the Chief of Police to the people of Avenal, California.

Chief Amoroso was born on June 10, 1956 in San Francisco, California. He graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School in 1974. He went on to attend the College of the Sequoias on a baseball scholarship, where he earned an Associate of Science Degree.

In July 1976, Chief Amoroso married Susan Brown. The couple would go on to have two daughters, Amy and Melissa.

Chief Amoroso started his distinguished law enforcement career in 1979 with the Hanford Police Department (HPD). He served with the department for nine years and earned the rank of Sergeant before being hired by the Kings County Sheriff's Office in 1988. In 1992, Chief Amoroso was awarded a Medal of Valor for his work in a SWAT mission that resulted in the arrest of a double homicide suspect. Chief Amoroso spent 21 years with the Kings County Sheriff's Office before retiring in December 2009.

On April 1, 2010, the City of Avenal hired Chief Amoroso to establish Avenal's first police department. In addition to hiring officers, acquiring equipment, purchasing vehicles, and facilitating officer training, he designed the Ken Brown Public Safety Center where the Avenal Police Department is located.

Chief Amoroso's work to establish the Avenal Police Department fully materialized on November 15, 2010 when the Avenal Police Department relieved the Kings County Sheriff's Office and assumed full responsibility for law enforcement in the City of Avenal.

After dedicating his life to law enforcement, Chief Amoroso is retiring on April 10, 2015.

Avenal and the entire Central Valley community have been extremely fortunate to have a dedicated law enforcement officer such as Chief Amoroso to ensure the wellbeing of their community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Chief John Amoroso for his thirty five years of dedicated law enforcement work in the Central Valley and congratulating him on his recent retirement from the Avenal Police Department.

A TRIBUTE TO JAIMIE MILLER-ACKLEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Jaimie Miller-Ackley for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Jaimie has the determination and drive to be successful in all that she does, and her exemplary work with Iowa Credit Union Foundation is a testament to that. As the Executive Director of the Iowa Credit Union Foundation, Jaimie is passionate about going the extra mile. Jaimie's exemplary work ethic and dedication to service makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Jaimie in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Jaimie on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

HONORING WILLIE RENE LEFLORE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Ms. Willie Rene Leflore.

Ms. Leflore is a lifetime resident of Sunflower County, Mississippi.

Ms. Leflore is a soldier encouraging others to sign up and be counted. In her words, ''Gone are the days of nurturing, chopping, hoeing, hauling water pails, getting up early, catching Bill Henderson's bus, etcetera, to work from sun up to sun down for $3.15 daily''.

Growing up, Ms. Leflore wanted to be free to enter the front doors of Labella Restaurant and ride at the front of the Grey Hound Bus. So, Ms. Leflore took a stand, and marched beside Cora Stone Johnson, Nelson Dotson, John Richardson, Lene and others for her civil rights.

Ms. Leflore is a soldier for what is right. She believes in receiving the same privileges and rights as other races. She believes that all adults have their own mind to decide on what they want to participate in as long as it is right. She fought for that privilege. It was an acquired desire to march beside others who shared the same belief.

Ms. Leflore worked, never missing a day unless she was sick. When she became ill, she had to retire. She has received numerous commendations as a loyal supporter of all athletic activities at Gentry High School. To this day, she still uses the phone as her legs and mouth, encouraging others to stand and show themselves approved. She believes that standing for what you believe in regardless, of the odds against you, and the pressure that tears at your resistance means courage, which is what she had to constantly remind herself of. She always kept a smile on her face, even when on the inside she felt like dying. She stopped at nothing. Doing what was instilled in her heart, is to make another's life a little more bearable. When she was in the moment, she was loyal, she wasn't selfish and she kept her head high.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Willie Rene Leflore for her dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

IN RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION OF MR. LONNIE POWELL AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO KANSAS CITY'S ARTISTIC COMMUNITY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor the contributions of Kansas City Artist and Educator, Mr. Lonnie Powell. Mr. Powell is a native of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, which I proudly represent, and his professional contributions continue to enhance the skills of young artists, and have united artists for the purpose of showcasing talent. Additionally, his unique abilities have created a treasure of expressive visual art. To have the respect of one's peers and the leadership skills to make a significant difference in one's community is the rarest of gifts. But to have the additional commitment, energy, and desire to pursue and achieve one's goals are equally extraordinary qualities.

Mr. Powell's artistic development began at a young age, when he cultivated the desire to draw and create using his pencil. Despite the stress his father had placed on the importance of trade skills for financial stability, after graduating from Central High School in Kansas City, Powell chose to pursue higher education. He graduated from Lincoln University, in Jefferson City, Missouri, in 1966 with a Bachelor of Science in Art Education, and promptly began his long career in education.

From 1966 to 1975, Powell taught art at several schools in the Kansas City, Missouri School District. He introduced his students to different artistic techniques and delighted in their individual creativity. Powell began working on his Master's Degree in Art Education at Central Missouri State College and had completed 37 hours when the private sector enticed him to leave teaching and join the corporate world. At Xerox Corporation, he made President's Club, an honor reserved for the upper echelon of the national sales force. Though he had significant accomplishments, and had received numerous awards, there was little time left for creating art. He missed the students and felt a pervading emptiness. Therefore, after eight years in the corporate world, Powell returned to his real passion, teaching art. He has often said that he learned from his students as much as they learned from him. He quotes Pablo Picasso, ''Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up.''

In 2000, Powell retired from teaching and focused on his own artistic career. He is well known for his visual narratives which illustrate the subject's feeling and glimpses into their thoughts. Through mediums of oil, acrylics, watercolor, pastels, and pencil, he exposes the soul. For Powell, a finished piece is first appreciated and then evaluated in order to avoid complacency and continually strive to improve.

In 2001, Lonnie Powell became the founder and president of The Light in the Other Room. This organization remains active and has formed many partnerships in the name of art. Powell had envisioned a collaborative of African-American, Kansas City based artists that would benefit both the community and participating artists. Powell says ''The two greatest