

The We the People program provides curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels. The curriculum not only enhances students' understanding of the institutions of American constitutional democracy, it also helps them identify the contemporary relevance of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Critical thinking exercises, problem-solving activities, and cooperative learning techniques help develop participatory skills necessary for students to become active, responsible citizens.

Independent studies by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) revealed that students enrolled in the We the People program at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels "significantly outperformed comparison students on every topic of the tests taken." Another study by Richard Brody at Stanford University discovered that students involved in the We the People program develop greater commitment to democratic principles and values than do students using traditional textbooks and approaches. Researchers at the Council for Basic Education noted, "[T]eachers feel excited and renewed. . . . Students are enthusiastic about what they have been able to accomplish, especially in terms of their ability to carry out a reasoned argument. They have become energized about their place as citizens of the United States.

The class from Marion High School is currently preparing for their participation in the national competition in Washington, D.C. It is inspiring to see these young people advocate the fundamental ideals and principles of our government, ideas that identify us as a people and bind us together as a nation. It is important for future generations to understand these values and principles which we hold as standards in our endeavor to preserve and realize the promise of our constitutional democracy. I wish these young "constitutional experts" the best of luck at the We the People national finals.

RECOGNIZING SARAH AMBRIZ

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sarah Ambriz, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, troop 1381, and in earning the most prestigious honor of the Gold Award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement attainable in girl scouting. To earn the Gold Award, a scout must complete five requirements, all of which promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills. The requirements include, 1. Earning four interest project patches, each of which requires seven activities that center on skill building, technology, service projects, and career exploration, 2. Earning the career exploration pin, which involves researching careers, writing resumes, and planning a career fair or trip, 3. Earning the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, which requires a minimum of 30 hours of work using leadership skills, 4. Designing a self-development plan that requires assess-

ment of ability to interact with others and prioritize values, participation for a minimum of 15 hours in a community service project, and development of a plan to promote Girl Scouting, and 5. Spending a minimum of 50 hours planning and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award project that has a positive lasting impact on the community.

For her Gold Award project, Sarah organized a music clinic for elementary school children.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Sarah Ambriz for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

TRIBUTE TO IRVING L. DILLIARD

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of Irving L. Dilliard.

A resident of my hometown of Collinsville, IL, Irving passed from this life on October 9th from complications of leukemia. An accomplished writer, editor, and well-known authority on the Constitution and the Supreme Court, Irving wrote more than 10,000 editorials and many books. Irving also wrote about those people who didn't often make headlines; he used his talent to bring attention to various injustices throughout the world.

Irving attended Collinsville High School and was a 1927 graduate of the University of Illinois. While attending the U of I, he was initiated into the Gamma chapter of Alpha Kappa Lambda fraternity. Irving continued his dedication to the fraternity by serving as AKL National President from 1936-38. Irving eventually went on to become one of the first Nieman Fellows at Harvard University, a year-long graduate program for journalists.

Irving became a reporter at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch in the late 1920s. Soon after joining the newspaper staff, Irving wrote a pamphlet on the 1787 Constitutional Convention entitled, "Building the Constitution", which was then distributed to schools for free and saw 850,000 copies in print.

Irving joined the war effort in 1943 by enlisting in the Army to serve in World War II. He earned the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and served as a psychological warfare specialist on Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's staff. He was also an editorial adviser for the European edition of Stars and Stripes during the war.

Following the war, Irving rejoined the Post-Dispatch, this time as an editorial writer. He worked his way up to editorial page editor by 1949. During his years at the newspaper, Irving was known as an expert on the Supreme Court and Constitution. Irving eventually retired from the Post-Dispatch in 1960. However, his career in journalism did not end at this time; Irving went on to teach that subject for 10 years at Princeton University.

Following his years as an educator, he continued to serve his state and country by serving as the first director of the Illinois Department of Aging. As late as 1995, Irving was still working for the people, this time as an Illinois delegate to the White House Conference on Aging.

Irving held many honors throughout his long career. He was president of the Illinois State Historical Society, the Illinois State Historical Library, and the Society of Professional Journalists. He was elected to the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois in 1960—receiving more than 2 million votes statewide. Irving also remained loyal to his hometown of Collinsville by holding a seat on the Collinsville Library Board for 52 years; 23 of those years he served as president.

Irving Dilliard was the epitome of a great American citizen. He was a dedicated servant to his community, state, and nation and will be greatly missed.

TRIBUTE TO LUIS MUÑOZ MARÍN

HON. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, last week Puerto Ricans celebrated the birthday of one of our greatest and most beloved leaders: Luis Muñoz Marín. Today I want to honor Muñoz Marín's memory and recognize his contribution to democracy and progress in Puerto Rico and the Americas.

Muñoz was the architect of Puerto Rico's commonwealth status and the promoter of an economic revolution that transformed Puerto Rican society. Muñoz was a true champion of liberalism and democracy and had absolute confidence in the capacity of Puerto Ricans to govern themselves. Muñoz dedicated his life to strengthen our democracy and to promote the best of our culture. His vision translated into the "Estado Libre Asociado" (or Commonwealth), which allowed Puerto Ricans to approve their own constitution and achieve a high degree of self-government in association with the United States.

Muñoz understood that social justice was the basis of true prosperity and thus he made social justice the cornerstone of the Popular Democratic Party, which he founded in 1938.

Muñoz worked closely with several Presidents, including Presidents Roosevelt, Eisenhower and Kennedy, and was a key player in the implementation of U.S. foreign policy in Latin America. He was a proud United States citizen, but was also very proud of his Puerto Rican nationhood.

Twice in about a decade, Time Magazine graced its cover with Muñoz Marín's portrait. Muñoz Marín will always be remembered for his contributions to promote democracy and social justice in the Americas. Muñoz died in 1980, but his legacy is very much alive. Today, as a new generation of leaders lays the foundations for a further enhancement of the commonwealth status, let's all remember and honor Luis Muñoz Marín.

RECOGNIZING SHAUNA BRYANT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Shauna Bryant, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest