and compassionate care has provided a critical safety net and has helped to strengthen the fabric of our community.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Martha & Mary's commitment to proving safe places to grow and learn and the opportunities they provide to live with dignity and honor. Our community is stronger thanks to Martha & Mary's leadership and I am honored to recognize them today in the United States Congress.

HONORING THE OAKLAND WOMEN'S ROWING CLUB

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the oldest recreational club in Oakland, California, the Oakland Women's Rowing Club, upon its 100th Anniversary as an outstanding athletic and recreational club in the East Bay Community.

Oakland Women's Rowing Club, the members of which are known as the ''Ladies of the Lake,'' was founded on February 2, 1916 when volleyball players from Bushrod Recreation Center, Lockwood School, and Mosswood School sought a greater athletic challenge. Five boats were donated to the Club by the United States Navy. All of these boats, and those since acquired, have been deeded to the City of Oakland, so they may be enjoyed by the public.

From the beginning, the ''Ladies of the Lake'' have been rowing on Lake Merritt in Oakland, the first designated Wildlife Refuge in the United States. The members row weekly on Wednesday mornings all year round, no matter the weather. They come from many regions of the United States and from across the world. There are many active members, ranging in age from their fifties to their nineties. The women come from a variety of backgrounds and work an array of professions. The ''Ladies of the Lake'' value their time on the lake, and many locals wave at the women rowing in their old fashioned white and blue uniforms, with orange coats in the winter.

Throughout the Oakland Women's Rowing Club's tenure as the longest scheduled activity on Lake Merritt and the oldest women's rowing club in the nation, the ''Ladies of the Lake'' have participated in civic activities for the City of Oakland, often representing the city in film appearances, photographs, parades, and press features. The Club also acts as a goodwill ambassador for the City of Oakland.

Since 1916, the Club has held many successful fundraisers to purchase or commission more fiberglass whale boats, all of which are available for public use in Oakland. Beyond obtaining and caring for their boats, the women work hard to maintain the Club and add to Lake Merritt's unique ambience. For instance, the club was the first to donate toward the original lamps in the Necklace of Lights that encircles Lake Merritt, and has supported Lake Merritt beautification projects ever since.

The Oakland Women's Rowing Club meets monthly for luncheons with all of the members and benefactors. The waitlist for membership is always long. This organization has certainly inspired commitment and athleticism in its members.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I extend my sincerest congratulations to Oakland Women's Rowing Club on the special occasion of its 100th Anniversary. I wish Oakland Women's Rowing Club many more years of success.

HONOLRING NORMAN BRODY, CANTOR OF TEMPLE BETH EL

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Norman Brody, who is the Cantor of Temple Beth El in West Palm Beach, Florida. He has served this congregation since 1986 and is one of Palm Beach County's most famous and popular cantors. Cantor Brody was educated at the B'Nai Zion and College of Jewish Studies in Chicago, Illinois. He later attended the University of Michigan, where he received both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

Cantor Brody sang with the Chicago Lyric Opera and the New York Opera Company, appearing with another famous tenor, Placido Domingo. He was also the featured soloist and musical arranger for the Winged Victory Singers and, from 1965 to 1980, he appeared in top hotels and on concert stages, as well as on radio and television.

Before coming to Temple Beth El, he was the cantor at Temple Emanuel in Andover, Massachusetts, Temple Emeth in Brookline, Massachusetts and at Beth Israel Mikra Kodesh in Baltimore, Maryland. Besides having an award winning voice, Norman Brody has received the City of Peace Award and the Community Achievement Award from American ORT.

His annual concert is a highlight of every year, regularly drawing huge crowds to hear ''the man with the golden voice'' perform religious music, show tunes and popular standards. An accomplished pianist, he accompanies himself at Sabbath services to the delight of congregants, who have remarked that it's always a special occasion when they hear him sing.

Cantor Brody also devotes time to conducting Temple Beth El's Youth and Adult Choirs and is a dedicated and committed member of our community. He is active in many organizations, including B'Nai B'rith, the Palm Beach County Clergy Cantor's Association and Ambassadors Society of Trustees of Israel Bonds.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor this fine man, who is not only a tremendous treasure for Temple Beth El, but an enormous credit to his community and our nation.

HONORING MR. ROBERT L. HARRIS

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 life and work of Robert L. Harris, on the occasion of his induction into the California Association of Black Lawyers' Hall of Fame. Mr. Harris's contribution to Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) and to the body of law is testament to his service and dedication.

A proud Oakland native, Mr. Harris graduated from Merritt College in 1963, and later pursued his law degree from the Boalt School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley. Mr. Harris was admitted to the California State Bar on December 13, 1973, and completed numerous education advancement programs throughout the remainder of his career, including the Advanced Management Program at the Harvard School of Business, and the Management Development Program at Duke University's School of Business.

Mr. Harris began his career with PG&E in 1989, managing one of the major operating divisions in the East Bay Region. As the first lawyer appointed to such a position, Mr. Harris proved his excellent leadership and refined acumen for business as he faced the aftermath of the Loma Prieta Earthquake in 1989. Shortly afterwards, the Oakland Hills Firestorm tested PG&E's ability to react, and under Mr. Harris's leadership, they were able to restore service in record time to Bay Area homes, earning PG&E numerous accolades for their impeccable work.

Within law, Mr. Harris has distinguished himself amongst his peers. He served in numerous leadership positions within influential organizations such as the American Association of Blacks in Energy, the U.S. EPA's National Advisory Council on Environmental Justice, the National Energy Policy Commission, and the California League of Conservation Voters. He has timelessly shown his dedication to furthering societal advancement and improving the lives of the Bay Area residents.

In addition to his contributions to law, Mr. Harris has served the public interest over the length of his career. The NAACP honored Mr. Harris with the William Robert Ming Award, the highest legal honor they bestow, for his dedication to issues that plague the African-American community. He currently chairs the United Negro College Fund's Bay Area Advisor Board, helping to provide scholarship and financial assistance to African-American students in need, and has earned the Fredrick D. Patterson Award for his commitment to the mission of this organization.

Mr. Harris's retirement from PG&E in 2007 left behind an outstanding company that serves the interests of the Bay Area, providing our constituents with access to affordable and reliable energy services. PG&E has prospered under the legacy of leadership that Mr. Harris instilled, and these contributions to our community do not go unnoticed.

On a personal note, on behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, Robert L. Harris, I salute you. I thank you for your service to your nation and your community, and echo the praise you receive from the California Black Lawyers' Association through your esteemed induction into the Hall of Fame.