

church that actively practiced segregation. It was this realization that pushed him into civil rights activism.

In 1942, he founded the Congress of Racial Equality in Chicago, and in 1947, he held the first Freedom Ride. He was beaten, arrested, and served time in prison. He was encouraged to let things settle down in the South, to let them cool off. Mr. Farmer, however, refused to back down. In 1963 he was attacked at a demonstration he had organized in Louisiana. State troopers came after him with guns, cattle prods, and tear gas, but he escaped with the help of a funeral director who drove him through the police cordon in a hearse. Although he had planned to attend the March On Washington, he was arrested in Louisiana for disturbing the peace and had to settle for watching Martin Luther King make him famous "I Have a Dream" speech on the television.

After the leadership of the Congress of Racial Equality changed hands, he surprised some civil rights leaders by joining the Nixon administration as an assistant secretary in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. He knew that if African Americans were ever to have any say in national policy on race, then they had to be active in the government. Mr. Farmer recognized the potential in the position and used it to persuade the administration to approve funds for the Head Start program in Southern States. His response to those who thought he was abandoning the movement was that he saw himself as a bridge. "I lived in two worlds. One was the volatile and explosive one of the new black Jacobins and the other was the sophisticated and genteel world of the white and black liberal establishment. As a bridge, I was called on by each side for help in contacting the other."

Indeed, Mr. Farmer's concept of two worlds was what fueled his passion for equality. He often reminisced of his childhood before and after he became aware of discrimination. Growing up around colleges, he was sheltered from much of the racism that surrounded him. It wasn't until he discovered that he couldn't go wherever he wanted that he even realized he was any different from others.

At three years old, what he wanted was a soda, not social change. Given his young age and his sheltered upbringing, he couldn't understand why he couldn't use the money his father had given him to go and buy one at the drug store on the way home. He cried and pleaded to no avail. Finally his mother told him he couldn't buy a soda because it was a "whites-only" drug store, and he wasn't allowed to enter. Then she cried. And that was the day that young Mr. Farmer became determined to do something about it. He vowed to destroy segregation.

It was this same determination that got him through sitting in the "buzzard's roost," the segregated balcony in the cinema near Wiley College. And it was this same determination that put him on board the Freedom Ride to Jackson, Mississippi. He later called his organization of the Freedom Ride his proudest achievement.

Mr. Farmer had many achievements of which to be proud. I consider it an honor to have been a part of the driving force behind his most recent accomplishment which occurred just last year. On January 15, 1998, President Clinton awarded James Farmer the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest ci-

vilian honor the United States of America gives. For Mr. Farmer, it was the crowning moment on a rich past of activism and determination. "It's a vindication, an acknowledgment at long last. I'm grateful it came before I died." At 79, Mr. Farmer finally received his soda.

As we celebrate the life of James Farmer, let us remember one of his last lessons to us all. He said that we have beaten segregation, we have beaten Jim Crow. Now we have to beat racism, and it's going to take all of us to do it.

JOHN MICHAEL HURLEY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a long time friend, John Michael Hurley of my district. John passed from this life on June 10, 1999.

John made his career in public service, first in the Armed Forces where he served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps Reserves, and Air Force. Upon his retirement from the Air Force he began a career with the City of Toledo's Streets, Bridges & Harbors Division until his 1992 retirement. While employed with the city, he rose to the top leadership post of AFSCME Local 7. He worked for the union as steward, divisional steward, chief steward, and president. He also served AFSCME Ohio Council 8 as regional vice president, and was a board member of Ohio's Public Employees Retirement System. Throughout that service, the quality guarded the hard fought rights of working people throughout our community and state.

In addition to his civil service, John was also an active member of local veterans organizations, belonging to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Northwood Post #2984 and American Legion Conn Weisenberger Post #587. Rounding out his service to community and country, John coached Toledo's North End Lorange Lions Baseball Team.

A family man, John was the proud father of Angela, Laura, Lillian, Nicole, Patrick, Andrew, David, and Kelly, and doting grandfather to 21 grandchildren. Our condolences to them, his wife Joanne, and his sisters and brothers. May they gain some small comfort in knowing the spirit and fire of John Hurley is carried through in each of them. The people of our community have been touched with his strength and kindness and our nation expresses its gratitude for his service to our country.

WEKIVA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER
ACT OF 1999

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation, the Wekiva Wild and Scenic River Act of 1999, designating the Wekiva River and its tributaries of Rock Springs Run and Seminole Creek for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

In the 104th Congress, legislation was signed into law to authorize a study of the Wekiva River by the Department of Interior to determine whether it is eligible and suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The National Parks Service recently completed this study and concluded that the Wekiva River system is an excellent candidate for receiving this designation.

This legislation would allow the Wekiva River and its tributaries to join the Loxahatchee as Florida's second river to receive this designation. The Wekiva Wild and Scenic River Act of 1999 provides Congressional designation of 41.6 miles of eligible and suitable portions of the Wekiva River, Rock Springs Run, Seminole Creek, and Black Water Creek with State management and the establishment of a coordinated Federal, State, and local management committee (Alternative C of the study). As the report states, the Wekiva River area provides "outstanding remarkable resources" which makes it eligible for this national designation.

For more than 30 years, the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act has been safeguarding some of our most precious rivers across the country. In October of 1968, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act pronounced that certain selected rivers of the nation which possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. Designated rivers receive protection to preserve their free-flowing condition, to protect the water quality and to fulfill other vital national conservation purposes.

Furthermore, this legislation recognizes the efforts that have been initiated at the local and state level through the local coordinated management committee. This committee will be responsible for determining and implementing the comprehensive management plan for the Wekiva River under this designation and will be composed of a representative from each of the following agencies: Department of Interior, through the National Park Service; The East Central Florida Regional Planning Council; The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Wekiva River GEOPark; The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Wekiva River Aquatic Preserve; The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Ecosystem Planning and Coordination; The Florida Department of Agriculture and Community Affairs, Seminole State Forest; The Florida Audubon Society; The Friends of the Wekiva; The Lake County Water Authority; The Lake County Planning Department; The Orange County Parks and Recreational Department; The Seminole County Planning Department; The St. Johns River Management District; and The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Floridians are blessed with some of the most rich and engaging natural resources in the world. Every year thousands of people come to Florida to enjoy our rivers and oceans. Located in Central Florida, the Wekiva River Basin is a complex ecological system of rivers, springs, lakes, and streams with many indigenous varieties of vegetation and wildlife which are dependent on this water system. Included in this area are several distinct recreational, natural, historic and cultural

resources that make the Wekiva River an excellent addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and it is great pride that I introduce this legislation for consideration before this body.

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES
BRADLEY EARNEST

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to pay tribute to a neighbor, friend and young man who gave his life in service to his country. Brad Earnest, as he was affectionately called, died on August 2, 1999 in Florida.

Brad was critically injured in a helicopter crash as he served in the 10th Special Forces of the United States Army. In the nine years since that accident Brad remained in a coma.

He is survived by his mother, Minna H. Earnest, who deserves the gratitude, great respect and deepest sympathy of every member of Congress and all Americans.

Not only did Minna Earnest lose her son she also sacrificed her husband to our nation when he was killed in Vietnam. What greater heartbreak could one family, one wife and mother endure for the sake of her country?

My last memories of Brad recall him proudly telling me of his Army assignment and his work in service to our country. Most of all we will miss his smile but always remember and celebrate his life.

Brad was a graduate of Winter Park High School in Winter Park, Florida. He attended Auburn University in Alabama where he was a member of Theta Chi Fraternity.

Brad was born in Portsmouth, Virginia on October 16, 1962 and will be laid to rest in Opelika, Alabama.

I know the United States House of Representatives and every Member of Congress extend our deepest sympathy to Brad's mother, Minna H. Earnest, and to his brother, Bryan H. Earnest of Maitland, Florida, and to his paternal grandmother, Margaret Earnest of Opelika, Alabama.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIE MORRIS

HON. CHARLES W "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Willie Morris—the great Mississippi writer who dedicated a lifetime to exploring what it means to be a Southerner, and showing what it means to be a friend. And today many friends and admirers are grieving over his death earlier this week.

Everyone who loved Willie and cared for his work understands what a terrible loss this is. In his own unique way, he touched countless souls with his emotional honesty and boyish sense of humor. His perspective was a refreshing retreat from the culture of cynicism that poisons our society, and corrodes our democracy.

William Morris was an American original, and a Mississippi legend. And, the truth is, it's

hard to imagine Mississippi without Willie Morris.

Willie grew up in Yazoo City, Mississippi, a small town on the edge of the Delta, and went on to study at the University of Texas, where he was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship.

At 32, he became the youngest editor-in-chief of Harper's magazine in New York City. In the 1980s he came back to his native Mississippi to teach writing at Ole Miss and to write books.

Willie Morris wrote about the little things that make small-town life special—like football games, dogs, and hole-in-the-wall restaurants. He also wrote about the big things—like faith, family and friendship.

But Willie never shied away from putting these heart-warming descriptions in the context of the South's racial history, or revealing the challenges of laying down its burden.

He did this magnificently, I felt, in "The Courting of Marcus Dupree"—a story about how the outstanding high school football star helped breakdown long-held hostilities between whites and blacks in Philadelphia, Mississippi.

In this book and others, Willie acknowledged the progress made toward racial harmony in Mississippi and across America.

As someone who lived through the transition from the Old South to the New South, he had seen dramatic change in his homeland. But one way or another, he always found a way to say: "We must do better."

Another favorite theme of Willie's was dogs. "Every little boy ought to have a dog," he once said. In *My Dog Skip* and *North Toward Home*, he told some of the best dog stories I've ever heard, stories that inspire the warmest memories of the dogs of our own childhood. Many are so good they make you wish you had lived them yourself—like the time at age 12 when he taught his English Fox Terrier, Skip, how to drive a car:

"I would get the dog to prop himself against the steering wheel," he writes, "his black head peering out the windshield, while I crouched out of sight under the dashboard. Slowing the care to ten or fifteen, I would guide the steering wheel with my right hand while Skip, with his paws, kept it steady. As we drove by the Blue-Front Café, I could hear one of the (old) men shout: 'Look at that ol' dog drivin' a car!'"

Willie Morris loved life and all things in it. And most of all, he loved making friends and encouraging others.

Several years ago, a young writer friend of mine from Texas met Willie and after their meeting sent Willie an essay he had been working on. Days later my friend received his essay, with excellent edits, and a hand-written note from Willie that said: "You're a damn fine writer. Keep the faith, my friend!"

That letter now hangs framed, on my friend's wall, as a medal of encouragement.

Mark Twain once said: "the great people in life are the ones that tell others that they, too, can be great." Willie Morris was one of those great people. He was the kind of guy that once he made friends with you, he was a friend for life. Our good friend Willie Morris has gone away, but his beautiful words and sweet spirit will live on forever and ever.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Joanne Prichard, and his son, David Rae, in this difficult time.

H.R. 2116—VETERANS' MILLENNIUM HEALTH CARE ACT

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, I rise in support of the Veterans' Millennium Health Care Act. This bill improves the VA health care system in many ways—it will extend long term care and emergency care services—provide sexual trauma counseling—and will give the VA access to a portion, if funds are recovered from tobacco companies, to compromise for its costs of tobacco-related illnesses.

I am especially pleased that this legislation ensures that the Veterans Administration (VA) will work with licensed doctors of chiropractic care to develop a policy to provide veterans with access to chiropractic services. Even though chiropractic is the most widespread of the complementary approaches to medicine in the United States, serving roughly 27 million patients—and even though Congress has recognized chiropractic care in the other areas of the federal health care system (Medicare, Medicaid, and federal workers compensation), VA has chosen not to make chiropractic routinely available to veterans. This bill changes that!

As a Member representing a portion of San Diego County, I am also pleased that H.R. 2116 includes a biomedical research facility for the VA San Diego Healthcare System to accommodate current and pending research programs on diabetes, immunology, hypertension, Parkinson's Disease, AIDS, and memory.

I encourage my colleagues to support and vote in favor of the Veterans' Millennium Health Care Act.

PRAISING STATE REPRESENTATIVE BILL COLLIER'S PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, first and foremost William H. "Bill" Collier is a gentleman who represents the finest traditions of public service and generosity that so many Tennesseans hold dear.

I was privileged to serve in the Tennessee state legislature with Rep. Bill Collier for four years from 1984 to 1988. For six years after I was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, I represented several communities that also had the good fortune to be represented by Bill Collier during his service in the state legislature.

He retired from the state legislature in 1994 after a distinguished career dedicated to public service on behalf of the people of Humphreys and Benton Counties.

Just last month, a section of Highway 70 in New Johnsonville was named for Bill Collier. That action was not only fitting, but also well deserved for a man who was committed to public service. It doesn't hurt that the bypass at Waverly was built largely because of his perseverance.