

Florida community leader, Dexter is known for achieving change through collaboration, partnerships, and relationships.

Since 2012, Dexter has served as the Director for the Zebra Coalition, whose mission is to foster hope, dignity, and self-respect in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and all youth (LGBT+) community and to provide them an opportunity to grow up in a safe, healthy and supportive environment. In partnership with 24 different local social service and government agencies, schools, colleges and universities, and businesses, Dexter oversees the coalition's operations and strategic growth in order to provide a full continuum of services and resources to LGBT+ youth throughout Central Florida. The Zebra Coalition is the only organization in Central Florida that assesses the needs of and offers a full continuum of services to LGBT+ youth.

Under Dexter's direction, the Zebra Coalition has strengthened its programming and resources, opened Central Florida's first drop-in center dedicated to LGBT+ youth, and became a national model for LGBT+ youth continuum of care. The coalition also received accreditation and licensing under the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) as well the Department of Children and Families (DCF). Dexter also helped the coalition obtain its first federal grants through the White House and the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Through Dexter's leadership, the Zebra Coalition, its staff members, volunteers, member organizations, supporters and board members, have come together to provide support and hope to Central Florida's LGBT+ youth.

I am happy to honor Dexter Foxworth, during LGBT Pride Month, for his service to Central Florida's youth.

RECOGNIZING DR. CORA MARRETT

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Cora Marrett's career of service to our country—both in government and education. Since 2011, Dr. Marrett has served as deputy director of the National Science Foundation (NSF), and I have had the pleasure of working with her as chairman of the House Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations subcommittee. I recently learned that she will be retiring next month after an exceptional career in academia and with NSF.

Dr. Marrett has helped lead NSF as its acting director, deputy director, acting deputy director and as the assistant director for Education and Human Resources, where she led efforts on STEM education research and outreach—a key priority for the CJS subcommittee in recent years. I particularly appreciate her leadership on efforts included in appropriations bills at my request to better understand gaps in K-12 STEM education research and to bolster American competitiveness in those fields.

Cora has a long history of service at NSF. She previously served as the first assistant director for the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences directorate from 1992–1996. During that time she earned NSF's "Distinguished

Service Award" for her leadership. She subsequently served as senior vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and later the senior vice president for academic affairs for the University of Wisconsin system, as well as a professor of sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Dr. Marrett for her outstanding leadership and service at NSF and wish her and her family all the best for her upcoming retirement.

COMMEMORATING MR. GARNETT KELLY'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Mr. Garnett Kelly's 90th birthday. Throughout his life, Garnett has served his country and community with the utmost respect and integrity. Garnett is a veteran of World War II, a retired Missouri State Representative, and a farmer.

Garnett Kelly nobly served his country in the United States Navy between 1944 and 1946, during World War II. He then turned his focus to farming and later to state politics where he ran for Missouri's 143rd District, and served Douglas County from 1970–1984. While serving in the Missouri House of Representatives, Garnett served on the House Committees on Agriculture, Fees and Salaries, Appropriations, and Education. After his tenure in the Missouri House of Representatives, Garnett came back to his farm in Douglas County. He has been farming for over 65 years, running both dairy and beef cattle and still puts up his own hay.

Garnett has been married to his wife Loretta since 1945, and they have been blessed with five children, twenty-three grandchildren, forty-nine great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. It is my privilege to commemorate Mr. Garnett Kelly's 90th birthday, as well as recognize his numerous achievements before the House of Representatives.

HONORING MR. RYAN CEPREGI

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ryan Cepregi for his commendable and brave actions that saved his friend's life and earned him The Medal of Merit from the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Cepregi has acted in a manner that shows great concern for the well-being of others and will contribute greatly to our community in the future. We are proud to call Mr. Cepregi a resident of Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

Mr. Ryan Cepregi is only fourteen years of age, but this past June he saved his friend's life. Ryan received a text message from his friend stating that he had taken all of his depression medication in an attempt to take his own life. Ryan immediately contacted his friend's father and paramedics were able to

save his life, partially as a result of Ryan's immediate and mature response. Ryan said, "I was just being a friend. He has so many more years to live his life, he is too young to die." Ryan put the skills he was taught as a Boy Scout to use in order to save his friend's life. Ryan has been involved in the Boy Scouts of America since he was a Tiger Cub at the age of 7, and has been active in Troop 120 for many years now. For his use of these skills, Ryan is being awarded The Medal of Merit, which is given to a youth member or adult leader who has performed some outstanding act of service of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an uncommon degree of concern for the well-being of others.

It is a privilege to recognize a person whose admirable actions have already impacted our community greatly and will likely continue to do so in the future. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Ryan Cepregi for his service and dedication to Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

HONORING TRINA GEORGE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Trina George, who is a Director, Leader and Public Servant.

Trina George was appointed on June 29, 2009, by President Barack Obama to serve as Mississippi's Director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development. She has made history by being the first woman appointed in this position for the State of Mississippi. In her new role, she is charged with assisting residents of rural Mississippi with a range of programs such as: Affordable Housing, Water Systems Upgrades, and Economic Development Efforts. Rural development also provides grant and loan assistance to local governments and non-profit organizations for fire and police protection as well as health clinics, libraries and other facilities for public use. She is an advocate for rural communities throughout the state to assist with their growth, development and sustainability.

Prior to this appointment, Mrs. George served for 15 years as a Special Project Coordinator for Congressman BENNIE THOMPSON where she resolved community and constituency issues by thinking inside, outside and around the box. Her hands-on experience in the Congressional Office served as an ideal prerequisite for her role in rural economic development and community participation for the State of Mississippi.

Mrs. George served on many civic organizations, including education and volunteer groups. She is actively involved in the community where she is: a Board Member for the Heart of the South Girl Scouts Council, which serves Northern Mississippi and Southern Tennessee; and a Member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc, and Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society. She holds a Bachelor's Degree from Mississippi Valley State University and a Master's Degree from Mississippi State University. She is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in Public Policy and Administration at Walden University. Also, she holds a Professional Certificate

in Management and Leadership from the NeighborWorks Training Institute of America in Washington, DC.

Mrs. George is an important advocate for rural communities throughout the state. She administers and manages over 40 programs which include: housing; business and cooperative programs; community programs; and community facilities which are designed to improve the quality of life in rural America. Rural Development is an agency that the Obama Administration wants to see in the forefront of efforts to promote renewable energy and conservation of natural resources while ensuring a safe, sustainable, nutritious food supply through the Agency's cooperatives for present and future users.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Trina George, a director, leader and advocate, who is improving the quality of life for rural America.

CELEBRATING EDITH LEDERBERG

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Edith Lederberg, who turns 85 years old in August. Edith is a vibrant member of our community, and a true friend and advocate to senior citizens locally, statewide, and across the country. Edith has worked for the Aging and Disability Resource Center for 37 years. She currently serves as Executive Director, a position she has held since 1986. As Executive Director, she plans, coordinates, and directs senior programming and advocates on behalf of seniors at the local, state, and national level. She also raises financial resources to support programs for Older Americans residing in Broward County.

Ms. Lederberg has been recognized for her dedication several times over the course of her successful career, including her selection as a Media Representative and then as a Regular Delegate to the White House Conference on Aging. She served as President of the Florida Association of Area Agencies on Aging, and as Vice Chair of Broward's Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board for almost 18 years. She has been elected to the Broward Women's Hall of Fame and the Broward Senior Hall of Fame.

These are just a few from her long list of accomplishments. Ms. Lederberg was born in Freeport, New York and she has three children and four grandchildren. She is a truly exceptional woman and I know I join with her friends and family in celebrating her birthday. I wish her good health and continued success in the coming year.

RECOGNIZING EDMUND COOK

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Mr. Edmund Cook for his many years of service to American Legion Post 506, and to veterans in Westchester County, New York.

Born in Lithuania in 1945, Edmund Cook was separated from his family in the closing days of World War II. After being found and fed by American soldiers, he was put in a "displaced persons (DP)" Red Cross camp for five years until he was adopted by an American family. The kindness shown to him by those American soldiers would have a lasting impact on Mr. Cook, and would lead to a life-long career of helping veterans.

After receiving a masters degree from Fordham University, Edmund joined the Veterans Administration (VA) at the Montrose, New York, VA Hospital facility as a Clinical Social Worker. In 1991, he was transferred to the White Plains, New York, Veterans Center to help soldiers suffering from PTSD in the aftermath of the Iraq War. He soon started treating veterans from all wars, and has worked tirelessly to ensure they all receive the care they need. He would even go to homeless shelters to seek out veterans in need of medical treatment, and would collect clothes to give veterans.

For the past 30 years, Mr. Cook has chaired the Boys State Program for Ossining Post 506 American Legion. This program offers high school boys the opportunity to learn how our government works, from the local and state level to the Federal Government. It is an important learning experience for young men who might one day seek opportunities in government work. Mr. Cook has infused his passion for helping others into this program, and he continues to inspire young men every year.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Edmund Cook of Ossining, NY, for his lifetime of service to the veterans and youth of my district. His work has inspired others to help those in need, and he has truly lived up to the Veterans Administration motto, "to care for him who shall have borne the battle." I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his tremendous accomplishments.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MRS. MARTHA ANN (GIBBS) MELTON ON THE OCCASION OF HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Martha Ann (Gibbs) Melton, who was born on August 7, 1914, to Charles and Chanie Gibbs. She is the youngest and only daughter of three siblings. Her two older brothers, Scott and Jim, have both made their transitions. After becoming a grandmother, Martha has been affectionately addressed as Granny by all who know and love her. She is indeed a very proud grandmother with 32 grandchildren and a host of great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren.

Martha Ann had a very interesting childhood. Her father, Charles Gibbs (Poppa) was one of 12 siblings born to Henry and Ann (Wright) Gibbs. Grandpa Henry Gibbs was a free slave in Clay County, West Point, Mississippi. Because he was a man of many trades—such as a farmer, shoe maker, textile worker, blacksmith, cotton gin operator, and molasses mill operator—Grandpa Henry's 12

children also followed in his path. His freedom came with a 225-acre land grant from the Cottrell Plantation owner, which was eventually inherited by his children and passed down through generations to living descendants. The young Poppa Charles Gibbs was a very hardworking farmer and shoemaker. His 3 children also had to work hard. Although there was always work to do, the kids did find time to play. Some of Granny's favorite games were baseball, hop scotch, and jump rope. Her recollection of a normal day was being up at day break, attending the one room Pooles' school house, and then working in the cotton fields until sundown where she was either chopping cotton or picking up 200 pounds of cotton a day during harvest. She took what she learned from Pooles' school to later earn a GED. Granny shared one of her favorite pastimes which was sitting and watching Poppa operate his shoe lasting machines to make shoes. She was always amazed how the machine would use a needle to punch and sew shoes. Not only did Poppa make shoes, but he also removed soles from old shoes and patched the soles to make them look new.

As tradition goes, the expectation is that, as the only daughter in the household, Granny would have a room with some special frills or girly touches. Quite the opposite, she remembers having the basics—a small bed, a trunk and a chifferobe, and she was quite content with her provisions. In addition, Sundays were special in the Gibbs family. Everyone got up early and put on their best attire for a day of worship at Primitive Baptist Church. Granny later became a member of Union Star Baptist Church (West Point) where she sang in the choir. Granny was also a member of the Prince Hall Masons, Heroines of Jericho Lounge, Court #324.

As a young woman, Martha Ann was a mother to 5 children, the late Chanie (Gibbs) Randle, Sallie (Collins) Sellars, Isaac Melton, Jr., Amos Melton, and Clarence Melton. Her husbands from previous marriages were the late Willie James Collins and the late Isaac Melton, Sr. She held a variety of jobs while living in West Point, ranging from day work at various homes to Bryan Bros. Packing Company, Swift and Company, working as a dry cleaning attendant, and later as a salesperson for American Burial Insurance Company.

In her senior years, Granny became ill and moved to Chicago to be cared for by her daughter, Sallie. Her church, Union Star Baptist, honored her transition with a letter for membership to Greater Garfield Baptist Church (Chicago) under the pastorship of Reverend George Henderson, where she serves faithfully and is the senior member of the Mother's Board. Granny occasionally breaks out in song during service, and is welcomed by Pastor Henderson. She affirms that her all-time favorite hymn is "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say." Even though Granny has reached this historical milestone, she continues to be one of the feistiest elders you will ever encounter. She has been there and done that and knows more than any of us will ever be able to profess . . . just ask her.

I take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Melton as she reaches a milestone of 100 years and commend her and her family for the great legacy of history and the contributions they have made to human kind.