Red, Omar's favorite color, and many of the Class of 2015 students wore their graduation caps in honor of him.

Omar is survived by his parents, an older sister who previously graduated from Klein Forest High School and a younger brother. He had plans to continue working and hopefully attend Lone Star College after graduation.

Even though Omar did not get to hear his name called and physically walk the stage to take his diploma, the community has not stopped cheering for him.

Omar's memory will live on through his family, friends and classmates in Houston. He will always be a great example of how no matter the circumstances, hard work will always pay off.

Our prayers are with the Rodas family and all of Omar's friends.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HISTORIC DOWNTOWN SQUARE AND PIONEER PARK

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recent improvements made to the Historic Downtown Square and Pioneer Park of Carrollton, Texas. Downtown Carrollton has been an iconic part of northern Texas since the early 1800's.

These improvements will give people improved space and new scenery to visit and enjoy leisurely time with friends and family. It is important to keep our parks and recreational areas updated to continue and expand their vital role in the community. These renovations will reinvigorate the Historic Downtown Square as well as Pioneer Park and make them alluring destinations for years to come.

There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony on June 27th to officially unveil the new changes. City officials and local leaders will be in attendance to speak about the hard work and effort put into the new developments. I encourage everyone to attend and show support for the time and dedication put into this project. I'm thankful for the people of the 24th district of Texas who strive to make our home a more habitable and enjoyable place.

At the unveiling will be a concert featuring local artists as well as an outdoor movie with the director's wife present to introduce the film. It is this strong sense of community that will serve the people of Carrollton and everyone who visits the historic downtown.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize the ever improved Historic Downtown Square and Pioneer Park. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating such an accomplishment.

IN HONOR OF MR. FRANKLIN DOUGLASS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding community leader, devoted public servant, and loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend, Mr. Franklin Douglass. A funeral service to celebrate Frank's life will be held on Tuesday, June 30, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia, where he had served as a deacon.

Franklin Douglass was born in Belle Mona, Alabama on July 20, 1936, the third oldest of ten brothers and four sisters. The family made a living by tenant farming in rural Limestone County, Alabama. He enrolled in Tuskegee Institute, joined ROTC, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Physical Education, Health, and Recreation in 1956. Over the next 30 years, his pursuit of personal growth earned him graduate degrees in Personnel Management and Education Supervision and Administration. His passion for education was infectious, and as an educator Frank inspired thousands of students to seek knowledge and growth.

Frank served our nation honorably as an officer in the United States Army from 1959 until 1964, when he was honorably discharged. He then accepted his first teaching post at Marshall Junior High School. After only a year of teaching, Frank was appointed acting principal of Marshall Junior High before becoming a Media Specialist for the Muscogee County School District. His career as an educator in the Columbus area took Frank to several schools and classrooms before his appointment as principal of William H. Spencer High School at the age of 40 in 1976. After a dozen years of serving as principal, Frank became Director of Muscogee County Student Services in 1988, a post he held until his retirement in 1990.

Frank's passion for improving the conditions of those in the Columbus area extended beyond the classroom. As Commissioner and Vice Chairman of the Columbus Housing Authority, Frank fought for three decades to keep living conditions affordable for everyone in his community. An active member of Kiwanis Club, Social-Civic 25 Club, 837 Club, Phi Delta Kappa, and Omega Psi Phi, Frank utilized his smile and amiable humor to advance the interests of Columbus natives. Additionally, as a member of the Georgia Association of Educational Leaders and the Chamber of Commerce Education Committee, Frank built ties with educational leaders around the state of Georgia and the southeastern United States.

Mr. Speaker, one of the things that I will always remember about Franklin Douglass is his steadfast commitment to his family, as well as his community. As father to Franklin Karl Douglass and grandfather to Temple Douglass, he was an inspiration to extended family and countless friends. Moreover, as a husband, there was no limit to his love of his wonderful wife of nearly 55 years, Merrian.

A dear friend to me for more than thirty years, Frank was soft spoken, quiet, and thoughtful. He was one of the cooler heads in dealing with community issues and problems. His demeanor and intuitiveness helped him get things done. We are so blessed that Frank passed this way and did so much for so many for so long.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and my wife, Vivian, in paying tribute to Franklin Douglass for his servant leadership and his deep commitment to his family, his community, and his country. We extend our deepest sympathies to the Douglass family and friends during this very difficult time. May they be consoled and comforted by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

HONORING DEVON DOWLER OF THE OWENSVILLE DUTCHMEN

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Devon Dowler of the Owensville Dutchmen for his first place win in the 3200 Meter Hurdles at the 2015 Class 3 Track and Field State Championship.

Devon and his 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 Devon Dowler of the Owensville Dutchmen for a job well done.

H.R. 2898—WESTERN WATER AND FOOD SECURITY ACT OF 2015

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, today, the California Republican Delegation again took action to address our state's water supply crisis, introducing balanced legislation improving water access for Californians around the state by using improved science to time water deliveries, preserve water rights and move forward on new surface storage facilities.

The bill protects the most fundamental water rights of all, area of origin rights, ensuring that Northern Californians who live where our state's water supply originates have access to it.

It uses modern science to improve the timing of water deliveries, allowing the storage of more water during winter storms which makes it available for dry periods like now.

It addresses invasive species that are negatively impacting salmon populations, and allows local water districts to undertake their own habitat improvement projects.

Finally, California's voters have spoken clearly in support of investment in new surface storage projects, and this measure fulfills that promise by advancing projects that would generate over one million acre-feet of water, enough for eight million Californians.

We'll continue to refine this proposal as it moves through the process, but I am proud to cosponsor a bill that addresses both short- and long-term needs of all Californians and support continued economic growth.

TRIBUTE TO PAIGE SEISER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Paige