

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of New Hope Baptist Church in Hampton, Virginia.

New Hope Baptist Church began as New Hope Mission in 1967. Former members of New Emmanuel Baptist Church in Newport News, Virginia felt compelled to establish their own place of worship, and they began to meet and cultivate their fellowship. The group originally began meeting in a store on North Avenue and later at Carver High School, both in Newport News. Reverend C.B. Potts served as the mission's spiritual leader during this time. The mission officially became New Hope Baptist Church in October of 1967.

Reverend C.B. Potts oversaw the church's move into their first building on April 10, 1969. With more space, proper furnishings, and a growing community presence, the church soon experienced an increase in membership and the creation of their first choir. Pastor G.I. Melton, installed as pastor in 1970, provided guidance and direction throughout this period. Under his leadership, the church saw over 100 new members and the creation of the Children's Church Ministry and Transportation Ministry. This growth continued over the years, and under the leadership of Pastor Melton the congregation broke ground on a new sanctuary in 1980. The construction of New Hope Baptist Church's new sanctuary was completed in August of 1981, two months after the death of Pastor Melton. Today, New Hope Baptist Church has grown beyond any of its founders' expectations. Members of New Hope Baptist Church have seen the expansion of the church through membership and the creation of many ministries such as the Women's Fellowship, Men's Fellowship, Evangelism Team, Seniors' Ministry, Tutorial Ministry, and many more. In January 1995, Rev. Dr. Christopher C. Carter, Sr. was installed as Pastor. In 2004, Pastor Carter led the congregation as they broke ground on a 12,000 square foot facility located in Hampton, Virginia, where they worship today.

Over the years, the congregation of New Hope Baptist Church has been dutifully led in prayer and service by the following men of faith—Rev. C.B. Potts, Rev. W.W. Butler, Rev. G.I. Melton, Rev. Dr. Ivan Harris, Rev. Virgil Newkirk, and Rev. Dr. Christopher C. Carter, Sr.

Mr. Speaker, as New Hope Baptist Church celebrates its 50th anniversary, the church's congregation can look back on its history with pride. I would like to congratulate Pastor Carter and the entire New Hope Baptist Church community on this special occasion. I wish the church another 50 years of growth and fellowship.

CONGRATULATING THE FESTUS TIGERS BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Festus Tigers Boys Cross Country team on winning the Class 3 Cross Country State Championship.

This team and their coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing the Festus Tigers Boys Cross Country team for a job well done.

TRIBUTE TO GRAYDON CARTER ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM VANITY FAIR

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute and recognize the career of hall of fame magazine editor Graydon Carter. Graydon Carter is one of the great journalists of our time and retires today after 25 years as editor of Vanity Fair. He co-founded Spy Magazine which he also edited, as well as The New York Observer. And at Vanity Fair, he gave writers like Michael Lewis and Dominick Dunne a venue, and Christopher Hitchens, one of the great journalists of our time. Graydon said about Christopher Hitchens upon his passing that he was "a wit, a charmer and a troublemaker and to those who knew him well, he was a gift from—dare I say it?—God." I'm sure Hitch would have said the same about Graydon. From the beginning of Spy Magazine and through the days of The New York Observer and Vanity Fair, he pointed out the shortcomings of Donald Trump. And he gave him the appellation "short-fingered vulgarian." For that and much more, Graydon Carter will be remembered—a great journalist, a great human being, a great raconteur, and a friend. Graydon Carter will also be remembered for publishing such great writers as David Halberstam, Walter Isaacson, David Kamp, Nicholas Lemann, Jeffrey E. Stern and William Langewiesche, and for printing the brilliant photographic images of such artists as Annie Leibovitz, Mark Selinger and Jonas Freedwall Karlson. With a showman's charisma, he brought glamor and politics together, throwing some of the best-remembered parties in New York, Los Angeles and Washington, including hosting the annual White House Correspondents Association Vanity Fair after-party, the most sought-after invitation in D.C. A gourmet, his signature restaurants The Waverly Inn in the West Village and Monkey Bar on the Upper East Side are destinations in good taste. Graydon Carter was also the producer of documentaries including "Gonzo: The Life and Work of Hunter S. Thompson" and "The Kid Stays in the Picture," about legendary Hollywood producer

Robert Evans and was a regular at both the Sundance and Cannes film festivals. Print journalism is tough and Graydon Carter will also be remembered for his successful navigation through the current age of media disruption. I wish him all the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY SPECIALIST (SPC) TERRY KISHAUN GORDON

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Army Specialist (SPC) Terry "Dantez" Kishaun Gordon who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on December 18, 2013, during Operation Enduring Freedom. SPC Gordon was killed when the Black Hawk UH-60 he was riding in crashed in Naw Bahar, Afghanistan. Also killed were Chief Warrant Officer 2 (CW2) Randy L. Billings, Sergeant (SGT) Peter Bohler, Sergeant First Class (SFC) Omar W. Forde, Chief Warrant Officer 2 (CW2) Joshua B. Silverman, and Staff Sergeant (SSG) Jesse L. Williams. SPC Gordon was assigned to 1st Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas.

Following the crash, a statement was issued from Fort Riley. "We offer our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of these 'Big Red One Soldiers.'" Major General Paul E. Funk, II, 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley Commanding General, said. "We stand ready to support them and I urge our community and the nation, while remembering their sacrifices this holiday season, to do the same."

According to the Associated Press, SPC Gordon, a Quitman, Mississippi native, graduated from Quitman High School in 2011. While in high school, SPC Gordon served as a member of the high school's U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) Michael McDonald, Quitman High School principal, described SPC Gordon as a great young man. "His leadership and confidence was clearly evident," Mr McDonald said. "He just oozed confidence and he was dependable and well-respected among the students here." A Mankato Times article states that SPC Gordon loved helicopters and that he knew early on that he was meant for the Army because he could fly on a Black Hawk.

Miriam Gordon, SPC Gordon's aunt, said he was a happy child who loved his family, friends, and his country. "Every time you saw him, he had a smile," Mrs. Gordon said. "He always did little pranks and jokes. If you were having a bad day and saw him, you had a great day. He brought the goodness out of people. He was bigger than anything I could ever imagine as far as being a model child. Sometimes they stray, but this child didn't stray."

SPC Gordon and his fallen comrades were honored on January 9, 2013, during a memorial service held at Fort Riley, Kansas. Nearly 500 people attended the service that was held at the Morris Hill Chapel. Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Matt Weinschel commanded the crew while deployed in Afghanistan. "Each of these