

REMEMBERING BEA MOTEN-
FOSTER

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a kind-hearted and generous woman who will forever be remembered by Hoosiers in my district. Bea Moten-Foster was the owner and publisher of the Muncie Times, and she will be greatly missed by those in the community.

Bea was born in Selma, Alabama. Her media career began soon after she graduated from high school when she took a position as

a radio announcer in Birmingham, Alabama. She went on to work in television and radio in Miami, New York City and Indianapolis.

Bea moved to Muncie in the early 1980's and later married a professor at Ball State University, Robert O. Foster. Bea immediately began to impact the Muncie community. She organized Muncie's city-wide celebration of Black History Month, helped launch the Muncie coalition of 100 Black Women, and helped establish the Muncie Black Expo.

Some of Bea's other accomplishments include founding the Muncie Times, an African-American newspaper in 1991. The twice monthly publication now has a circulation of over 10,000 readers. She was also awarded the Indiana Black Expo 2010 Trail Blazer Award, the Sagamore of the Wabash, the

Spirit of Chief Muncie Award, and the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce's Outstanding Business Person of the Year for 1996.

Those who were closest to Bea will remember her commitment to faith and family. Bea's daughter, the Reverend Pamela Emmanuel, said the motto her mother passed on to her was "Never accept 'No,' from somebody who doesn't have the power to say 'Yes.'" Bea's leadership in the Muncie community as well as her compassion for troubled youth will be sorely missed. I offer my sincere condolences to her beloved family, daughter Reverend Pamela Emmanuel, who will be continuing Bea's legacy and leading the Muncie Times, and her two grandchildren, Ebonye Endsley and Corey Van Horn.