

HONORING MATTHEW ALAN
STUBBS II

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Alan Stubbs II. Matthew 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 264, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Matthew 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, Matthew has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

CONGRATULATING ED ROCHA AND
ROCHA'S VALLEY ENTERPRISES

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ed Rocha and Rocha's Valley Enterprises, which will be inducted as a member of the Stanislaus County Agricultural Hall of Fame "Legends in Agriculture" during a ceremony in Modesto, California, on November 14, 2013.

Trucking is truly a family legacy for the Rocha family. In 1924, John Rocha founded John N Rocha transportation. They started hauling milk, hay and dairy supplies and added cattle a few years later. In 1952, when Ed was a senior in high school, his dad took him to Salinas Dressed Beef Company, in Salinas, CA, to look at two nearly-new 1951 Peterbilt Cabovers they had for sale. His dad told him, "If I like the deal, you're in business." They ended up buying the trucks and Ed and his father became partners under the name Rocha Livestock Transportation.

Ten years later, Ed decided to go out on his own and started Ed Rocha Livestock Transportation. Over the years, Ed's operations expanded to Stockton and Modesto and the fleet grew to include tankers, vans, curtain vans, flats and of course cattle trucks.

In 1990, Valley Enterprises was founded, leasing tomato trailers to the Morningstar Company. To this day they are handling the shuttle and interplant business for E&J Gallo. It is important to note that the Rocha family has been hauling for the Gallo family for over 70 years.

A true family business, Ed's youngest son Douglas was running a tomato operation at twelve years old, helped out by his sister

Stephanie, at only nine years old. Today, Doug runs Valley Enterprises whose fleet consists of 27 power units and 150 sets of trailers.

Dedicated to giving back to the industry, Ed is very active with several trucking organizations. He is the former president of the California Trucking Association and is active in the American Truck Historical Society (ATHS). Ed also serves on the board of directors for the American Trucking Association (ATA), served on the National Ag Science Center Board of Directors, and he is the executive director and past president of the Hays Antique Truck Museum. His community involvement spreads beyond transportation, Ed and Carole helped start Children's Guardian Home in Oakdale, a home that takes in abused and abandoned children. Ed is a past president of the Children's Crisis Center in Modesto.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in praising Ed Rocha and Rocha's Valley Enterprises, for their significant contributions to agriculture and to the people of our local community.

TRIBUTE TO LEONEL J. CASTILLO,
EDUCATOR, CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST,
AND HOUSTON'S FIRST HISPANIC ELECTED

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Leonel J. Castillo, a legendary and pioneering figures in the history of Houston, Texas. Mr. Castillo, who was the first Hispanic elected to public office in Houston, died November 4, 2013. He was 74 years old.

Leonel J. Castillo was born June 9, 1939 in Victoria, Texas and educated at St. Mary's University in San Antonio, from which he received his Bachelor's degree in English, and his Master's degree in Community Organization from University of Pittsburgh.

Like many men and women of his generation, Leonel Castillo was inspired by President John F. Kennedy's call to service and joined the Peace Corps, serving in the Philippines. During this time he met the gracious and brilliant Evelyn, his partner in life and marriage for more than 50 years, and the mother of their two children, a daughter Avalyn, and a son, Efrem.

In 1967, Leonel and his family moved to Houston where he soon became involved with local neighborhood organizations. He organized across racial lines and worked to find common ground on important issues to each community, including integration and better educational opportunities for the children of Houston.

Leonel served as Director of SER-Jobs for Progress, board member of Catholic Charities, and member of the Memorial Hermann Hospital advisory board. Leonel also was one of the co-founders of the Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Houston International University. He also taught at the University of Houston and Texas Southern University.

In 1971, Leonel Castillo was elected Comptroller of the City of Houston, the first Hispanic

ever elected to public office in the city's history. He served in that office with distinction, earning the nickname the "Watchdog at City Hall."

Based on his record of demonstrated excellence as a manager and public administrator, Leonel Castillo came to the attention of President Jimmy Carter, who nominated him on April 7, 1977 to be Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and confirmed by the Senate just three weeks later, on April 27, 1977. He was the first Hispanic to hold this position. Leonel Castillo served as INS Commission until October 1, 1979.

At a White House swearing-in ceremony, President Carter explained his reasons for appointing Leonel Castillo to such an important post:

He's a man who has the highest possible reputation. He's a public administrator, and I think I can tell you that he's going to take on one of the most difficult jobs in the Government.

Mr. Speaker, Leonel J. Castillo touched so many lives in so many ways. He inspired a generation of civic minded Hispanic men and women to seek public office. He was a towering figure in the life of our community. He will be greatly missed.

I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in honor of a great American, my friend, the Honorable Leonel J. Castillo.

HONORING ANGEL WOODRUFF

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Angel Woodruff of Cape Girardeau, Missouri for her compassionate defense of others in her local community. Ms. Woodruff currently serves as the first assistant prosecuting attorney in Cape Girardeau County, and has become widely-known for her compassionate and diligent defense of victims of crime. She is known for encouraging victims to advocate for themselves, and to actively seek out the help of the law. Ms. Woodruff began her education studying English at Southeast Missouri State University, and continued on to earn a Law Degree at the University of Missouri-Columbia. She began working at the Cape Girardeau Prosecuting Attorney's Office in 1998 and specializes in violent crimes, drug crime, domestic violence, and sex crimes. She believes that her job is more than just what people see on headlines and in court rooms, and seeks to help victims whose daily lives are affected by her cases on a personal level. Ms. Woodruff reaches out to victims and shows them that they are not alone, and that she is willing to fight for them.

In the words of the U.S. Attorney who hired her, Morley Swingle, "A crime victim is lucky if she is assigned to the case." I am grateful that we have such caring and hardworking members of the Cape Girardeau community, such as Ms. Angel Woodruff. It is my pleasure to recognize her achievements before the House of Representatives and to encourage her to continue advocating for victims of crime.