

the House of Representatives. Her 100th birthday is only the latest in a long list of milestones in her life, and I am sure there will be many more.

RECOGNIZING DR. MARTIN LUTHER LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BROOKLYN, OHIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Brooklyn, Ohio as they celebrate one hundred years of service to the community.

The legacy of Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church began in 1910 with the faith of several immigrant families who came to Cleveland from Czechoslovakia in search of a better life. The original church was built on West 14th Street in the Tremont neighborhood of Cleveland. In the 1960s, the church was demolished to make way for interstate highway construction, including Interstate 71. Thanks to the dedication and generous contributions of church members, a new home was found in Brooklyn, Ohio, where the church has remained for more than forty years.

Today, the church provides social activities and events for all ages. Church members are brought together by the musical talents of the Praise Band, as well as programs such as the weekly Children's Sermon. Many members volunteer time at fish fries and other events, including fund raising projects to help people in need.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Brooklyn, Ohio as they celebrate their one hundred year anniversary. Although the church has evolved in many ways over the past century, its mission has remained the same: to provide a warm and friendly place for families and individuals of all backgrounds to worship; to support each other; and to reach out and help others in need.

A TRIBUTE TO MARY HATWOOD FUTRELL

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mary Hatwood Futrell on her remarkable career as the Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development at The George Washington University. Many in this body will remember Dr. Futrell from her decades of involvement and leadership at the National Education Association, where she was president from 1983 to 1989.

Throughout her entire distinguished career, Dr. Futrell has been a trailblazer in Virginia and the national education debate. Born and raised in Altavista, Virginia, she graduated

from Dunbar High School in Lynchburg and received a Business Education Degree from Virginia State University. In 1965, she helped integrate the teaching staff at George Washington High School in Alexandria, where she would continue to teach until 1980—becoming chair of her department and an active participant in the Alexandria and Virginia Education Associations.

In 1968, Dr. Futrell became the first African American president of the Virginia Education Association. She fought hard for teachers' rights, and in that same year she led a march of 7,000 teachers and public school employees on Richmond to protest a Virginia Supreme Court ruling striking down collective bargaining rights for public employees. At the time, it was one of the largest marches ever to take place in the history of Virginia.

Dr. Futrell became president of the National Education Association in 1983. There she served an unprecedented three terms. She worked tirelessly to strengthen and grow the association, move it to take forceful positions on collective bargaining rights, and to bring a higher profile to important issues like drop-out rates and changing school curriculum needs.

After stepping down as president of the NEA, Dr. Futrell joined The George Washington University as a fellow, earned her PhD, and quickly became a faculty member and the Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development. In her role as Dean she contributed greatly to education both nationally and locally. Under her leadership the School's prominence has grown dramatically; its enrollments have increased 45 percent and it is now more selective than ever before. The Graduate School has raised more than \$200 million in funding for research and educational efforts during her tenure and has started 10 centers of excellence that help guide education policy on the national stage and in local school districts across the country.

Throughout that time, Dr. Futrell has always kept her close ties to the Commonwealth. She makes sure that her faculty teaches in all of GW's Virginia locations—Arlington, Alexandria, Ashburn and Hampton Roads. Indeed, Dr. Futrell herself drives to the university's Hampton Roads Center to teach classes each semester. She has built a strong following and has personally educated many of the great principals, superintendents and education leaders in Virginia today.

As she relinquishes her deanship, I want to wish Dr. Futrell many more successful years of teaching and thank her for her lifetime of dedication to her profession and to the students and teachers of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

HONORING THE HAJDAK-MOKAN CHAPTER OF THE 82ND AIRBORNE ASSOCIATION

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hajdak-Mokan Chapter of the 82nd Airborne

Association as an exemplary organization for its membership's history of commitment to service, to community, and to our Nation.

The 82nd Airborne Division, the division in which I am proud to have served, has had a long and distinguished history in the United States Army. Formed on August 25, 1917, at Camp Gordon, Georgia, the unit was given the nickname "All-Americans," since members of the Division called all 48 States home. This is showcased in its famous "AA" shoulder patch.

First deployed for combat in World War I, the 82nd Infantry Division fought for five grueling months in France. After the war ended, the Division was demobilized; when the duel threats of Fascist Germany and Imperial Japan threatened the very survival of the free world and democratic government, the 82nd was reactivated in 1942 to defend our Nation. That same year, the 82nd became the first airborne division in the U.S. Army, and was redesignated the 82nd Airborne Division. Over the course of the war, paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division saw action in North Africa, Italy, and as part of Operation Overlord. On the night of June 5th–6th, 1944, just before Allied transports landed on the beaches of Normandy, paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division began the largest airborne assault in history, and were among the first to fight for the liberation of Europe. The 82nd Airborne would go on to fight in Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands, and would brave the German counteroffensive in the Ardennes forest in the frigid winter of 1944.

After the war, the 82nd Airborne Division assisted in the occupation of Berlin, and then upon its return to the United States made its permanent home at Ft. Bragg in North Carolina. Since then, the brave paratroopers of the 82nd have seen action in Korea, have helped keep order in the Dominican Republic, have fought in the dense jungles of Vietnam, and have defended American interests in Grenada. The paratroopers participated in interventions in Honduras and Panama, and in 1990 assisted in the liberation of Kuwait from Saddam Hussein's brutal dictatorship. After 9/11, the 82nd Airborne was one of the first American units to see action in Afghanistan. When the U.S. launched Operation Iraqi Freedom, the 82nd Airborne was there.

The Hajdak-Mokan Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Association honors veterans, raises money for wounded warriors, provides honor guards for funerals, marches in parades, and supports community events. The men and women of the Hajdak-Mokan Chapter embody the spirit of the 82nd Airborne. They prove that love of country, commitment to one another and to community, and a respect for duty are all still integral parts of American society. This spirit also manifests itself in the life and work of Mr. Dan Bosak. Mr. Bosak was a founding member of the Hajdak-Mokan Chapter. He served as its chairman for 13 years of its 15-year history.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Hajdak-Mokan Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Association for its outstanding dedication to service, and its longtime chairman and one of its founding members, Mr. Dan Bosak, for his years of steadfast commitment and loyalty to his fellow paratroopers, to his community, and to his Nation. I am extremely honored to serve as his Congressman.

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY LU'AU 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Pacific University's Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i Club for their 50 years of service and support for the student body and surrounding communities in Forest Grove, Oregon.

Pacific University, founded in 1849, is one of the oldest schools in the Pacific Northwest. It prides itself on its community of intellectually curious and highly motivated faculty, staff, and students who are committed to educational excellence and the maintenance and expansion of an open worldview. Pacific is a comprehensive liberal arts and health care university with more than 3,200 graduate and undergraduate students attending classes at campuses in Forest Grove, Eugene, Hillsboro, and Portland, Oregon.

Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i, which was founded in the fall of 1959, is an integral part of Pacific's vibrant and diverse community. It began as a group of sixteen students from Hawaii under the guidance of Dr. Fred Scheller and Dr. A.C. "Hap" Hingston and has now grown into a campus-wide organization with over 200 members.

Through social functions and community projects, active members of the club become a part of a family of students, or 'Ohana, and are integrated into a network that ensures a memorable college experience. For the group, family means more than blood relations; it means a collection of people who have strong community ties and are focused on building positive relationships.

One of Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i's most successful activities, the Big Brother-Big Sister program, pairs new students with upperclassmen from the same high school or hometown, allowing the new students to adjust to their surroundings using peers as a resource and further capitalizing the concept of 'Ohana. Club members are also given the opportunity to participate in intramural sports, which afford them the opportunity to engage in the competitive spirit while meeting new people and fostering a deeper sense of community and loyalty to one another.

In addition, the Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i club facilitates a variety of activities throughout the year to enrich the student body and wider community. The most well-known of these events, the annual spring lu'au, is a culmination of many hours of hard work and months of planning. The lu'au allows the community to share in a unique aspect of Hawaiian heritage, culture, and family, or 'Ohana. This event is the only completely student-run and student-directed lu'au in the Northwest and attracts over 2,000 attendees every year.

On April 10, 2010, Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i will celebrate its 50th annual lu'au at Pacific University. I wish to recognize Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i for its accomplishments, legacy, and importance in the university community. Congratulations to Pacific University's Na Haumana 'O Hawai'i club for having reached

its 50th anniversary lu'au celebration. Mahalo and best wishes.

HONORING BOTH REGIONAL CONTRACTING SERVICES, LLC, IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AS THE 2010 SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR, AND ITS FOUNDER, BEVERLY THOMAS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Regional Contracting Services, LLC, in Washington, D.C., as the 2010 D.C. Small Business of the Year, and its founder, Beverly Thomas. Regional Contracting Services is a woman-owned, minority D.C. business that specializes in rough carpentry, fire-stopping, insulation, and building supplies. The company recently received a significant contract to do work at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) headquarters construction project, the largest federal construction project underway in the United States today, where 100 percent of the pre-construction contracts were awarded to small, minority-owned, and disadvantaged businesses, and 40 percent of these contracts were awarded to businesses in the District of Columbia, where the project is located.

Regional Contracting Services began in July 2001 with a \$7,000 investment and has grown significantly, reporting annual sales revenue of \$16 million last year, with a bonding capacity of \$2 million per job, and \$10 million in total. Regional Contracting Services has 60 employees, and has been rated among the top 500 "Fastest Growing Companies in America" by Entrepreneur magazine.

Regional Contracting Services has worked on some of the Washington area's top projects, including the Children's National Medical Center, the Mandarin Hotel, the Pentagon, the National Museum of the American Indian, the Walter Washington Convention Center, the Washington Nationals' Baseball Stadium, and the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority—Brentwood Yard Expansion.

Receiving a contract for the DHS headquarters construction project is a testament to Regional Contracting Services' success and motivation for other D.C. small businesses in competition for a share of the DHS headquarters project. The early success of Regional Contracting Services stands as an example to our local businesses, that in a fair competition, they can win. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring both Regional Contracting Services, LLC, in Washington, D.C., as the 2010 D.C. Small Business of the Year, and its founder, Beverly Thomas.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,826,379,456,286.85.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,187,953,709,993.00 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

IN SUPPORT OF THE GOALS OF A NATIONAL SIBLINGS DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of establishing a National Siblings Day, a day in which we all reflect upon the ways siblings have enriched our lives. We have a Mother's Day to celebrate our mothers, and a Father's Day to celebrate our fathers. Establishing a Siblings Day would allow us an opportunity to celebrate and honor our siblings and would give every family member a day to be celebrated.

Claudia Evart is a constituent of mine in New York. She has worked tirelessly over the past several years to make April 10th the official day we reflect upon the importance of our siblings.

April 10th would mark the birthday of Ms. Evart's sister, Lisette, who died tragically in an accident that also took the life of her father in 1972. Lisette was only 19 years old. Just 14 years later, in 1986, Ms. Evart's older brother, Alan, died in an accident in his home at the young age of 36.

Siblings significantly affect our lives and shape who we are. Siblings are a major part of our family, and often when our parents are gone our siblings are the only family we have left. And sometimes we lose our siblings at an early age, as with Ms. Evart's tragic experience. A National Siblings Day would help us honor and celebrate siblings and aid us in remembering the siblings that we have lost.

I applaud Ms. Evart's hard work over the past 14 years to create a National Siblings Day, and with it a loving tribute to her deceased siblings. Her dedicated efforts are inspirational. Since 1998, 33 governors have issued gubernatorial proclamations in their states for Siblings Day: AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, FL, IL, IA, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MS, MO, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OK, PA, RI, SC, VT, VA, WV, WA, WI and WY. I urge my colleagues to recognize the importance of siblings by adding their support to Ms. Evart's endeavors, and to the goals of a National Siblings Day.