

deeper calling to enter the ministry. In 1960, Reverend Dr. Smith was ordained as an itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, receiving a pastorate at St. Mark's Church in Duluth, MN. He returned to Minneapolis in 1988 to serve the congregation of St. James' Church, the oldest black congregation in Minnesota, until reaching the mandatory retirement age of 90.

Reverend Dr. Smith was among the oldest graduates from three separate Minnesota colleges. He earned an Associate of Arts degree from Minneapolis Community College at age 74, a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies from Macalester College at age 78, and a Master of Divinity degree from United Theological Seminary at the age of 81. An exceptional student, Reverend Dr. Smith received the Sidney Barrow Award in Religion during his time at Macalester, and in 2013 was bestowed an honorary Doctorate of Ministry from United Theological Seminary at 105 years old.

Reverend Dr. Smith was widely admired and respected both in the Minneapolis community and in the African Methodist Episcopal Church worldwide. After his retirement from St. James' at 90, he tirelessly worked for 16 more years as a member of the Wayman Church ministerial staff where he continued to preach, helped found the Wayman Church Bible Institute, taught Bible studies, and mentored many members of the clergy. Reverend Dr. Smith's final ministerial act was September 6, 2015, giving a scripture lesson during service at Lily of The Valley Church in Apple Valley, Minnesota. Lily of the Valley African Methodist Episcopal Church is a church that he not only helped found, but was also the first AME church to open in Minnesota in nearly 80 years.

Reverend Dr. Noah Spencer Smith passed away on September 24, 2015 at the age of 107. At the time of his death, Reverend Dr. Smith was the oldest active minister in the United States. His memory stands as an example for all in Minneapolis never to cease your calling. Through a deep dedication to his faith, he fostered a community that will blossom for years to come.

2015 PERSON OF THE YEAR: LISA KRUSE

### HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 8, 2016*

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lisa Kruse of McGregor, Minnesota for being named 2015 Person of the Year by the Aitkin Age for her outstanding service to her community.

As Director of Community Education Lisa works tirelessly to promote wellness to all people in her community. She has brought activities to McGregor for all ages, from indoor recess equipment, to an ice rink at the High School, and to fitness classes for seniors.

The programs Lisa helps bring to her community go beyond physical health. Recently she attended training to educate others in her community on the impacts of Adverse Childhood Experiences. She obtained grants to make McGregor schools a Reading Corps site where additional reading help is available for struggling students to promote literacy to early

readers in kindergarten through third grade. Her assistance to McGregor's Early Childhood program helped it earn Parent Aware's highest rating of four stars.

In addition to all she does to promote education and wellness Lisa was instrumental in bringing the Governor's fishing opener to Aitkin County for the first time ever. After four years of hard work by Lisa the 2016 Governor's Fishing Opener will be held at Big Sandy Lake nearby her hometown. She is a great example of what it means to be an active citizen.

Once again I would like to thank Lisa Kruse for all she does for her hometown of McGregor, Minnesota.

DELANO STEWART

### HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 8, 2016*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary leader and pillar of the Tampa Bay legal community, Mr. Delano Stewart.

Delano Stewart retired in July 2015 after an illustrious 50-year legal career in the state of Florida. A graduate of Hillsborough County public schools, Mr. Stewart went on to matriculate from Morehouse College and Howard University Law School. His memorable career began as the first African-American Assistant Public Defender in Hillsborough County's history. In 1970, he went on to open the first integrated law firm in the state of Florida. In addition to his legal work, Mr. Stewart was the first African-American elected to the Board of Directors of the Hillsborough County Bar Association, and the first African-American member of the Rough Riders civic club.

Mr. Stewart's memorable career was shaped by many stalwart figures in the civil rights movement. At the age of 12, inspired by a visit from Thurgood Marshall, who was in Tampa as an NAACP attorney assisting in the African-American teachers' campaign for equal pay, Mr. Stewart desired to become a lawyer. His passion for the civil rights movement was further stoked upon traveling to Washington, DC for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. Additionally, Mr. Stewart is proud to champion Garland Stewart, the first African-American administrator in Hillsborough County school district history who played a key role in integrating the district, as the greatest influence on his life.

Beyond his legal career, he founded The Delano S. Stewart Diversity Award which is given each year to an individual for lifetime achievements in improving the lives of African-Americans and promoting diversity in the legal profession.

During this new chapter of his life, Mr. Stewart plans on spending more time with his wife and their six children and eight grandchildren as well as working on his novel. In Delano Stewart's own words he is not retiring, rather he is finding new ways to help people with his specialized legal training. Mr. Speaker, I join the Tampa Bay community in honoring Mr. Delano Stewart for his lifelong commitment to fairness and justice for all.

NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK

### HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 8, 2016*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I introduced a resolution recognizing February 1–5th as National School Counseling Week. This resolution is an important one; school counselors are critical to the success of our students, particularly the ones who are at a high risk of dropping out.

We ask much of our counselors. The recommended counselor to student ratio is one to 250, while the national average is almost double that; one to 482. Each year, only 80% of students are graduating from high school. Schools desperately need more counselors who can put students on the path to success by ensuring they have the tools they need to graduate.

In the spirit of properly recognizing hard-working school counselors across the country, today I wish to honor the work of an incredible school counselor and administrator from Montebello Unified School District, Andy Costello. Recently retired, he spent much of his career working for Montebello Unified, and has become a pillar of our community.

Mr. Costello has a passion for supporting and uplifting students and their families. Always going above and beyond to make sure families received the best guidance and support possible. Now retired, Andy continues to be engaged with the community. Mr. Costello is involved in counseling associations, and the college access program, College Bound Today, at Montebello Unified.

It is important to recognize leaders like Mr. Costello. The true heroes of our community. The ones that help make our future brighter, by uplifting the next generation. He has had an immense impact on our community.

IN HONOR OF PAT HOSFORD'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 8, 2016*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, born into an American energy family, Patrick Eugene Hosford arrived on February 6, 1936 in Seminole, Oklahoma where his father was working for what was then known as Gulf Oil. Eugene and June Hosford's oldest son, like his father, would go on to graduate from the University of Oklahoma and immediately put his engineering degree to work in the energy industry.

For many years, Pat worked for Pan American, which became Amoco. Then Pat ventured out on his own forming his own energy companies and making his mark as an independent oilman. Pat even formed a manufacturing company to make pup joints for the energy industry.

A quarter century ago Pat, and his lovely wife of 59 years, Colleen, whom he met on the campus at the University of Oklahoma, made The Woodlands their home. Their three sons all earned engineering degrees from the