

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.

HONORING 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.

IN HONOR OF MR. RODNEY JONES

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Sanger Police Officer, Mr. Rodney Jones who tragically passed away on June 17, 2016.

Mr. Jones was born in Lompoc, California to Lela and Richard Ira Jones. After attending local schools in Clovis, California, Mr. Jones completed his education in 1978.

After being introduced to the law enforcement profession by his brother-in-law, Mr. Jones went on to receive his Peace Officer Basic Training (POST) certification from the College of the Sequoias in 1996. That same year, he began his career with the Sanger Police Department as a patrolman. Mr. Jones would go on to serve the department diligently in many roles, including Detective, Drug Recognition Expert, and Field Training Officer. The Sanger Police Department is left better off because of his service.

In his personal time, Mr. Jones enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren. As an outdoor enthusiast, Mr. Jones was passionate about off-road vehicles, hunting, fishing, and camping, and he loved to share those experiences with family and friends. Additionally, Mr. Jones was a founder and Vice-President of the Sanger Badlands Posse Jeep Club, comprised of fellow police officers, the group would organize rock crawling trips.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life and achievements of Mr. Rodney Jones. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

**WOMEN LEADERS URGE ACTION
ON GUN VIOLENCE**

HON. KATHERINE M. CLARK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letter from prominent women leaders from around the country, which urges Congress to take action on gun violence by implementing universal background checks.

WOMEN'S COALITION FOR COMMON SENSE

JULY 14, 2016.

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS: We are a coalition of women leaders from business, law enforcement, government, domestic violence prevention, women's advocacy, journalism, entertainment and public health. Like Americans all across our country, we are outraged by the mass killing in Orlando and other recent tragic events. Our thoughts and prayers remain with the victims and their families. But sadly, these recent tragedies are only the latest horrific events in our national gun violence crisis that claimed 33,000 lives last year. This crisis is destroying families and our communities.

That's why we have come together to demand that you do more to keep guns out of the wrong hands, protect the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans, and

save lives. We are not alone. Americans—Democrats, Republicans, and Independents—agree that we need stronger laws to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people. It is time for lawmakers like you to listen to your constituents, the very people you were elected to serve.

You can start to address our gun violence crisis by acting to close the loopholes in our laws that allow domestic abusers and felons to buy a gun without a criminal background check. Unlike federally licensed gun dealers, unlicensed sellers are not required to conduct background checks on gun purchases, often with devastating consequences for women and families.

Strengthening our laws and closing these dangerous loopholes would save lives. In states with background checks on all handgun sales, 46% fewer women are murdered with a gun by their intimate partners.

As we continue to mourn the losses from gun violence everywhere, we urge you to give voice to the concerns of your constituents and honor the memory of the 33,000 Americans killed by gun violence every year and enact real, meaningful, and responsible solutions that can help prevent gun tragedies, and make our communities safer places to live.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords, Former Congresswoman (2007-2012)*

The Honorable Madeleine K. Albright, Former United States Secretary of State*

Gail Becker, President of Strategic Partnerships and Global Integration and Chair of the Global Women's Network, Edelman*

Connie Britton, Actress and Activist*

Melanie L. Campbell, Convener, Black Women's Roundtable; President and CEO, NCBCP*

Dr. Brittney Cooper, Professor of Women's and Gender Studies and Africana Studies, Rutgers University*

Kim Gandy, President and CEO, National Network to End Domestic Violence*

Ruth Glenn, Executive Director, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence*

Chief Jané Harteau, Chief of Police, City of Minneapolis*

The Honorable Carla Hills, Former United States Trade Representative*

Nanxi Liu, Founder and CEO, Enplug Technologies

Dyllan McGee, Founder and Executive Producer, MAKERS*

Barbara Bailey Parker, Mother of Alison Parker and Gun Violence Prevention Advocate*

Dr. Lynn Pasquerella, President, Association of American Colleges and Universities*

Jennifer Pinckney, Gun Violence Survivor; Wife of the Late South Carolina State Senator Clementa Pinckney; Founder of The Honorable Reverend Clementa Pinckney Foundation*

Andrea Pino, Co-Founder and Director of Policy and Support, End Rape on Campus*

Katie Ray-Jones, CEO, The National Domestic Violence Hotline*

Dr. Debora Spar, President, Barnard College*

Neera Tanden, President, Center for American Progress*

Robyn Thomas, Executive Director, Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence*

The Honorable Ann Veneman, Former United States Secretary of Agriculture*

Shannon Watts, Founder, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America*

The Honorable Christine Todd Whitman, Former Governor of New Jersey*

Silvestre Acedillo, Founder and Creative Director, VENUTEC

The Honorable Lashrecse D. Aird, Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates

Leah Gunn Barrett, Executive Director, New Yorkers Against Gun Violence

Allie Bones, CEO, Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV)

Dr. Alice Chen, Executive Director, Doctors for America

Cameka Crawford, Chief Communications Officer, The National Domestic Violence Hotline

Andrea Cuvellier

Donna Dees-Thomases, Founder, Million Mom March

Marium Durrani, Public Policy Attorney, National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEVDV)

Dr. Regina Edwards, CEO, Arizona YWCA Metropolitan Phoenix

Judy Fisher, Moms Demand Action

Ilana Flemming, Manager of Advocacy Initiatives, Jewish Women International (JWI)

The Honorable Kate Gallego, Vice Mayor, City of Phoenix

Janet Gilmore

Shira Goodman, Executive Director, CeaseFire Pennsylvania

Rachel Graber, Public Policy Manager, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV)

Lanae Erickson Hatalsky, Vice President for Social Policy and Politics, Third Way

The Honorable Debra Heffernan, Representative, Delaware House of Representatives

Kathleen Higgins, Officer, Compliance Test Design/Analytics Specialist, Bank of America

Joani Horchler, Maryland Moms Demand Action

Carolyn Jenkins, Organizing for Action

Helene Keeley, Speaker Pro-Tempore, Delaware House of Representatives

Lieutenant General Claudia Kennedy, USA (Ret.)

Nancy Kennedy

Babe King, Organizer, YELLOW TAPE PROJECT to Stop Gun Violence

Suzanne Koeplinger, Former Executive Director, Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center

Captain Gail Kulisch, USCG (Ret.)

Ronald Legrand, Vice President, Public Policy, National Network to End Domestic Violence

Dr. Barbara Levy, Vice President, Health Policy, The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

Gail Levyveld

Shelly Livingston, C Street Democrats

The Honorable Valerie Longhurst, Representative, Delaware House of Representatives

Jennifer Lynch, Oregon Alliance for Gun Safety

Natalie Marra

Heather Martens, Executive Director, Protect Minnesota

Martha Strawn Morris, Director, The Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services

Nonna Noto, Jubilee Jobs

Chelsea Parsons, Vice President, Guns and Crime Policy, Center for American Progress

The Honorable Karen Peterson, Senator, Delaware State Senate

Jody Rabhan, Director, Washington Office, National Council of Jewish Women

Jane Randel, Co-Founder, Karp Randel

Beth Reilly, Faith Advocate and Organizer

Patricia Reuss, Policy Advisor, National Organization for Women

Carol Robles-Román, President and CEO, Legal Momentum

The Honorable Katherine Rogers, New Hampshire House of Representatives

The Honorable Diane Rosenbaum, Senate Majority Leader, Oregon State Senate

Deborah Rosenbloom, Vice President of Programs and New Initiatives, Jewish Women International (JWI)