

I said, at the time, “Our senior citizens have far too long been neglected in this the most prosperous of societies on earth. Many of them, after leading productive lives prior to their twilight years, have been so overburdened with medical costs that they have been denied the rewards that should come with retirement.”

We have five decades of evidence that indicates the solution to our nation’s healthcare crisis isn’t cutting Medicare. It’s strengthening Medicare and expanding it to cover everyone.

However the Affordable Care Act ultimately plays out, we know two things for certain: Millions of Americans will remain uncovered and the for-profit insurance industry will remain in charge of prices and life-and-death treatment decisions. The only way to ensure everyone is covered is with Medicare-for-All, single payer system.

The richest country in the history of humanity has a moral obligation to cover all of its inhabitants with health care coverage. We believe health care is a right, and should not be treated as a benefit reserved for the privileged.

Mr. Speaker, today, as we celebrate Medicare’s birthday, I urge Congress to fulfill Medicare’s promise and enact H.R. 676, single-payer legislation and enshrine health care as a fundamental right recognized by our great nation.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF CORAL SPRING, FLORIDA

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 50th Anniversary of the great City of Coral Spring, Florida. Incorporated on July 10th, 1963, the City of Coral Springs has grown from little more than a patch of marshland in southern Florida into the 13th largest city in the state and the first state-level recipient of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. Today I recognize Coral Springs for its remarkable transformation from town with a single covered bridge to a city of more than 120,000 residents.

Whether it be its top-rated public schools and city government, large and robust park and recreation system, myriad of shops, delicious restaurants and entertaining nightlife, Coral Springs truly has something for everyone. If you are looking to raise a family or are a young professional looking to enjoy one of the top 100 cities in the Nation for young people, the city’s vibrant economy and high quality of living make Coral Springs a wonderful place to call home.

I join today with my family in wishing Coral Springs many more years of prosperity. On the 50th Anniversary of its inception, I urge all cities across of this great country to follow Coral Spring’s footsteps.

IN RECOGNITION OF GREATER SHADY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH’S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation of Greater Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia as the church’s membership and leadership celebrates a remarkable 150 years. The congregation of Greater Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church will celebrate this very significant anniversary with a Sesquicentennial Celebration on Sunday, August 4, 2013 at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center in Columbus, Georgia.

Tracing its roots back to the Civil War era, the church was founded in 1863 on the eastern bank of the Chattahoochee River, under a grape arbor in an oak grove. During a meeting at the house of Brother Boston Miles and Sister Mary Moore, the first members of the church, the church was named “Shady Grove Baptist Church.”

From its inception through 1932, the church was served by its first sixteen ministers, each leaving their lasting mark on the church in some form or fashion. Perhaps the most notable, Reverend L.F. O’Bryant, served eleven years as the seventh pastor of the church and instituted a large renovation program to expand the size and reach of the church.

In 1932, Reverend W.A. Reid began his service as the church’s seventeenth minister, and would go on to serve until his death in 1942. Under Rev. Reid’s careful eye, the church expanded again, adding an annex and instituting the Vacation Bible School.

In 1949, under the Reverend J.J. Ivey, the eighteenth pastor, more renovations were made, which included the purchase of new pews and pulpit furniture, the installation of hardwood floors, and the purchase of an organ to enhance church service. Rev. Ivey would serve the church for seventeen years before retiring from the pastorate.

One of the most significant moments in the church’s history occurred under Reverend Rudolph Carter Allen in August 1967, when the First Baptist Church of Columbus, Georgia awarded the full Title and Deeds of the building in which Shady Grove worshipped to the congregation of the church. The church was then renamed to Greater Shady Grove Baptist Church to distinguish the congregation from other similarly named churches in Georgia. Less than a year later, the Superior Court of Muscogee County incorporated the Greater Shady Grove Baptist Church.

Throughout the years, the church would be remodeled and renovated several times. With these aesthetic changes came changes to the church mission. After creating several new committees, programs, and outreach ministries and increasing focus on the community, the Church was renamed for a second time to Greater Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church, as it is called today. In addition to the new name, the church became a tithe-and-offering church, eliminating the need for assessments and fundraising. Today, under the leadership of Reverend Marcus J’uan Gibson, the

church continues to grow and change with the vision of holistic transformation and continual improvement in Christ.

The story of Greater Shady Grove Missionary Shady Baptist Church, which began as a small group of people worshipping in the shade of a grape arbor 150 years ago and has grown into an expansive and successful church, is truly an inspiring one of the dedication and perseverance of a faithful congregation of people who put all their love and trust in the Lord.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Greater Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia for their long history of coming together through the good and difficult times to praise and worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

APPLAUDING THE SUPREME COURT DECISION REAFFIRMING THE IMPORTANCE OF DIVERSITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize that the Supreme Court’s recent decision in Fisher v University of Texas at Austin represents an important milestone for our nation as we build a more inclusive, diverse America. The Court’s decision reaffirms that universities may consider racial and ethnic diversity as one factor among many in a carefully-crafted admissions policy. This ruling represents a victory for equal opportunity in education and helps prepare our citizens to compete in the diverse, global economy of the 21st century.

The historical structure of the House of Representatives exists to represent our nation’s vast geographic diversity as well as to value the diverse opinions of each constituency to set the national agenda of progress. Serving in the House for nine terms, I am happy to say that I continue to learn from the diverse pool of people and ideas that comprise the House of Representatives. For the first time in our nation’s history, women and minorities constitute the majority of the House Democratic Caucus. This diverse environment plays a critical role in the health and responsiveness of our Caucus. Indeed, diversity is considered by many as one of the most valuable assets to assuring success in business, the arts, science, and sports.

Similarly, a diverse environment on college and university campuses strengthens our nation by providing equal educational opportunity and promoting the creative thinking needed for innovation. I am a strong supporter of the holistic admission process. By promoting inclusivity and diversity on the campuses of our nation’s higher education institutions via the admissions process, we recognize that students’ successes are characterized by much more than their grade point averages alone. A carefully-crafted admissions policy that considers a wide-array of characteristics—such as leadership experiences, socioeconomic status, racial or ethnic background, athletic skills, and artistic abilities helps our educational institutions provide a diverse