, a group dedicated to the advancement and advocacy of the city's urban community. Under Bishop Tindall's leadership, the Urban Summit has held weekly meetings with community members, fought for the urban core to play a role in city development, and uplifted countless people by providing them with a voice in their local government and beyond.

I cannot think of a more qualified recipient of this recognition than Bishop Tindall. As both his elected representative and fellow religious leader, I am incredibly honored to thank Bishop Tindall for his lifetime of devotion to God and his community. His work calls to mind Matthew 5:16—"Your light must shine before people in such a way that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." May Bishop Tindall's light continue to shine bright among the members of the Metropolitan Spiritual Church of Christ and the people of Kansas City, and may he continue to inspire and illuminate us all.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT JEFFREY NEAL SECRIST ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

HON. JAY OBERNOLTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sergeant Jeffrey Neal Secrist's twenty-seven years of tireless work as a law enforcement officer and retirement from the California Highway Patrol (CHP).

Sergeant Secrist has proudly served our home state of California for nearly thirty years. After beginning his training with the CHP Academy on March 24, 1997, Officer Secrist graduated on September 17, 1997, and was proud to continue his family's tradition of service when he accepted his assignment to the Baldwin Park area. He was soon chosen as a Field Training Officer and was assigned to train new officers reporting to the office for their first duty assignment.

After serving in the High Desert for over twenty years, Officer Secrist was promoted to Sergeant and was reassigned to Santa Fe Springs. Despite working in an extremely challenging and busy area, he made time to coach and mentor young officers on topics like proper report writing, investigating crime, and making the most of a successful career with the CHP.

Sergeant Secrist's service to California would not have been possible without the support of his family. His wife of nearly forty years, Gretchen, his four children, Austin, Lyndy, Jessica, and Emeline, and seven grandchildren have been instrumental in supporting his work for California. Sergeant Secrist's family and decades of service in law enforcement represents the best of what our district stands for, and Heather and I thank them for their dedication to our community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his selfless service to California, in commending him for his steadfast dedication to our community, and in wishing him many years of joy and peace in his well-earned retirement with friends and family.

HONORING MR. D'S OLD COUNTRY STORE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a 140-year-old building in Lorman, MS, that is a restaurant that serves some of the best fried chicken in America.

The Old Country Store Restaurant, known as Mr. D's, who is the owner and operator, is a charming and rustic restaurant, nestled in the rolling hills of Hwy 61. Offering a unique heartwarming dining experience, the restaurant is known for its Southern cuisine, featuring classic comfort food like fried chicken, cornbread, collard greens, sweet potato pie, and a serenade at your table by Mr. D, himself, especially if dining with a woman. He just likes to cut up and have a good time.

Giving you the Old Country Store vibe, the ambiance is inviting, with the wooden floors, vintage décor, and cozy, welcoming atmosphere. Whether a local or a tourist passing through, the Old Country Store Restaurant is not only a place to fill your appetite, but also a place that gives you that rich history and traditions of the south. It's a must-visit for anyone seeking a true Southern culinary and cultural experience in the heart of Mississippi.

"It was my grandmother's recipe," he said. Davis, originally from Florida, bought the building after spotting it when dropping off his sons at nearby Alcorn State University. Starting off, Mr. Davis held social events for the college students there on Thursday Nights. He then decided to turn the store into a restaurant and opened in December 1999.

Restaurant tables are surrounded by the store-shelves and shelves of all kinds of antique items you can think of, as well as business cards pinned to the shelves from years of visitors. Visitors such as Oprah Winfrey, Matthew McConaughey, and many Mississippi governors have professed their love of the chicken following their visits.

Mr. D's Fried Chicken has been featured in numerous media outlets, including New York Times, The Food Network, Southern Living and more. He has also been featured in numerous local and regional media outlets, including newspapers and magazines.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. D's Old Country Store, home of the best friend chicken in America, located right here in Lorman, MS, in the 2nd Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING FIRE CAPTAIN DANIEL MAIRONIS

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize Fire Captain Daniel Maironis for his twenty-two years of service with the Dearborn Fire Department in Michigan's 12th District Strong.

Fire Captain Maironis got his start in public service in 2002. After only one year of service,