

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

soldiers knew the risks they assumed," LTC Weinschel said. "They loved their mission and each other. They truly loved flying and told me so on several occasions." During the service, speakers told those in attendance that the soldiers were focused on their work, but also smiled and offered hugs to break the tension while preparing helicopters for missions during deployment.

SPC Gordon is survived by his father, Terry W. Gordon; his mother, Sabina R. Edwards; his sister, Terruna Gordon; his stepfather, David Edwards; and his two half-brothers, David Edwards, Jr., and William Edwards.

SPC Gordon proudly serviced America. His sacrifice to protect the freedoms we all enjoy will not be forgotten.

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RECOGNIZING WAWA'S COMMITMENT TO FIGHTING HUNGER, HONORING GRAND OPENING

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**HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 13, 2017*

Mr. BRENDON F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to Wawa, Inc., a Pennsylvania based company that will be opening up their very first store in our nation's capital tomorrow. The citizens of Pennsylvania are well acquainted with Wawa food stores; it's where many of them go for their morning coffee as well as a common destination for fresh food at lunch or dinner time.

Therefore I would like to recognize Wawa as a Pennsylvania company with a firm commitment to fighting hunger and serving the greater good. At Thursday's grand opening, Wawa will announce its "Lending a Helping Hoagie Program," which will donate a portion of the new location's first week of hoagie sales to the Capital Area Food Bank. Along with that program, Wawa will present the food bank with a grant of \$10,000 to help launch its sustainable "Fresh Community Market" initiative.

Wawa's efforts in the fight against hunger do not end there. Its Share Donation Food Program is a smart, compassionate program that quickly distributes leftover hot food—that would otherwise go to waste—to the communities that need it most. Additionally, until the end of this year, Wawa will continue its "Check Out Hunger" campaign that allows customers to donate to Feeding America Food Banks at checkout.

I am proud to say that this Pennsylvania institution, with the help of its loyal customers around the country, directly fights hunger in the communities it serves. Wawa stands as an example of a company that recognizes that its obligations do not end at its bottom line. It demonstrates that corporations do not have to choose between being prosperous and undertaking initiatives to help communities. I applaud Wawa for its commitment to fighting hunger, and hope that other companies will follow its example and find innovative ways to make a difference in their community.

CONGRATULATING THE FESTUS TIGERS GIRLS 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 Girls 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.

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HONORING GILLETTE CHILDREN'S SPECIALTY HEALTHCARE ON ITS 120TH ANNIVERSARY

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**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 13, 2017*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare of Saint Paul, Minnesota on its 120th anniversary of providing world class, compassionate care for children and their families.

Before the turn of the 20th Century, two pioneering leaders, Jessie Haskins and Dr. Arthur Gillette, recognized the acute need to provide a place where children with disabilities could receive state-of-the-art care that was tailor-made to fit their needs. At their urging, in 1897 the Minnesota legislature created what would later be named Gillette Children's Hospital, the first such institution in the country to focus exclusively on treating children with disabilities. Today, not far from its first location on the shores of Lake Phalen, Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare is celebrating 120 years of outstanding service to the public and groundbreaking treatment of children in our community and from around the globe.

Gillette Children's serves an incredibly important calling in our state and country. By staying focused on what a child can do, rather than what they cannot, Gillette Children's helps to make the difference in how a child will recover and grow after receiving care. Caring for children and families from all across the United States and around the world, Gillette Children's has improved the lives of countless children and their families since day one.

It is often said, that Gillette Children's has soul. This is because it not just a hospital, but a special place that connects entire families. By providing lifelong care to individuals who were first treated there as children and now are adults, Gillette Children's creates deep and meaningful bonds between the children, staff and volunteers. This unique practice is one of many reasons why Gillette Children's stands out as an extraordinary example of excellence in care and community stewardship.

As medical technology has improved, so too has Gillette Children's capacity to treat young patients who experience some of the most

complex, traumatic and rare conditions. Home to the James R. Gage Center for Gait and Motion Analysis, the hospital is one of only seven such accredited centers in the country that helps to improve mobility and walking among children who have walking and movement disorders.

Since its founding in 1897, staff devotion to compassionate and supportive care for children undergoing treatment and recovery has remained steadfast. Today, each child's emotional well-being remains at the core of Gillette Children's approach to medical care. Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the 120th anniversary of Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare for all that it does to improve the lives of children in Minnesota and beyond.

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RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI MARINE CORPORAL (CPL) MICHAEL BRANDON PRESLEY

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**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 Marine Corporal (Cpl) Michael Brandon Presley who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on December 14, 2005, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Cpl Presley died at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany from wounds he sustained on December 12 from a suicide, vehicle-borne improvised explosive device, while conducting combat operations against enemy forces in Fallujah, Iraq. Cpl Presley was assigned to 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

According to the Associated Press, Cpl Presley, a Batesville, Mississippi native, was a standout student at North Delta School. Cpl Presley was a lineman for the school's 2000 state football championship team when it won the Class 3A title. John Howell, North Delta School principal, said Cpl Presley kept in touch with his teachers while he was stationed overseas. "The neat thing that made him stand out for those of us who taught him was the way he made a point to reconnect with us periodically," Mr. Howell said. "Often when you teach, you have to guess at the work that you're doing. Brandon let us know that he appreciated us, and that made him stand out more than other students I have taught."

The official website of the U.S. Marine Corps included a detailed account of Cpl Presley's service and commitment to the Marine Corps. Cpl Presley joined the Marine Corps on September 22, 2003. He served with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Okinawa, Japan, and subsequently reported to the 2d Combat Engineer Battalion for duty as a motor transport operator in March 2005. Cpl Presley was a skilled operator remembered for his broad smile, love of life, and his devotion to duty. His accomplishments and warrior spirit will forever grace the passage spaces of 2d Marine Division while attached to 1st Battalion, Sixth Marines.