

Following his death in 1843, Stites was buried in Old Lima Cemetery in Allen County. Seventy years ago, the Lima DAR erected a plaque at the site of the cemetery recognizing him as the city's only Revolutionary War veteran. The organization will rededicate this plaque at a special ceremony on November 6.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I thank the women of Lima's DAR Chapter for putting together this rededication ceremony and for all they do to promote civic education. They are true examples of the DAR's high calling to "cherish, maintain, and extend the institutions of American freedom."

HONORING THE LEGACY OF
EMORY F. LUCK

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the late Emory F. Luck, Ph.D., a remarkable individual whose life's journey was marked by resilience, unwavering determination, and a profound dedication to both education and sports. Emory Luck passed away at his home in Fresno, California on October 22, 2023, leaving behind a legacy that continues to inspire us all.

Born in 1926 in Danville, Virginia, Emory was raised in Washington, D.C., as the son of Ada and Winston Luck. Despite attending a segregated school system, he graduated from the academically renowned Paul Laurence Dunbar High School. His early years were a testament to his strength in the face of adversity, as he confronted racial barriers with a spirit of determination and a hunger for knowledge. Emory's journey took him to the University of Illinois on an athletic scholarship, a significant achievement. Unfortunately, racial discrimination of the time prevented him from pursuing basketball, his first love. Instead, he turned to football to maintain his scholarship. It was not long before Emory departed from the university, determined to follow a different path.

After serving his country during World War II, Emory joined the Harlem Clowns professional basketball team, where he spent nine years as a player, coach, and general manager. His exceptional skills and dedication shone as he played against teams throughout California, Oregon, and Washington, proving his talent on the court.

With a thirst for knowledge and a desire to make a difference, Emory returned to academia. He enrolled at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in physical education. His commitment to education extended beyond his own studies, as he also taught in the Detroit public schools and worked for Eastern Airlines in customer relations. When the chance to work as an athlete counselor at the University of Illinois came his way, Emory eagerly accepted the opportunity. During this time, he demonstrated his devotion to the realms of both education and athletics. He committed himself to the pursuit of a Ph.D. in physical education and athletic administration, underlining his passion for excelling in sports and deepening his expertise in the field of physical education.

In 1969, Emory joined Northern Illinois University as an associate professor and assistant basketball coach. His career in coaching reached new heights in 1973 when he became head basketball coach, becoming only the second Black man to hold such a position at a Division I university in the United States. Although Emory stepped away from coaching and teaching for a brief period, his passion for sports and education led him back to Elgin Community College in Elgin, Illinois, where he served as an administrator and coach. In 1984, he was appointed athletic director, P.E. instructor, and golf coach at Fresno City College (FCC). Emory's impact at FCC extended beyond the realm of sports. For three years, he coached men's basketball and served as president of the Central Valley Conference. He later stepped down from the Athletic Director position but continued his dedicated service at FCC until his well-earned retirement in 2004.

Emory was not just an educator and coach; he was a devoted community member. He served on the board of the Fresno County E.O.C. for many years and retained a profound love for the game of golf and could often be found on the fairways of Fig Garden Golf Club. Emory is survived by Mary, his loving wife of 50 years, their beloved dog Annie, and his nieces and nephews who held a special place in his heart. His legacy lives on in the hearts of all those who had the privilege of knowing him.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life of Emory F. Luck, Ph.D., an individual whose perseverance, commitment to education, and love for sports left an enduring mark. As we remember his lasting contributions, let us also be inspired by his legacy to continue fostering a world where determination, knowledge, and sportsmanship unite to create eternal change. May he rest in peace, knowing that his influence lives on in the countless lives he touched.

RECOGNIZING PA-1'S HOMETOWN
HEROES: LINDA AND FRANK
KUEPPER

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary individual from Pennsylvania's First Congressional District—someone who has gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to both our community and our country. It is with great respect and admiration I recognize Linda and Frank Kuepper, two of our district's distinguished Hometown Heroes.

Hometown Heroes are not defined by titles or accolades but by the quiet power of their actions. They are distinguished by their unwavering integrity, the strength of their character, and their steadfast commitment to the people and places they serve. They are the foundation upon which our communities stand—the ones who lift others up, inspire hope, and, in doing so, call us all to higher standards of service and compassion. The Kueppers have embodied this spirit in ways that words can scarcely capture.

As the founders of the Autism Cares Foundation, Linda and Frank have not only served

our community but transformed the lives of those around them. Frank and Linda have dedicated their careers to providing and expanding access to resources for people with disabilities. What started with six activities in the first year has grown to over 1,600 activities, events, and programming, including numerous social and life skill-building events, holiday parties, family outings, art and sensory-focused programming, an incredible ACF Prom, and so much more. Today, their foundation has over 9,000 participants and, in addition to children and teens, has grown to support adults with autism as well. Linda and Frank have touched and bettered the lives of so many and continue to work tirelessly to expand their life-changing efforts.

In times of uncertainty, it is the work of individuals like Linda and Frank Kuepper that reminds us of the strength of the human spirit. Their service, given without expectation of recognition, stands as a testament to the belief that one individual's dedication can ripple through the lives of many, sparking change, fostering resilience, and inspiring hope. Today, we honor Frank and Linda not just for their remarkable deeds, but for who they are—a true heroes, in every sense of the word.

Mr. Speaker, it is through the work of people like Linda and Frank Kuepper that our communities thrive, and our Nation grows stronger. Their actions reminds us that progress is not forged in grand gestures, but in the cumulative power of selfless acts. They embody the timeless American values of resilience, generosity, and compassion, showing us that the future is built by those who care deeply, act decisively and give without hesitation.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's First Congressional District, I extend my deepest gratitude to Linda and Frank Kuepper for their extraordinary service. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these exceptional individuals, whose leadership and spirit of service will inspire generations to come. May their example remind us of the boundless potential within each of us to make our communities, country, and world a better place.

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF KERN
ENERGY

HON. VINCE FONG

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. FONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kern Energy as it celebrates 90 years of refining innovation and outstanding service to the Kern County community. Since its founding in 1934 as El Tejon Oil & Refining Co., Kern Energy has transformed from a modest operation into a cornerstone of the southern Central Valley, providing the clean, reliable transportation fuels that drive economic growth and connect communities across California.

Throughout its history, Kern Energy has embraced change while remaining a family-owned, independent refinery committed to meeting California's evolving energy needs. After changing its name to Douglas Oil Company in 1945, the refinery solidified its presence as Kern Oil & Refining Co. in 1971 and evolved into Kern Energy in 2022. Each transition of the company has been marked by new

achievements, pioneering new methods and technologies in sustainable energy and fuel production.

Notably, Kern Energy was just the second refinery in the United States to produce renewable diesel by co-processing biofeed, and it proudly became the first small refiner in California to blend biodiesel. Today, Kern Energy continues this legacy of excellence, serving as the only refiner between the Bay Area and Los Angeles producing gasoline and renewable diesel. As the number one transportation fuel supplier in Kern County, Kern Energy employs 200 full-time staff members, demonstrating its commitment to powering communities and supporting families. Their contributions to the Central Valley's economy and quality of life are truly invaluable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Kern Energy on 90 years of remarkable service and innovation. I look forward to witnessing their continued success as a leader in energy as they approach a century of being a vital part of our community's future.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER AND
RETIREMENT OF STEVE RED-
HEAD FROM THE CONGRES-
SIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of myself as Chairman and Ranking Member Joe Morelle of the Committee on House Administration to congratulate Congressional Research Service (CRS) Deputy Assistant Director Stephen Redhead on his retirement, and to thank him for his thirty-three years of dedicated service to Congress.

Mr. Redhead is a graduate of Cambridge University, where he received a bachelor's degree and a Master of Arts in Biology, and Aberdeen University, Scotland, where he received a Master of Science in Biology. Steve conducted predoctoral research in the Ecology and Evolution graduate program at SUNY Stony Brook. After moving to the Washington, D.C. area, he taught for 13 years in the Department of Biology, George Mason University. In 1980, he became a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) in honor of his service to the Society on the International Karakoram Expedition to mark the 150th anniversary of the RGS.

Steve joined CRS in 1991, and came to serve as a biomedical policy analyst, specializing in the health effects of tobacco and cell phones, among many other topics. He established himself as an invaluable resource for Congress as he helped to lead CRS's work on critical issues such as pandemic flu planning and response, health information technology, electronic health records, and telehealth, among many others. As an analyst, he authored an impressive portfolio of more than 500 products and memoranda for Congress.

Since 2017, Steve has served as Deputy Assistant Director of the Government & Finance Division. In that role, he has helped to hire and cultivate a workforce of more than 80 staff, provide painstaking and timely review of nearly 3,000 public and confidential written

products written by the division's workforce during his tenure, and steer the division through the COVID-19 pandemic and shifts in agency leadership. We understand Steve has committed himself to mentoring staff, new and established; he's known for demonstrating genuine interest in the work of his employees as well as their lives and obligations outside of the office.

CRS relies on civil servants like Steve, whose patience and kindness towards his employees is matched only by his focus on how best to serve Congress. Congress is better informed because of Steve's dedicated service, and we are grateful for his longtime commitment to the institution.

HONORING MR. JOHN WHITRIDGE
III

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John Whitridge III, an esteemed member of the Napa community, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Napa County Landmarks. Mr. Whitridge is being recognized today for his outstanding service in developing Napa County Landmarks and preserving historic structures in our community.

Mr. Whitridge was born in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1937. After graduating from Yale University in 1960, he married Jean Maschal in 1961. The couple moved to Napa in 1969 after Mr. Whitridge earned a second degree from the University of Washington. He relocated to Napa to take a position as a city planner and remained for the rest of his life. He dedicated himself to the community, with a particular focus on historic preservation, until his death in 1997. He is survived by his three children Anne, John, and Catherine.

Throughout his life in Napa, Mr. Whitridge committed himself to serving the community. He founded Napa County Landmarks—now celebrating its fiftieth anniversary—and initiated the Napa Historic Resources Inventory. Additionally, he co-founded the Napa County Land Trust and played a key role in the restoration and preservation of the First National Bank on First Street, the Opera House on Main Street, the Napa County Hall of Records, and Churchill Manor.

His collaboration with others and passionate commitment to preserving our history for future generations solidify his place as a pillar of service in Napa County. His contributions and unwavering dedication to public causes have undeniably enriched our community and ensured that our history will be preserved for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Mr. John Whitridge III for his service to Napa County and his dedication to safeguarding our heritage. It is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF
BEVERLY JEAN HUNTER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, today, we gather to pay tribute to the late Tribal Chairperson Beverly Jean Hunter, a beloved and dedicated leader who made profound contributions to her Tribe, the greater Indigenous community of Central California, and the advancement of Indigenous people's rights.

Chairperson Hunter, who passed away on September 30, 2023, at the age of 75, served her Tribe, the Table Mountain Rancheria, with great distinction. She dedicated many years of her life to Tribal service, holding numerous leadership positions, including Tribal vice chairperson of the Table Mountain Rancheria Tribal Gaming Commission, chairperson of the Table Mountain Rancheria Pow-Wow Committee, and chairperson of the Table Mountain Rancheria Enrollment.

Beverly Hunter's commitment extended beyond her Tribe. She was a tireless advocate for the greater Indian community in Central California. She served as a board member of the California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc. (CRIHB) and was the board chair for the CRIHB Traditional Indian Health Committee. Her dedication was further evident in her founding and chairing of the Phil D. Hunter and Warren Lee Jones Scholarship Fund since 2012, providing educational opportunities for future generations.

Beverly Hunter's leadership was vital in numerous organizations. She held roles such as treasurer of the California Rural Indian Health Board, chair of the California Indian Legal Services, and served on the Title IV Parent Committee, the American Indian Health Women Association, and Central Valley Indian Health. Her involvement with Central Valley Indian Health began from its inception, highlighting her deep-rooted commitment to the betterment of Indian health services. In 2012, Chairperson Hunter took on the role of founding chairperson for the Central California Yokuts NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act) Coalition. Alongside Tribal leadership from several Tribes, she advocated successfully for the return and reburial of ancestors and funerary objects held at UC Berkeley and the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago. Her work in this area helped to uphold the dignity and respect of Indigenous peoples heritage.

Beverly Hunter is preceded in death by her parents, Warren Lee Jones and Rosie Jones, her husband, Phil D. Hunter, as well as her sister Loretta Ann Jones, and her brothers Myron Jones, Lyle Jones, and Matthew Jones. She is survived by her sons, Craig Martinez and Mark Martinez, as well as sisters Charlene Jones, Bernadine Jones, Juanita Jones, and brother Lonnie Jones. Her legacy lives on through her family, nieces, nephews, and the many lives she touched during her lifetime.

Beverly's life was a shining example of unwavering dedication to her Tribe and the greater Indian community. Her contributions to the advancement of Native American rights, health, and education have left an indelible mark. She will be remembered with the deepest respect and gratitude for her extraordinary