



MARK HUTCHINSON (2)

Honoring a civil rights legend

As a college student, U.S. Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., became active in the sit-in movements in Nashville and participated in the Freedom Rides to desegregate the South. In 1963, he became chairman of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee and spoke alongside Martin Luther King Jr. at the March on Washington.

Lewis became a national figure because of his prominent role in the civil rights marches from Selma to Montgomery, Ala., in 1965, when police beat him in public with television cameras rolling.

This past October, KU's Dole Institute of Politics honored Lewis with its 2007 Robert J. Dole Leadership Prize. At KU, he gave an interview-style presentation with Jonathan Earle, Dole Institute interim director, before a packed house at the Lied Center. The event began KU's Civic Engagement Week.

"Students got to see someone who

honors his profession and his country every day," Earle said.

Lewis serves on the House Ways and Means Committee and is chair of its Subcommittee on Oversight. He has been called "the conscience of the U.S. Congress" by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi.

The Dole Leadership Prize, funded through KU Endowment, provides \$25,000 to be used according to the recipient's wishes. Lewis will apply the award to the John Lewis Scholarship Fund, a national scholarship for students who otherwise might not have the chance to attend college.

Previous winners of the Dole Leadership Prize include former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, former U.S. senators Howard Baker and George McGovern, and former Polish President Lech Walesa. All Dole Institute events are free and open to the public. For upcoming events, visit www.doleinstitute.org.



Top: John Lewis (center) greets visitors at the Dole Institute reception. Above (left to right): U.S. Rep. Dennis Moore, D-Kan., and Kansas Rep. Barbara Ballard, D-Lawrence, with Lewis and Dole Institute Interim Director Jonathan Earle.



JAKE ESSELSTYN

A rare find

During a research trip to the Philippines' Mindoro Island in February 2006, KU graduate student Jake Esselstyn made an exciting find: a new species of fruit bat. But it wasn't the usual brown bat. This one had orange fur, white stripes on the sides of its face and a pointed, fox-like chin.

"This is the rare bat that is good-looking," Esselstyn said of the bat, which has been nicknamed "the flying fox."

Esselstyn returned to KU and published his findings in the August 2007 *Journal of Mammalogy*. News of his discovery — and a photo of the furry creature — spread from *National Geographic's* online edition to local headlines in Lawrence.

Leonard Krishtalka, director of KU's Natural History Museum and

Biodiversity Research Center, said this is a substantial find.

"Every species is different, and I think the discovery of a new fruit bat that adds to the biodiversity of the Philippines is very important," Krishtalka said.

Private funding from two generations of one family contributed to Esselstyn's ability to find the bat.

The E. Raymond and Mary Hall Endowment Fund for the Natural History Museum provided funds for the trip on which Esselstyn made his discovery. And funds provided by the Halls' son, Hub, and his wife, Kathleen, helped finance earlier trips that set the stage for this discovery.

KU's natural history museum is the nation's leading university natural history museum in biodiversity research.



STEVE PUPPE

Higuchi Award recipient Ann Turnbull

Helping families connect

When Ann Turnbull learned she was one of three KU professors honored with 2007 Higuchi/KU Endowment Research Achievement Awards, she knew just where to apply the \$10,000 in research support.

Turnbull and her husband, Rud Turnbull, are co-founders of KU's Beach Center. The center facilitates collaboration among families of the disabled, disability advocates, practitioners and researchers.

"I'll use this support to enhance our technology so we can do a better job of getting our research findings to the people who are living the 24-7 reality," Turnbull said.

The award will allow the center to upgrade its website so users throughout Kansas and the world can communicate with one another.

"We can learn from each other, share results and build communities," Turnbull said. "It's a way of truly bringing people together."

It's also one example of how the Higuchi awards foster research and improve lives everywhere. The late Takeru Higuchi, a distinguished professor at KU, and his wife, Aya, created the awards through a gift to KU Endowment.

Visit the Beach Center's website at www.beachcenter.org.

Driven to cure

If you're a Kansas resident, starting in March 2008, you can show your commitment to breast cancer awareness with the Kansas Breast Cancer Research and Outreach license plate. This distinctive tag will provide support for the Midwest Cancer Alliance and help patients



in Kansas battle this devastating disease. For details on how to purchase your license plate, visit kuendowment.org/licenseplate/.