

centered care philosophy, Griffin has also created an extraordinary work environment for all Griffin employees—reflected in its recent celebration of its tenth consecutive year on FORTUNE Magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For" list.

Griffin Hospital not only provides outstanding care to its patients but also devotes programs and resources to benefit the greater community as well. The Valley Parish Nurse Program, which today serves thirty-five churches throughout the Lower Naugatuck Valley, provides health education, screening and referral services to a total of thirty-five thousand parishioners with a primary focus on outreach efforts to the underserved, minority, and low-income populations. Griffin also founded and sponsored the Healthy Valley project—the goal of which is to make the Valley a better place in which to live, work, raise a family, and enjoy life by measurably improving the quality of life and health of the community and its residents. Healthy Valley also focused on enhancing regional economic development by making the community a better place for businesses to relocate and expand as well as for their employees to live.

An industry leader in providing quality patient-centered care and understanding that their involvement is fundamental to the continued growth and prosperity of its surrounding communities, there are innumerable ways in which Griffin Hospital has made a difference. I am proud to stand today to congratulate the Board of Directors, administrators, and staff alike as they celebrate this very special occasion. Today, as they mark their centennial anniversary, they not only celebrate their past accomplishments but, as they have for the last one hundred years, they look to the future—to ensure that they continue to provide the best possible care to their patients and meet the ever-changing needs of our community. I wish them all the best for another century of success.

HONORING JOHN HARRIS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate John Harris upon being awarded the "Distinguished Citizen Award" by the Sequoia Council, Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Harris will be honored on Tuesday, November 24, 2009 at a special luncheon at Harris Ranch.

Mr. John Harris was born and raised in Coalinga, California in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley. Mr. Harris attended and graduated from the University of California, Davis in 1965 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Agricultural Production/Agricultural Economics. While attending UC Davis, he was commissioned into the United States Army through the ROTC program.

Upon returning to the San Joaquin Valley, Mr. Harris began working on the family farm and ranch, Harris Farms. Harris Farms was founded in 1937 by Mr. Harris' parents, Jack and Teresa Harris. Over the years, the family business has grown to become one of the largest integrated farming operations in the Central San Joaquin Valley. The company

produces over a dozen crops including almonds, citrus, tomatoes, lettuce, wine grapes and pistachios. The farm has also expanded to include Harris Ranch Beef Company, which is one of California's largest fed cattle processors, producing nearly two million pounds of beef per year.

In 1966, Mr. Harris and his father decided to devote a substantial part of the Harris Ranch farming and cattle operation to raising and training of Thoroughbred racehorses. The company provides six hundred acres to the Thoroughbreds and has bred and raced several of California's championship horses. In addition to the farm, the cattle ranch and the Thoroughbred Division, the Harris Company also has multiple restaurants and an inn. Today, with Mr. Harris serving as the Chairman of the Board for Harris Farms, the companies in total employ over fifteen hundred people and have gross sales exceeding three hundred million dollars.

Outside of operating Harris Farms, Mr. Harris is involved with numerous organizations. He is a member of the board for the Water Growers Association and serves as Chair of the Water Committee. Mr. Harris also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Pacific Legal Foundation and is currently serving as Chair of Cattle PAC for the board of California Cattlemen's Association. He has been involved with the California Horse Racing Board since 2001 and is currently serving as Chairman of the board. Mr. Harris also serves on the boards of several agricultural related companies; including Sunny Cove Citrus, Los Gatos Tomato Products, Harris Woolf Almonds and California Thoroughbred Breeders Association.

Mr. Harris has worked with the Sequoia Council, Boy Scouts of America for almost twenty years, hosting an annual luncheon to benefit the chapter. The lunch supports the Scouting programs in western Fresno County and Kings County. His concern and dedication to the youth of our area and his love of Scouting has kept him working with the Sequoia Council, Boy Scouts of America and the growth of Scouting here in the San Joaquin Valley.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate John Harris upon being awarded the "Distinguished Citizen Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Harris many years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, on December 9, 2009, I was unable to be present for several rollcall votes. If present, I would have voted accordingly on the following rollcall votes:

Roll No. 942—"nay."

Roll No. 943—"nay."

Roll No. 944—"yea."

A TRIBUTE TO WESTON SPROTT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS-

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Weston Sprott who was appointed second trombone of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra in the Spring of 2005.

Mr. Sprott attended Indiana University before completing his Bachelor of Music degree at The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. While a student at Curtis, Mr. Sprott held the positions of principal trombone in the Pennsylvania Ballet Orchestra (Philadelphia) and the Delaware Symphony Orchestra. He was the founding member of the Texas Trombone Octet, a group that won the Emory Remington competition and was featured in concert at the International Trombone Festival in Helsinki, Finland.

Mr. Sprott has worked under the baton of many of the world's great conductors including Sir Simon Rattle, James Levine, Kurt Masur, Lorin Maazel, Christoph Eschenbach, Andre Previn and numerous others. Mr. Sprott was recently featured in the documentary film "A Wayfarer's Journey: Listening to Mahler" with actor Richard Dreyfuss and actress Kathleen Chalfant. He was also a performer in the film "Rittenhouse Square," a documentary under the direction of Robert Downey that played in major film festivals throughout the United States to critical acclaim. In September 2007, Mr. Sprott made his Carnegie Hall solo debut performing Lars Erik-Larsson's concertino in Weill Recital Hall at the invitation of the Bulgarian Consulate. Other engagements have led to performances with gospel and jazz artists such as Branford Marsalis, Take 6 and Donnie McClurkin. Mr. Sprott's performances and interviews have been seen and heard on various TV and radio shows such as: PBS' Great Performances, NPR's Performance Today, and Sirius Satellite Radio.

In demand as a soloist and master class clinician, Mr. Sprott has been a featured guest artist at several of America's leading conservatories and universities. He is currently on the faculty at the Purchase College Conservatory and Julliard's Music Advancement Program, and he previously served on the faculty of The New School University, a division of the Mannes School of Music in New York City. Weston Sprott is an artist/clinician for the Edwards Instrument Company and Music. He performs exclusively on Edwards's trombones and Greg Black mouthpieces.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Weston Sprott.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed the following recorded votes on the House floor on Tuesday, December 1, 2009 and Wednesday, December 2, 2009.

For Tuesday, December 1, 2009, had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 911, on motion to suspend the

rules and agree to H.R. 3029; “aye” on rollcall vote No. 912, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 727; “no” on rollcall vote No. 913, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3667.

For Wednesday, December 2, 2009, had I been present I would have voted “aye” on rollcall vote No. 914, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 494; “aye” on rollcall vote No. 915, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 129; “aye” on rollcall vote No. 916, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 861; “aye” on rollcall vote No. 917, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 897; “aye” on rollcall vote No. 918, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3634; “no” on rollcall vote No. 919, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 515; “aye” on rollcall vote No. 920, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 197; “aye” on rollcall vote No. 921, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 1242; “aye” on rollcall vote No. 922, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3980.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN CAUCUS AND CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN FOUNDATION

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, as House Co-Chair of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and lifelong sportsman, I hereby recognize the 20th Anniversary of the founding of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation. The Foundation was officially incorporated 20 years ago this week on December 7, 1989.

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and the millions of hunters and anglers across the country, congratulations to the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation on 20 years of successfully supporting the Caucus in advancing pro-sportsmen hunting, fishing, and conservation issues in the United States Congress.

The Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation is the most trusted organization focused on issues of importance to this nation's sporting heritage and serves as the most critical link between sportsmen and women and the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus. The sportsmen and women of America can be proud of the long standing partnership between the Caucus and Foundation in accomplishing many legislative victories on their behalf.

Since its inception, the bipartisan Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus has grown into one of the largest and most effective caucuses in the United States Congress with nearly 300 members representing almost all 50 states. With bipartisan leadership in both the House and the Senate, the Caucus is the sportsmen's ally and first line of defense in Washington promoting and protecting the rights of hunters, trappers and anglers.

With the success of the CSC/CSF partnership, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation created a network of state legislative sportsmen's caucuses modeled after the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus in 2004,

launching the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC). Currently with 38 state legislative sportsmen's caucuses and nearly 2,000 legislators, the NASC facilitates the interaction and idea exchange among state caucus leaders and the outdoor community.

Earlier this year the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation launched the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus to facilitate communication and information exchange among a bipartisan team of state chief executives in support of legislation and regulations that promote and protect hunting and fishing. Guided by a bipartisan leadership team of governors and staffed through the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, the GSC further enhances the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses.

The combination of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses, and the Governor's Sportsmen's Caucus, working side-by-side with the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, serves as an unprecedented network of pro-sportsmen elected officials that promote and protect the agenda of America's hunters and anglers.

The Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation looks back fondly on the accomplishments of the last 20 years and now looks forward to continuing the work of protecting America's hunters and anglers in the future.

HONORING DR. FLOYD E. “JACK” BOWLING

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, today I wish to pay tribute and celebrate the long and successful life of one of my District's most devoted community leaders and academics.

Dr. Floyd E. “Jack” Bowling recently passed away at the age of 98. Dr. Bowling was beloved in Athens, Tennessee, one of the finest communities in the State. For the past 50 years, he called Athens home and fullheartedly devoted his time to bettering his beloved Tennessee Wesleyan College.

Dr. Bowling served Tennessee Wesleyan College not only as a teacher and administrator but also as its most important fundraiser and benefactor.

His impact on the college is evident as one strolls its beautiful campus. He had a special passion for athletics, and through Dr. Bowling's own donations and fundraising, he was almost solely responsible for Tennessee Wesleyan College's new baseball field and stadium, which rightfully bears his name.

He was also greatly responsible for the school's tennis complex and gym bleachers and used his own money to create the college's first computer lab.

Everyone had the deepest admiration and respect for Dr. Bowling. Great communities and institutions of higher education around the Nation are made so only by selfless and devoted persons like Dr. Bowling.

The current President of Tennessee Wesleyan College, Steve Condon, recently told the Daily Post Athenian Newspaper, “Virtually ev-

erything he touched, every person he engaged, every project he attempted and every colleague and student he mentored was better off because of his light. He was a gift from God to all of us.”

We can all only strive to be remembered in such a way.

Dr. Bowling's service was not confined to Tennessee Wesleyan College's campus. He has long been a supporter of the McMinn Living Heritage Museum and United Way of McMinn and Meigs Counties. He also served as president of the Kiwanis Club, where he was a longtime member.

Madam Speaker, the passing of Dr. Floyd E. “Jack” Bowling is a tremendous loss for the Athens community, Tennessee Wesleyan College, his family and many friends, and the multiple causes he has championed over the years. I call his service to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD and thank him for being an example to us all.

A TRIBUTE TO GILLEYAN J. HARGROVE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS-

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Gilleyan J. Hargrove.

Gilleyan was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. She received her early education at the public schools of Brooklyn, New York. Her education continued at Syracuse University, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and African American Studies in 1989. Gilleyan then attended graduate school at Binghamton University of New York, receiving a Master's of Science in Education in 1991. She received her administration and supervision license from the College of Saint Rose in 2002.

Gilleyan has always had a love for school and learning new things. She has been an educator for 18 years beginning her work as an elementary school teacher at Community School 21 in Brooklyn and then as an assistant principal at the Program for Pregnant Students in Brooklyn. Gilleyan currently serves as principal at the Granville T. Woods Middle School for Science and Technology in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, where providing students with access to a quality education and a safe environment remains a priority. Gilleyan believes as an educator she has a charge to keep and a God to glorify.

Gilleyan also is a proud lifetime member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She is married to Eric M. Hargrove and they have two children, a daughter, Brianna Ashley and son, Tyler Robert.

Following in the spiritual foundation set before her by her late grandmother Mary Rose Blowe Couch and mother, Elaine Couch Hinds, Gilleyan has served God for 30 years as a member of Wayside Baptist Church, where her spiritual father and mentor, the late Pastor Joe L. Parker, taught her how to love the Lord. Currently, Gilleyan is a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church where her Pastor is Reverend Larry W. Camp.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Gilleyan J. Hargrove.