

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MRS. EVELYN
BENNETT GUILÉ

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2025

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the extraordinary life of Evelyn Bennett Guile. Mrs. Guile transitioned on March 23, 2025, at the remarkable age of 107 years. Her life is a testament to resilience, dedication, and service to her family, church, and community.

Born on February 11, 1918, in Florence County, South Carolina, Evelyn was the middle child among five brothers and one sister. She grew up between South Carolina and Pennsylvania, attending both integrated and segregated schools before graduating from Wilson High School in 1936. These experiences shaped her lifelong passion for education and equality.

Ms. Bennett Guile was a devoted wife to Earl Ernest Guile for 44 years until his passing in 1980. Together, they raised two children, Georgia Guile Montgomery of Orangeburg, South Carolina, and Dr. Ernest Earl Guile, Jr., of Portland, Oregon. She is the proud matriarch of a large family, including grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

A lifelong member of Mount Zion AME Church, Mrs. Guile was active in church organizations, including the Stewardess Board and the Lay Organization. She used her talents as a seamstress to craft altar coverings and refurbished a meeting room dedicated to her late husband, who served as Sunday School superintendent for 30 years.

Evelyn's entrepreneurial spirit led her to establish the first sewing shop in Florence, South Carolina, serving a diverse clientele despite segregation. For over 50 years, she provided dressmaking services before teaching sewing classes. Her artistic talents extended to clothing and hat design, ceramics, painting, and China painting, which she embraced at age 60.

Alongside her husband, then-president of the Florence NAACP, she fought tirelessly for justice and equality. Despite threats, the Guiles opened their home to Civil Rights leaders such as Thurgood Marshall and Benjamin E. Mays, working to dismantle segregation in South Carolina.

Mrs. Bennett Guile remained vibrant and engaged throughout her life, attributing her longevity to exercise, a healthy diet, and mental stimulation. She lived independently until age 103 and continued to embrace lifelong learning. A world traveler, Evelyn visited all seven continents and explored the U.S. in her Air-stream camper. One of her most cherished experiences was driving over 6,000 miles across Africa, reconnecting with her ancestral homeland.

Even in her later years, she continued to inspire others with her wisdom and kindness.

She often reminded those around her to “follow your dreams,” a sentiment that perfectly encapsulates the way she lived her life—with purpose, passion, and a commitment to uplifting others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in honoring the extraordinary life and legacy of Evelyn Bennett Guile. May her remarkable journey continue to inspire generations to come, and may we carry forward the values she held dear.

REMEMBERING DR. SAMPAT
SHIVANGI

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2025

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and remember one of Mississippi's longstanding members of the Mississippi State Board of Mental Health, Dr. Sampat Shivangi. As a pioneering Indian-American physician, community leader, and advocate, Dr. Shivangi exemplifies resilience, vision, and an enduring legacy of dedication to healthcare. Over the course of his career, he was defined by a commitment to medicine, public health, and Indo-U.S. relations. His career was defined by a commitment to both medicine and public service.

Born in Athani, Karnataka, India, Dr. Shivangi's humble beginnings gave him a unique voice to those in the medical world who sought his expertise. He earned his MBBS from Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, and later his MD and DGO from Karnataka Medical College, Hubli. In 1976, he immigrated to the United States. During his time in the United States, he established himself as a prominent physician and a leader within the Indian-American community rising to serve as an advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services from 2005 to 2008, where he advocated for healthcare policies that benefited marginalized communities.

For his work across the world and my home state of Mississippi, Dr. Shivangi has been honored with various awards. He received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and the Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas Sanman Award, and was named the Indian American Republican Committee Person of the Year for his political and community leadership in 2017. Additionally, as the past president-elect of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin, he helped shape the trajectory of Indian-American healthcare advocacy in the United States.

Dr. Shivangi was committed to serving the people around him and was instrumental in charitable giving to promote quality healthcare. He created the Dr. Sampat Shivangi Charitable Foundation to establish, promote, and provide the needy with opportunities to access quality education, promote mental health awareness, ensure healthcare equity, support tribal communities in their holistic develop-

ment, empower women to break barriers, and leverage sports as a catalyst for positive change.

His philanthropic vision took concrete form with the inauguration of the Dr. Sampat Kumar S. Shivangi Cancer Hospital in Belagavi, Karnataka. This hospital stands as a testament to Dr. Shivangi's unwavering commitment to improving healthcare access in underserved regions. Even in the final months of his life, Dr. Shivangi remained active in both India and the United States. On January 10, 2025, he participated in the naming ceremony of an English-medium school called Dr. Sampat Kumar Sidramappa Shivangi—Athani Vidyavardhak Sounsthe, demonstrating his dedication to advancing education in his birthplace.

I am honored to have had the opportunity to know Dr. Shivangi and to have the opportunity to recognize his commitment to the medical profession, mental health in Mississippi, and the betterment of people across the United States and India. Dr. Shivangi will be missed, and his contributions will not be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING BRAIN AWARENESS
WEEK

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to announce that March 10th through March 16th marked Brain Awareness Week. The Brain Awareness Campaign is a worldwide celebration of the brain that brings together scientists, families, schools, and communities. Brain Awareness Week is the culmination of these efforts and is celebrated throughout the United States and in many parts of the world.

This global celebration, launched by The Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives in 1996, and supported by partners like the Society for Neuroscience, presents an opportunity to bring attention to the significant advances in brain science and advocate for science funding. Brain Awareness Week provides opportunities to learn more about the brain and educate the public on the importance of continued research.

As co-chair of the Congressional Neuroscience Caucus, I am proud of the crucial neuroscience work being conducted in the United States, including in my district at the University of California, Davis and the California National Primate Research Center where I visited the lab of Dr. John Morrison, current President of the Society for Neuroscience, and learned more about his research into Alzheimer's disease.

It is essential that we keep supporting neuroscience research to enable world-class researchers to continue their vital work on a wide range of conditions, including Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, autism spectrum

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disorders, depression, and addiction. Events like Brain Awareness Week helps every American understand how important this research is.

HONORING COMMISSIONER
HEATHER EDELSON

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2025

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend congratulations and to recognize the continued leadership of Heather Edelson, who was elected in 2024 as the Hennepin County Commissioner for District 6, after serving in the Minnesota House of Representatives for six years.

Ms. Edelson was raised in North and Northeast Minneapolis and attended grade school in Columbia Heights. She was the first person in her family to graduate from college and went on to earn a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Minnesota. Prior to representing the constituents of Minnesota's District 50A, Ms. Edelson worked as a clinical outpatient mental health therapist. From a young age, she was taught by her grandfather, "that doing the right thing is not a question, it's the only answer." This sentiment led to her passion for service.

During her three terms as a State Representative, Ms. Edelson was committed to making a positive impact on the lives of her constituents by advancing policies that improved their quality of life. She has been a champion for disability rights, senior rights, the education system, environmental issues, as well as mental health and public safety. She served on multiple committees, including Education Finance, Human Services Policy, and Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy.

Growing up, her family depended on services provided by the county, so she deeply understands the important role she now plays as one of seven Commissioners on the Hennepin County Board.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to honor Ms. Heather Edelson and her commitment to public service. Our community is fortunate to have a leader like Commissioner Edelson, and I look forward to working with her in her new role to make our communities a better place to work and live.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT AND
SERVICE OF JON RILEY

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2025

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Jon Riley as he retires from his long and distinguished tenure with the Napa-Solano Central Labor Council (AFL-CIO). Throughout his career, Mr. Riley has been a tireless champion for the rights of working people, dedicating his time, energy, and passion to improving the lives of those he served.

Mr. Riley began his 40-year career of service as a firefighter with the Vallejo Fire Depart-

ment, where he served as Vice President Emeritus of Firefighters Local No. 1186. Mr. Riley fought to protect the communities of Vallejo and served as an invaluable mentor to the next generation of firefighters.

Mr. Riley went on to join the Napa-Solano Central Labor Council, where his work has left a lasting legacy on the labor movement in Napa and Solano counties and beyond. Mr. Riley served as President of the Labor Council from 2005 to 2009 before assuming the role of Executive Director in 2009, a position he has held ever since.

As Executive Director of the Labor Council, Mr. Riley oversaw various successful strategies, coalitions, and a significant growth in the membership of the Labor Council. His leadership has been fundamental in ensuring that working people in our region receive fair wages, safe working conditions, and opportunities for economic advancement.

Mr. Riley is a true champion for working people. His leadership and advocacy have been instrumental in fostering a strong and unified voice for workers across Napa and Solano counties, and his work has left an indelible mark on the Northern California labor movement.

On behalf of California's 8th Congressional District, I extend my congratulations to Jon Riley on his well-deserved retirement. Mr. Riley's years of service to the labor community will be remembered for generations to come.

HONORING AND COMMENDING EM3
GILBERT KLEIN

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2025

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend EM3 Gilbert Klein. Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, EM3 Gilbert Klein served in the United States Navy from March 1944 to May 1946 when he was honorably discharged as an Electricians Mate 3rd Class. He was stationed at USNTC Bainbridge, the U.S. Navy Training Center at Port Deposit in Maryland before serving on the USS YMS 283 mine clearing ship that sailed out of Yorktown, Virginia, the home of the Naval Mine Warfare School.

Gilbert Klein was deployed to serve in the East China Sea as a part of Operation Juneau and the American Occupation of Japan. He, alongside his fellow servicemen, had the distinct responsibility of clearing mines at the ports of Okinawa, Japan and in the East China Sea to prepare for the United States safe arrival as they occupied the island. He also served as a patrolman during the occupation in and around Okinawa, Japan.

For his service in the United States Armed Forces, Gilbert Klein is the recipient of The Honorable Discharge button and lapel pin awarded to those who served honorably in the federal military from 1925 to 1946 as well as the "Ruptured Duck" also known as the Honorable Service Lapel Pin awarded to servicemembers who were honorably discharged during the second World War. Alongside these two awards, he is the recipient of the Navy Occupation Service Medal with Asia Clasp, World War II Victory Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with Three Bronze

Campaign Medals, American Campaign Medal and the Combat Service Medal.

Following his service in the United States Navy, Gilbert Klein became a salesman at several companies and reached Sales Manager during his time with Reader's Digest. He lived in Pennsylvania and Ventnor, New Jersey before moving to Haddon Township 12 years ago where he resides today at the age of 99 years old. Although, his beloved wife and son with whom they raised together have both since passed, he has remaining family throughout the west coast in California, New Mexico and Arkansas.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring and commending EM3 Gilbert Klein of Haddon Township, New Jersey, a resident dedicated to his community and country, and who has thoroughly served them both to the best of his ability.

REMEMBERING THE REMARKABLE
LIFE OF BOB BOUWMAN OF
BRANCHBURG, NEW JERSEY

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2025

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Robert A. "Bob" Bouwman, a former Branchburg Committeeman who faithfully served the Branchburg community for over thirty-five years.

Bob's volunteer service began in 1990 when he was appointed to the Historic Preservation Commission, where he served until 2002. He was appointed again in 2012, serving until 2025. A true representation of New Jersey, he left a legacy of kindness, service, and dedication to his community. Inspired by change and seeing the potential to enhance his community, he became a founding member of the Country Fair in 1997. For 27 years, he diligently organized the annual "hometown" event, which brought community members together for a day of fun-filled activities and fireworks at White Oak Park. In addition to his long list of achievements, Bob was appointed to the Planning Board in 2001, serving until 2021. He also served on the Township Committee from 2003 to 2012 and was elected Mayor in both 2005 and 2010.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to Robert A. Bouwman for his many years of dedicated service and countless contributions to the Township of Branchburg. May his memory continue to inspire us all and live on in the heart of our community.

COMMEMORATING THE 175TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF BONHAM, TEXAS

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 24, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the founding of Bonham, Texas.

Bonham's rich history began in autumn of 1837 as Fort English, a small, fortified blockhouse and stockade constructed by Mr. Bailey English and his neighbors to protect against