

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIETNAM WAR AND THE UNITED STATES VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION PROGRAM HOSTED BY FIRST MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH IN DUMFRIES ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2016

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War and the United States Vietnam War Commemoration Program hosted by First Mount Zion Baptist Church in Dumfries on Sunday, February 28, 2016.

In recognition of more than a decade of combat by land, air, and sea, Congress authorized the Secretary of Defense through the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act, to conduct a program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War and to honor the more than 3 million service members and their families for their heroic service and sacrifice.

Through the facilitation of programs and activities at the local, state, and federal levels of government in partnership with community-based groups and organizations, more than 4,700 Vietnam War commemorative programs involving 9,514 partners have been scheduled throughout the nation. Each commemorative program is designed to meet or exceed the following objectives:

To thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war (POW), or listed as missing in action (MIA), for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans.

To highlight the service of the Armed Forces during the Vietnam War and the contributions of federal agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations that served with, or in support of, the Armed Forces.

To pay tribute to the contributions made on the homefront by the people of the United States during the Vietnam War.

To highlight the advances in technology, science, and medicine related to military research conducted during the Vietnam War.

To recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by the allies of the United States during the Vietnam War.

One of these programs is being hosted by First Mount Zion Baptist Church, located in the 11th District of Virginia. Approximately 130 members of the church left their homes and their loved ones, risking their lives to serve our country during the 13-year span of the Vietnam War. I commend the leadership and the 4,300 current members of First Mount Zion Baptist Church for sponsoring a Vietnam War commemoration program to honor and thank these men and women and their families who sacrificed so much.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War and the United States Commemoration Program at First Mount Zion Baptist Church. Today we reaffirm our commitment to always honor and celebrate the members of our Armed Services, especially those men and women who served with distinction

and valiantly defended this nation in that long and arduous war.

HONORING VIETNAM WAR VETERANS

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the veterans of the Vietnam War. As we commemorate its 50th anniversary, we must never forget the brave men and women who served our country from 1962 to 1975.

I am proud to represent a large veteran community. Almost a third of the 1.58 million veterans who live in my home state of Florida served in the Vietnam War. Palm Beach and Broward Counties are home to 157,000 veterans, more than 50,000 of whom served in Vietnam.

As a mother of a veteran who served during wartime, I understand the sacrifices made by these service men and women and their families. These veterans deserve our respect and gratitude.

I am proud to be here today to thank these Vietnam War Veterans for their service. We will never forget your courage.

IN MEMORY OF SERGIO KLOR DEALVA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sergio Klor DeAlva. Members take the floor more regularly than we would like, to speak to the value of our friends, mentors and constituents who have left us in this life. But it is always more difficult when we speak of members of our family. Sergio is a member of the Farr family who was taken from us in a tragic car accident late Monday night.

Sergio served as an intern in my office. He was such a unique spirit. Engaging, kind and ever helpful. One of our staff fondly remembers watching Sergio engage with my constituents on tours and in the office and enjoying the smile and sense of humor he brought to every situation.

Upon leaving us, he returned to UC Santa Cruz where he ran for and won a place on the student council. He later would volunteer his time as a part of the campaign team of our colleague, MIKE HONDA. At 24, he had amassed a resume that spoke to the dedication and passion he had for civil service in whatever community he found himself. I was and continue to be impressed with this young man's ambition. His future would have undoubtedly been one of public service. We need more men and women like Sergio.

Upon leaving my office, interns are asked to participate in an exit interview. In this interview, the very last question asks if there is anything we should be left with. Sergio answered this question in the form of a self composed poem.

Mr. Speaker, I close with a quote from my young intern.

"I cannot tell the future
but I can see mine here
But until that day
Know
that I will miss this place."
Rest assured, Sergio, this place will miss you too.

CONGRATULATING REVEREND STAN SLOAN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM CHICAGO HOUSE

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Reverend Stan Sloan, the longest-serving CEO in the history of Chicago House and honor his service to the Chicago LGBTQ community.

Rev. Sloan joined Chicago House in 2000 and in his 16 years of dedication and hard work, has quadrupled the amount of services offered at the agency. Reverend Sloan led the effort to establish the Midwest's first HIV/AIDS Employment Initiative and developed a city-wide Center for Disease Control Prevention Program. In addition, Rev. Sloan and Chicago House have opened the nation's first and most comprehensive center for Transgender services—including housing, employment, medical, and legal components at the Translife Center on Chicago's northside.

Last year, Rev. Sloan came to DC and led a Congressional Briefing entitled "The Economics of Equality", in which he shared his years of experience to highlight the prevalence of poverty in the LGBTQ community. Always a man of action, most recently Rev. Sloan conceived of and launched the groundbreaking effort Proud2Share, designed to promote community and philanthropic giving within the LGBTQ community to fight poverty and homelessness.

His efforts in HIV/AIDS and poverty have been recognized by being selected the award recipient for the Illinois Department of Public Health Red Ribbon Award as well as the AIDS Legal Council of Chicago Advocate of the Year Award. In 2010, Rev. Sloan was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

The importance of charity and philanthropy can never be understated. Empathy, drive, and compassion are what make a great leader, and the community owes a debt of gratitude to Rev. Stan Sloan.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Reverend Stan Sloan for his tireless dedication to the LGBTQ community throughout his long and storied career. I urge my colleagues in congratulating Reverend Stan Sloan for all the work he has done both in the great city of Chicago and throughout our great nation.

TRIBUTE TO CLAYTON SAEUGLING

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Clayton