

THANKING TAEKWONDO GRAND MASTER JHOON RHEE FOR HIS 45 YEARS OF SERVICE TO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

HON. ENI F.H. FALDOMAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FALDOMAEGA. Madam Speaker, Grand Master Jhoon Rhee is a man of rare character. An immigrant from South Korea who came to the United States in the 1950s, later to be known as the "Father of American Taekwondo," he has become an American symbol of patriotism, service, and excellence.

Today, we celebrate Grand Master Rhee's 45 years of service sharing his wisdom, experience, and knowledge as a Taekwondo instructor with over 350 members of Congress. Yet beyond the contributions he has made to members of Congress for almost half a century, Grand Master Rhee has served this country through countless acts of service. Thought time does not permit me to share them all, please allow me to share some of the highlights today and give due honor to a man who truly makes me proud to be an American.

Born on January 7, 1932 in South Korea during the period of Japanese occupation, Mr. Rhee began training in the martial arts at the age of 13. Serving as an officer in the Korean War, Rhee fought alongside American soldiers, where he gained a deep appreciation for the country that he now calls home.

Rhee immigrated to the United States in 1956, introducing Taekwondo to the Nation. A World-renowned 10th Degree Black Belt, he has instructed and inspired students around the world. In addition to the over 350 members of Congress he has instructed over the past 45 years, Grand Master Rhee has also shared his wisdom and knowledge with the likes of Muhammad Ali, Jack Anderson, George Allen Sr., Bob Livingston, Tony Robbins, and Jack Valenti.

Yet his service does not end here. In 1983, Mr. Rhee—a symbol of patriotism—served as National Chairman of the July 4th, 1983 Nation's Birthday Celebration. In 1984, President Ronald Reagan appointed him to the National Council on Vocational Education, where he created National Teacher Appreciation Day—a day of honor for our Nation's educators which was signed by President Ronald Reagan on October 16, 1986, and continues today.

From 1988 to 1991, he served as President George H.W. Bush's appointment as Special Advisor to the President's Council on Physical Fitness & Sports, and on March 17, 1992 he was selected as the President's 721st "Daily Point of Light"—an award that honors individuals and volunteer groups around the country who are helping to meet critical needs in their communities.

In 1999, Rhee received the American Immigrants Achievement Award and the National Association of Professional Martial Arts, NAPMA, Life Time Achievement Award, and in 2000, he became the only Korean-American named by the National Immigrant Forum and the Immigration and Naturalization Services as one of the 203 most recognized immigrants in the country, along with Albert Einstein, Alexander Graham Bell and 200 others. Rhee was also inducted into the Taekwondo Hall of

Fame in 2007 as both the "Pioneer of American Taekwondo" and the "Pioneer of Taekwon-Do in Russia." He currently has over 60 affiliated Tae Kwon Do studios in the U.S. and 65 in the former Soviet Union.

It takes but a moment in Grand Master Rhee's presence to sense his honor for this country and to see that he truly exemplifies the American spirit. He is a living reminder of the goodness of this nation to the U.S. and the world. I must echo my dear friend, Congressman Ike Skelton, who once said, "I might say Master Jhoon Rhee has become a national treasure."

But what better way to gain a deeper sense of this man's rare patriotism and love for America, than in his own words. In a recent statement shared with my office, Grand Master Rhee wrote, "I fought the Korean War side by side with American soldiers, who came to defend a country they never heard of, people they never knew. This is why I wanted to do something for what America had done for my motherland, Korea, with what I can do the best, TKD [Taekwondo]. The sense of my gratitude for America gave me the energy to get up 5 AM, 3 mornings a week for the last 45 years to teach over 350 members of U.S. Congress, as my volunteer service; I will give 5 more years to make it five decades of my service."

Reflecting on the strength of this nation, Grand Master Rhee stated, "I became curious what made America so great. In my sincere search for the roots of America's strength, I found the noblest mission statement ever written by any country in history. American Founding Fathers wrote the 'Mission Statement of America' to place upon America the responsibility of serving as the vanguard nation for the moral and political Freedom of all mankind, not just for American people. No wonder, why Alexis De Tocqueville, a French Juror in 1831, wrote: 'America is great because She is good; if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great.'"

Today I ask my fellow members of Congress to honor a man whose character, patriotism, and heart of service calls for our sincere respect and gratitude. Grand Master Rhee, today I celebrate and thank you for your 45 years of service to the members of this Chamber and the Senate. More importantly, I thank you for your example to the citizens of this Nation—for increasing the hope within each of us, for reminding us of the beauty and strength of our nation, and for inspiring individuals and groups of every walk of life to continually press towards the call to take it higher and make it better.

TRIBUTE TO GENE YEAGER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Ernest Eugene "Gene" Yeager, a successful businessman, philanthropist, outstanding community member and close personal friend of mine. On Sunday, September 5, 2010, Gene passed away at the age of 85. Although Gene has passed on from this life, he leaves a lasting legacy of generosity and accomplishment that will never be forgotten.

More than 700 people gathered to pay tribute to Gene at the California Baptist University quad, just behind the center that bears his name. The two-hour service brought together people throughout the community that Gene touched during his life, including industry leaders, former employees, friends and family members. Gene's life tells the tale of a man who turned his business empire into a conduit for blessing the lives of people around him.

Gene Yeager was born in Riverside in 1924. He graduated from Poly High School in 1942 and studied engineering at the University of California at Berkeley. In 1943, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy. After World War II ended, he returned to Berkeley, where he received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering. Together with his two brothers, Richard and Jacques, they went to work for their father, Ernest Louis Yeager, who founded E.L. Yeager Construction Company in Riverside in 1919. Gene ran the public works side of the operations business which worked on projects to improve major freeways, dams and bridges. The brothers turned the business into one of the largest public works and private construction companies in the United States, and one that changed the landscape of Southern California.

With Gene at the head, the Yeager Company rebuilt two bridges that collapsed in the 1994 Northridge earthquake, built the Highway 91/Interstate 15 interchange in Corona, built the dam at Lake Perris and helped erect the Auto Club Speedway in Fontana.

After Richard was killed in a traffic accident in 1979, Gene and Jacques continued to run the company until 1995, when they sold it to a group of senior managers. In 2002, the business was sold to Skanska, the Swedish construction giant.

Through the years, Gene had become a leader and an industry icon. He is remembered just as fondly by his construction workers as he is with the people at Skanska, because of his intense work ethic and generous heart.

After retiring in 1995, Gene set about traveling the world with his wife, spending time with his family and generously making donations to worthy causes in the Riverside area, including a \$1 million endowment to fund environmental research and scholarships at the University of California at Riverside.

In fact, his charitable work earned him "guardian angel" status in Riverside. Everyone that knew Gene, knew that he gave from the heart, and did so without any desire for recognition.

In addition to his wife, Billie, Mr. Yeager is survived by sons Ken, of San Jose, and Tom, of Riverside; daughters Beth, of Norco, and Louise, of Newport Beach; stepchildren Terri, of Riverside, and Doug Moore, of Rancho Cucamonga; brother Jacques, of Riverside; nephew Jacques Jr., of Riverside; and 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

On behalf of all those who knew him, it is an honor to offer these remarks as a tribute to the life and legacy of my friend Gene Yeager. His life and presence will be sorely missed and I extend my condolences to his dear family and friends.

ON THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF
SIXTH MOUNT ZION BAPTIST
TEMPLE

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a historic institution of faith in the Third Congressional District. This November, Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Temple will celebrate its 110th anniversary, and I would like to highlight some moments from the history of the church and its contributions to our community.

The seeds of Sixth Mount Zion were originally planted in 1900, when transplanted citizens from Charles City County and Richmond, working in the Newport News Shipyard, sought to establish a Missionary Baptist Church in the area. The first services, officiated by Rev. N.E. Nelson, were held in a private home on 22nd Street in Newport News. Rev. Chase Patterson assumed control of the church for a brief period, and started to organize Sixth Mount Zion as a Missionary Baptist Church.

Third Pastor Rev. W.M. Greene continued to organize the church, founding a Recognition Council to establish the congregation as an independent body, and in November 1901, that recognition was granted. After this initial establishment, Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church went through 19 pastors until the church installed Rev. W.J. Brown as pastor in 1912. During this era the church worshipped in a borrowed building on 24th Street.

Rev. Brown served Sixth Mount Zion faithfully for 45 years until his death in 1957. He was succeeded by Rev. James Melvin Owens, who was installed as pastor in 1959. That same year, a fire destroyed the church building, but through the faithfulness of the congregation, a new building was built in the footprint of the old one at 643 24th Street.

Rev. Owens passed away in 1964 after 6 years of service to Sixth Mount Zion. The search for the next pastor took over a year, but on June 19, 1966, Rev. M. Ivory Jefferson was installed as the official pastor. One of his first actions, the establishment of a building fund, proved to be essential, when the redevelopment plans of the city of Newport News forced the church to relocate. Sixth Mount Zion met in several different locations from 1973 to 1976. In June of that year, the church purchased a site at 2003 Kecoughtan Road in Hampton, and the church was renamed Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Temple. The building was finally completed in 1978.

The move to Hampton was not the only change under Rev. Jefferson. During his tenure, the church also began a radio ministry, arranged annual interstate worship trips, and trained and ordained two Associate Ministers. Rev. Jefferson retired in 1996, and Sixth Mount Zion elected Assistant Pastor Rev. Jerome A. Barber to serve as head pastor in 1997.

The church has grown significantly from 300 to over 4,000 members since Rev. Barber's installation. The church has also been involved in outreach ministries in both Virginia and abroad. Sixth Mount Zion has mobilized action in Kenya, Uganda, and most recently Brazil, providing medical clinics, teacher workshops, and conferences for women and youth.

With its rapid, recent growth, the church outgrew its Kecoughtan Road location. In January 2001 the church moved to its present location at 3100 Butternut Drive in Hampton. In 2002, Rev. Barber established the Six House at the Temple's old Kecoughtan Road location, where the church holds education programs for children, young adults, and lifelong learners.

As Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Temple gathers to celebrate its 110th anniversary, the church can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on the future with great expectations. I would like to congratulate Rev. Barber and all of the members of Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Temple on the occasion of their 110th anniversary. I wish them many more years of dedicated service to the community.

**STEM CELL THERAPEUTIC AND
RESEARCH REAUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 2010**

SPEECH OF

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 3751, the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2010.

This legislation is identical to H.R. 6081, a bill that I introduced with Mr. YOUNG of Florida to reauthorize critical bone marrow and cord blood transplant programs that save thousands of lives each year.

Each year, nearly 40,000 people under the age of 55 are diagnosed with fatal bone marrow illnesses, and about 16,000 of those individuals can only be treated via blood stem cell transplant.

These patient's lives depend on finding an acceptable adult stem cell donor match—quickly and easily.

The Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2010 would reauthorize the key programs responsible for helping these individuals by recruiting bone marrow, adult stem cell, and cord blood donations; matching donors and potential recipients; and linking these patients to care.

S. 3751 includes two main parts to achieve this spectrum of donation, connection, and care.

The first is the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program, which houses the National Registry, the Office of Patient Advocacy, and the Stem Cell Therapeutic Outcomes Database.

The second is the National Cord Blood Inventory (NCBI), a program that provides grants to public cord blood banks to assist them in collecting a diverse population of donated cord blood units. These units are then listed on the National Registry, where patients and doctors can find them.

The reauthorization represents legislation that is truly bipartisan and bicameral, which is evident in the fact that it passed the Senate by unanimous consent on September 28, 2010.

Mr. Speaker, I commend our Leadership and thank Chairman WAXMAN, Chairman PALLONE and their staffs for bringing the reauthorization to the floor in time to vote before these programs expire on Thursday, September 30, 2010.

This is meaningful legislation with strong bipartisan support and a proven track record.

I urge my colleagues to support passage of this important legislation.

**RECOGNIZING THE BIRTHDAY OF
THE LATE MARY CHURCH
TERRELL**

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the birthday of the late Mary Church Terrell, a scholar, political activist and woman of compassion. Mary Church was born in Memphis, Tennessee to Robert and Louisa Church on September 23, 1863, the same year President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

Knowing the importance of an education, Ms. Church attended Oberlin College in Ohio, the first institution to admit women and one of the first to admit minorities. Upon her graduation in 1884, Ms. Church became one of the first African American women to graduate from college. She then went on to receive her Master's degree from Oberlin in 1888.

After graduation, Ms. Church moved back to Memphis and traveled to Europe before moving to Washington, DC where she married attorney Robert Herbert Terrell in 1891. During this time Mrs. Terrell took an active role in social reform and volunteer work. She befriended Susan B. Anthony and was active with the suffragist movement, working at the National American Woman Suffrage Association and several other black women's suffragist organizations.

Mary Church Terrell broke barriers by becoming the first African American woman to be appointed to the District of Columbia Board of Education from 1895–1906. She was also active in multiple black women's organizations, all of which strove to terminate both gender and racial discrimination. She was the architect of the merger of these clubs, forming the National Association of Colored Women (NACW) in 1896, becoming the organization's first president. She served as president until 1901 when she was named the honorary president for life.

In 1909, Mary Church Terrell, along with Ida B. Wells, befriended W.E.B. DuBois and later became a charter member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In 1910, Mrs. Terrell founded the National Association of College Women in 1910 and in 1913 assisted in the formation of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated where she wrote the sorority's creed. In 1933, Oberlin College recognized her as one of its one hundred outstanding alumni during their centennial celebration. Oberlin conferred upon Mrs. Terrell the honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters in 1948.

Mary Church Terrell passed away at age 90 on July 24, 1954, two months after the monumental Brown vs. Board of Education decision. From the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation to the Brown vs. Board of Education decision, Mary Church Terrell was here to witness great social reforms for African Americans. Hers was a life well lived.