

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BETTY CRAWFORD

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Betty Crawford, a resident of Marks, MS, who has used her talent as a folk artist to teach and inspire many audiences. From summer art camps to craft workshops, children and adults alike have had countless opportunities to learn from her original style of art. Using textiles, paint, recycled and repurposed materials, she crafts one-of-a-kind treasures to preserve history and to document southern culture.

Betty serves as a historian for the original Mule Train Journey of 1968, a part of the Poor People's Campaign. She has preserved the history of this event in the form of commemorative art pieces, which have been displayed at museums, schools, churches, community centers and at the Union Theology Seminary in New York.

Betty Crawford, who was too young to participate in the first noble effort, has kept the legacy alive through her artistry and community service. Her depiction of the Mule Train has been nationally recognized as the only original commemoration of that event. Among other awards, she has received the 2002 Outstanding Achievement Award and the 2003 Humanized Education Award both from the Mississippi Association of Education. In 2004 and 2005 she was nominated for the National Education Association Award. In 2005 she was awarded the Tougaloo College Leadership Institute—Strategic Initiative Plan Award; Fannie Lou Hamer Award for Outstanding Community Service and and Peer Award for Excellence—Jackson, MS.

Mrs. Crawford is presently working diligently with local governments, schools and community groups. She supports human rights projects including the Southern Rural Black Women Initiative in Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia; Kensington Welfare Union Rights in Philadelphia, PA; Scholars Poverty Initiative at the Union Theology Seminary in New York, NY and other organizations that strive to empower people and rectify injustices. Mrs. Crawford's ultimate vision is to see a Southern Cultural Museum in Marks, MS, to house her Mule Train Quilt as well as other artists' work that would bring people from all around the world to experience a part of the Delta's Southern Heritage.

HONORING DR. REV. EDDIE WALLS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Rev. Eddie Walls,

Jr., a native of Claiborne County. Dr. Rev. Eddie Walls was born March 24, 1928, to the late Eddie and Carrie Walls. His early education includes the Romola School, Old St. Mark School and the Claiborne County Training School. He furthered his education at Alcorn College located in Lorman, Mississippi. On August 15, 1944, he joined Greater St. Mark M B Church.

On September 26, 1956 he was united in holy matrimony to the late Lessie Paris. To this union three (3) children were born: Linda, Eddie III, and Janice. He has five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Dr. Rev. Eddie Walls, Jr., serves as the Minister to two congregations. He was elected October 1976 at New Come & See M B Church, having now served 34 years; and the Jerusalem M B Church having served 25 years. As a citizen, he still finds the time to be involved in community activities. He was past president of the NAACP, where he led the charge during the Port Gibson Boycott for 12 years. The U.S. Supreme court rendered a decision in favor of the citizens of Port Gibson. He was also part of a group that filed a suit to stop At-Large elections in Port Gibson which was won by the citizens of Port Gibson. He was past president of the PTSA for nine years. He is currently serving on the City of Port Gibson's Board of Aldermen with a 22 year history.

He was given an Honorary Doctorate in September 2010 by the Claiborne County Baptist Association.

During his many years of dedicated service to this community, Dr. Rev. Eddie Walls, Jr., has proven himself to be a God-sent man.

HONORING PRESIDENT RONALD
WILSON REAGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the legacy of President Ronald Reagan—a remarkable statesman and leader—whose 100th birthday would have been last Sunday. Recently, I visited the Reagan Library in his home state of California, and I was reminded of his steadfast leadership and significant achievements on behalf of our Nation.

President Reagan was an icon of conservative principles. He brought about sound policies of individual freedom and fiscal responsibility which showed democracy and capitalism at its best. He was a man whose belief in free enterprise changed the course of difficult economic times towards growth and prosperity.

His influence was felt not only by those at home, but also abroad, as he exemplified leadership with unwavering determination during the Cold War. His mission to achieve "peace through strength" changed the course

of history as our Nation ultimately prevailed against the forces of communism.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in taking this time to reflect on the great accomplishments of our 40th President and to join me in honoring him as one of the most influential men of our time.

HONORING ELDRIDGE "BUTCH"
WALKER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rolling Fork Mississippi, native, Eldridge (Butch) Walker. Eldridge Walker was educated in the public schools of Sharkey County, Mississippi. He studied at Worshem College School of Mortuary Science.

Early in his career, Eldridge exhibited the traits of a true leader and activist. He became an active participant in the fight for others and remained focused on improving the quality of life for all Sharkey County, Mississippi, residents, particularly the disenfranchised, poor and vulnerable.

Butch was the first black president of the Sharkey County Board of Supervisors. As supervisor he was responsible for bringing the first Win Job Center to Rolling Fork, MS. Butch served as mayor of Rolling Fork from 2003 to 2007. While serving in the capacity of Mayor, Butch founded the Mayor's Youth Council in 2006 and hosted the Annual Christmas Dinner for Senior Citizens and after his term was over he continues this tradition with his own funds and community contributions. Eldridge owns and operates the Mitchell L. Walker Funeral Home in Rolling Fork. He is dedicated to helping families at such a delicate time in life.

He is a member of 100 Black Men of the Mississippi Delta, a deacon and lifelong member of Mt. Lula Missionary Baptist Church and president of the Sharkey-Issaquena Mass Choir for 14 years. He is also team lead for Sharkey/Issaquena Place Matters, a program that brings awareness to communities about health issues such as hypertension, diabetes and obesity. Eldridge is married to Anne Marie Bailey. Together, the couple have six children, Nickolaus, Kimberly, Ashley, Wendi, Robert and Kiara and three grandchildren Dyamone, Elaysia and Jace.

NATIONAL TELEWORK WEEK

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2011

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of National Telework Week.

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