citizens within the 18th congressional district and throughout the U.S.

For example, I initiated the digitization projects for former U.S. Members of Congress Barbara Jordan and Mickey Leland, both of whom have permanent archives at Texas Southern University.

I helped established the Barbara Jordan Medallion to be awarded each year at a ceremony held at Texas Southern University to an individual who advocates for the community.

I also assisted with the establishment of several scholarship Endowments at Texas Southern University.

I created a partnership with Comcast at TSU's School of Communication, which offers scholarships, internships and in-kind marketing.

I established the Center for Transportation, Training and Research in TSU's College of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

HBCUs have worked diligently to be where they are today.

Martin Luther King once said,

> The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.

Since the 1980s and continuing for more than 25 years, the National Park Service has awarded over $40 million in matching grants and $15 million in earmarked grants to more than 80 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to assist them in repairing historic buildings on their campuses.

On September 18, 2009, former Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced the 20 HBCUs that were the beneficiaries of historic preservation grants aimed at providing assistance in the repair of historic buildings on their campuses.

President Barack Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to jump-start our economy, create or save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can thrive in the 21st century.

Included in this act was $15 million that was competitively awarded to HBCUs for the preservation of campus buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

HBCUs do not just educate—HBCUs have and will continue to fill an important role in education opportunity and engagement for millions of young people from diverse backgrounds.

I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 295, to support Reauthorization of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation Program.

275TH ANNIVERSARY OF UPPER HANOVER TOWNSHIP

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, Upper Hanover Township is celebrating an important date this year—the 275th anniversary of its establishment as a township in Montgomery County. As part of the original William Penn Land Grant, this southeastern Pennsylvania community, once part of the greater Hanover Township, was settled mostly by Germanic people who left their European homes in search of religious and social freedom—the story of America.

On the anniversary of the township's 275th founding, it is only fitting we recognize the township's heroes who sacrificed to ensure the most precious freedoms, which the township's founders valued and yearned for, would be preserved for future generations of Americans.

Today, Upper Hanover is dedicating military seals in recognition of those individuals who served, sacrificed and sadly, those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Veterans of World War I and II called Upper Hanover home. And, just like their forefathers it was the rich fertile land that attracted them. Their diligent work ethic made agriculture the leading industry in the early period. Centuries later it has grown with many families and residents actively participating in the community, government and business.

I offer my heartiest congratulations to Upper Hanover Township on this milestone year.

WEST LOS ANGELES LEASING ACT OF 2016

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5936 the West Los Angeles Leasing Act of 2016, which would authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs to enter into leases in order to construct permanent supportive housing on the West Los Angeles VA Medical Center campus. As a member of the Air Force Reserve, I understand the sacrifice our veterans make in service to our country and I'm committed helping them get the services they need.

There is a critical need for long-term supportive housing on the West Los Angeles Campus, and enhanced use leases would allow the Department to work with community and state organizations toward the goal of ending veteran homelessness in Los Angeles. If enacted, this legislation will enable the VA to construct 1,200 units of housing for homeless veterans and offer new robust services on the campus such as vocational training, recreation and spiritual support. The legislation also ensures that all leases on the campus principally benefit Veterans and strengthen the partnership between the VA and leaseholders. The bill allows the VA to renew any lease entered pursuant to these provisions after giving Congress 45 days' notice of the intent to renew.

I want to acknowledge the leadership of VA Secretary Bob McDonald and the tireless work of his team this past year in developing the Master Plan. I also want to thank Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN for her leadership in authoring companion legislation in the U.S. Senate, and House Veterans Affairs' Committee Chairman JEFF MILLER and Acting Ranking Member MARK TAKANO for helping to guide this legislation to passage in the House. I am confident Senator FEINSTEIN will now take this legislation across the finish line in the Senate.

And I especially want to recognize the contributions of vital local stakeholders, including veterans, veterans service organizations, the plaintiff partners, providers, and the community for their collaborative effort and unprecedented support this past year. Without this cooperation, the Master Plan and progress on this legislation would not have been possible. Today's actions help us move forward on our unwavering mission to honor the debt we owe our nation's veterans.

IN RECOGNITION OF BARBARA MEIGGS

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Barbara Meiggs, a resident of Hanson, Massachusetts, who will soon be celebrating her 101st birthday, and who is a recipient of the Boston Post Cane, presented to the oldest citizen of a town in a proud New England tradition.

Barbara was born on October 17, 1915 in Brockton, Massachusetts and later moved to Whitman, Massachusetts where she graduated from Whitman High School at 18 years old. Shortly thereafter, she married Carlton Meiggs and was happily married for 67 years. In the intervening years, Barbara and Carlton raised their two sons, Russell and Weston, who in turn grew to have wonderful lives of their own, making her a grandmother and then great-grandmother.

In addition to her accomplishments as a mother, Barbara was a dedicated volunteer in the Jordan Hospital community. First joining the information desk in 1978, and then becoming a fixture in the "Bonnet for every baby" program at Jordan Hospital, Barbara's acts of kindness were often the first to welcome children into the world. For her outstanding service, Barbara was presented an official citation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1994, and the President's Call to Service Award a decade later.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor what has already been a distinguished and well lived life. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing her life and community service.

IN HONOR OF THE BOSTON LIGHT ON ITS 300TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Boston Light, the first American Aid to Navigation, on its 300th anniversary.

As was originally proclaimed even before our nation's birth:

"Whereas the want of a Lighthouse at the entrance of the harbor of Boston, hath been a great discouragement to Navigation, by the loss of the lives and estates of several of His Majesties subjects," an Act for building and maintaining a lighthouse at the entrance of the harbor of Boston was passed by the Great and General Court or Assembly of His Majesties Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England in 1715 for prevention whereof.

The Boston Light was first lit on September 14, 1716, almost 60 years before the Declaration of Independence was signed.