

headquarters there. Mrs. Ballou left that summer to rejoin her family in Peterburg, Virginia, where her husband had accepted a position at Virginia State College.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Maude L. Ballou for her dedication to serving others.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE ACHIEVEMENTS OF GORDON B. ZACKS

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2014

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life achievements of Gordon B. Zacks.

Expressing how much Gordy has meant to Central Ohio and the nation is an impossible task. As a fellow graduate of The Ohio State University, as an admirer and as a friend of this remarkable person, it gives me great pleasure to add my personal appreciation and commendation.

Gordy served with distinction as an advisor, confidant, and friend of U.S. presidents to help change the political landscape of the American Jewish community and improve U.S. relations on behalf of Israel and its neighboring Arab states. Gordy worked with three U.S. presidents and five Israeli Prime Ministers, and his political involvement reached its highpoint during the Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush presidencies. Gordy declined an ambassadorship in the Reagan-Bush Administration and a Cabinet post during the Bush-Quayle Administration in order to serve as unofficial advisor and confidant to Vice President and subsequently President Bush. He met privately with Vice President and then President Bush on a monthly basis to discuss Israeli/American relations, the Middle East peace process, Soviet Jewry, Ethiopian Jewry, and the political landscape of the American Jewish community.

Blessed with true ambition, Gordy is also a brilliant businessman who catapulted R.G. Barry Corporation from a small family firm into an international footwear industry leader. He joined the Columbus, Ohio-based company in 1955 and became president in 1965. He was elected CEO of the company in 1979 and retired in 2004. He is currently the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the company. Today, R.G. Barry is the world's largest marketer and supplier of at-and-around-the-home comfort footwear for men, women and children, under the brand name of Dearfoams.

Gordy's book *Defining Moments—Stories of Character, Courage, and Leadership* profiles remarkable leaders who have made the world a better place. Gordan Zacks has built his own legacy of leadership and integrity—the benefits of which have accrued to his family, his friends and all those who are privileged to know him.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I would like to thank Gordy for his devotion to the great state of Ohio and to all of the communities that have benefitted from his invaluable contributions.

RESOLUTION TO COMMEMORATE PAM TRUSDALE'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TRAILER MANUFACTURERS

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2014

Ms. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent and friend, Pam Trusdale, on the occasion of her 15th anniversary as Executive Director of the National Association of Trailer Manufacturers. From NATM's headquarters in my Congressional District in Topeka, Kansas, Pam leads advocacy, outreach and safety-promotion efforts on behalf of the light and medium duty trailer industry, one that is responsible for hundreds of thousands of American jobs and several billion dollars of positive economic output.

The great work NATM does on behalf of its members and the industry at large would certainly not be possible without Pam's 15 years of leadership and vision. When she joined the organization in 1998, it was a fledgling group of a handful of companies who joined together to better the industry's future. Since that time, membership has expanded dramatically and NATM's advocacy on behalf of its members in Washington, D.C. has, as well. Soon, NATM will move into a new headquarters building in Topeka in order to accommodate its growth in staff and continue serving its members.

Among the many initiatives in which Pam's leadership has been instrumental is the creation of NATM's Compliance Verification Program. Through the Program, NATM's technical staff visits members' manufacturing plants to ensure the proper procedures are in place to build trailers that are in accordance with federal safety regulations and best industry practices. Pam has guided the Program from its creation through a unanimous vote to make participation mandatory for membership in the Association. When consumers across the country see the NATM decal on a dealer's showroom floor, they know instantly they are purchasing a safety compliant trailer.

In addition to her efforts leading NATM, Pam has also been active in serving the Topeka community. She currently serves on the Board of Regents of Washburn University, her alma mater, and is active with the Kansas Society of Association Executives. She is also a member of the Stormont-Vail Foundation Advisory Board and past chairwoman of the Stormont-Vail Foundation Board of Trustees.

Congratulations, Pam, on this milestone. May you and NATM enjoy many more successful years.

HONORING JOHN T. HART

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a hardworking and self motivated 65 year old black farmer, John T. Hart, who just keeps on going.

Mr. John T. Hart, a native of Holmes County, Mississippi, has been a farmer most of his

life, with the exception of some years that he lived in Chicago. He left Mississippi, a farmer and relocated back to Mississippi approximately four decades ago. If it was possible, one might say that farming is in his DNA. He is just that passionate about the farming industry. His heart for farming stems from his late father, Harrison B. (HB) Hart, who was one of the largest African-American farmers in Holmes County, even during struggling times for farmers. John Hart and several of his siblings helped their father to build the legacy.

Today, Mr. Hart still carries on his father's legacy through a successful farming business of his own. One of his brothers also has a thriving farming business. To work from before sun up to pitch black dark is the norm for this hill farmer, who has also farmed hundreds of acres in the Mississippi Delta. Cotton, corn and soybeans have mainly been his crops of choice over the years. This year, just for fun, he has added 20 acres of "delicious" watermelons that have become in popular demand by local and area consumers and grocery businesses.

Just like other industries, the farming business for Mr. Hart and others have had its share of blows. In a November 22, 2009 New York Times article by Shaila Dewan titled, "In Mississippi Delta, a Promising Summer Washed Away by the Fall," Mr. Hart was one of the featured farmers interviewed for the article about continuous rain that had damaged farm crops that year for farmers in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, eastern Arkansas, and parts of Louisiana. "You just keep going," Hart is quoted saying in the article.

Mr. Hart is also a cattle rancher. Yes, the man who has turned dirt for decades also raises cattle. He owns a herd of cattle from good stock. How does he do it all with only the help of two farm hands? Only God knows.

Although the Mississippi farming business has seen its share of ups and downs, Mr. Hart still remains steadfast to his passion even though at 65 he could be sitting on the beautiful front porch of their ranch house with his wife, Prince Ella Edwards Hart, of 44 years, looking out over the horizon of land God has blessed them with.

Mr. Hart is a graduate of Tchula Attendance Center (now, S.V. Marshall High School). He and his wife, a retiree in the medical arena, have three adult children and three grandchildren.

Will this be the year Mr. Hart brings all of his farm's heavy equipment out of the fields for good, recline in that chair beside his devoted wife and friends on that front porch? Who knows?

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. John T. Hart for his impeccable dedication and endurance of successful farming.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the District of Columbia Paperwork Reduction Act, to eliminate the wasteful congressional review process for legislation passed by