

TRIBUTE TO FIRE CHIEF J.D.
KNOX

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize the unparalleled service of Springfield Fire Chief J.D. Knox. He was named by the Springfield Firefighters Union as "Firefighter of the Year." When he responded to the nomination he said, "I was shocked. I thought it was a joke." Two years ago when Chief Knox became chief he had big ideas. He was determined to do things that had never been done.

Chief Knox is currently lobbying for Fire Department controlled ambulance service. Implementing such a program would save money and increase response time according to Chief Knox. I would like to thank Chief Knox for his dedication and open-mindedness that has made the Springfield Fire Department a world class organization.

TRIBUTE TO WILLARD MUNGER

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to State Representative Willard Munger of Duluth, Minnesota, who died Sunday at the age of 88 after a valiant fight with cancer.

On Sunday, the State of Minnesota and the City of Duluth lost a great friend in Willard Munger. The environment lost a valuable ally and tireless advocate. He was a man who worked for forty years as a defender of the environment.

Willard, who was born in 1911 in a log cabin, credited his grandfather, Lyman Munger, with instilling his love of nature. Lyman Munger, a Minnesota farmer and conservationist, told Willard when he was a young boy that he could save Minnesota's wilderness from destruction if he became a politician. And so he did. He first ran for the state legislature in 1934, and although he lost, he did not give up. In 1954, he won a House seat representing West Duluth.

Willard Munger was a thoughtful, devoted, and dedicated public servant—the consummate legislator. He served in the Minnesota House of Representatives for 42 years, longer than anyone in my home state's history. He was also the oldest sitting legislator in Minnesota's history. Some legislators get amendments passed, a few get bills passed, but only a very small number of public servants leave a legacy. Willard Munger leaves a lasting legacy of cleaner air and water—a heritage that will benefit future generations.

In Minnesota, Willard Munger's name is synonymous with environmental protection. Because of his relentless efforts, future generations will enjoy cleaner lakes and rivers and less pollution in the air. As Chairman of the House Environmental and Natural Resources Committee, he was a tireless advocate of numerous environmental causes, including energy conservation, alternative energy sources

and preserving wetlands. Perhaps most importantly, he created Minnesota's Environmental Trust Fund, which funds projects for environmental protection and outdoor recreation. His forty-year career is a monument for the protection of Minnesota's waters, woodlands and air quality, and we all owe him a deep debt of gratitude.

Willard has been recognized in the past for his environmental efforts by having the Minnesota-Wisconsin Boundary Trail and the animal care center at the Lake Superior Zoo named in his honor. Today, we remember Willard Munger as a true pioneer in Minnesota politics and for his enduring commitment to protecting the environment for future generations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was inadvertently detained and unable to vote on rollcall No. 277, the approval of the Journal. Had I been here, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING PRIVATE CHESTER
BEYMER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Private Chester Beymer upon his approval by the Government of France for the award of the National Order of The Legion of Honor. This award is the highest honor in France during World War I and is authorized in recognition of the 80th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice on November 11, 1918.

Chester Beymer is 100 years old and a long time resident of Fresno. He served during World War I with the communications department of the U.S. Army Tank Corps, American Expeditionary Force. He enlisted in Los Angeles in August 1918 at age 19. Pvt. Beymer left for France that October as part of the Automatic Replacement Draft. Pvt. Beymer's duties in France involved working with two man French tanks at the U.S. Army Tank Corps Center in Langres, Haute Marne, France. He arrived shortly before the war ended and remembers being on a troop train on Armistice Day and seeing many French flags and townspeople cheering at the train stations. He came back to the United States in March 1919 on a Japanese troop ship.

Chester Beymer was born on a farm in Tonganoxie, Kansas in 1898; he was one of six children in his family. In 1904 his family moved to El Modeno, California and by 1913 was settled in the San Joaquin Valley near Lindsey. After returning from World War I Chester worked in the Fresno area with the Southern Pacific Railroad and then the Alcohol and Tobacco Unit. He later worked with the Sugar Pine Lumber Company until the early 1930's. After prohibition he joined the Alcohol

Tax Unit and later in 1941 the Income Tax Unit of the Treasury Department where he retired from in 1968. One hobby Chester enjoyed was being a ham radio operator. He still does his own taxes and considers the airplane and jet propulsion to be two of the most important inventions of the 20th century. His advice to the younger generation is to study hard while in school. Chester's extended family includes three sons, four grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Private Chester Beymer for his service to his country. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Chester many more years of continued success and happiness.

AN AMERICAN HERO

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, they say heroes come in all shapes and sizes, now we know they come from Michael, Illinois. On July 4th, 23-year-old Army Spc. 4 Anthony Gilman became the first U.S. casualty of the multinational peacekeeping mission in Kosovo. He was tragically killed when hit by an out of control pickup truck that was being driven by a Macedonian civilian.

His father said, "We're very proud of him, to me he's a hero. He wanted to serve his country. He enjoyed it." Anthony was about halfway through a 4-year enlistment during which he served in Germany, Turkey, and Greece. I cannot portray how proud I am of Anthony. He selflessly served his country and made the supreme sacrifice for the good of not only his country but the world. Our hearts and prayers are with him and his family.

THE RESTORATION OF WOMEN'S
CITIZENSHIP ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Restoration of Women's Citizenship Act, legislation that corrects an antiquated law that mars our nation's history.

In 1922, Rose Bouslacchi, an American citizen, married Conrad Sabatini, a tailor by profession and an immigrant from northern Italy. When the couple married, a federal law existed which stripped women of their U.S. citizenship if they married alien men. Later that year the U.S. granted Conrad Sabatini the privilege of citizenship but in accordance with the law, refused to reinstate Rose Bouslacchi's citizenship.

During the course of her life Rose Bouslacchi reared a family of five daughters, each a college graduate and each a contributor to the well being of our nation. Four became teachers and one became a nurse. Rose Bouslacchi was an active member of her church and worked with her husband in the running of their business. Her life embodied the values of family and faith, representing the best of America. But, Rose Bouslacchi could never be called an American again.

Rose Bouslacchi was not alone. There were many women affected by this law. On September 22, 1922, the Congress recognized the gross inequality of the Act, and in a series of acts, created procedures to reinstate citizenship for most of the women affected by this law. But the changes will never help Rose Bouslacchi. By a legislative oversight, the women who married between 1907 and 1922 were not able to retain their citizenship until procedures were created in 1952, at which point many of these women had passed on. The Restoration of Women's Citizenship Act will rid our history completely of this discriminatory law by granting citizenship posthumously to the women who didn't live long enough to take advantage of the Nationality Act of 1952.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in this important effort by cosponsoring the Restoration of Women's Citizenship Act.

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL MOLESKY

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an esteemed educator, Daniel Molesky of Hibbing, Minnesota.

After serving 35 years as an educator and school administrator in the State of Minnesota, Daniel Molesky recently announced his retirement. He received advanced degrees in math, physics, engineering, education curriculum, and school administration. After completing his education, Mr. Molesky was promoted to the rank of Master Sergeant in the U.S. Army before beginning his teaching career.

Mr. Molesky's ability to engage his students in the classroom eventually led to his promotion to principal in the Hibbing School District. As principal of Washington Elementary School, and later Jefferson Elementary School, Mr. Molesky interacted daily with more than 300 students, teachers, staff members, and parents. He always created a family environment in his school. Furthermore, Mr. Molesky was active in the Hibbing School District Safety Patrol and numerous education and community organizations.

As our nation experiences great technological innovation and success in the global market, the value of an education takes on even greater importance. Daniel Molesky of Hibbing, Minnesota has exhibited the characteristics we seek in our educators, school administrators, and community activists. I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Daniel Molesky for his 35 years of service to students, teachers and the entire Hibbing community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was inadvertently detained and unable to

vote on rollcall No. 278, the Sense of Congress Resolution Rejecting the Notion that Sex Between Adults and Children is Positive. Had I been here, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRATULATING THE MARJAREE MASON CENTER FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Marjaree Mason Center for Fresno for 20 years of service assisting victims of domestic violence, and for making a difference in the community and the lives of so many victims.

Marjaree Mason, a well-known woman in this community and a native of Easton, was raped and murdered on November 13, 1978. She was 36 years old. Her death was the result of domestic violence.

Marjaree lived in Fresno for 31 years and was a graduate of Washington Union High School and Reedley College. At the time of her death she was completing her degree in business administration at California State University, Fresno and was employed by the National Economic Development Association.

Marjaree Mason was active in several organizations. She was a member of the National Council of Negro Women, the Ujima Ladies Group, Big Sisters of Fresno, the National Association of Women in Construction, and St. Rest Baptist Church.

With the approval of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Neal Mason, the Marjaree Mason Center was named for her. Through community awareness, prevention and intervention—including education for both the victim and the batterer—they are working to lessen the kind of kind of domestic violence that tragically ended her life.

The Center is committed to the belief that women have the right to live their lives in a safe and healthy environment. The individuals involved with the Center also believe it is imperative that victims of domestic violence have access to a protective support system, including emergency shelter, counseling, and comprehensive referrals to individuals and organizations that can help them live in health and safety.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Marjaree Mason Center for serving the community of Fresno for 20 years. I also urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Marjaree Mason Center many more years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 278, expressing the sense of Congress rejecting the conclusions of a recent article pub-

lished by the American Psychological Association that suggests that sexual relationships between adults and children might be positive for children and on rollcall No. 279, concerning United Nations General Assembly Resolution ES-10/6, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

CELEBRATING THE 31ST ANNUAL SPIVEY'S CORNER HOLLERIN' CONTEST

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a unique event in the Second Congressional District of North Carolina, the Spivey's Corner Hollerin' Contest.

Every third Saturday in June thousands of people from across the globe travel to the town of Spivey's Corner in Sampson County to hear and participate in the National Hollerin' Contest. June 19th marked the 31st anniversary of this special event. Each year, the event is held for the benefit of the Spivey's Corner Volunteer Fire Department.

The now-famous contest originated from a chance comment made by Spivey's Corner resident Ermon Godwin, Jr. in 1969 on a weekly radio talk show that he co-hosted. Mr. Godwin mentioned the tradition of hollerin' in Sampson County to the radio show's other host, John Thomas. Mr. Thomas half-jokingly suggested that the two hold a hollerin' contest. Much to their surprise, about five thousand people showed up on that June Saturday in 1969.

The Hollerin' Contest has evolved into a daylong event, featuring live music, food, and five separate hollerin' events. They are: the Whistlin' Contest, the Conch Shell and Fox Horn Blowin' Contest, the Junior Hollerin' Contest, the Ladies Callin' Contest, and the National Hollerin' Contest, the main attraction. In addition, many also participate in the watermelon roll, in which contestants attempt to run barefoot carrying a watermelon across a distance of about 20 yards as a member of the Volunteer Fire Department tries to knock the participant off his or her feet using a high-pressure hose.

Winners of the different events has garnered national recognition over the years, including appearances on The Tonight Show and Late Night with David Letterman. Sports Illustrated, The Voice of America, and documentary films have all featured the contest and its winners. As would befit its local roots, 30 of the 31 winners of the National Hollerin' Contest have been natives of Sampson County, including this year's champion. Tony Peacock, who now resides in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

To further honor this unique event, I have sponsored the Spivey's Corner Hollerin' Contest in the Library of Congress Bicentennial Local Legacies Project. I am hopeful that the colorful tradition of hollerin' will now be preserved in the American Folklife Center of the world's most renowned library so that everyone can have a chance to celebrate this North Carolina unique cultural event.