

businesses, churches and public buildings were also served by local businesses and emergency relief offices mentioned above.

First I want to pay tribute, with the highest praise possible, to the Talcott Volunteer Fire Department Chief Tom Talbott and Tim Ulrich, his able assistant chief, in Summers County—for it was this volunteer fire department that stood by night and day throughout the flood's intensity and afterward, and who provided food and drink for everyone else on the flood sites. These volunteers showed real leadership in stressful and often dangerous situations, including heroic rescues, and who helped keep the local victims of the flood—their neighbors—calm, safe, warm, and fed.

In that context, I wish to convey special thanks and gratitude to the following individuals who are members of the Talcott Volunteer Fire Department:

Kenny Simmons, Pete Weikle and his sons, David, James, and Darin; Matt Stalnaker, Evelyn and Robert Bailey, Wayne Martin, Bryan Keatley, Wesley Ward and John Gold, Kellis Miller, Tommy Ward, and Charles "Chucky" Gore, all of whom responded beyond the call of duty as they reached out to neighbors and friends to provide food and shelter.

During my tour of Pocahontas County's Marlinton flood area, I received able assistance and support from Dana Moyers, president of the Pocahontas County Commission, and Commissioner Joel Collison, as well as county superintendent of schools, Thomas Long. I have the highest praise for Marlinton's acting mayor, Jean Hite, who did an outstanding job. For myself and all others engaged in assessing how to best meet the short- and long-term needs of the city's people, she went all out to make the city's emergency relief and other resources available. Her's was a job well done.

Last, but certainly not the least of fine-caliber, able people who accompanied me on the Marlinton tour of damages, I am most deeply appreciative of the work and support of Jane Price Sharp, of the Pocahontas Times, whose job it was to observe and to write of the flood and its devastating effects on people and institutions. Under the time-honored banner of the Fourth Estate's credo that "people have the right to know," Jane did an outstanding job.

The Salvation Army—any organization on which all of can and do rely during disasters of all kinds—were outstanding in their offers of assistance to individuals and families and followed through with clothing, blankets, and all other forms of human assistance possible to the flood victims throughout the areas hardest hit.

I want to particularly thank Mayor Jim Leslie of Hinton in Summers County for his assistance in touring the Bluestone Dam. My deep appreciation goes to Mayor Lindy Hodges of Ronceverte in Greenbrier County, who met me at the Ronceverte townhall—the old townhall because the new one was flooded—as we discussed Greenbrier County to assess the damage and determine what the immediate and long-term needs would be.

Mayor Tom Housby of Alderson, between Monroe and Greenbrier Counties, met me at the Alderson townhall and accompanied me to view the flood's toll taken on the people, their homes and businesses in that area, and to do a quick assessment of damage and loss there.

And I salute the locally elected members of the West Virginia Legislature, Delegate Ron

Thompson of Beckley, Delegate Mary Pearl Compton of Summers County, house majority leader Jim Rowe and Delegate Bill Wallace of Greenbrier County, Delegate Joe Martin and Delegate Bill Proudfoot of Pocahontas County, and State Senators Mike Ross and Walt Helmick, for their quick action along with their colleagues in the West Virginia House of delegates and the State senate, to approve the State's matching share of funds so that the cleanup of their communities could go forward.

Honorable mention must go also to Postmaster John "Bill" Dillion, of the Talcott Post Office, and his assistant Lorene Cales, and carriers Ronnie Quick and Patsy Mills for keeping the post office open for mail services as well as a community center, so that not only could people get their mail—a very important daily ritual of normalcy for people everywhere—as well as a place for people to gather and assure one another that they were safe. I commend each of them for this public service and for their humanitarian concern.

My hat is off to Talcott Elementary School Principal Gaye Shaver, whose assistance in turning the school's gymnasium and cafeteria over as a shelter to families seeking refuge from the storms and the rising waters is and was invaluable. Praise goes also to Rev. Dana Stalnaker, pastor of the local Baptist Church for helping with the shelter and getting the Red Cross involved in Summers County, and to Peggy Elkins who started within a few hours of receding flood waters to obtain local emergency relief for families—while awaiting the often longer process of getting State and Federal relief started. Thank you Peggy.

During the early tour of the flood-torn area in my district, I was accompanied by FEMA's regional director from Kansas City, John Miller, who was asked by the Philadelphia Regional Director to help us out due to the intensity of the flooding.

In the week after the floods, after the six counties were declared an emergency disaster area by the President, I was joined by FEMA Director James Lee Witt on a tour of Pocahontas County and other areas, again to stress the need for Federal assistance and to assess the extent of the damages suffered in the six-county area.

As we have seen happen in natural disasters throughout the country and the world, people do come together and help one another in times of stress and even danger. Disasters, call upon the best that is in us—and people seldom fail to meet their duties and responsibilities to their neighbors both close and far.

This is what I have observed in West Virginia: A binding together of people from all walks of life, helping each other in this most frightening of ordeals with floodwaters swirling about their homes, schools, churches, businesses, and public buildings. It makes me very proud to be a West Virginian and to be their Representative in Congress.

My hat is off to the people of West Virginia—all those whom I have named in these remarks, and all those whose names are unknown to me who did their part and who continue to help one another.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT E. LEO,  
VETERAN AND EDUCATOR

HON. FRANK TEJEDA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 1996

Mr. TEJEDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of a true patriot, a man who dedicated his life to the principles that make this Nation great. I am referring to Mr. Robert Leo, a veteran, rancher, and educator, who for many decades was a great and respected leader in south Texas. Mr. Leo passed away on Saturday, January 27, and I respectfully request that this House of Representatives take a moment to honor his many accomplishments. South Texas will miss this strong leader, who fought so hard and so well for the principles we all hold dear.

Robert Leo served this Nation in the United States Army during World War II, defending this Nation in the battle of Attu in the Aleutian Islands. He received the purple heart for his service. Mr. Leo sacrificed his future for this Nation, because his wound prevented him from enjoying a career in baseball with the New York Yankees, who had selected him in the baseball draft.

After serving this Nation in war and sacrificing himself to protect our freedoms, Mr. Leo never forgot the foundations of the republic he fought to preserve. He knew that a healthy democracy depends on the education of its citizens, so he went to work educating young south Texans, teaching in his native La Joya and later serving as principal and assistant superintendent of Webb County school district in Oilton. Even after his retirement, he served as the president of the board of trustees of the Ramirez Common School District for many years. He enjoyed researching the rich history of south Texas all the way back to the Spanish colonial and Mexican land records.

Robert Leo understood the importance of public service to American democracy. He was active with the Disabled American Veterans and was a life member of the Boy Scouts of America. He served on many boards, including an appointment to the State Committee for the Control of Pesticides and the State Committee for Exports to Mexico. As a member of the board of directors for Valley Telephone Cooperative, including 2 years as chairman, he helped spearhead improvements in communications for south Texas. Whether it was helping veterans, or young people, or promoting the Texas economy, modernizing communications, or preserving our agricultural and ranchlands, Robert Leo, with his energy and dedication, left his unique stamp on these critical efforts.

Above all, Robert Leo stood for the importance of the accountability of those in Government and the free exchange of ideas. He founded the Freedom Party in Duval County, and was appointed to chair the committee to investigate county corruption. Above all he cared deeply about our Democratic institutions and he was outspoken in their defense, working for decades to make them serve the people as they should.

We in Congress should take a moment to remember this outstanding man, who had a rare gift for giving to others and for public service. Above all, he stands as a shining example of how to work for change and at the

same time honor the principles of liberty and freedom which make this democracy unique.

As his local newspaper, The Duval County Picture, wrote recently, "There will never be another Robert Leo but we must never forget the genuine article. He will serve as a role model for all citizens. His life will serve as an example to future leaders of what a true public servant is about.

"We will miss our friend. He can never be replaced but we must never stop trying to live up to the high standards he set for all of us." We have lost a great American, but his memory will provide inspiration for years to come.

#### TRIBUTE TO SYD KRONENTHAL

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 1, 1996*

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of the House Syd Kronenthal, whose remarkable record of 50 years of service as Director of Human Services for the City of Culver City has become a major source of civic pride.

Syd began his work for Culver City on December 14, 1945, following his service in the United States Air Corps in World War II. His Culver City employment record was punctuated only by a brief hiatus in 1946, when General Omar Bradley summoned him to be rehabilitation supervisor for the Veterans Administration. He returned to Culver City in April of 1947 where he has been ever since.

One of his most significant contributions was his leadership in drafting and obtaining voter approval for Culver City's first major recreation bond issue after World War II. This bond issue enabled the city to construct the Veterans Memorial Building, the Olympic-size swimming pool, new recreation buildings at McManus Park and Culver West Park. It also provided the means to rehabilitate the old pistol range at Lindberg Park that has been converted into the present recreational facility.

As a leader in the Sister City Program, Syd has been a pioneer in building bridges of understanding to people of other nations and cultures. His commitment to the Olympic movement dates back to the historic 1932 Olympic Games where he helped create the Olympic Village in the area now known as Baldwin Hills, and later served as a member of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games Citizens Advisory Committee.

It was under Syd's leadership that in later years Culver City developed a youth and community center, and converted the former county library into a multi-purpose senior citizen center. The Culver City Senior Center is widely recognized as one of the finest senior facilities in the United States. He continues his outstanding stewardship over a myriad of essential social services and recreational programs.

In grateful appreciation of his many efforts on behalf of the city, McManus Park was renamed Syd Kronenthal Park in 1992.

Over the years these important institutions have proven to be vital community assets which have greatly enriched the lives of the people of Culver City. Like a tall oak tree which has endured the test of time, his leadership and service become more valuable with every passing year.

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, February 23, 1996, there will be a civic celebration and appreciation of Syd Kronenthal in Culver City. I know I speak for all of my colleagues in congratulating him on this extraordinary milestone, and offering best wishes for another 50 years.

#### TRIBUTE TO KWEISI MFUME

SPEECH OF

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 1996*

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland, Mr. CARDIN, for making this time available to recognize our good friend and colleague, KWEISI MFUME. It is a distinct pleasure to have the opportunity to speak about a gentleman who has earned a place of high respect and honor here in the Congress.

We all know that there's often a lot of talk in this Chamber, but there's seldom a lot of listening. KWEISI MFUME is one of those soft-spoken voices that rises above the din, above the crowd—one of those rare voices that Members listen to on both sides of the aisle.

KWEISI has earned our ear, and our respect, not only because of his dedicated work for this great Nation and his effective advocacy for our most disadvantaged citizens—but also because of the hard road he took to Congress—from the troubled neighborhoods of west Baltimore to the heights of Capitol Hill, his is a story of determination. It is a story which teaches our Nation's youth great lessons about dignity and self-respect.

We applaud the NAACP for choosing a leader of the caliber of KWEISI MFUME. Quite sincerely, I can think of no one more qualified and respected to lead that venerable institution into the 21st century. Our only regret is the loss we will feel here in this institution when we lose the reasoned voice and seasoned leadership of KWEISI MFUME.

I wish my friend every success as he confronts the challenges of his new position.

#### TRIBUTE TO SID LUCKMAN

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 1, 1996*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true Chicago sports legend—Sid Luckman—at the news he will receive our State's highest honor, the Order of Lincoln, on April 20, 1996.

Sid Luckman joined the Chicago Bears in 1939 and quarterbacked to four NFL championships in the next 12 seasons, the years that earned the Bears their reputation as the "Monsters of the Midway."

Perhaps his most memorable performance was in the 1946 championship game against the New York Giants, the first football game I can remember listening to on the radio. Sid Luckman's championship performance was capped by scoring the winning touchdown on what was called the "bingo keeper" play. With the Bears at the goal line, he faked a handoff to one running back, faked to another rusher,

tucked the ball under his arm and outran the defense along the line of scrimmage and into the end zone.

In addition to earning his teammates respect while serving as their captain, he was honored by all of football as the NFL's most valuable player three times and was named an all-pro seven times. He received football's highest honor when he was enshrined into the Hall of Fame after his retirement.

Sid Luckman also enjoyed a 14-year stint as a coach with both the Bears and the University of Notre Dame. In addition, he recently completed a successful business career when the packaging company, Cell-Craft, he bought into in 1946 was sold.

But perhaps the thing that has made Sid Luckman so special has been his tireless devotion to his community. He has always been willing to lend his time, efforts, and stellar reputation to good causes both in the Chicago area and throughout the country. For instance, he established a scholarship to the prestigious Mayo Clinic to help deserving medical students study there.

For his athletic and civic accomplishments, Sid Luckman will join the likes of former President Reagan, actor Charleton Heston, journalist John Chancellor, and one of his successors in football's pantheon, Walter Payton of the Bears, in the Lincoln Academy. The Academy, named for Illinois' most famous son, was established 31 years ago to honor distinguished Illinoisans, either by birth or residency, who have brought honor to the Land of Lincoln.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Sid Luckman on joining the Order of Lincoln and wish him many more years of enjoying the respect and admiration of his community.

#### TRIBUTE TO STOP OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CA

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 1, 1996*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Safe Tables Our Priority [STOP]. STOP is a national coalition organized by families and friends who have lost loved ones to serious illness due to the contamination of ground beef with E. coli O157:H7 bacteria. The coalition has been dedicated to educating the public and legislators about this deadly bacteria.

Americans became painfully aware of the dangers associated with the consumption of raw meat products upon an outbreak of the E. coli bacteria 3 years ago. This outbreak, which occurred on the west coast, infected 600 people and killed 4 children. Following this tragedy, STOP began actively working to change the system in order to make sure others did not suffer from this deadly bacteria. Their journey brought them to Capitol Hill to work with Members of Congress to reduce this E. coli hazard, and educate Americans on the safe handling of foods.

I commend the efforts of STOP in their work on the Family Food Protection Act, H.R. 1423, of which I am a cosponsor. This legislation amends the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act to improve public health and safety through reduction in harmful contaminants in meat and poultry.