

BOHME FOUNDERS—SMALL BUSINESS PERSONS OF THE YEAR IN UTAH 2019

**HON. BEN McADAMS**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 9, 2019*

Mr. McADAMS. Madam Speaker, two sisters who immigrated from Argentina to Utah as children turned hard work and a dream into a remarkable business success story in just 12 years.

In 2007, Vivien and Fernanda Bohme first opened in a temporary space in Fashion Place Mall, to sell their clothing during the approaching holiday season. Their fashion hit turned out to be what they dubbed “sexy, modest” denims and tees. After a strong start, they opened a permanent store in Orem’s University Mall, just ahead of what became the Great Recession. Like many small businesses, they struggled, but they persevered.

Next, they started a location in Salt Lake City’s Gateway Mall, which they remodeled themselves to save money. Vivien stopped work one night to go to the hospital and deliver her baby, but soon returned to finish the space. Profits were used to pay off debt and expand into new areas. “Bootstrap was our middle name,” Vivien told a local news reporter.

Their entrepreneurial success earned them a mention in Inc. magazine’s list of 5,000 fastest-growing companies. They now operate 16 stores in five states and are known for making themselves available to their 225 employees at all levels.

Every Bohme employee is given three paid days off to volunteer at a charity of their choice. In 2018, the company experienced record profits and revenue growth.

Last May, during National Small Business Week the U.S. Small Business Administration honored Vivien and Fernanda jointly as “Utah Small Business Person of the Year.” Their inspiring story is one example of how Utah’s economy and our communities thrive thanks to the drive, determination and dedication shown by diverse individuals willing to chase their dreams here in America.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF HAZEL JACOBS

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 9, 2019*

Mr. Keating. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Hazel Jacobs, a resident of Pocasset, Massachusetts, who turned 100 years young on July 27, 2019.

Hazel was born in Sulphur, Louisiana. In her early twenties she was inspired to join the war effort during World War II, becoming a member of the Woman’s Army Corps. Hazel continued her service in the Pentagon, coding and deciphering transcontinental messages in the Classified Message Center. It was during her time at the Pentagon that Hazel attended a dinner party with a friend—a dinner party that turned out to be a setup. Hazel’s friend introduced her to a soldier named Sal David “Jake” Jacobs. The two hit it off that evening,

but they both were soon discharged and went their separate ways.

After some years apart, Hazel went to visit a friend in Boston, and none other than Sal Jacobs was waiting for her on the platform. Together again, Hazel and Sal married, lived in Boston, and had two sons, Allen and Robert. When Sal sadly passed away in 1966, Hazel returned to her life in public service. She worked for the City of Boston for several years, continuing her devotion to her family and community.

Today, Hazel lives in Pocasset, where she enjoys her lifelong artistic hobby of needlepoint and spending cherished time with Allen, Robert, and their families.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Hazel Jacobs on this joyous occasion of her 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing her many more years of health and happiness.

MARK DALLAS—AMERICAN POLICE HALL OF FAME OFFICER OF THE YEAR

**HON. ADAM KINZINGER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 9, 2019*

Mr. Kinzinger. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an American hero and good friend, Officer Mark Dallas, for being named the National Officer of the Year by the American Police Hall of Fame and Museum.

On the morning of Wednesday, May 16, 2018, a student open fired inside Dixon High School. Without hesitation, Officer Dallas chased down the gunman and returned fire. He disarmed the shooter and took him into custody. Officer Dallas’ selflessness and professionalism saved the lives of hundreds of students and staff, including his own son.

On August 11, 2019, Officer Dallas will receive this award given to those who protect the thin blue line. Congratulations to Officer Mark Dallas on receiving this momentous award and being enshrined with the other men and women who have devoted their lives to protect the people of the United States. It is my great honor to once again recognize his actions in the House of Representatives.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF BASF TO THE MICHIGAN COMMUNITY

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 9, 2019*

Mrs. Dingell. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize BASF for receiving Governor Gretchen Whitmer’s Corporate and Small Business Community Leader Award. BASF’s commitment to the community and the state of Michigan makes them an excellent recipient of this great honor.

Since its establishment, BASF has striven to create a sustainable future. Their innovative work in chemistry not only rises to meet today’s most pressing challenges, but also simultaneously promotes environmental protection and social responsibility. In 1969, BASF

became a part of the Michigan community, opening a site in Wyandotte, Michigan. The corporation has been a dedicated and charitable member of the community ever since.

BASF continues to pursue a brighter future by investing in the future leaders of Michigan: our children. BASF employees volunteer at the BASF Kid’s Lab, a program that aims to inspire children’s interest in chemistry by bringing hands-on service and demonstrations to classrooms and science centers throughout southeast Michigan. The program is an interactive, fun, and free education program designed to expose young children to the marvels of chemistry through simple and safe experiments. Each demonstration exhibits how chemistry can benefit the environment and lead to a brighter future for all. These generous efforts clearly reflect BASF’s commitment to investing in the next generation and exemplify their tremendous service to Michigan.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating BASF for their exceptional work. Their lasting impact on the Michigan community is worthy of commendation.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HUGHES MELTON

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 9, 2019*

Mr. Griffith. Madam Speaker, I pay tribute to Dr. Hughes Melton of Bristol, Virginia, a military veteran, public servant, and compassionate physician who most recently was Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. Dr. Melton passed away on August 2, 2019, at the age of 52 following a car wreck.

Dr. Melton was born in Florida but made Virginia his home. After studying at Washington and Lee University and the University of Virginia School of Medicine, he served in the United States Army. Following his time in the service, he opened a practice in Lebanon, Russell County. There, he focused intently on the needs of his rural community and developed a specialty for treating addiction. His medical skill and care for his patients earned him recognition by the American Academy of Family Physicians as the Family Physician of the Year in 2011.

He eventually took on work as an administrator, first as Chief Medical Officer for Mountain States Health Alliance’s Virginia facilities and then as Vice President of Medical Education for its northeast and northwest markets. Among his objectives as an administrator, he recognized the need for more physicians to serve Southwest Virginia. To that end, he helped to start a family medicine residency. During his time at Johnston Memorial Hospital in Abingdon, he won the Servant’s Heart Award and furthered his education with a Master’s in Business Administration from the University of Virginia’s Darden School of Business.

After serving as Deputy Commissioner of the Virginia Health Department, he was appointed Commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services in 2018. As Commissioner, Dr. Melton was able to apply his considerable talent and deep empathy to addressing the mental and

behavioral health challenges facing Virginians. He traveled the state and worked with public officials, medical professionals, and all invested in our Commonwealth to find answers. Before the tragic car accident, he had been in Harrisonburg attending a conference of advocates for Virginians with intellectual and developmental disabilities, where he gave a speech and talked with the attendees.

In addition, Madam Speaker, I knew him and talked to him over the years about health challenges in our home of Southwest Virginia, including the opioid crisis. As was typical, I last saw him volunteering his time alongside his wife Dr. Sarah Melton at the Remote Area Medical clinic in Wise on June 29. It is a loss for all the Commonwealth of Virginia and particularly Southwest Virginia.

He is survived by Sarah, daughters Maggie and Claire, and his father Howard. My prayers are with them. As they grieve the loss of their family member, Virginia grieves the loss of an outstanding public servant.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF KENNETH  
HOFMANN

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 9, 2019*

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Bay Area businessman and devoted philanthropist Kenneth Hofmann.

Ken was born February 15, 1923 in Oakland, California. He graduated from Fremont High School in Oakland and later attended Saint Mary's College in Moraga before embarking on a successful career in home-building in 1948 as a plastering contractor.

In 1957, Ken founded his real estate development company, Hofmann Company. By the mid-1980s, Hofmann Company had built more than 30,000 homes and apartments and more than \$150 million worth of commercial and industrial properties. In recognition of this remarkable achievement, Ken was inducted into the California Building Industry Association's hall of fame class of 1986.

Throughout his life, Ken used his success in real estate to enrich and give back to his community. A true philanthropist, Ken was a supporter of youth sports and education. For nearly 30 years, Ken donated millions to De La Salle High School, helping finance new facilities, and he opened the De La Salle Academy to provide food, books, and tutors to underprivileged students. Additionally, Ken was an ardent supporter and benefactor of the Saint Mary's Athletics Program. He was named SMC Alumnus of the Year in 1983 and served as both a Regent and a Trustee over the course of two decades.

Ken was an avid outdoorsman and provided the leadership and assistance necessary to jump-start the creation of the Pacific Flyaway Center, a project that is currently seeking final permits. Passionate about wildlife and waterfowl, Ken dreamed of creating the Center to showcase the story of the primary north-south route for migratory birds in the Western U.S.

Ken is survived by Jean, his wife for 60 years, and their two daughters Lori and Lisa. Ken's contributions to the Bay Area will be cherished, and his devotion to sports, youth, and wildlife will long be remembered.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY FAIR

**HON. DANIEL MEUSER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 9, 2019*

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and excitement that I rise today to honor the Northumberland County Fair on its 20th Anniversary.

For two decades the Northumberland County Fair has brought communities together to share in the county's traditions and achievements. What began as an exhibition for local 4-H programs has quickly become a community staple. The fair showcases the county's extensive achievements in agriculture, crafts, baking, gardening, and so much more. As they say, "If you don't learn something at the fair, you just aren't paying attention."

Representative FRED KELLER and I ask our colleagues to join us in congratulating the Northumberland County Fair on twenty incredible years celebrating our communities. May this tradition continue for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MR.  
ROBERT HERRING

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 9, 2019*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Robert Spencer Herring, who passed away on Monday, August 5th at the age of 79.

Robert, a lifelong resident of Guntown, Mississippi, dedicated his life to bettering his community.

He served Lee County as both the Justice Court Judge and the Sheriff for two terms. Robert was also a former Mayor of Guntown. He and his wife, Jo Ann, attended Guntown First Baptist Church.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife, Jo Ann Robison Herring of Guntown; his sons—Barry Herring of Hattiesburg and Darren Herring of Guntown; his six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren as well as many more family members and friends.

Robert's life was one of service, grace, love for his family, and community. He will be greatly missed by all whom he encountered.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
MARGIE N. GARRETT

**HON. NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 9, 2019*

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the extraordinary life of the Honorable Margie N. Garrett, Trustee of the Compton Unified School District Board of Education.

Beginning as a Noon Duty Aide before going on to be a Head Start Teacher, State Preschool Teacher and Kindergarten Teacher at Carver Elementary School in Compton,

Garrett's career as an educator spanned four decades prior to her retirement in 2009.

During her decades-long career as an educator, Garrett served as President and Vice President of the Board of Directors, Bargaining Committee Chairperson and as Political Action Chairperson for the Compton Education Association—she was honored for her work with the California Teachers Association South-eastern Service Center.

Margie N. Garrett was first elected to the Compton Unified School District Governing Board of Trustees in 2009 and was re-elected in 2013. As a trustee, Garrett served as President and Vice President to the Board and led Compton Unified School District's legislative advocacy in Washington, D.C. and Sacramento, California.

Garrett's fight for and commitment to educational excellence and a cleaner and safer learning environment for students was unwavering. Her passion and dedication improved working conditions and installed career pathways for district employees. Her advocacy and leadership helped decrease Compton Unified School District's dropout rate and improved access to early childhood education.

I, along with the residents of California's 44th Congressional District, mourn the passing of the Honorable Margie N. Garrett and celebrate her service and the indelible impact she has had on the students of the Compton Unified School District.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL HEALTH  
CENTER WEEK

**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 9, 2019*

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join East Hill Family Medical in Auburn, New York in recognizing National Health Center Week from August 4, 2019 through August 18, 2019. This week honors the significant impact of Community Health Centers, like East Hill Family Medical, on America's healthcare system. For over 50 years, Community Health Centers have provided high-quality, affordable, and comprehensive primary and preventative healthcare services in our nation's underserved communities.

As the country's largest primary care network, Community Health Centers currently serve 28 million Americans across the country. These centers are a critical element of our healthcare system, providing healthcare to both rural and urban populations. Often, Community Health Centers serve as the only accessible and dependable source of primary care for underserved communities.

Every day, Community Health Centers work to develop new approaches to healthcare, integrating a wide-range of services beyond just primary care. Further, they are on the frontlines of emerging healthcare crises, providing access to care for our nation's veterans, addressing the opioid epidemic, and responding to public health threats in the wake of natural disasters.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me during National Health Center Week in recognizing the great contributions of East Hill Family Medical in Auburn, New York as well as Community Health Centers across the country.