

The hard work done by the men and women of the McLean Project for the Arts in organizing and putting on this event has helped ensure an excellent opportunity for many of my constituents to escape from life's many stresses by providing them with a time to unwind and enjoy the visual arts in their community. This event in McLean Central Park will be filled with great food, live music and many remarkable and interesting works of art.

I am proud to have such an excellent group in my District, which is one that has been servicing local and regional communities for over 50 years. The McLean Project for the Arts has been such a positive force in teaching young people about the visual arts and in instructing them in how to become artists themselves. I would like to applaud this organization's dedication to the cultural enrichment of our future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join in recognizing the 10th anniversary of the MPAartfest in Loudoun County, Virginia. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

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HONORING MS. BEA MCPHERSON

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**HON. BOB GIBBS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 22, 2016*

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Bea McPherson for her service to the United States of America during World War II as a Cartographer for the Army Map Service.

Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, America's Greatest Generation answered the call to combat the Axis Powers in the European and Pacific Theaters. As personnel were reassigned to all fronts, the Army Map Service found itself in need of more patriots.

Upon graduating from Kent State University, Ms. McPherson selflessly joined the Army Map Service, where she was assigned to Montgomery County, Maryland. As a Cartographer, Ms. McPherson created maps used in preparation for military operations throughout Fiume, Italy and the famed Battle of the Bulge. During her service, Ms. McPherson also served as a recruiter, returning to Ohio to recruit other females into the Army Mapping Service.

Nicknamed the "Military Mapping Maidens," Ms. McPherson and other female cartographers played a vital role in defense of America and our allies abroad. Shortly after the Allies declared victory over Nazi Germany and Japan, Ms. McPherson resigned from the Army Mapping Service.

On October 4, 2016, Ms. McPherson will be inducted into the Geospatial Intelligence Hall of Fame for making significant and transformative contributions to the Army Mapping Service.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to represent Ms. Bea McPherson in the United States Congress. She established a patriotic example for all Americans to emulate and I am humbled to stand before this body to recognize Ms. McPherson's service to our great nation.

HONORING THE 80TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF SAM AND EVA JONES

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**HON. MIKE BOST**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 22, 2016*

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 80th Wedding Anniversary of Sam and Eva Jones of Marion, Illinois.

Sam and Eva Jones were married on September 27, 1936. They are lifelong residents of Southern Illinois and have remained active members of their community.

The proud parents of two sons and the grandparents of three, Sam and Eva farmed and raised livestock in Williamson County, where Sam served as President of the county fair board. Additionally, Sam worked in mining and for power companies for over 30 years, while Eva worked with local youth in the county school district. Sam and Eva are also recognized for their talent in square dancing, participating in dances at county fairs, community gatherings, and national events for more than 60 years.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing a Happy 80th Wedding Anniversary to Sam and Eva Jones and thank them for their contributions and service to Southern Illinois.

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IN MEMORY OF MRS. DARLENE E. WEIR

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**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 22, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the life of Mrs. Darlene E. Weir, of Leesburg, Virginia. On September 7, 2016, Mrs. Weir passed away at home surrounded by her loving husband of 57 years, Charles, and with her children, beloved grandchildren, and her great-granddaughter.

Mrs. Weir was born May 4, 1933, in Eugene, Oregon and was the daughter of the late Oscar M. Briggs and Essie Elizabeth Cruzan Briggs. She was known for her love of children and her dedication to teaching primary grade students in Fairfax County public schools for 26 years. Coming from a family of educators, I understand the importance of Americans like Mrs. Weir who help shape the future of our nation. Mrs. Weir made a great impact in her community that will not soon be forgotten.

Once Mrs. Weir retired from teaching, she traveled around the globe with her husband visiting all seven continents. Mrs. Weir understood the importance of civic engagement and was active in grassroots politics. Both inside and outside her career, Mrs. Weir worked with conviction to preserve our country for future generations.

Mrs. Weir will be sincerely missed by all those who had the pleasure of knowing her both on a personal and a professional level. I know that she has impacted many lives over the years, and we are all grateful for having known her. She is survived by her husband, Charles J. Weir, her four children, daughters, Sue Ellen Jones, and Maureen Kay Wood; her sons, Gregory Allen Weir and Jeffrey Charles

Weir; and eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Through them, I'm sure, her values and legacy will be assured.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the life of Mrs. Darlene E. Weir. May she rest in peace, and her family be comforted.

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CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF EUGENE "GENE" GISCOMBE

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**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 22, 2016*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor to join The Village of Harlem and New York City in paying tribute to our beloved friend, Eugene Giscombe, known affectionately by many as "Gene" and the "Mayor of 125th Street," who made his transition to his Lord and Savior on Sunday, July 10, 2016. In 1982, he founded Giscombe Realty Group, LLC one of Harlem's leading commercial real estate management, consulting, leasing, development and brokerage firms. The company was a major player in the Harlem Renaissance that helped to reverse years of decline and turn the area into one of Manhattan's most popular places to live, work, play and raise a family.

Gene Giscombe began his real estate career as a sales agent at Webb & Booker, rising to become head of sales and representing major banks, such as Manufacturers Hanover Corporation, and managing office buildings such as the C.A.V. Building at 55 West 125th Street, where former president Bill Clinton maintains an office. Inspired by his grandfather Lawrence Giscombe, a successful builder-owner in Harlem in the 1930s and 1940s, Eugene Giscombe became a beloved community leader as he grew his own company to serve a wide range of clients, including property owners, developers, financial institutions, not-for-profits, pension funds and government agencies looking to buy, lease or manage space in Harlem and New York City. Giscombe Realty Group's headquarters, for over 35 years, was located in one of Harlem's most iconic office buildings, the 12-story Lee Building at 1825 Park Avenue on East 125th Street, adjacent to the Metro North train station in East Harlem.

Over the years, Giscombe Realty Group's acquisitions, developments, re-locations and management ventures on the legendary 125th Street corridor included Chase Manhattan Bank, Fourth Federal Savings and Loan, New York State Supreme Court, Bechtel Infrastructure, Beth Israel Medical Center, the Harlem Commonwealth Council, New York College of Podiatric Medicine, and The Jewish Theological Seminary, to name a few. Gene's associates nicknamed him the "Mayor of 125th Street", celebrating him for his many successful ventures including the biggest retail sale in Harlem's history—the sale of 16 retail buildings along West 125th and 126th Street Corridor on Frederick Douglass Boulevard for \$50 million in 2007. He was also the recipient of the Business Person of the Year award from the Harlem Business Alliance, Inc. presented by Mr. Walter Edwards.

Gene Giscombe was a former chairman of the 125th Street Business Improvement District, Community Board 10 and The Greater