

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.

HONORING COUNCILWOMAN
MAXINE PARKER

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Birmingham City Council President Maxine Herring Parker who passed away on Tuesday November 12, 2013. I am deeply saddened by her passing but I am comforted in knowing that her rich legacy of diligent service will live through those she served in Birmingham City Council District 4.

Councilwoman Parker was the epitome of grace, class and firm yet gentle leadership. With her signature flower lapels to accentuate her immaculate appearance, this soft-spoken leader personified womanhood while serving as a great source of strength for her family and her community. In her presence, it was clear, that while she was a warm spirit, Councilwoman Parker was never afraid to fight for what she believed in.

This beloved advocate was first elected to represent Birmingham's District 4 in November 2005. She initially ran on a platform that focused on improving the quality of life for her constituents. But her contributions to the area were boundless. Throughout her eight-year tenure, Councilwoman Parker was best known for her advocacy for environmental justice on behalf of the Collegeville, Harriman Park, and Fairmont neighborhoods.

For decades, citizens in these areas were negatively impacted by industrial pollution. But it was the diligent efforts and leadership of Councilwoman Parker that led to government action. In 2011, as a result of her tireless advocacy, the Environmental Protection Agency began its first major intervention in the area. Today, the EPA continues environmental cleanup efforts in the area as a result of Councilwoman Parker's efforts to raise awareness on the environmental injustice suffered by her constituents.

Councilwoman Parker went on to receive national recognition for her work and the project was even referenced as an example of successful government and community partnerships at a national conference. In July she served as a presenter at the EPA's Community Involvement Training conference in Boston where she shared her story about the federal environmental cleanup project in her district.

Shortly before her untimely death, Councilwoman Parker was elected as Birmingham City Council President as she began her third term. Prior to her election to the council, she served for many years as Collegeville neighborhood president. She also served as the executive assistant to the President at Talladega College in Talladega, Alabama for 41 years. During her tenure at the college, she served under the administration of six presidents.

On behalf of our Nation and the residents of North Birmingham, I am honored to pay tribute to the life of this phenomenal woman. She was indeed one of the most passionate community servants of her time. Councilwoman Parker had a heart for the people and a courageous spirit that dared to believe in the power of fighting for what we believe in. Let us all commit to continuing her legacy by inher-

iting her sincere passion for caring for the needs of others. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life and legacy of Birmingham City Council President Maxine Herring Parker.

HONORING STATE
REPRESENTATIVE PHYLLIS POND

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my friend and colleague Congresswoman JACKIE WALORSKI, to pay tribute to State Representative Phyllis Pond of New Haven, Indiana. Rep. Pond was an outstanding Hoosier who represented both her district and Indiana with integrity, and sadly passed away on September 22, 2013 at the age of 82.

Rep. Pond began her service to our great state in 1978 when she was first elected to the Indiana General Assembly. A lifelong Hoosier who grew up on a farm and graduated from Warren High School, Ball State University, and Indiana State University, Rep. Pond was the longest-serving female state representative in the history of Indiana. She was also the first woman to earn her seat in the prestigious front row of the Statehouse Chamber. We, the female Members of the Indiana Congressional delegation, are especially grateful for her leadership and guidance that has helped shape our own careers in public service.

As members of the House Education and the Workforce and Armed Services Committees, we honor Rep. Pond for her outstanding work for both Hoosier students and servicemembers. As a former kindergarten teacher who taught students for 37 years, Rep. Pond worked tirelessly to ensure that our state's students received the best education and had access to exceptional opportunities.

Thanks to Rep. Pond, Hoosier K-3 classrooms have no more than eighteen students, creating a healthy learning environment where students receive the attention they need to excel in school. Rep. Pond strongly believed in recognizing our servicemembers and their families. During the holiday season, she was well known for sending cards and words of encouragement to Indiana's finest. Rep. Pond also sponsored legislation to give soldiers on active duty more time with their children.

We are proud that such an exceptional public servant, teacher, and stateswoman called the Hoosier State home, and we are honored to recognize her life's work today. Our deepest condolences and well wishes go out to George Pond, her husband of 62 years; her children, Douglas Pond of Indianapolis, Dr. William Pond of Fort Wayne, and Jean Grasmick of Zionsville; grandchildren, Greg and Scott Pond, Joel Aiken, and Jennifer Knepp; and great grandchildren, Beatrice, Walker, and Eleanore. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

SUPPORT FOR THE EXPANSION OF
MEDICAID COVERAGE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the opportunity that my home state of Texas lost when it opted out of expanding Medicaid. Denying health care coverage to seniors, veterans, and low-income residents is unconscionable.

Texas has the most uninsured residents among the 24 states that refuse to expand Medicaid. At very little cost to the state itself, 1.5 million uninsured people could have health insurance coverage by now. However, Governor Rick Perry's refusal to expand Medicaid to 133 percent of the federal poverty line ultimately hurts our most vulnerable citizens.

Another adverse effect of choosing not to expand Medicaid falls on our neediest hospitals. Because of reductions in payments to safety-net hospitals, or disproportionate share hospitals (DSH), low-income patients suffer reduced access to care. With these reductions to hospitals, refusals to expand Medicaid, and cuts to Medicare subsidies, we are exposing our most susceptible patients to incredible risk.

If expanded in Texas, the Affordable Care Act would fully fund each state's coverage for the first three years. Over time, the federal government would continue to pay for no less than 90 percent of coverage for newly eligible individuals. This increase in spending is partially offset by the DSH payment reduction. However, in states that do not expand Medicaid, low-income residents who seek treatment at safety-net hospitals suffer.

Our veterans, seniors, and low-income residents are forced to miss the opportunity to have quality and affordable health insurance simply because of political posturing. I urge my colleagues and each state to support the expansion of Medicaid.

HONORING ANTHONY JONES

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 Anthony Jones. Anthony 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 59, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Anthony has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Anthony has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned 40 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Anthony has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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