

Christ. He has spread his message from the jungles of the Philippines to the distant villages of Antarctica.

Mr. Speaker, I have a great deal of appreciation for Pastor Modlish and his dedication to his church and community, and it is my honor to acknowledge his faithful service.

IN HONOR OF THE OLD HICKORY
DIVISION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Old Hickory Division for their service during World War II.

This October 2nd will mark the 72nd Anniversary of the 30th Infantry Division's crossing into Germany during World War II and smashing through Adolph Hitler's vaunted Westwall. The Westwall was designed to keep American forces from driving into the heart of the Ruhr Industrial area, but American forces broke through, destroying Germany's ability to supply its armies.

The 30th Infantry Division, a National Guard Division made up of young men from the Carolinas, Tennessee and Georgia was part of that force that broke through the German lines. The 30th Infantry Division was proudly called "Old Hickory" after Andrew Jackson, the 7th President of the United States.

In less than 100 days after landing on the beaches of Normandy, these men first kept the routes between Omaha and Utah Beach—the two principal American landing sites—open. They then led the charge through the Normandy hedgerows down to Saint-Lô, France. Next, they were the division that spearheaded the Normandy breakout in late July.

Less than two weeks later—in what was agreed to by both American and German commanders as the turning point of World War II in Europe—Old Hickory managed to hold off the onslaught of four German panzer divisions during a fight at Mortain, France that numbered nearly 80,000 Germans against 13,000 brave soldiers from Old Hickory.

By the 2nd of October, 1944, 72 years ago next week, the 30th infiltrated into France and became the first infantry division into Belgium and the Netherlands. This was the longest and fastest military incursion in history.

Two weeks later the men of Old Hickory broke up a massive counterattack put on by the 1st SS Panzer Corps and closed the Aachen Gap, which cut off all supply and reinforcement lines into the ancient imperial city of Aachen and forced its surrender on the 21st of October, 1944. This was the first large German city to be captured by the Allies in WWII.

The 30th followed this success with a rapid advance around the north side of the Ruhr Industrial Pocket, capturing Brunswick and finally capturing Magdeburg on the Elbe River on the 17th of April 1945.

The 30th met the Russian army at Magdeburg and remained in occupation there throughout the month of May when it was turned over to the Russians, as part of their designated occupation territory. This brought the end of the war for the 30th Infantry Division.

After war's end in 1946, General Dwight Eisenhower directed his historian of the European Theater to draw up a rating sheet and rank all of the divisions that fought there.

There were 42 infantry divisions in all.

His staff of 35 officers came to a quick and near unanimous consensus. Old Hickory was merited with the distinction of being the top-rated infantry division in all three major operations performed in Europe during World War II.

A Presidential Unit Citation honoring these men for this achievement was recommended that very same year. But it was never awarded.

Following the end of conflict in Europe, the 30th returned to Ft. Jackson, SC and was deactivated on the 25th of November 1945.

On this anniversary of the crucial breaching of Hitler's vaunted Westwall and subsequent capture of Aachen, I ask this body to pause and remember. Remember the achievements and sacrifice of those members of the greatest generation who belonged to the "most outstanding infantry division" in the European Theater in World War II, the 30th Infantry Division, the Workhorse of the Western Front.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in recognizing the 30th Infantry Division for their outstanding service and sacrifice during World War II.

TRIBUTE TO YOLANDA URBY
URRABAZO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of one of Laredo's finest teachers, Yolanda Urby Urrabazo.

Mrs. Urrabazo was born on February 12, 1947 to Juan and Carolina Urby in Del Rio, Texas. She was considered a miracle baby due to being born ten years after her nine siblings. Although her first language was Spanish, she quickly learned English and excelled in her studies. She had straight A's throughout her grade school education and graduated in the top five percent of her class from Del Rio High School in 1965. She was one of the few Hispanics in the National Honor Society all four years and participated in many extracurricular activities. She received her bachelor's degree in Spanish Literature and a minor in English from Texas Woman's University and then a Master's degree in Spanish Literature from The University of Texas-El Paso in 1977. Many of her loved ones knew that her favorite novel was Don Quixote de la Mancha by Cervantes and she could quote Shakespeare eloquently and effortlessly.

Her enthusiasm for literature and poetry was most evident to everyone she met. This eventually led her to a passionate and fulfilling teaching career of 32 years, recently retiring from United High School in June 2016. Yolanda's devotion to her students is shown by her long and passionate career in teaching where she prided herself in teaching in every decade since the 1960s. For decades, she dedicated her life to educating generations of students, including her own seven children. She also inspired two of her daughters, Elizabeth U. Velasquez and Veronica Urrabazo, to follow in

her footsteps and become educators themselves. This commitment to education is an inspiration, and serves as reminder for how important educators are to our community. Her dedication to serving others will not be forgotten and will serve as a testament to what we should all strive for.

Mrs. Urrabazo is survived by her beloved husband Ignacio Urrabazo and their seven children (Tom, Elizabeth, Jaime, Yolanda, Veronica, Alejandra, and Claudia) and six grandchildren, as well as her five siblings. Her legacy will live on in the countless people she helped shape—she was intelligent, humble, strong, and compassionate to all. The mentoring and guidance that she provided will be shown throughout the community she touched. I have personally seen her impact through the great work her daughters, Yolanda Urrabazo and Claudia Urrabazo, provided when they worked in my Congressional office. It was clear through their hard work and ability that their mother had taught them very well.

She serves as reminder for how much one person can do to affect so many lives. Not only her family, but students, teachers, community members, and both the young and old, mourn her passing. Her legacy will live on through her good deeds and through our cherished memories. The city of Laredo will miss her and cherish the kindness and inspiration that she brought to our community and our education system.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to remember the legacy of Yolanda Urby Urrabazo.

IN HONOR OF MRS. ANNA M.
DEBRO

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Anna M. Debro of Columbus, Georgia on her 100th birthday. Mrs. Debro is a phenomenal woman who has lived a life of compassion dedicated to serving her community as a triumphant and caring teacher, Christian, and mother.

Anna M. Debro was born in Mississippi on October 3, 1916 to Reverend Louis W. Hooper, an honored educator, and Minnie Hooper. She married the late Presiding Elder James Debro, Sr., and together over their 30 years of marriage, had five children—James Jr., Willie, Lisa, Harriette, and Dwight.

Mrs. Debro graduated from Delta Industrial High School, a historical boarding school for gifted Black children in the Mississippi Delta. In 1941, she earned her undergraduate degree at Alcorn & Campbell College and continued her education at Atlanta University (now Clark Atlanta University), where she received her Master's in Math Education in 1960. As a lifelong learner with a passion for education, she sought further studies at the University of Georgia, Florida A&M University, and Tuskegee University.

Over the next 40 years, Mrs. Debro was committed to educating young minds in several capacities. She held the position of Math Department Chair, the Tri Hi Y Chair and Student Advisor, as well as the PTA Chairwoman at Carver High in Columbus, GA from 1954 to

1971. Furthermore, she taught at Columbus High from 1971 to 1978, where she was historically among the first wave of African American teachers to desegregate the Muscogee County School District.

George Washington Carver once said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Mrs. Debro has lived a truly blessed life due to her eternal faith in the Lord and her vibrant testimony of His greatness to all whom she encounters, whether they are a member of her community, church or classroom. As a devout servant of God and a member of St. Mark A.M.E. Church for over 70 years, her pledge to Christ is echoed in her compassionate leadership, which makes her a guiding light within the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and my wife, Vivian, in extending our best wishes to Mrs. Anna M. Debro on her 100th birthday. As we celebrate another year of this outstanding citizen's life, we would do well to follow the example of her legacy of striving to be lifelong learners and improving the quality of the communities we touch.

A TRIBUTE TO CIVIL RIGHTS
LEGEND FRANKIE MUSE FREEMAN

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Frankie Muse Freeman, a remarkable American who will soon celebrate her 100th birthday on November 24, 2016. As an exceptional and groundbreaking attorney, Frankie Freeman is a long-time civil rights icon who has set a standard of excellence in the law, housing reform, social justice, protecting the right to vote and personal courage.

Attorney Frankie Muse Freeman is a trailblazer who has been making history for decades. A brilliant, public service-oriented lawyer, she has devoted her life to opening up the doors of equal opportunity for all.

Her career has been exceptional in many ways. It includes her dedicated service as a member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission and Inspector General of the Community Services Administration, as well as her long time service as an attorney for the St. Louis Housing Authority.

Mrs. Freeman's extraordinary work has been recognized across generations and across this nation. This living legend was instrumental in creating the Citizens Commission on Civil Rights in 1982, inducted into the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame at the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site in 2007, and appointed by President Barack Obama to serve as a Member of the Commission on Presidential Scholars in 2015.

In addition, she has been the recipient of numerous awards such as the Spingarn Medal from the NAACP and the Spirit of Excellence Award from the American Bar Association's Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession.

I have known Mrs. Freeman since my earliest days growing up in St. Louis. She stood

shoulder-to-shoulder with my father, former Congressman Bill Clay, and other national leaders to help break down the walls of segregation. A grand and gracious lady, and a person of total integrity, she has truly been a mentor to me, whose learned opinion I still seek out on a regular basis.

A noted author, she published her memoir, "A Song of Faith and Hope," to critical acclaim in 2003. She is also a Past President of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members of Congress to join me in honoring Frankie Muse Freeman on her centennial, she has helped so many and continues to inspire us to have courage, to work towards transformative change, and to confront injustice and inequality wherever it exists.

RECOGNIZING THE 105TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. KEVIN YODER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the people of Taiwan on the 105th anniversary of their National Day, which will take place on October 10, 2016.

Taiwan has close trade ties with the United States, ranking as our country's ninth largest trading partner. Taiwan also represents Kansas' fifth largest export market in Asia, and thirteenth largest export market in the world. In 2014, Kansas' exports to Taiwan reached \$185.4 million.

Every two years, Taiwanese Agricultural Trade Goodwill Missions visit the United States to purchase top quality American agricultural commodities, many of which are produced in my home state.

As a member of Congressional Taiwan Caucus, I cherish the friendship between our two nations and look forward to continuing to work with Ambassador Stanley Kao of Taiwan and his team in Washington, D.C.

TRIBUTE FOR GRAND JUNCTION
CHALLENGER BASEBALL TEAM

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Grand Junction Challenger baseball team on qualifying for the Little League World Series Championship game. The Challenger little league baseball team gives special needs children an opportunity to compete in baseball. The program started in 1989 with 12 kids who had a dream of playing baseball, and has turned into an entire league of kids with a passion for America's past time. Today there are more than 30,000 children participating in more than 900 leagues worldwide.

This year the Challengers Little League World Series games will be broadcast on ESPN. They are one of eight teams from the Grand Junction area to qualify to compete, and will be the first Grand Junction Challengers team to play in this televised game.

The whole community is proud of this Grand Junction team that rose to the challenge to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

There is a natural competitiveness to the game, but these kids will take it a step further when they take the field, showcasing their baseball skills and demonstrating that anything is possible in life through perseverance and determination. I look forward to watching them fulfill their dreams of playing baseball in front of a large crowd cheering for them just as fans cheered for Ruth, DiMaggio, Mays, Robinson and Williams.

THANKING CAROLINE KLEMP FOR
HER DEDICATED SERVICE TO
THE HOUSE

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my thanks and appreciation to Ms. Caroline Klemm who, during the past forty-one years, has served the United States House of Representatives in the offices of the House Sergeant at Arms and the Chief Administrative Officer.

In October of this year, Caroline will officially end her tenure at the House.

Caroline began her career with the House Sergeant at Arms in 1975, where she held various financial responsibilities for Members of Congress. In 1993, she began working in the Office of Members' Services under the direction of George Chapin in the Office of Non-Legislative and Financial Services, which later became the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Throughout the years, Caroline has made significant contributions processing and managing Member benefits and payroll for the House. In 1994, Caroline was promoted to Director of Members' Services. In this capacity she is responsible for the quality, accuracy, and timeliness of submissions of all Members' benefits records to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). She has provided many years of dedication, hard work, and service to Members and their families.

The Members truly view Caroline as a member of their family as she continues to serve them well beyond their House careers.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend congratulations to Caroline for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the House. We wish Caroline many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

HONORING MR. CHARLES C.
FIELDER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with Representative HUFFMAN, to honor Charles C. Fielder, the Director of Caltrans District 1, upon his retirement on September 29, 2016 from an impressive career that spanned over 28 years as a