

HONORING DAVID ELBAUM FOR BEING NAMED THE 2014 ILLINOIS HISTORY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to honor David Elbaum, an exceptional educator at Stevenson High School who was recently named the 2014 Illinois History Teacher of the Year.

The child of a teacher and a social worker, David embraced his parents' commitment to dedicating themselves to careers that help and inspire others. David is currently in his 11th year as a teacher, having joined Stevenson High School after three years at Aptakisic Junior High School in Buffalo Grove. A member of Stevenson's highly collaborative U.S. history team, David received this distinction because of his tremendous achievements in education and his outstanding ability to motivate his students to excel both inside and outside the classroom.

David hopes to instill in his students an appreciation of the tremendous importance and power of history. Studying American history provides us with both an understanding of our nation's past—our challenges and our successes—and a roadmap for the future. By educating his students on the extraordinary accomplishments that seemingly ordinary people have been able to achieve throughout American history, David empowers his students to pursue their passions and helps them recognize that they too have the capacity to do extraordinary things.

Passionate and effective teachers have the capacity to shape the perspective and cultivate the talents of our nation's young people. This award is an appropriate recognition of David's indelible impact on the lives of his students, and his commitment to helping develop informed citizens and future leaders.

LYDIA MEDRANO

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and to honor an extraordinary leader and champion of human rights, Dr. Lydia Medrano. Her remarkable career in public service has had a tremendous impact on the Tampa Bay community.

Dr. Medrano's career has been devoted to healthcare and human rights. Dr. Medrano came to Florida from Puerto Rico. She received her doctorate degree in Sociology and Certificate in Latin American Studies from the University of Florida. Her devotion to her community led her to serve as associate director for the international division of Planned Parenthood of America in the Latin American Regional Office. Later she worked as a researcher and evaluator at the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, an independent taxing authority that funds dozens of specialized programs geared towards improving the health

and well-being of Tampa Bay's children and families. Dr. Medrano joined the Children's Board almost from its inception and, during her tenure, she helped ensure an accessible community system of care and successful outcomes through her array of responsibilities, including evaluation, contract management, research ethics and community engagement activities. After 22 years, she retired this year.

In addition to dedicating her career to healthier children and families, her passion for healthcare and human rights has driven her to lead and support numerous local initiatives. She was cochair of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute's Hispanic Advisory Council and the USF ACSSP (Hispanic Health) Research Project. She is also a past member of the Board of the Hispanic Professional Women Association and a member of the Hillsborough County Commission on the Status of Women. Dr. Medrano's outstanding contributions to the community has led to her being recognized with numerous awards including the 2009 Human Rights Award by the Tampa Hillsborough Human Rights Council and the 2004 Hispanic Woman of the Year by the Tampa-Hillsborough Hispanic Heritage.

Dr. Medrano has retired but she has not stopped working for our Hispanic community and civil rights. She continues to serve as Florida State Director for the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), the nation's largest and oldest civil rights volunteer-based organization that empowers our Hispanic Americans. LULAC was a strong partner in helping Spanish-speaking residents learn about their options under the Affordable Care Act Education and enroll in the marketplace. Moreover, LULAC is educating communities in our state and across the country about the need for comprehensive immigration reform. Dr. Medrano serves on my roundtable for comprehensive immigration reform and has been an invaluable partner in fighting for this crucial cause—we will not give up. Twenty councils across Florida trust and depend on Dr. Medrano's leadership to build strong Latino communities through advocacy and education. Her enthusiasm is truly an inspiration.

Dr. Medrano's tireless and selfless advocacy efforts have helped to create a better Tampa Bay community. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Dr. Medrano for her outstanding service as a researcher, mentor and community leader.

HONORING HENRY SAMUEL GRAVES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Henry Samuel Graves. Hank 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 714, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Hank has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Hank 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, Hank has become a Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say while also attending the National Youth Leadership Training, the 2013 National Boy Scout Jamboree and High Adventure at Philmont Scout Ranch. Hank has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Hank restored and documented the grave markers, some dating back to the 19th century, in a family cemetery outside of Edgerton, Missouri, that had been abandoned and neglected for years.

As Hank's uncle, I am proud of the young man he has become. As an Eagle Scout, I admire the determination he has shown in completing his path to Eagle.

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

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM CAMPBELL

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of William Campbell, of Belvidere, Illinois, who passed away November 3, 2014 at the age of 67.

Bill Campbell, as he was known, touched thousands of lives through his work as Financial Secretary of UAW Local 1268 for over 30 years. He began work at the Chrysler plant in Belvidere in 1965 and served as Financial Secretary of Local 1268 from 1981 until his retirement in 2013. The UAW was his true passion in life.

Bill received the Walter P. Reuther Distinguished Service Award in 2013, the highest honor bestowed by the International UAW. His life was finally taken by cancer in November after an 18-month battle. He is sorely missed by his extended family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to give my sincere condolences to Bill's family and friends in Belvidere and honor his years of dedicated service to the UAW and his community.

RECOGNIZING COMMUNITY FOUNDATION WEEK

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand before you in recognition of Community Foundation Week. Since 1989, the week of November 12–November 18 has served as a reminder of the outstanding work of community foundations throughout the United States. This year also marks the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the first community foundation in Cleveland, Ohio.

Community foundations epitomize the philanthropic culture of the United States. They hold a unique place in American society and provide hope and opportunity to millions of

Americans. Since the first organization opened its doors 100 years ago, more than 700 community foundations have been established throughout the country. Through the leadership and efforts of these foundations, millions of Americans have been inspired to contribute their time and talents to the betterment of society. As the representative of the First Congressional District of Indiana, I would like to take this time to proudly recognize the work of Indiana's community foundations. Indiana is most fortunate to have a community foundation in every county, including Legacy Foundation, the Crown Point Community Foundation, the Porter County Community Foundation, and the Unity Foundation of LaPorte County, which are located in the First Congressional District.

These foundations are a model for how philanthropy can inspire communities to come together in support of a common cause. Under their leadership, the communities served by these four community foundations invested \$18 million and reached more than 68,000 learners in a significant effort called the Discovery Alliance initiative. This exceptional initiative aims to support and foster youth readiness for success in school and work, adult workforce development, and removing barriers to education at all levels. This is just one example of the extraordinary philanthropic efforts of community foundations in local communities throughout the country. The spirit of generosity embodied by these community foundations is a core American value.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the many outstanding community foundations in Northwest Indiana and throughout the nation. For their dedication and commitment to serving their communities, these organizations are an inspiration and are to be commended.

JETIE WILDS

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly gifted leader of the Tampa Bay community, Mr. Jetie Wilds. Mr. Wilds' dedicated his life to educating people about politics, bringing communities together, and inspiring a way forward for all people in Tampa. Today it is a privilege for me to honor his incredible legacy.

Mr. Wilds was born in Tampa, Florida to a family of 12 children. At a young age, Mr. Wilds volunteered on political campaigns and developed a passion for political activism and engagement. This strong commitment to bettering the community led him to Morehouse College in Atlanta where he obtained a Bachelor's degree. He was deeply involved in the civil rights movement by regularly participating in peace marches and sit-ins. During this time, Mr. Wilds married his wife of over 49 years, Ozepher. Mr. Wilds then began his career staying true to his roots as a public servant by becoming a middle school math teacher.

Mr. Wilds' public advocacy was not limited to civil rights; he was an ardent environmentalist who served as a community organizer for greater environmental regulations in Portland, Oregon. While there, he obtained a

Master's degree in urban planning at Portland State University. His knowledge of environmental policy later led him to Washington, D.C. where he conducted research on the impact of environmental regulations on the African American community.

Mr. Wilds returned to Tampa in 1996 and spearheaded his now locally renowned radio show, Citizens Report. During each broadcast, Mr. Wilds brought to light the significant issues facing the Tampa Bay community. He quickly developed a rapport with his audience because of his intellect and candor that kept the show on air for over 15 years. His efforts to educate and inspire action on important political issues continued through his weekly column in Tampa's trilingual newspaper, *La Gaceta*. This column consistently provided a profound perspective on issues that transcended cultural and racial boundaries.

Mr. Wilds' leadership and tireless work earned him numerous accolades including Man of the Year from the Portland Junior Chamber of Commerce, Boss of the Year from the Professional Women's Organization and Distinguished College Alumnus from the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education.

Mr. Wilds will always be remembered as a leader who united people of all races and ethnicities for the common cause of community betterment. Whether he was running for office, teaching a class or providing an insightful voice for our community on the radio—Jetie Wilds was a true public servant. On September 21, 2014, Mr. Wilds passed away at the age of 74. Mr. Speaker, I join the Tampa Bay community in thanking Mr. Jetie Wilds, Jr. for his lifelong service to the State of Florida.

HONORING IAN FLEMING

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ian Fleming. Ian 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 1433, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ian has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ian 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, Ian has become a member of the Order of the Arrow and the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Ian has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Ian constructed and planted a water garden for visitors to enjoy in English Landing Park in Parkville, Missouri.

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

HONORING MABEL KOONTZ OF
BEDFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my constituent and lifelong Bedford, Pennsylvania resident Mabel Koontz. Mabel, who is 92 years young, represents a symbol of how special our right to vote is in the United States and how important it is that every American citizen's voice is heard on Election Day.

Since 1943, when Mabel turned 21, she has never missed a vote. Over these years Mabel has casted her vote during some of America's most historic moments. She has been there as the 26th Amendment, which gave 18 year olds the right to vote, was enacted. She has also been at the polls as the American people have chosen leaders such as Ronald Reagan to move our nation forward. While our country has faced its challenges over the years, Mabel has never missed an opportunity to select elected officials at all levels of office to help our nation become stronger every time we faced adversity.

Franklin D. Roosevelt once said, "Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting." These comments hold true to today and Mabel Koontz is a signature example of how special her dedication and belief in democracy has been for all of these years. Her perfect record should be a lesson and reminder to all who cast their vote every year.

I again am honored to recognize Mabel Koontz of Bedford for this remarkable achievement. Mabel's voice has been heard many times and because of people like her this nation remains today—the greatest the world has ever known.

HONORING FOSTER COMMUNICATIONS
60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Foster Communications in San Angelo, Texas on their 60th anniversary. Throughout the years, Foster Communications has been an essential part of the community and has grown side-by-side with San Angelo.

Foster Communications opened their doors in San Angelo in 1954. Foster Communications began with the vision of Walton A. Foster. He was a forerunner in bringing radio and television to the Concho Valley. Foster pioneered many radio traditions that are present today, such as having a weekly top forty hit list.

Walton and the Foster Communications family has been a staple in San Angelo since 1954. Over the past six decades, the company has created four successful radio stations that serve San Angelo and surrounding communities. Additionally, Foster was the longtime and original voice of the San Angelo Colts