Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Mrs. Carolyn Crayton, the founder and executive director of both the Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful Commission and the Macon, Georgia International Cherry Blossom Festival. She has dedicated herself to community service, ensuring that our communities stay clean and beautiful.

She has worked tirelessly since 1964 as the Founder and Executive Director of Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful Commission. Carolyn has been the recipient of the Keep America Beautiful’s Leadership Award and the Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson Award. She was also awarded the Queen Mother’s Award, which was presented by the Keep Britain Tidy Group, this being the only time this honor was awarded outside the United Kingdom. Carolyn was invited to appear on Good Morning America in 1984, as one of several people who have made a difference in their community. In 1988, she received the Georgia Clean and Beautiful Woman of the Year Award, which is now named the Carolyn Crayton Award.

Carolyn is also responsible for founding the Georgia International Cherry Blossom Festival. Carolyn’s dedication and hard work are the reason we are able to enjoy the Cherry Blossom Festival and all the beautiful cherry blossom trees. She and her organization are responsible for their presence in the State of Georgia. She has received a Certificate of Merit from the Georgia Garden Clubs of Georgia and the Ladies Home Journal Heroine Award. Carolyn has done such a wonderful job with the production and management of the Georgia International Cherry Blossom Festival, she was named the Festival Director of the Year in Georgia in 1995. One year later she was inducted into the International Festivals and Events Association’s Hall of Fame. In 1999, she received the Deen Day Smith Award.

Unfortunately, Carolyn is retiring this year. I would like to recognize and commend her for all the hard work she has done for the State of Georgia, more specifically Crayton Award. She has selflessly given her time and effort as an active community leader and should be an example to all of us.

Carolyn and her husband Lee are dear friends and I am very proud of the great contribution they have both made to the State of Georgia.