

The story of Central High School is not limited to Saint Paul or to Minnesota. It embodies the spirit of our nation, one rich in historical tradition and a commitment to progress. It is the story of inspiring teachers and passionate students, blazing new trails and breaking down barriers. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise to honor 150 years of excellence in public education in Minnesota, and to the next 150 years of high quality education at Saint Paul Central High School.

TRIBUTE TO HELEN AND DENNY
ZIMMERMAN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Helen and Denny Zimmerman of Anita, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on August 14, 1966 at Prescott Methodist Church in Prescott, Iowa.

Helen and Denny's lifelong commitment to each other, their children, and grandchildren truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them nothing but the very best.

HONORING DAN COHEN

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dan Cohen for his service as a member of the Congressional Award Board of Directors.

The United States Congress established the Congressional Award in 1979 to recognize initiative, achievement, and service in young people. It began as a bipartisan effort in both the United States Senate and the House of Representatives. The original bill was sponsored by the late Senator Malcolm Wallop of Wyoming and the late Congressman James Howard of New Jersey. Originally signed into law by President Jimmy Carter, the legislation (Public Law 96-114) established the Congressional Award as a public-private partnership, which receives all funding from the private sector. Every president since, both Democratic and Republican, have signed legislation to continue the program.

The Congressional Award Board of Directors is comprised of 48 members and supports the work of the foundation by providing mission-based leadership and strategic governance. Every member of the Board serves as a volunteer to help make the program a national opportunity available in every congressional district.

During this past year, over 40,000 participants from all 50 states were actively working toward earning a Congressional Award and 5,000 new participants enrolled in the program. Since its inception, over 7 million hours of service have been contributed to communities nationwide.

The example set by Dan is one we all should strive for. His willingness to serve his community and our nation's young people sets him apart as an outstanding individual, and I have been honored to serve alongside of him as Leader PELOSI's congressional appointee to the Board. I ask that all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in thanking Dan for his service and wishing him nothing but continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF PREPARE ALL
KIDS ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to reintroduce the Prepare All Kids Act—important legislation to strengthen the availability of high-quality prekindergarten for families across the country.

In my home city of New York, we have more children enrolled in full-day pre-K than 49 states as part of our effort to guarantee universal pre-K for all families. But across the country too few families have access to good prekindergarten programs that will help their children enter elementary school ready to learn and succeed.

That is why I have introduced the Prepare All Kids Act along with Senator BOB CASEY. This bill would authorize a Prekindergarten Incentive Fund to award grants to states that establish, expand, or enhance full-day pre-K programs. These grants will help states launch or expand high-quality programs that are proven to help children excel in school and help working families succeed.

I am proud of President Obama's commitment to these goals, by expanding Head Start and Early Head Start, and making early childhood education a priority. Congress must build on these efforts by passing legislation to ensure that all children benefit from high-quality prekindergarten.

IN HONOR OF PASTOR DANIEL
SIMMONS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my sincerest congratulations to Pastor Daniel Simmons, leader of my church home, Mount Zion Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia. Pastor Simmons will be celebrating 25 years of outstanding ministry to Mount Zion Baptist Church on Sunday, October 9, 2016.

A native of Cairo, Georgia, Daniel Simmons was born to the late Mrs. Pinkie Norwood Simmons and the late Reverend Perry Simmons,

Sr. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Albany State College, now University, in 1977. He went on to earn a Master of Arts degree in Counseling from the University of Georgia in 1985 and a Doctorate of Ministry from Bethany Theological Seminary in Dothan, Alabama in 1991. Pastor Simmons worked as a Rehabilitation Counselor with the Georgia Department of Rehabilitation Services for seventeen years. He also worked as a Community Development Specialist.

Pastor Simmons began preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ in June 1984. He pastored Mountain Grove Baptist Church in Dawson, Georgia and Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Shingler, Georgia. In 1991, the Lord called him to lead Mount Zion Baptist Church. In his 25 years of leadership, Mount Zion has expanded its Ministry services, increased its membership tremendously to the point where a second worship service was added, and moved into its new state-of-the-art facility on 109 acres of land at 901 South Westover Boulevard in 2010.

But most importantly, Pastor Simmons has led Mount Zion Baptist Church to become a pillar in the community, known for ministering to those in need. Pastor Simmons welcomes anyone and everyone into the church and its members make it their duty to ensure that every soul is taken care of and prayed over. With a congregation of over 3,000 members and 54 ministries, including radio, television, and live-streaming, Mount Zion is truly "reaching the world for Christ through evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, and missions."

Mount Zion Baptist Church is celebrating another happy occasion—its 151st anniversary. The church was founded in 1865, the same year that the Thirteenth Amendment abolishing slavery was passed by Congress and ratified by the States. Nearly a century later, many of the rallies during the Albany phase of the Civil Rights Movement were held at Mount Zion. To commemorate those struggles, the church donated the building to the Albany Civil Rights Museum which is currently housed there. Mount Zion has seen many ups and downs but God's will and our members' perseverance have shaped it into the expansive and successful place of worship it is today.

Jeremiah 3:15 says, "Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding." Pastor Daniel Simmons is one such shepherd and a man of integrity who exudes the genuine principles and values of Christian discipleship. Over the 20 years I have been a member of the church, I am proud to call Mount Zion my church home and Pastor Daniel Simmons my pastor. As an ordained Deacon and Trustee, I have personally witnessed the unshakeable faith Pastor Simmons has for the Lord and the profound exegesis he conveys in his sermons. My wife, Vivian, and I are grateful that we can always count on Pastor Simmons' wise counsel and sage advice.

Pastor Simmons has achieved many things in his life but none of this would have been possible without the love and support of his wife and First Lady of the Church, Diane Davis Simmons, and his two children and five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the more than 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in thanking Pastor Daniel

Simmons for 25 outstanding years of service to Mount Zion Baptist Church and a lifetime of service in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

RECOGNITION OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Calvary Baptist Church of Republic, Missouri, for the celebration of their 50th anniversary on October 28, 2016.

Calvary Baptist has been an integral part of Republic, Missouri, since 1966. From very humble beginnings in an old schoolhouse to the large modern facilities, Calvary has been involved in enriching and aiding the people of Republic. Over the decades the small group that started Calvary Baptist has now grown to over 1,700 people that comprise the membership of Calvary Baptist Church.

Over the years, hundreds of men, women, and children have placed their faith in Christ through ministries of Calvary Baptist Church. For 50 years, Calvary has been a leader in the church community by reaching out to those in need physically and spiritually and by providing food, finances, and counseling as well as caring for the hurting, grieving, and lonely.

Calvary Baptist has been very involved in sharing the good news of Jesus with many in other countries as well. Every year several groups travel from Republic to other states and foreign countries to perform work-related projects on facilities, orphanages, and rehabilitation centers and to conduct Bible programs for children, teenagers and medical and sports camps.

Mr. Speaker, Calvary Baptist deserves this body's utmost respect for its desire to be an integral part of the Republic community and providing an outlet for so many to help others. I encourage my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in extending to the church our deepest appreciation for their efforts which have contributed so greatly to the people of southwest Missouri, other states, and around the world.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LASKER 'LAS' BELL

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of one of Arkansas' greats in the entertainment industry, Lasker 'Las' Bell, who passed away earlier this month at the age of 88.

Las moved to Camden, Arkansas in search of work, and after an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army was hired to host El Dorados KJWH radio's first soul music radio show.

Moving to television, he pitched his American Bandstand-like show the Las Bell Variety Show that became part of the weekly lineup on KTVE. At the time, Las was the only Black

television host between Memphis and Dallas, and became the first Black interviewer for Channel 10 News in Arkansas.

Las was also involved in the community, serving on the executive board for the Arkansas Council on Human Relations in Ouachita County. He was also appointed to the Human Resources Commission by Governor David Pryor, and reappointed under Governor Frank White.

Las left a lasting impact on our state and will be greatly missed by all of Arkansas.

I extend my respect, affection and prayers to his family and loved ones.

IN HONOR OF THE FARM CREDIT SYSTEM'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of our Nation's farmers and the Farm Credit System as we mark its 100th anniversary.

Since Congress established the Federal Farm Loan Act in 1916, many farmers and producers have relied on the Farm Credit System for access to capital and financial opportunity.

With this incredible program comes more freedom, opportunity, and prosperity for the agriculture community across our nation. It's a critical piece of our duty to help ensure we can keep farmers on their farms.

Back home in North Carolina, we know how important it is to have a prosperous and productive agriculture industry. We respect and admire the men and women who toil our lands and work incredibly hard to provide food and products we depend on in our daily lives. The Farm Credit System is a vital part of this chain, and it ensures we can continue supporting the prosperity of agriculture producers of all sizes and types.

Across North Carolina, more than 14,800 farmers and producers rely on the Farm Credit System to borrow the capital they need to make their businesses successful and provide food and fiber to our communities. Many of these people are young and just starting out in the agriculture industry or are on small farms.

As we commemorate a century of service, we say thank you to our farmers and producers for their hard work to ensure our agriculture community remains strong, both now and for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to watching the Farm Credit System continue to serve our rural and agriculture communities for the next 100 years.

TRIBUTE TO MS. GRACE VANDERWAAL

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Ms. Grace Vanderwaal, an inspiring young woman and this year's winner of America's Got Talent.

Grace is a 12-year-old singer-songwriter from Suffern, New York, who started writing music at the age of three when she would make up songs with her wireless microphone. She was introduced to ukulele music by a family friend, and then decided to use her birthday money from her 11th birthday to buy her own ukulele. A true musical prodigy, Grace mastered the ukulele within a year, now owning five ukuleles, as well as a piano and a saxophone.

Grace began performing at local establishments for small audiences, but had never played before a large crowd until this past summer. She shared her amazing talents with the world when she auditioned for Season 11 of America's Got Talent and played her original song, "I Don't Know My Name," a song about finding who you are and where you fit in, while playing the ukulele. Grace impressed the judges so much she was sent straight to the "Live Shows." Grace continued astonishing audiences, performing original pieces as she advanced in each round of the show, and on September 14, was crowned the first prize winner, taking home a \$1 million prize, a Las Vegas show date, and a record contract. Before the Las Vegas show, Grace will return home to Suffern for a Saturday, October 1 parade and celebration with her family, neighbors, and schoolmates.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize my extremely talented constituent, Ms. Grace Vanderwaal, and I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on this achievement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BETTY SMITH

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Betty Smith, who passed away on April 24, 2016.

Betty spent most of her life in Knightsen, California preserving the rich farming culture of East Contra Costa County.

She began contributing to her community at a young age. While attending Liberty High School, she co-wrote the lyrics to the school's anthem, which is still used by the Liberty Lions today. After high school, she studied at University of the Pacific in Stockton, and worked at Fiberboard in Antioch.

Betty continued her service by teaching preschool for many years and participating in the Knightsen Garden Club and 4-H Club.

Betty and her husband, William R. Smith, continued the family farm started by her parents. As a multi-generation family farm in Knightsen, Smith Family Farm is known for many varieties of stone fruits, tomatoes, zucchinis, apples and cruciferous greens. Each year, the Farm holds a Tomato Festival and Pumpkin Harvest Festival to celebrate the fresh crops of East Contra Costa County.

Over the last 25 years, Betty greeted visitors from near and far when they arrived at Smith Family Farm to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables during the U-pick season. She engaged the visiting children with her barn show and taught them about farming, nature and local history using songs, stories, and