

a loyal and trusted confidante to Senator HEFLIN, Bob Morrissette was first and foremost a southern gentleman.

Probably one of the reasons Bob was so good at what he did was because of the genuine concern he had for his fellow man. Another reason was simply because Bob Morrissette was a man of integrity. When he gave you his word, you needed no other assurance.

Born in Monroe County into one of south Alabama's most prominent families, Bob never let the good name or success of his family stand in the way of his willingness to provide a helping hand. In fact, that is one of the hallmarks of the Morrissette family—they are always doing good things to better their community, and Bob carried on that proud tradition in countless ways.

He and Senator HEFLIN became friends when both were attending the University of Alabama in the mid-1940's. While the Judge returned to the northern part of the State to pursue a career in law, Bob returned home to his native south Alabama and entered the world of journalism. His first assignment was a stint at the Baldwin Times in Bay Minette. In 1959, he moved to Escambia County to take over the Atmore Advance. Bob was owner, editor, and publisher of the Advance for two decades, and like so many others who hold this important post in a small town, he, too, became a one-man chamber of commerce for his hometown.

During his career in journalism, Bob received countless awards and honors. In 1976, he received the Distinguished Alumnus in Journalism Award from the University of Alabama. Two years later he became president of the Alabama Press Association.

In 1979 Bob once again teamed up with his old college pal, HOWELL HEFLIN, who had just been elected to the Senate the year before. In Bob, Senator HEFLIN knew he had a steady hand at the wheel running his southwest Alabama operation. Not only did Bob know south Alabama like the back of his hand, but he loved her people and her soil.

Bob Morrissette was one in a million. Upon meeting you for the first time, he made a connection for life. When you called him with a problem or concern, you knew it would become his problem and concern. He was just that type of human being.

When he was running for President in 1912, Woodrow Wilson said, "There is no cause half so sacred as the cause of a people. There is no idea so uplifting as the idea of the service of humanity."

Though he held no elected office himself, Bob Morrissette served his community, his State, and his Nation as well as, if not better than, most men and women who ever place their names on a ballot.

We're going to miss Bob, and it will be a long, long time before we see another man like him. He was truly one of a kind.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3816, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3816) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Chairman, I wish to thank all of the committee members who worked tirelessly to put together a fair and economically responsible energy and water development appropriations bill.

This bill has carefully balanced the interests of environmentalists with those in the business community. It provides the language that will enable our ports to once again flourish, our citizens to be protected from flooding, our environment to be preserved, and our taxpayers' dollars to be wisely and not frivolously spent.

I would like to specifically mention three provisions in the bill that are of great importance to the citizens in my district.

First, this bill includes funding for the cleanup of the thorium site in Wayne, NJ, which has been a concern to that community. The removal of the thorium-contaminated soil from the Wayne interim site is an issue of great concern to me. After the election in 1994, I traveled to Wayne to discuss the removal of the tainted soil with Mayor David Waks.

On July 20, 1995, the U.S. Department of Energy announced that Envirocare would be awarded a \$16 million contract to remove, transport, and store the soil in their Utah facility. In October, Envirocare began the removal process of the contaminated soil. This process can continue thanks to the increased funding in today's measure.

Second, this bill provides funding for a buyout alternative to the Passaic River flood tunnel, which protects wetlands while providing critical flood protection to my constituents. Back in 1994 when I was first running for Congress, I recognized the importance of flood protection to the citizens of the Eighth Congressional District in New Jersey. In addition, I recognized that there must be a more economically and environmentally sound flood control alternative to the proposed flood tunnel. That project had a price tag of \$1.9 billion and would have had extensive negative affects on area wetlands and the existing ecosystems.

By providing for a buyout of certain wetlands, we are taking great strides toward both flood protection for our citizens and environmental protection for the Passaic River, while saving the taxpayer money.

Lastly, the bill provides funding for the continued construction of the Molly Ann's Brook flood control project, which affects residents from Paterson, Haledon, and North Haledon, NJ. I am pleased that the committee continued to treat this project with the urgency and priority that it deserves.

Once again, I extend my thanks to the committee. This bill is clear example of the 104th

Congress making things happen and protecting the interests of not only the citizens of New Jersey, but the interests of all Americans.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3816, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3816) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Energy and Water appropriations bill. I applaud the Appropriations Committee for their thoughtful approach to the difficult task of balancing our Nation's energy and water priorities during this era of fiscal restraint. I commend Chairman MYERS and the other members of the committee for their efforts.

I am particularly interested in the provisions of this bill relating to the Department of Energy's Environmental Restoration and Waste Management budget. There are many contaminated sites around the country left over from nuclear energy and nuclear weapons research and production. Those of us who represent the areas affected by these sites know that people are concerned about the health effects of these sites to themselves and their children—and concerned that no one will fix the problem. I believe this bill sends a strong message that the Federal Government will continue to meet its cleanup obligations.

Within the context of our increasingly tight budget constraints, the Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Budget appropriation is a reasonable investment of public money. Administrative and support costs have been streamlined, while funding for cleanup activities—the true heart of this budget—has been protected.

In my district, the Fernald site—a former uranium processing center—has potentially caused thousands of people, through no fault of their own, to be exposed to hazardous contaminants in the air, in the soil, and in the water. Although problems at the site still persist, and I have requested a GAO investigation into certain serious allegations relating to the management of the site, considerable progress has been made in cleaning up Fernald.

The Fernald site is operating under an accelerated remediation schedule, so that the site will be clean in 9 years, and not the 25 years originally planned—creating a savings to the taxpayer of approximately \$2 billion. This accelerated remediation program, if successful

could serve as a model for other clean-up efforts around the country. In fact, the Appropriations Committee's report specifically commends the efforts underway at Fernald.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. It continues to provide reasonable funding to protect our natural resources. It still helps us to achieve our goal of balancing the budget by 2002—and it will help us to fix an environmental hazard that has placed thousands of people at risk.

**HONORING MUSIC EDUCATORS AT PENNFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**HON. JON D. FOX**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 1996*

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, those who enable children to experience the beauty of music are those who brighten our future. I am pleased to have some of these wonderful people in Pennsylvania's 13th district.

One of them is Mr. Alan Malachowski, the band director at Pennfield Middle School. Mr. Malachowski recently attracted a grant from the North Penn Educational Foundation which allowed his students to experience music in a way many of their peers are not afforded.

Mr. Malachowski convinced nationally known composer Jared Spears to compose a work based on the history of the Montgomery County Fair, to teach the piece to student musicians during 2 days of intense rehearsal, and to personally conduct the students' performance of the work, entitled "The Brass Ring", on May 30 at the school.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure you join me in applauding the efforts of Mr. Malachowski, Dr. Spears, and the student musicians at Pennfield Middle School. Not all young people have the privilege of such an enriching experience. Not all young people have the opportunity to learn from impassioned educators like Mr. Malachowski.

Music helps young people to form a world view. All of humanity is moved by the beautiful compositions of men like Dr. Spears. I am proud to recognize the efforts of those who by teaching music point out to our children many of the better things in life.

**THANK YOU, ROBIN BRIDGES, FOR YOUR LOYAL SERVICE**

**HON. JACK FIELDS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 1996*

Mr. FIELDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it was with mixed emotions that I announced last December 11 my decision to retire from the House at the conclusion of my current term. As I explained at the time, the decision to retire was made more difficult because of the loyalty and dedication of my staff—and because of the genuine friendship I feel for them. Each one of them has served the men and women of Texas' 8th Congressional District in an extraordinary way.

Today, I want to thank one member of my staff—Robin Bridges, my office manager—for

everything she's done for me and my constituents in the 11 years that she has worked in my office.

Robin has worked on Capitol Hill since 1971. From 1971 to 1976, she served as systems manager for Representatives Charles Thone. From 1980 to 1984, she held the same position in the office of Representative Larry Coughlin. And from 1984 to 1985, she served as systems manager for Representative Buddy Darden.

The first time I met Robin, I was impressed by her extensive experience and her professionalism. But the more we talked, the more I realized that she was not just someone who knew how to get a job done—although she certainly knew that. I came to appreciate her personal warmth and sincerity, and her personal warmth and sincerity, and her eagerness to pitch in to ensure that my constituents received timely responses to their letters and calls. Over time, as computer systems have proliferated and become more complex, I have been impressed with Robin's ability to adapt to new technology—just as she has adapted to a variety of personnel and other changes in my office.

Five years ago, I asked her to assume new responsibilities as my office manager—a request she readily and eagerly accepted. But more than her competence as a member of my staff, I wish to say a word about Robin as an individual, and as a mother.

To determine what kind of a person someone is, one need only look at that person's children. Robin's daughter, Emily, and her son, Andrew, are proof that the qualities she brings to their work in my office are the qualities she lives by. Both Emily and Andrew have been recognized for academic excellence in high school and college. The hard work and dedication they have demonstrated were instilled in them by their mother, who has successfully balanced the difficult roles of single mother and congressional staff member.

Robin Bridges is one of those hardworking men and women who make all of us in this institution look better than we deserve. I know she has done that for me, and I appreciate this opportunity to publicly thank her for the dedication, loyalty and professionalism she has exhibited throughout the years it has been my privilege to know and work with her.

Robin has yet to make a definite decision about what she wants to do in the years ahead. But knowing he as well as I do, I am confident that the skills and the personal qualities she has demonstrated in my office will lead to continued success in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I know you join with me in saying thank you to Robin Bridges for her years of loyal service to me, to the men and women of Texas' 8th Congressional District, and to this great institution.

**PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3816, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997**

SPEECH OF

**HON. BILL RICHARDSON**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 24, 1996*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 3816) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the DeFazio-Petri amendment.

Their amendment would seek to strike funds from the Animas-La Plata project. This project is especially important for New Mexico and Colorado.

As you know, water in my State and throughout the arid West, is like gold. Consequently, water needs to be conserved. Conservation includes storage for the inevitable dry years. This year has seen a major drought in the region.

Had construction of the Animas-La Plata project begun in 1990, as was originally scheduled, there would have been enough water stored for the citizens in northwestern New Mexico. Over the years, delay in the construction of this project have put over 100,000 people at risk.

Furthermore, in a land where Indians and non-Indians live together, it is important to share water. In 1985, the Colorado Ute tribes began to negotiate a sharing of their senior water rights on tributaries to the San Juan River—water which many of my constituents in northwestern New Mexico need to sustain their quality of life and secure their future. The Ute tribes should be complemented for these negotiations.

This amendment would render that agreement void. Let's not tell the Ute tribes and the people of New Mexico and Colorado, who strive to share a valuable resource, that their efforts have meant nothing.

I encourage a "no" vote on the DeFazio-Petri amendment.

**PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3816, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997**

SPEECH OF

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 24, 1996*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3816) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Schaefer amendment.

Pulling the plug on our Nation's investment in solar and renewable technology is shortsighted. The funding reductions contained in the bill threaten to undermine any hope the United States has for energy security. Renewable energy programs offer enormous benefits for a very small investment.

I know something about this issue as a company in my district—United Solar Systems Corp. of Troy, MI—developed a solar cell that recently set a new world record for converting the Sun's energy into electricity. This efficiency record would not have been achieved without the assistance of the Federal Government.

Most of us are familiar with the solar cells that power calculators and other consumer