

regardless of their financial well-being. It offers a six month in-house rehab program, a three-quarter house program and a work release program for its patients. At any given time, the Ed Keating Center is home to about 150 men and women.

The Center's driving principles are that a chance for sober living should be available to any man or women with a sincere determination to overcome their alcoholism or addiction, without regard for their ability to pay. The Center also survives solely on the donations and support of individuals and organizations who believe in communities helping themselves.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in the important work performed by the Ed Keating Center.

HONORING BERNHEIM ARBORETUM
AND RESEARCH FOREST FOR
BEING NAMED ONE OF "AMERICA'S
PRETTIEST PARKS"

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest on being named one of "America's Prettiest Parks" by Yahoo! Travel.

I am fortunate to know firsthand how beautiful this forest is and I am proud that it is located in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Bernheim's mission and vision statements, "connecting people with nature," and "Bernheim will be a nationally treasured leader in ecological stewardship that inspires the exploration of deep connections with nature," are profound and true.

Tom Block, a Bernheim Trustee and the great-grandson of founder Isaac Wolf Bernheim welcomed the distinction, calling it "another branch on Bernheim's growing tree of awards and honors."

Clermont, Kentucky and the surrounding community are fortunate to have this forest in their backyard. For those of you who have yet to visit Bernheim, I encourage you to do so. You will be overwhelmed by its beauty and peace.

RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING
THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MR.
ALEX M. PETROVIC

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to acknowledge the achievements of former Eastern Jackson County Judge, Missouri State Representative, United States Marine Corps Veteran and Sugar Creek resident, Alex M. Petrovic.

Alex M. Petrovic was born in Kansas City, Missouri, on September 23, 1922, the son of Mildred and Michael Petrovic, and has dedicated his life to serving his country, state, and community. He attended school at Henry Clay School in Kansas City, Missouri, Independence Junior High and William Chrisman High School in the city of Independence, Missouri,

and Rockhurst College in Kansas City, Missouri.

The proud father of six, grandfather of twelve, and great-grandfather of two, Mr. Petrovic was married to the late Frances Diesko Petrovic for fifty-seven years before she passed away in 2001. He served as a Corporal in the United States Marine Corps from the year 1942 to 1945, working as a landfall technician, making maps for the 2nd Marine Air Wing, and receiving an honorable discharge following his service in the Pacific theatre, in Guadalcanal and Auckland, New Zealand, and Russell Island.

In addition to his military service, he also worked as a railroad clerk for the Union Pacific Railroad, machine operator, foreman, and sales manager for the Injection Molding Company, as a salesman for Busboom Brothers, as a laborer and engineer at the Standard Oil Plant, and a divisional manager at Waddell & Reed.

Alex M. Petrovic served as a Missouri State Legislator from the year 1962 until the year 1966, as a Democrat, representing the area bounded by the Missouri River up until 23rd Street, Blue Ridge, Kansas City, and 71 Highway. During his terms, he promoted the Little Blue Valley Flood Control program, fought to keep open the Central Missouri State University in the face of closure, and helped develop the Truman Sports Complex. Mr. Petrovic played an active and accomplished role in local Missouri politics, serving in the Independence Sertoma Club, to which he was elected President in the year 1964.

As a State Representative, Mr. Petrovic discovered piles of state records abandoned in the basement of the State Building, and in response, sponsored and passed legislation to create a system for managing Missouri's records, establishing the Missouri State Archives. After his terms in the Missouri Legislature, he was elected to serve as Eastern District Judge for Jackson County, the same seat which President Harry S Truman occupied before his presidency, from the year 1966 up until the year 1970. As the "Old Judge," he oversaw seven bond issues in building the world's largest sports complex in the history of sports at the time, for the Kansas City Chiefs and the Royals.

On September 21, 2005, Secretary of State Robin Carnahan, the Archives, and fellow members of the Missouri Legislature created the Alex M. Petrovic Reading Room to maintain the historic records of our Great State of Missouri throughout the years. Today, the Missouri State Archives stores document collections dating from 1770 and is visited by 4,500 hundred people every year.

Mr. Petrovic will celebrate his ninetieth birthday on September 23, 2012, and has given a lifetime of service to his community, and should hereby be honored as such. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues in the House join me in honoring Mr. Petrovic for his lifetime of service and accomplishment.

DR. SAM MONROE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, since its founding in 1909, Lamar State College—Port

Arthur has undergone many changes, growing from a petrochemical industry training ground to a flourishing two-year college, offering degrees in numerous highly valued skills. But for 38 years, there has been one constant on campus and that's the leadership of President Dr. Sam Monroe, now recognized as the longest-serving president of a Texas higher education institution.

While Dr. Monroe was not born in Port Arthur, he got there as fast as he could. He moved from College Station at an early age and has remained in the Southeast Texas area ever since, keeping him tuned in to the needs of the surrounding community. Dr. Monroe's career began at the former Port Arthur College, serving as Executive Vice President before being elected President in 1974. Wasting no time making significant changes, he proposed a merger with Lamar University in nearby Beaumont a year later, forming Lamar University—Port Arthur.

Dr. Monroe has overseen a great expansion during his tenure. In 1999, they were granted admission into the Texas State University System then renamed Lamar State College—Port Arthur. A \$5.9 million Performing Arts Center opened in 2004, and a 7,500 square foot Student Success Center was completed in 2011. Dr. Monroe was instrumental in founding and operating the Museum of the Gulf Coast, located in downtown Port Arthur, which tells the history of this special region. 2004 saw the Lamar State College—Port Arthur Seahawks begin play in Men's Basketball and Girl's Softball, helping to create an expanded athletic program and a full college experience.

Many honors and distinctions have been given to Dr. Monroe. The Port Arthur News named him its Citizen of the Year in 2004. He was the first male recipient of the Quota International of Southeast Texas Man of the Year Award in 2005, the first time in almost 60 years that the award was open to both males and females. Earlier this month, he was recognized by Governor Rick Perry as the education president with the longest service in Texas. And, his dedication to the community has expanded outside of campus as Dr. Monroe has volunteered his time on such varied organizations as the Port Arthur Public Library and the Port Arthur Housing Authority.

Thanks to Dr. Sam Monroe, Lamar State College—Port Arthur has transitioned from a small technical school to a sprawling, 40-acre campus home to over 3,000 students. I am proud to recognize his accomplishments. He has touched countless lives, and Southeast Texas is a better place for it.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING VICTIMS OF BACTERIAL
MENINGITIS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Ryan Milley, a young man from Conroe, Texas who was born on September 20, 1979. In 1998, 18-year old Ryan lost his life to meningococcal meningitis.

As a result of Ryan's death his family founded Meningitis Angels, a national nonprofit organization that educates the public, health