

## VFW KANSAS CITY

**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my constituents in the Fifth District of Missouri and citizens around the country to honor the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). Kansas City, home of the Veterans of Foreign Wars' National Headquarters, is proud to be the host site for the 100th Convention of this American Institution. I would like to recognize the VFW, an organization dedicated to 100 years of this nation's men and women who have sustained our country's freedom through personal sacrifice.

In 1899 veterans from the Spanish American War united and became the voice of the veteran. Veterans who fought side by side on the battlefield became the advocates for a strong national defense and supporters for veterans and their rights. The last century has witnessed the continual evolution of this organization as it paralleled the growth of our country.

Every decade had presented a different social and economic America. Every conflict has been fought with a new generation of military fortified with the latest technology and skills. The challenge for this organization has been to understand and provide for the emotional and social needs of every generation of veterans. They have met these challenges by serving as lobbyists, advisors, educators, and organizers of beneficial programs for the enlisted and retired. They are active contributors to their community, champions of today's youth, and always vigilant in recognizing and remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting the VFW's and all veterans' contributions during both war and peace.

THE FORD CENTER AND BETHEL  
A.M.E. CHURCH: MAKING A DIFFERENCE  
IN THE ASBURY PARK  
COMMUNITY

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, July 10, 1999, the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Asbury Park, NJ, dedicated the Bethel Ford Center and Community Development Corporation. The successful completion of the major improvements at the center is a testimony to the long-standing commitment of both the Bethel AME Church, and of the two great community leaders for whom it is named, Mr. and Mrs. William Benjamin Ford.

The Ford Center is a community outreach program serving Asbury Park and surrounding communities. Its mission includes decreasing hunger, providing clothing and offering education and training to improve marketable skills. Dedicated volunteers and professional staff help to provide a food pantry, a clothes closet, computer training, academic remediation, and advise on employability and life skills.

Mr. William Benjamin Ford and Mrs. Willie Mae Taylor Ford, native of Florida, moved to the Jersey Shore in the early 1930s. The Fords were pillars in Bethel AME Church and throughout the community for more than 25 years. Mr. Ford served as Pastor Steward, Class Leader and member of the Lay Organization for many years. He was an employee of the Asbury Park Press for 50 years. Mrs. Ford served Bethel as a Stewardess, Trustee, Missionary, Class Leader, member of the Gospel Chorus and Senior Choir. She operated the Modernistic Beauty Shop in Asbury Park for over 25 years.

The Fords' dedication to serving Bethel lasted throughout their lives, and it still lives through their son, Mr. Greeley Ford. In 1998, Mr. Greeley Ford, who attended Bethel Church as a child and young adult, deeded the property on Atkins Avenue that had been the Modernistic Beauty Shop.

Incorporated in 1879, Bethel Church was one of the first churches in Asbury Park. According to the tradition related by the Church's founders, the organization took place in 1869 under the direction of the Rev. John Cornish. The group had been holding services in a tent at what is now known as the 900 block of Lake Avenue when Mr. James A. Bradley, founder of Asbury Park, proposed a permanent church home and deeded the land, at the southwest corner of Second Avenue and Main Street, in 1893. The congregation worshipped at this site until 1949. The property was sold to a car dealership, who soon demolished the landmark building. The new church home located at the corner of Langford Street and Cookman Avenue, was the former Sons of Israel Synagogue, also a landmark since 1883. Services were held here for the first time on March 6, 1949. The church was renovated in 1954 and again in 1990, while improvements have been made and new amenities have consistently been added throughout the years. In March 1997, the present minister, the Rev. John C. Justice, was appointed to Bethel. Pastor Justice's leadership has seen a continued increase in the number of members of the Congregation and the Fellowship at Bethel.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with the members of Bethel AME Church and the entire Asbury Park community in welcoming the Ford Center and saluting all those who helped make it a reality.

HONORING THE SAN ANTONIO  
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL OF UPLAND,  
CALIFORNIA ON ITS 75TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GARY G. MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to San Antonio Community Hospital of Upland, California which will be celebrating on August 14, 1999 its 75th year of providing comprehensive, quality health care. From its humble beginnings as a small community hospital in 1907, San Antonio has grown into a predominant health care leader in the western Inland Empire in Southern California.

Today, nearly 2,000 professional, technical and service personnel at their 332-bed facility

provide a wide array of medical services, while utilizing the very latest technologies. The 500 plus-member medical staff includes many of the region's leading physicians and specialists who make San Antonio an exceptional hospital. In addition, San Antonio nurses have earned a reputation as compassionate, responsive professionals who continue to meet strict educational and professional standards.

Over the years, San Antonio's logo of a growing plant has become a familiar mark in the community conveying everything the hospital represents. In the hospital's own words, the stalk and leaves express "a feeling of a living, growing organization, consistent with the life mending role the hospital plays. The sturdy central stem, symbolize the elements of the hospital's structure—Trustees, Medical Staff, and Employees. The complete symbol recalls the cooperative efforts needed to accomplish the hospital's primary goal of securing the patient's well being."

At a time when the nation's top concern is achieving quality health care, San Antonio Community Hospital is a shining beacon of excellence in patient care, services, and facilities that respond to consumer and physician needs.

I know my colleagues join me in honoring San Antonio Community Hospital on their 75th Anniversary and wish them many more years of continued success.

FAREWELL TO CONGRESSMAN  
GEORGE BROWN

**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, those of us who served with George Brown are saddened at his passing for we have lost a colleague and friend, a true gentleman who was always honest and thoughtful.

George Brown was a benevolent, yet intense and resolute, advocate for science; a true supporter and friend to the entire scientific community, and a determined fighter for the public good.

He always felt passionately that science could be the basis for progress. George was convinced that the scientific advancements nurtured by Congress would lead to a better world for everyone. And that was his goal for all those many years.

He was consistently dedicated to openness and educating others about science. He was always eager to learn, and to share, the latest perspectives of science and technology.

His commitment to science always rose above partisanship. I know that George shared my satisfaction that the Science Committee has long been considered one of the most bipartisan in Congress. This is a testament to the respect that everyone had for George Brown, and his determined belief that advancing our Nation's scientific research and development is a goal that is not bound by partisan politics.

And as we look up to see his portrait in the committee room, I am pleased that his vision and his legacy will live on among the committee.

I am grateful that I had time to serve with George. We worked together on a number of

initiatives over the years, especially technology transfer and competitiveness issues. Once, we were preparing a special video to celebrate a landmark anniversary of an important science organization. George and I went down to the House Recording Studio to tape the video. Everything was all set up and ready to go so that we could go through it rapidly. Our remarks were even ready in the teleprompter. I worked quickly, and finished my segment in one take. However, George just couldn't seem to get it right. Take after take after take, he kept messing up. What should have taken 10 minutes dragged on and on. Finally, after about an hour, we were interrupted by a vote. After the vote, George came back and was finally able to wrap-up the video, but this story underscored that George Brown had difficulty being scripted—in his life, in his political career, and in the way he operated on the Science Committee. George, with his foul cigar and rumpled suit, enjoyed ad libbing, sometimes being irreverent. He had an endearing personality that often came out—even in the most tense of moments.

I will miss George Brown. Science and our nation have lost a fair and just man, a true leader. But we will always remember him as we move forward towards the 21st century and a universe of new scientific advancement. I offer my condolences to his wife Marta Macias Brown and his family.

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INTRODUCTION OF BILL TO  
AMEND CLEAR CREEK COUNTY,  
COLORADO PUBLIC LAND TRANSFER ACT

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**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, at the request of the Commissioners of Clear Creek County, I am today introducing a bill to amend the Clear Creek County, Colorado, Land Transfer Act of 1993.

The bill would amend section 5 of that Act so as to allow Clear Creek County additional time to determine the future disposition of about 6,000 acres of land that was transferred to the county under that section of the 1993 Act.

Under the 1993 Act, the county had 10 years within which to resolve questions related to rights-of-way, mining claims, and trespass situations on the lands covered by that section of the Act and then to decide which parcels to transfer and which to retain. Among other things, the county is working with the Colorado Division of Wildlife on a proposal that would result in some 2,000 acres being transferred to the Division of Wildlife for management as Bighorn Sheep habitat.

The County Commissioners have informed me that this process has taken longer than they anticipated, and that a 10-year extension of time would be helpful to a successful conclusion to this process. The bill I am introducing today responds to that request.

SHIVWITS NATIONAL  
CONSERVATION AREA

**HON. BOB STUMP**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, the Shivwits Plateau is located on the southern end of the Arizona Strip, which borders Arizona, Utah and Nevada. This area's remote and primitive landscape contains a spectacular array of scientific, historic, and cultural resources. This relatively unspoiled area remains a rugged frontier. It is a place where one can view the compatibilities of relics of ancient cultures alongside modern ranching operations.

Mr. Speaker, in November, 1988, Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt first announced his desire to use the Antiquities Act to create a national monument on the Shivwits Plateau in northern Arizona. Since that time, the Secretary's actions clearly indicate that the Department of the Interior has some general environmental concerns over the Shivwits Plateau that they do not believe can be redressed by current law. It is my hope that as we proceed through the hearing process, the Secretary's concerns will be more specifically identified so that they can be addressed legislatively.

Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Shivwits Plateau National Conservation Area Establishment Act. My hope in introducing this legislation is to continue a public, legislative dialogue on protecting Shivwits Plateau. While Secretary Babbitt has made some general public comments on the protections he would like to see on the Shivwits Plateau, we have worked for months to translate these comments and concepts into legislative language.

The legislation protects the remoteness, native biodiversity and ecological richness of the Shivwits Plateau, while at the same time increasing public awareness, outdoor recreation use and enjoyment. Equally as important, the bill preserves the ranching lifestyle and maintains the existing, historic and traditional uses of the Shivwits Plateau, goals that the Secretary has expressed in public forums this year.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to discuss several sections of the bill and my intentions for including these sections in the Shivwits National Conservation Area Establishment Act.

The boundaries of the NCA encompass approximately 570,000 acres, containing 384,000 acres of public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, 164,000 acres of public land within the boundaries of the Lake Mead National Recreation, but which are geographically separated from the rest of Lake Mead, 14,000 acres of Arizona State Trust Land, managed by the Arizona State Land Department, and 8,000 acres of privately held land.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the resources of this area within the Shivwits Plateau can best be managed solely by the Bureau of Land Management as a separate, distinct management unit. For this reason, the bill removes lands in the NCA that are currently within the boundaries of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area from the jurisdiction of the National Park Service to control by the Bureau of Land Management. Grazing on this land is currently managed by the Bureau of Land Management,

but the land is under the general management of the National Park Service.

The legislation requires that the Bureau of Land Management protect and administer the NCA, and develop a new management plan for the NCA. Through a series of public meetings and closely working with the stakeholders of the region, the Bureau has been managing the region under a combination of resource management and interdisciplinary plans whose results have been lauded by all users, as well as the Secretary of the Interior. The current plans provide a significant amount of flexibility for the management of the Shivwits Plateau, and have continually been developed and refined over the past several years. Their goals and objectives reflect the varied interests of the Arizona Strip, including those of conservationists, the Federal government, local governments, recreationists, permittees and land owners, and would, I believe, accommodate the interests of the Secretary to protect the area for the future. For that reason, the bill directs the Bureau to use existing plans, specifically the goals and objectives, as a foundation for developing a management plan for the new NCA.

The legislation also establishes the Shivwits Plateau National Conservation Area Advisory Committee. The committee is designed to be diverse, yet well balanced, with the purpose of advising the Secretary on the preparation and implementation of the management plan.

Mr. Speaker, the Secretary, during his numerous visits to Arizona, has expressed his desire to permit the continuation of valid existing uses. Therefore, the bill permits the continuation of existing authorized uses, within the framework and restrictions of the current management plans. Hunting, fishing and trapping will continue to be regulated by the State of Arizona, State and private landowners will continue to have reasonable access to their land and existing roads and trails on public and private lands will continue to be maintained. In addition, grazing will be allowed to continue, within the goals and objectives of the management plan, and permittees will be able to maintain and improve necessary structures and water tanks within their allotments. Finally, local governments and private parties will continue to have helicopter and aircraft access to the Arizona Strip.

Mr. Speaker, this bill establishes that land within the boundaries of the NCA can only be acquired from willing sellers. The Secretary is also required to make a diligent effort to acquire private lands, subsurface rights and mining claims within the NCA. The legislation further guarantees that land values will not be affected by the NCA designation and fair market value will be paid for land acquisitions.

The Shivwits National Conservation Area Establishment Act establishes the framework for withdrawing lands within the NCA from mineral entry and exploration. The bill requires the Secretary to assess the oil, gas and other mineral potential in the NCA no later than two years after the enactment of this legislation. The mineral assessment will be exchanged with the State and subject to a peer review by the Arizona State Department of Mines and Minerals. Additionally, the Secretary cannot make, modify or extend any mineral withdrawal authorized by the Federal Lands Management Policy Act within the boundaries of