

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.

---

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

---

**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

the NCA after January 1, 1999. If the Secretary withdraws the land, all lands and minerals within the NCA will be available for mineral leasing, under the Mineral Leasing Act. Language in the legislation specifies that the establishment of the NCA will not affect the value of subsurface mineral rights.

Mr. Speaker, the bill also requires the Secretary to develop and implement forest restoration projects and provide alternative grazing allotments to permittees affected by restoration projects. The legislation places a three years time limit on the amount of time a restoration project may impact grazing allotment. Current methods used to control plant growth will continue to be permitted in the Shivwits NCA.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, water rights are a source of contention in the West, and I have ensured in my bill that existing water rights within the NCA are not affected by this designation and that no new water rights will be created.

The bill also places requirements on the Secretary to improve and maintain specified roads, within the NCA, as all-weather roads. The Secretary is also required to conduct a survey of the conservation area, noting all sites of archaeological, historical or scientific interest.

Mr. Speaker, the bill also initiates a framework necessary for local communities to develop the infrastructure to support this conservation area. This bill authorizes the Secretary to implement the recommendations contained in the April 1999 report of the Sonoran Institute. This report detailed three major goals that must be accomplished to ensure the long-term health of the local communities and the surrounding public lands. These three goals include building local and agency capacity for partnerships, building local entrepreneurial capacity and restoring landscape health through local efforts. Finally, this bill conveys to Colorado City, Arizona, Fredonia, Arizona, Mohave County Arizona and the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians certain federal lands needed to handle the increased visitor ship of the Shivwits Plateau.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope, in introducing this legislation, that we send a strong message to the Secretary of the Interior and the President, indicating Congress' desire to work on a legislative proposal to address the needs of the Shivwits Plateau.

---

TRIBUTE TO AMALIA DISTENFELD

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the inspiring matriarch of an American family. Amalia Distenfeld, Born in Lvov, Poland, in August 1919, came to this country in 1947, to start a new life. She and her husband, the late Dr. Menachem Distenfeld, were among a handful of survivors of two very extensive and well-known families that perished in the Holocaust.

Amalia is living testimony to her own courage and the possibilities of the American

dream. Hard work, coupled with purpose, optimism and an unflinching dedication to family allowed her to see children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren thrive in this country of freedom. She has dedicated her life to promoting educational and moral values that have helped guide and sustain her family.

The same tenacity that allowed Amalia and Menachem to survive the nightmare of the Holocaust enabled this young couple to surmount the struggle of a new beginning in New York, devoid of resources, in a strange environment with three children. Amalia took in boarders, cooked and cleaned for them, while her husband learned the language of their new country, then studied and reestablished himself as a physician. Her strength, her faith in God and her refusal to be crushed by the past, allowed for a quick integration into American life. Amalia worked with Menachem in their Queens, New York, office to establish a medical practice whose hallmark was selfless public service to the community at large, including a great many fellow survivors. Unfortunately, just as life's promises were being realized, she was left a young widow. Without her beloved Menachem, Amalia's natural exuberance and steadfast commitment to family has sustained her over the last 33 years. She took on new challenges and new careers of public service, first in the American Heart Association and then the American Lung Association, where she worked well into her late seventies.

Perhaps Amalia's greatest joy is derived from the achievements of her children and grandchildren in areas of education, technology, law, medicine, and business. She cherishes her time with them as they do with her. Mr. Speaker, Amalia is a living lesson of courage, hope and optimism to all who know her. Her children's fidelity to Amalia's religious legacy and their appreciation for America's blessings were learned at her knee.

I ask my colleagues in the United States Congress to join me in wishing Amalia Distenfeld good health and happiness on the occasion of her 80th birthday, with many wonderful and blessed years to come.

---

GENE WISNER

**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 honor Gene Wisner, who will be retiring from the Yorba Linda City Council in California. Mr. Wisner served on the City Council from January 3, 1983 to November 1992 and was elected again in November of 1994. He has twice served his community honorably as Mayor, as well as represented his city: as Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Eastern/Foothill Transportation Corridor Agency; a member of the Budget & Finance Committee on the Transportation Corridor Agency; a members of the City Audit Committee; the League of California Cities; National League of Cities; Orange County Fire Authority; and the Orange County Sanitation District. He also served as city representative to the Yorba Linda Water District and the Yorba Linda Chamber of Commerce.

While serving as a member of the City Council, Gene Wisner worked toward many beneficial projects for Yorba Linda including the development of the Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace, an expansive city park system, city recreational facilities, the Community Center/Senior Citizen Facility, and the Casa Loma Field House. Mr. Wisner is to be congratulated for his service to the community, not only as a Council Member, but as an active supporter of community groups such as the Boy Scouts of America, the Y.M.C.A. and local youth sports programs.

It is with extreme pleasure that I wish the best for Mr. Wisner in his retirement from the Yorba Linda City Council.

---

CONGRATULATIONS VERA  
TRINCHERO TORRES

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 5, 1999*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere congratulations to a dear friend, Ms. Vera Trinchero Torres, who has been named the 1999 Citizen of the Year by the St. Helena Chamber of Commerce.

A co-owner of the famous Sutter Home Winery and mother of two, Vera dedicates most of her free time to charitable work for the community of the Napa Valley.

Although a New Yorker by birth, Vera moved to the Napa Valley at age ten and has been a resident of the area ever since. As a child, she and her older brother, Bob, helped out in the winery after school and on weekends. Vera worked on the bottling line and swept up, all the while looking after her little brother, Roger.

After graduating from St. Helena High School, Vera began a 24-year career as a legal secretary. In fact, I'm proud to say she was the mainstay in the law office of my uncle, former Judge Lowell Palmer. In 1979, as Sutter Home began its transformation from a small mom-and-pop operation to a large, modern winery, Vera took on the responsibility of running the office full-time.

Today, Vera oversees company profit sharing and pension plans for Sutter Home's 450 employees and serves as the family-run corporation's secretary. She also manages the company's extensive charitable activities, which amount to several hundred thousand dollars each year. In addition, Vera is an active supporter of numerous local youth groups, including the St. Helena Boys and Girls Club.

In 1996, in recognition of her philanthropic efforts and service to the community, Vera was named, by me, Woman of the Year for the 2nd District of the California State Senate.

The St. Helena Citizen of the Year Award is one more honor of many to come for this wonderful neighbor, great friend, and tremendous asset to our community.

Once again, I offer my congratulations to Vera and to her family.