

IN RECOGNITION OF CATHERINE R. O'DONNELL, ESQ., RECIPIENT OF THE WILKES-BARRE LAW & LIBRARY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Catherine R. O'Donnell, Esq., who was selected for the President's Award by the Wilkes-Barre Law & Library Association. The President's Award honors attorneys who display exemplary professionalism, integrity, and ethics throughout his or her legal career. It is the highest award that the Wilkes-Barre Law & Library Association bestows.

Cathy has been practicing law for over 25 years. She graduated cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh with a joint degree in business and economics and a minor in history. In 1987, Cathy received her Juris Doctor and Master of Business degrees from the University of Pittsburgh. She is a member of the Pennsylvania and District of Columbia Bar. In addition, Cathy is a member of The American Association for Justice and the Pennsylvania Association for Justice.

In October of 2000, Governor Thomas Ridge appointed Cathy as a District Justice. Unanimously confirmed by the Pennsylvania Senate, Cathy honorably served our state until January 2002. Today, Cathy practices estate planning and administration at the O'Donnell Law Offices. Her skill and knowledge as a lawyer has earned her recognition as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer, ALM Top-Rated Trusts and Estates Lawyer, Martindale-Hubbell's Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers and Martindale-Hubbell's AV Preeminent Rating from 2002–2015. In 2015, she was named one of Rue Rating's Best Attorneys of America.

Cathy remains an active member of her local community. Cathy is a past president of the Parent's Associates of Wyoming Valley Montessori School and the Lower and Upper Schools of Wyoming Seminary. She is also a past president of the pastoral council of the former St. Therese's Church in Wilkes-Barre. She is a current member of the Orphans' Court Practice Committee and current Chair of the Religious Outreach Committee of the Wilkes-Barre Law Library Association. Cathy is a board member of Junior Leadership of Wilkes-Barre, a member of the United Way Cabinet, and a board member for Dress for Success of Luzerne County.

It is an honor to recognize Cathy O'Donnell for her many accomplishments, and I extend Cathy my congratulations for being awarded the Wilkes-Barre Law & Library Association President's Award. I commend Cathy for her service to our community.

HONORING MR. TERRANCE KELLY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Terrance Kelly for his extraordinary con-

tributions to the music industry and to the faith community. Mr. Kelly is currently the Artistic Director of the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir, where he leads over 100 rehearsals and 50 performances annually.

Mr. Kelly graduated from the Texas Southern University with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management. He went on to study at Holy Names University with a focus on Vocal Performance. Mr. Kelly began his career working with Jazz Camp West as Choir Director and Voice Teacher.

During his time with Jazz Camp West, Mr. Kelly led the popular All Camp Gospel Choir, helping select the songs, instruct the band, and lead performances. His dedication to music also led Mr. Kelly to begin working with Imani Community Church, where he is currently Minister of Magnification. Mr. Kelly coordinates all musical presentations for the church, as well as leading many different choirs. He also facilitates the Imani Ya Watume liturgical dancers.

Additionally, Mr. Kelly serves as Artistic Director of the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir. He has composed and arranged music for the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir, the Oakland Interfaith Youth Choir, and the Oakland Interfaith Community Choir. The incredible works of music he has worked on have inspired and moved audiences throughout the Bay Area, California, and the world.

In his long career in music and faith, Mr. Kelly received many honors. Most recently, Mr. Kelly taught workshops about gospel music at the International Gospel Music Academy of Denmark. His musical talent has been recognized by many influential people, such as Tramaine Hawkins, MC Hammer, John Lee Hooker, and Former President Jimmy Carter. He has received an Emmy Award for his choral arrangement of PSA for KGO-TV, as well as 2 Gospel Academy Awards for Outstanding Director of the Year and Excellence in Choral Music. The San Francisco Opera had the opportunity to work with Mr. Kelly in their rendition of Moby Dick in 2012.

Mr. Kelly has also mentored students of music, many of whom have gone on to attend schools such as the Berklee School of Music, Howard University, and Walt Disney's California Institute of the Arts. Throughout his prolific career, Mr. Kelly has impacted the lives of musicians and fans alike, throughout the Bay Area and the world.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, Mr. Terrance Kelly, I salute him. I thank him for a lifetime of service and congratulate him on his many achievements. I wish him success as he continues to serve the residents of the East Bay.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to be present for a series of votes on June 2, 2015, July 10, 2015 and September 10, 2015.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call Vote Number 268 on June 2nd, Agreeing to Rule for THUD and CJS Appropriations, I would have voted aye.

Roll Call Vote Number 269 on June 2nd, Approving the Journal, I would have voted aye.

Roll Call Vote Number 431 on July 10th, Agreeing to Brat Amendment to H.R. 6, 21st Century Cures Act, I would have voted aye.

Roll Call Vote Number 432 on July 10th, Agreeing to Lee Amendment to H.R. 6, 21st Century Cures Act, I would have voted nay.

Roll Call Vote Number 491 on September 10th, Providing for consideration of H. Res. 411, I would have voted aye.

CONGRATULATING ORATORY PREPARATORY FOR BEING NAMED A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Oratory Prep School of Summit, New Jersey for being named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools award honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students perform at very high levels or where significant improvements are being made in students' levels of achievement. Oratory Prep was cited as an "Exemplary High Performing" school, as measured by state assessments and national tests. This recognition is a testament to the outstanding work and dedication of the faculty and staff, as well as the efforts and successes of the students in creating a safe and welcoming school where students master challenging content.

The curriculum at Oratory Prep has prepared students to attend some of the finest universities in the Nation and the extra-curricular activities, electives, leadership training and guest speakers offer students a wide array of academic experiences. Oratory Prep's athletic program continues to grow as well, both in scope and success.

This is a prestigious award to receive and Oratory Prep is a proud example of academic excellence and worthy of this national distinction.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVAN H. JENKINS

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 534, due to an in-district event announcing new funding for displaced coal miners and their families to pay for job retraining and educational opportunities, I was unable to cast my vote on this bill. Had I been present, I would have voted aye.