EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Sisters of the Holy Family, the only religious order founded in New Orleans that still exists today.

The Sisters of the Holy Family were founded in 1842 by Henriette Delille, a free woman of color. Sisters of the Holy Family defied the norms of the time and chose to live a chaste life dedicated to God. In a time where white communities were not accepting of black communities and laws forbade blacks from living with white; there was much need for a set of church and civil authorities to give the people a place to call home in the midst of so much racial aggression.

In memory of Henriette, the fearless and gracious leader of the Sisters of the Holy Family, St. Mary's Academy the first secondary school for free girls of color was founded in New Orleans. Today the school educates co-ed students from grades pre-kindergarten to fifth grade while only girls are educated from sixth through twelfth grade. St. Mary's Academy graduates have become prominent professionals across the U.S.

For over 174 years, The Sisters of the Holy Family have continued their mission of educating the youth, caring for the sick and elderly, amongst many other dutiful deeds. The sisters have been recognized by civil and church authorities for their dedicated services to the people of God. By staying connected to God's transformational love as well as ensuring the continued growth of St. Mary's Academy. The Sisters will live in the hearts of hundreds for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the courage, commitment and sacrifice that the Sisters of the Holy Family have shown for over 174 years.

IN RECOGNITION OF LOUDOUN INTERFAITH RELIEFS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the 25th anniversary of Loudoun Interfaith Relief and their steadfast service to the good citizens of the Loudoun community. I would like to personally commend the volunteers who so selflessly dedicate themselves to providing support to those less fortunate without asking anything in return. These notable citizens truly embody the very best of our nation's values through their service to the community and commitment to the betterment of others' lives.

Loudoun Interfaith Relief has increased their service exponentially since forming in 1991, growing into the largest food pantry in Loudoun County. From 2013 to 2014 alone, the total assistance rose from 40,959 to 52,955 and continues to grow regularly. The pantry is open six days a week and has over 320 volunteers working daily to help provide services to those in need. This growth is a clear testament to the outstanding dedication to service conducted by the staff and volunteers at Loudoun Interfaith Relief.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me immense pride to recognize such a fine group, and I sincerely hope that we all can live up to their tremendous example. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Loudoun Interfaith Relief. I wish them all the best and hope that they continue to be a positive example of service to the community.

HONORING WILLIAM PATTERSON

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career and lifetime of leadership of Mr. William Patterson as he receives a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Boys Scouts of America—San Francisco Bay Area Council. Mr. Patterson's dedication and contributions to the San Francisco Bay Area have aided in the success and advancement of thousands of people and he is widely recognized as one of Oakland's civic champions due to his involvement in many political campaigns and community organizations in the last four decades.

Mr. Patterson first learned to help others at all times when he became a Boy Scout in 1948. As a Scout, Mr. Patterson learned the values of Scout Law that would ultimately guide his life of service. Further, Mr. Patterson received both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from San Francisco State University.

Mr. Patterson went on to serve as the President of The East Bay Municipal Utility District's (EBMUD) Board of Directors and left a lasting impact. Mr. Patterson was able to significantly expand the retirement fund assets. He is also a retired Oakland Parks and Recreation Manager, who has been credited widely by many established athletes who have gone on to gain Hall of Fame Recognition, including the likes of basketball's Bill Russell an baseball's Joe Morgan. In addition, Mr. Patterson was a close confidant and advisor to the late Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson and worked for the Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission for thirty seven years until his retirement. He is the only former employee to serve as a member of the Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission, displaying his exceptional dedication to the greater Oakland community.

Mr. Patterson has an extensive and impressive background of involvement in the community. Mr. Patterson was a three-term president of the Oakland chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), a seven-year past chair for the NAACP Life Membership Committee and eight year member of the NAACP National Life Membership Committee. He served as Chair of The Alameda County Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Committee and Chair of its Public Ethics and Parks and Recreation Commission, the Workforce Investment Board, and Pardee Museum Board.

In addition to his impressive and extensive career, he has received countless awards in recognition of his accomplishments from government, community and political organizations. Some of the most honorable awards includes: California Attorney General's Award of Excellence in Civil Rights, City of Oakland Living Legends Award, the naming of Bill Patterson Park, African American Water Leadership Coalition (AAWLC) Legacy Award, Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School Legacy Award, McClymonds High School Legacy Award, and Shiloh Church of Oakland Living Legacy Award.

Mr. Patterson currently lives in Oakland, California with his wife and son; he remains active in numerous community activities. Currently, he serves as a Board Member of The Joe Morgan Youth, Oakland Urban Strategies Council, Oakland NAACP Executive Committee, the Oakland East Bay Black Elected Officials Council and as an advisor to Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf. Mr. Patterson is a member of Oakland's Rotary Club #3, Golden Heritage Life Member of NAACP, and a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

On a personal note, Bill has been a supporter and colleague for many years. I value his expertise, his brilliance, and most importantly, his friendship.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors a great friend of the Bay Area and a true champion of civil service, Mr. William Patterson. His work with the NAACP, EBMUD, Oakland's Parks and Recreation and embodiment of Scout Law has had a tremendously positive impact on California's 13th District, and we are lucky to have him remain active in our community in all of his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING TASTE OF ETHIOPIA

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 4th Annual Taste of Ethiopia held on August 6, 2016. The Taste of Ethiopia is a celebration as well as a cultural immersion to showcase music, food, art, crafts, culture, fashion show, and Ethiopian dance. It allows visitors a taste of Ethiopia without ever having to leaving Colorado, and also serves to bring all Ethiopians together. It is a celebration that combines fun and education.