

knocked down barriers for working women across Connecticut. After serving 10 years as the Executive Director of the Connecticut League of Women Voters, she joined SNET in 1960 and later AT&T in 1972. Six years later, she was the highest ranking female employee in the Bell system, eventually retiring as Vice-President of Public and Corporate Relations in 1989. And she was the first female member of the Quinnipiac Club, a New Haven business institution since 1871. As it turns out, she was elected to the Club because she refused to enter through the kitchen there, as was the questionable custom for women before Handley gently and firmly put a stop to it.

This was the type of leadership Jean showed throughout her life—She led by example, with grace, elegance, good humor, and enormous competence.

Her career aside, Jean was a passionate admirer of the arts and a dedicated supporter of non-profits and community service efforts in our state. She was a longtime board member of Learning, Education, and Athletics in Partnership, LEAP, the Long Wharf Theatre, and the New Haven Symphony. In addition, she served as an Emeritus Trustee of her alma mater, Connecticut College, as well as the University of New Hampshire. And, in 1996, she was a co-founder of the International Festival of Arts and Ideas, an 18-day arts festival in New Haven that now attracts over 100,000 people each June. True to her enthusiasm, her passion for the arts, and her diligence, Jean not only commissioned a market study to ascertain the appeal of the festival first, she researched the weather to figure out the best two-week window to hold it.

Last December, in her last public appearance before succumbing to the cancer she had so bravely and silently fought, Jean was awarded with the Connecticut Arts Council's C. Newton Schenk III Award for Lifetime Achievement, which deemed her a "life-long champion of the region's arts organizations and an individual of exceedingly high standards." That she was. Our city of New Haven, and our world, is a smaller place with her passing.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOWARD THEATRE AND ITS CONTRIBUTION OF ENTERTAINMENT ON HISTORIC U STREET

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the 100th anniversary of the Howard Theatre and its contribution to music and entertainment on historic U Street in Washington, DC.

The Howard Theatre was the only theater in the Nation's capital where African Americans could enjoy live music, dance, drama and comedy during the era of racial segregation in Washington, DC.

The Howard Theatre provided a gateway to the historic U Street corridor and currently is being preserved for historic renovation. We commend Howard Theatre Restoration Inc. for spearheading the preservation of the Howard Theatre.

Known as "the largest colored theatre in the world," the Howard Theatre welcomed talent regardless of color. Many legendary music greats appeared at "The Howard," among them, Ella Fitzgerald, Billy Taylor, The Supremes, Chuck Brown, Petey Greene, Dick Gregory, and Redd Foxx.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding Howard Theatre Restoration Inc. for its work to preserve the Howard Theatre legacy, and in commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Howard Theatre for its contribution as a premiere entertainment venue for people of all races and backgrounds and as a showcase of national and international importance for African American entertainers of the day.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF DON SCOTT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Don Scott, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. Mr. Scott's life was centered around family, community and service to others. His keen business sense, positive attitude, and unstoppable energy were key elements of his success.

Throughout Cleveland, Mr. Scott was known for his gathering place called "Vel's"—the premier party center for the African-American community named after his beloved wife, Velma Rose. African-American city leaders, politicians and candidates met regularly at Vel's, where Mr. Scott always greeted guests with kind and encouraging words. He hosted major political events, giving many candidates the exposure and support they needed to rally voters and win elections, including former United States Congressman Louis Stokes.

In 1963, Don and Velma purchased the Alhambra Bowling Lanes near Euclid and East 102nd Street, and changed the name to University Lanes. They opened Vel's Red Carpet Lounge in the basement, and it soon became a popular venue that drew nationally known performers. Mr. Scott became the first African-American contestant on the popular national TV series "Championship Bowling." He won his first match in 1961 by bowling five strikes in a row and went on to tour with the Professional Bowling Association. In 1962, Mr. Scott won the first round of the PBA Open and ended the tournament by placing ninth in the nation.

Mr. Scott was first and foremost dedicated to his wife and children. Together, Don and Velma Scott raised their children, Gregory, Avis and Don D. In later years, Don and Velma travelled the world but remained committed to the betterment of their eastside community. They founded Vel's Purple Oasis Garden, a community garden and greenhouse near University Circle. They also opened "New Life Skills Academy," a training center for future entrepreneurs.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Don Scott, a man who will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. I also honor the memory of his beloved wife, the late Velma Rose. I offer my deepest con-

dolences to his children, Gregory, Avis and Don D., to his six grandchildren, his six siblings, and to his extended family and friends. Mr. Scott lived his life with a generous heart and an unwavering love for his family and his community. He will never be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF RUSSELL E. KING ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Russell "Tony" E. King upon the occasion of his 90th birthday. Mr. King has spent a lifetime serving his community and his family, and it is a privilege to recognize him on his accomplishments today.

Known as Papa King to his family, Tony has lived in Florida for almost 70 years. He was married to Jonnie King for 62 years before she passed away in 2008, and the two are the proud parents of five children, ten grandchildren, and 22 great-grandchildren. Tony served his country in the U.S. Navy for two years before starting a career at the St. Regis Paper Company, now International Paper, where he retired after 33 years. He was a very active member of the community, serving as Assistant Chief of the Brent Volunteer Fire Department and spending fifteen years in the Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary. Tony also volunteers much of his time at the Gonzalez United Methodist Church, where he is still a member.

Madam Speaker, Tony King is a Northwest Florida community leader who has spent a lifetime serving his country and his community. My wife Vicki and I wish him a happy birthday and his entire family all the best for the future.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the St. Mary's School in Taylorville, Illinois.

St. Mary's opened its doors in 1909 in a one room structure on Franklin Street in Taylorville. At that time, the school consisted of one teacher and 77 students. The school moved into its current building in 1921, which is home to kindergarten through third grade, two libraries and the school office. By the 1990s, St. Mary's enrollment had expanded so much that a second building was necessary. The new building was dedicated in 2000.

Over the last century, St. Mary's has remained dedicated to providing its students with a high quality education which will last a lifetime. Last fall, the school held its annual fall festival, where former students and educators returned to St. Mary's to celebrate a century of progress. To help students and alumni see how classes were conducted a century ago, the school re-created the original one room schoolhouse, with kindergarten through sixth grade in the same room.