

HONORING SETH MARTIN
HERONEMUS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Seth Martin Heronemus. Seth is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 218, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Seth has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Seth has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Seth contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Seth Martin Heronemus for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
VICTORY BELL AND CHUCK JEFFERSON

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Victory Bell and Chuck Jefferson, who were recently honored by the Booker Washington Center in Rockford, Illinois.

Vic Bell and Chuck Jefferson have both been incredible leaders in the Rockford community for decades. The first African-American elected to the Rockford City Council, Alderman Bell served for 38 years before retiring in 2009. During his years representing Rockford's most diverse ward, Bell helped increase diversity throughout city government and fought to bring economic development projects to all of Rockford. He was an inspiration and a mentor to many who have since entered public service or joined the City Council and, in 1999, he was named one of the Rockford Register Star's "100 people of the Century."

Chuck Jefferson has been serving as State Representative for Illinois' 67th District since 2001 and is currently the Assistant Majority Leader in the State Assembly. After completing six years of service in the Army, Representative Jefferson moved to Rockford with his wife and began his career in public service. He has been involved in numerous community organizations over the years, including the New Zion Day Care Center, United Way and the Rockford Sportsmen Golf Association, which organizes after-school programs for underprivileged youth.

The Booker Washington Community Center in Rockford is Illinois' oldest African-American community center. It hosts an impressive array of programs for people of all ages dedicated to art, music, violence prevention, education and much more.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to again congratulate Vic Bell and Chuck Jefferson and thank the

Booker Washington Center for recognizing their many years of dedicated service to the people of Rockford.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR DAVID ROMAN

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Major David Roman of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our Nation. Major Roman and his wife Dymphna will be moving on from his present assignment as an Army Congressional Liaison for the Office of the Secretary of Defense to the 10th Mountain Division in Fort Drum, New York.

Army Congressional Liaison officers provide an invaluable service to both the military and Congress. They assist Members and staff in understanding the Army's policies, actions, operations, and requirements. Their first hand knowledge of military needs, culture, and tradition is a tremendous benefit to Congressional offices.

In November of 2004, Captain Roman reported to his first operational duty assignment as a Platoon Leader with the 1st-501st Attack Helicopter Battalion during their rotation to the Unit Fielding and Training Program at Fort Hood, Texas in my Congressional district. Upon completion the unit was reflagged to 4th-227th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division. In 2006, Major Roman deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom and served 14 months in the Baghdad area of operation. Upon redeployment in 2008, he reported back to Fort Rucker, Alabama for the Aviation Captains Career Course.

In 2008, Captain Roman returned to the 4th-227th and took command of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company. In April 2009, he deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom for a second time. He then took command of C Company and served under operational control of the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force before moving to Al Asad Air Base in the Anwar Province. Due in no small part to his leadership, Captain Roman's company provided valuable reconnaissance and inflicted significant damage on enemy forces.

In 2011, Dave served as an Army Fellow in the office of Congressman Silvestre Reyes representing residents of El Paso and Fort Bliss, Texas. During that year he also earned a Masters in Legislative Affairs from the George Washington University. In January of 2012, he arrived in the House Army Liaison Division where he assumed his role as a Legislative Liaison and continued to honorably serve as a conduit between the Army and Congress for two years.

His great work has not gone unnoticed. During Major Roman's distinguished service to this nation, he has earned awards and decorations including: the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Combat Action Badge, Army Aviator Badge, Army Parachutes Badge, and the German Proficiency Badge (Gold Award).

Mr. Speaker it is my honor to recognize the selfless service of Major Roman and his wife

Dymphna, who is a former Staff Sergeant in the Army and currently serves as a Department of the Army Civilian. I wish them the best as they continue to serve our great nation and proceed to the next chapter in their remarkable careers.

ALL-AMERICAN HONORS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Katarina Morton of Pearland High School, who earned All-American honors from the American Volleyball Coaches Association. She is the first Pearland ISD volleyball player to be named an AVCA All-American.

Katarina is among 100 of the nation's top high school senior volleyball players who represent 33 states and 90 high schools. In order to receive this distinction, she was first nominated by Pearland Lady Oilers head coach John Turner. Coach Turner has commented on Katrina's passion, incredible work ethic and love of the game. It is clear that these three attributes have served Katrina well.

On behalf of all residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, it's an honor to recognize Katarina Morton and her accomplishment of earning All-American honors. We are all very proud of her and wish her the best of luck at Kennesaw State University.

THANKING DAN STRODEL FOR HIS
SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement at the conclusion of the first session of the 113th Congress, Ranking Member ROBERT BRADY and I join together on behalf of the House of Representatives to express our most sincere gratitude to Mr. Daniel Strodel for his nearly three decades of outstanding dedicated service to the United States House of Representatives.

Since 2010, Dan has been tapped by both Republican and Democratic leadership to oversee nearly every administrative aspect of the House—a true testament to the overwhelming bipartisan confidence in his capabilities. During his tenure as CAO, Dan not only ensured the continuity of daily operations, but he spearheaded major internal reforms and IT modernization projects that significantly improved the House's IT security, operational efficiency, financial accountability and transparency.

Prior to his tenure as CAO, Dan worked for the Committee on House Administration, U.S. Capitol Police and the House and Senate offices, including the Clerk of the House and the House and Senate Sergeant at Arms, in multiple capacities for the betterment and safety of the House community. As a senior advisor to the Committee, Dan provided invaluable counsel on operational matters related to the CAO, where he first started right out of college.

Dan's dedicated, longstanding service to this great institution is understood and greatly appreciated by the Members and employees who have benefited from his work.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Dan for his years of outstanding contributions and service to the United States House of Representatives.

We wish Dan much happiness in fulfilling his retirement dreams.

CONGRATULATING THE LOVETT SCHOOL LIONS FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize The Lovett School Lions varsity football team on an exceptional 2013 season.

This Saturday, the Region 6-AA Champion Lions will make their first championship game trip to the Georgia Dome, and their first championship game since 2007.

Following an impressive 12-1 season, the Lions defeated Brooks County 35-12 last Friday in the Class AA semifinals. They now face Lamar County in the title game. What's more, they now have the opportunity to best the team that eliminated them from last year's playoffs in a hard-fought game.

This season, Coach Mike Muschamp, his staff, and these young men have worked tirelessly to earn their place in Georgia football history. The team's seniors will enter the next chapter of their lives knowing that they have upheld their school's legacy of excellence and have set a high bar for future Lions teams.

I encourage the entire team to reflect proudly on their impressive season and remember the season's important life lessons of responsibility, persistence, and self-discipline. These traits will serve them well throughout their lives.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I wish the Lovett Lions football team the best of luck in the Class AA State Championship title game, and congratulate them on their impressive season. This team has brought great pride to their school, the city of Atlanta, and Georgia's 11th District. Go Lions.

HONORING MR. CLARENCE HALL, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a champion, Mr. Clarence Hall, Jr. He has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to make life better for others.

Mr. Clarence Hall, Jr. was born in Issaquena County and attended school there. In 1941 he volunteered for the U.S. Army, three of his five years of service was spent in the European Theatre of Operation during World War II. After completing his military service, Mr. Hall attended Agricultural School for four years in Delta City, MS.

Mr. Hall is a faithful member of the St. John Missionary Baptist Church at Palmetto, MS. He has been married to Selvey Hall for 58 years. He has a son, Clarence Hall, III and a daughter, Ruth Ann Evans, 8 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

While Mr. Hall didn't have multiple degrees to attach to his name, he has many, many deeds to attach. He is well versed with common sense and a sense of humility. His love for God and Humanity was instrumental in his endeavors to ensure that all men were treated fairly, which is what lead him to becoming a Civil/Human Rights Activist.

In 1957, he was the first Black in Issaquena County to pay poll tax. Later, in 1964, he was one of the founding members of the Issaquena County Freedom Democratic Party, a political action organization that helped to organize black voters into a viable political force. Mr. Hall and others appeared before the United States Commission on Civil Rights on February 16-20, 1965 to testify about Blacks in Mississippi being denied the right to register to vote and abolish the literacy test. He was also fired from Akin Saw Co., when he went to Washington D.C. seeking funds for the Child Development Group of MS which is now called Headstart.

In 1969 Mr. Hall was one of the founding members of Delta Foundation, Inc. and is a current board member. Also, he founded the Issaquena County Federal Credit Union in Mayersville, where he has been the Manager, CEO/Chairman for the past 36 years.

He filed a redistricting lawsuit in Issaquena County which resulted in the election of the first black supervisor. He was also active in getting the Mississippi Congressional Districts redrawn to make it possible for Blacks to be elected into the U.S. House of Representatives. Mr. Clarence Hall, Jr. has served in several capacities in Sharkey and Issaquena County to improve life for others. He has worked at Delta Opportunities Corporation, MS Delta Council for Farm Workers, elected to Western Line School Board, member of Issaquena County Executive Committee, member of the Sharkey/Issaquena Hospital Board of Trustees, member of the Issaquena County Levee Board Commission and founding member of the Lake Jackson Water Association among other things.

Clarence has also received several awards throughout his life. In 1968 he received the Rural Service Award from the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington, D.C. and awards for services to the Issaquena County Federal Credit Union, Western Line School Board and the Delta Area School Board Association.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Clarence Hall, Jr. for his dedication to serving others and giving back to the community.

THE RETIREMENT OF JUDGE THOMAS D. HORNE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Judge Thomas D. Horne, an integral member of Loudoun County's justice

system for more than three decades, who retired at the beginning of this month.

Judge Horne graduated from Muhlenberg College in 1965 and went on to attend William and Mary Law School, where he earned his law degree in 1969. He began his career as a judge advocate for the Marines and in 1979, his love of the courtroom led him to become the county's first elected commonwealth's attorney. In 1982, he was appointed to the Loudoun Circuit Court and since then has heard some of Loudoun's most prominent cases, including the 2002 first-degree murder trial of Claire Schwartz, who was found guilty of killing her father, as well as the nation's first "spam" case involving email advertisements.

Although he is one Virginia's most respected circuit court judges and described by his colleagues a "the epitome of fairness"—his leadership extends far beyond the courtroom. He helped create a bench book for judges in Virginia, which has become an indispensable resource for those involved in the legal profession. Additionally, he spearheaded the nation's first victim-witness program and started a week-long law camp mentoring teenagers interested in law.

Outside of the legal realm, Judge Horne serves his community in other ways. In the 1980's he played an important role in the development of youth soccer programs in Loudoun and later formed the Loudoun County Youth Lacrosse League.

I have had the privilege of knowing Tom for many years. I hope that he enjoys retirement with his wife, Patricia, and their children, Rob and Jennifer, and grandchildren, knowing that he has been a pillar of the Loudoun community for decades. I wish him all the best and thank him for his outstanding service, both inside and outside of the courtroom.

I submit the following Leesburg Today article on Judge Horne's remarkable accomplishments.

[From the Leesburg Today, Dec. 5, 2013]

THE EPITOME OF FAIRNESS: HORNE RETIRES,
AFTER THREE DECADES ON LOUDOUN BENCH
(By Erika Jacobson Moore)

Sitting in his office at the Loudoun County Courthouse, Judge Thomas D. Horne is reminiscing about his high school football coach in Baltimore. After being cut during tryouts for other sports, Horne saw a flyer about a meeting for football. So he went. There, coach George Young—a future New York Giants general manager and NFL vice president—told the group, "I won't cut you. You'll cut yourself." Horne joined the football team and Young became a mentor to the teenager. Then, when it came time for Horne to consider college, Young stepped up.

"I didn't have any money, but every weekend he took me to see schools," Horne remembered. That was when Horne first learned anything about Muhlenberg College in Pennsylvania. "I didn't know what it was. I thought it must have been in Germany somewhere. But he said, 'This is the school for you.' So I went."

It was his time at Muhlenberg that put Horne on the path that eventually led him to Loudoun, where he spent more than three decades as a cornerstone in the county's legal system.

"The point is: you can make a difference in someone else's life. And you should," he said.

It is with that philosophy that Horne has approached his life and more than 30 years on the bench in Loudoun's courtrooms. This week marks the first time since the late 1970s that Horne is not a formal part of