

quickly become the “In place” for weddings, birthday parties, and community events.

Junior, American born of Honduran parentage, started in business in 1979 working in his father’s meat market. He continued to learn and absorb all that he could about the business from his father while pursuing his own career path. In 1988, he joined the New York City Department of Corrections. As a corrections officer for 13 years, Junior worked the night shift at the Anna M. Kross Center, which is the largest correctional facility on Rikers Island. By day, he continued to help his father build one of the best known meat markets in Brooklyn.

By 1994, Junior was ready and fully prepared to take on business ownership for himself. Taking a leave of absence from the Department of Corrections, he opened the Avenue D Meat Market. This business continues to be one of the most successful in the area.

His love and concern for his community was evident in 1983 when Junior became an Auxiliary Police Officer at the 67th precinct. Now, as a restaurant owner, he continues to give back to the community. He does so by graciously supporting cultural events in the area by providing courtesy backstage catering. Every Christmas, Junior and Tropical Paradise produce a cultural show that has become a calendar event in the Brooklyn West Indian Community.

As a role model, Junior willingly shares his personal credo with young people. “Anything you desire in life can be achieved with hard work and education,” he says. Junior’s commitment to excellence and community service has been recognized and rewarded with several awards including the “Men of Distinction Award” from former State Senator Mary Markowitz in 2001 and a Community Service Award from New York Tabernacle Church.

Junior is married to Joanne Gayle and is the proud father of two daughters, Leonie and Jasmine.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Davis Gayle, Jr.

HONORING TODD DENBESTE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Todd DenBeste upon his retirement from the California Highway Patrol, Oakhurst Area Office. Officer DenBeste will officially retire June 30, 2010, after twenty-eight years of service. A party will be held in his honor on Saturday, June 26, 2010 in Oakhurst, California.

Officer Todd DenBeste graduated from West High School in Torrance, California. Upon graduating from high school, he worked in the private sector until he was appointed to the California Highway Patrol academy in 1982. Upon completing the academy, he was immediately placed in the South Los Angeles Area Office, where he was later assigned to the motor squad. Officer DenBeste served in South Los Angeles for nine years.

In December 1991, Officer DenBeste was transferred to the California Highway Patrol Resident Post in Oakhurst, California. When

the Oakhurst Area Office was formed in 2003, Officer DenBeste was assigned to that office.

Officer DenBeste has been married to his wife, Leisa, for thirty-three years. They have two children, Justin and Melissa.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Todd DenBeste for his tremendous service to the state of California upon his retirement from the California Highway Patrol. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Officer DenBeste many years of continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR. MARK V. C. TAYLOR

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS-

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Reverend Dr. Mark V. C. Taylor for his dedication to his faith and tireless service to his community.

Reverend Dr. Mark V. C. Taylor is a native of Chicago, Illinois. He was licensed in 1978 and ordained in 1979 at the Living Hope Baptist Church in Chicago under the leadership of Rev. James F. Jordan. From 1978 to 1981 he attended the Faith Temple Church of God in Christ under the leadership of Bishop Carliss L. Moody, who was one of the participating ministers at Dr. Taylor’s ordination in 1979.

Dr. Taylor received his B.A. in History from Northwestern University, Master’s of Divinity in Theology and Church History, Master’s of Philosophy in Church History and a Ph.D. in Church History from Union Theological Seminary in New York.

Dr. Taylor is currently the Pastor at The Church of the Open Door in Brooklyn, New York where he has developed several new programs; a Council of Ministries, including nine ministries specifically addressing the needs of the community and Black Male Emphasis Sundays. He has developed an extensive outreach ministry through outdoor services. He works closely with the youth and conducts a monthly bible study where the youth of the church openly discuss pertinent issues of the day and how they relate to the Word of God.

Recently he has formed a Bible Institute, which seeks to provide a pleasurable and informative encounter with the Word of God. He has sponsored a new church school curriculum and a new summation of the Church’s Doctrine called the Doctrine of Christian Wholism. He is very active and can often be found at public hearings and in community meetings.

Dr. Taylor has published many articles and his dissertation was titled “Godless Spots in Paradise: Social Christianity and Public Housing 1932–1955”. His most recent publication titled, “In Times Like These: Sermons of Christian Power for Post-Modern Urban America”, is an uplifting collection of his sermons dealing with today’s issues.

Dr. Taylor also is an evangelist. In addition to outdoor services in the community surrounding the church, he preaches at many local congregations and has preached in churches from New York to Los Angeles. Dr. Taylor defines the focus of his ministry as “Progressive Pentecostalism,” the attempt to

link the best of western rationality and the democratic tradition to the need to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of Reverend Dr. Mark V. C. Taylor.

TRIBUTE TO WARREN BAKER

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Warren J. Baker, an educational leader from San Luis Obispo, California, which I represent, on his retirement after nearly a half century of service to higher education, including the past 31 years as the President of California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly.

A geotechnical engineer by training, Warren has had many experiences that helped enhance his leadership abilities before joining Cal Poly as President, including teaching at the University of Detroit as a Chrysler Professor, and later serving as Dean of the College of Engineering and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Warren became the Cal Poly President in 1979. Throughout his tenure, he initiated many improvements at the University, raising Cal Poly’s profile, particularly in the fields of Architecture, Agriculture and Engineering. Under Warren’s leadership, the educational opportunities of students significantly expanded with the addition of 20 new majors and 72 minors and 15 new master’s degree programs. In addition, over this period Cal Poly established the Irrigation Training and Research Center, the Environmental Biotechnology Institute, the Dairy Products Technology Center, the Collaborative Agent Design Research Center, and the Brock Institute for Agricultural Communication. Throughout his tenure, Warren and his team found creative ways to support student success, including funding \$1 billion in state-of-the-art laboratories, buildings and other facilities establishing Cal Poly as one of the nation’s premier comprehensive polytechnic universities.

Always seeking to provide for Cal Poly’s future, Warren’s leadership of the University’s first-ever comprehensive fundraising campaign was the most successful in the history of the California State University system. Cal Poly has the largest endowment among the CSU’s 23 campuses. He also created the President’s Cabinet where leaders from industry, government, and community act as an advisory board to help the University determine strategic educational and financial plans.

Perhaps Warren’s most enduring contribution to Cal Poly’s excellence has been his steadfast support for—and careful nurturing of—the University’s renowned “learn-by-doing” educational experience, which attracts students from all around the country. This learning approach requires students to apply classroom theory to real-world problems. Employers from a broad array of America’s most prestigious companies aggressively recruit Cal Poly students because they graduate with real-world experience and can contribute innovative solutions to complex problems.