

Colorado, for his outstanding career in the Bureau of Land Management. Mr. Sparks served diligently as field office manager for nearly two decades. His efforts have been instrumental in designing State and Federal partnerships that have become eminently successful within the Bureau.

Before his distinguished career with the BLM in Colorado, Donnie worked as assistant manager for the Bureau in Alaska where he helped to manage the entire northwest corner of the state. After moving to Colorado, Donnie's hard work paid off in contributions that will live on in Colorado for many decades to come. Along with the Colorado Department of Corrections, Mr. Sparks helped to develop the very successful wild horse program that has been in place for nearly 15 years. Donnie also worked to form yet another State and Federal partnership with the Colorado Department of Parks and Outdoor Recreation creating the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area, which has become the most rafted river in the country.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to Donnie for his hard work and service over the years. Donnie's distinguished career has been quite remarkable and has had a positive impact on Colorado that will not soon be forgotten. He has worked hard to improve our great state and for that I thank him.

I wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LARRY WYMAN MCCOY OF THE SHOALS, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an intellectual treasure of my district, Dr. Larry McCoy of Northwest-Shoals Community College. Dr. McCoy has excelled in all facets of academia. As a student, he cultivated a love of learning through his time at the University of Alabama, Athens College and Nova University. His almost 40 year career in education includes positions all across the state of Alabama as a teacher, coach, athletic director, Dean of Admissions and President of a college. He served as Dean of Admissions before becoming Dean of Student Development at Athens State from 1983 to 1987. Dr. McCoy began his time in the Shoals at Muscle Shoals Technical College but under his leadership and with his keen vision and by adding programs and consolidating campuses, the Technical College grew to become today's thriving Northwest-Shoals Community College with campuses in Muscle Shoals and Phil Campbell.

His distinguished reputation as an academian is supported by the numerous presentations he has made to groups such as the National Managers Association and the National Conference on Teaching Excellence and his position as co-editor of the Alabama College System Professional Development News.

Dr. McCoy has served as a role model for his students for nearly forty years. He has always upheld the position of the scholar athlete coaching 9 All-American and 17 All-State football players. He has been named Alabama

AAA State Coach of the Year and was inducted into the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame in 1999.

In addition to his exceptional professional contributions to our area, Dr. McCoy has given of himself and his talents serving as President of the Rotary Club of Sheffield and President of the Chamber of Commerce of the Shoals. He has also served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Medical Center Shoals and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Shoals Economic Development Authority among many others.

Throughout his life, Dr. McCoy has set a great example of how one person can make a huge difference in his community. I want to congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement. I understand his family and friends are gathering tonight to celebrate his service to the school at a dinner in his honor and I join them in wishing him the best. On behalf of the people of Alabama's 5th Congressional District, I commend him for his tireless efforts for the students of Northwest Alabama.

IN HONOR OF PUERTO RICO ON ITS CONSTITUTION DAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the citizens of Puerto Rico on Constitution Day, July 25, 1999. The people of Puerto Rico established Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for the very same reasons our forefathers wrote the Constitution of the United States of America, to establish themselves as a democracy.

The Puerto Rican Constitution ensures basic welfare and human rights for the people, enshrines the idea of a government which reflects the will of the people, and pays tribute and loyalty to the Constitution of the United States of America.

The Puerto Rican culture is a distinctly unique culture. By pledging allegiance to the Constitution of the United States of America, the people of Puerto Rico celebrate shared beliefs and the coexistence of both cultures. By ratifying their own Constitution, the people of Puerto Rico retain and honor their original heritage while expressing the desire to pursue democracy and happiness for themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the following individuals for their contributions to the Greater Cleveland: Rev. Tomas Acevedo, Dr. Barbara Bird-Bennet, Lcdo. Jose Feliciano, Ray Galindo, Barbara Gill, Magda Gomez, Chris Hernandez, Vivian Riccio, Aurea Rivera, Diana Del Rosario, Ramon Torres. I hope that my fellow colleagues will join me in honoring these individuals and praising the Puerto Rican people as they celebrate Constitution Day.

TRIBUTE TO LOUISE STEFANELLI SIMMONS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Louise Stefanelli Simmons who retired from

the Corps of Engineers in Huntington, West Virginia on August 1, 2000 after dedicating 39 years, 11 months and four days to the Corps.

I salute Louise Stefanelli Simmons for her lifelong dedication to her husband and son Alan, as well as her devotion to duty throughout her service with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Her professionalism as well as her commitment to family and community are an outstanding example of family values and good citizenship.

Louise was born in Newark, New Jersey of Italian immigrant parents, one of four children. After graduating from Newark Prep with an associate degree in business, Louise worked as a civilian for the U.S. Army Corps in Newark during World War II, where she met her future husband Howard "Red" Simmons. Upon her marriage, she left family and friends in New Jersey to marry "Simmy" as she called him, moving with him to Huntington, West Virginia. Louise remembers the "culture shock" when she first visited downtown Huntington—the girl from the "big city"—there was no comparison.

Early on in her marriage to "Simmy", she helped him run their restaurant, the Corral Drive-Inn near Marshall University, then got her real estate license so she could help him in his real estate development business.

In addition to helping out with the restaurant business and her husband's real estate interests, Louise worked several years for an insurance company before coming to the Corps of Engineers in 1963. Beginning in the typing pool before becoming secretary to the Chief of Engineering, she later became the secretary to the Colonel in charge of the Huntington Corps, where she remained for nearly four decades.

Louise will spend much of her retirement time as a long-time booster of Marshall University's sports activities, especially the football team, and attending the sporting events involving her two grandchildren, Mark 14 and Elizabeth 12.

Louise loves to travel, back to New Jersey with family and friends. Early this summer she took a 2-week vacation to Italy, to revisit the history of her parentage, and to steep herself in the culture and traditions of her parents' homeland.

Other retirement activities will include her dedication to walking (twice around Ritter Park at least 5 days a week), watching old movies, and perfecting her Italian cooking. Louise is an active member of Johnson Memorial United Methodist Church, the Women's Club of Huntington, and participates in the Professional Secretaries Association.

I wish all the best for Louise, her husband, son Alan and her grandchildren as she embarks upon her Golden Years giving all her uninterrupted energy and love to her family, to her church, and to the community to which she has already contributed so abundantly throughout her remarkable life in her adopted State of West Virginia.

HONORING BASIL T. KNIGHT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I now honor an extraordinary

human being and great American, Basil T. Knight. Mr. Knight was an educator that changed the lives of literally thousands of young men and women over his more than seven decades as an educator in western Colorado. As family, friends, former students and colleagues mourn this profound loss, I would like to honor this truly great American.

Mr. Knight was an individual that reached out to help every human being that he came in contact with. As an educator, countless students in District 51 have been affected by this remarkable man and each are better off because of his service. Basil began his legendary educational career as a substitute teacher at Mount Lincoln School near Palisade, Colorado, in 1923. He went on to become Principal only a year later. In 1925, Basil became a math teacher at Grand Junction High School where he remained for over three decades. As remarkable as his teaching career was, his immense impact upon the community continued long after he left the classroom.

Mr. Knight was elected County Supervisor of Schools in 1965, which placed him in charge of over 40 schools within the county. As supervisor, he continued to work to ensure that the children in his community would receive the best education possible. His commitment to education earned him not only the Educator of the Year award in 1974 from the Colorado Education Association, but also the District 51 staff development center now bears his name. Employees and visitors alike are reminded of his unmatched commitment to education every time they set foot in the Basil T. Knight Center.

Mr. Knight's passion for serving children extended well into his golden years. In fact, he played an instrumental role in the passage of a recent school bond initiative that helped improve a number of existing schools in the Grand Junction area and build two new ones. The passing of this bond was the answer to a wish he made on his 100th birthday. Beyond his brick and mortar contributions to School District 51, Mr. Knight's legacy will also endure in his five A's philosophy (attendance, attitude, attention, achievement and ABC's), a philosophy still used by the district today.

Former State Senator Tilman Bishop, in a recent article in the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, helps to sum up the impact Basil had on his community: "Many generations have and will benefit from Basil T. Knight, to say he was a unique person is an understatement. Thank you Basil for all you stood for and believed in."

Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues, as you can see, this extraordinary human being truly deserves our gratitude and our thanks. It is individuals like Basil who are committed to bettering the lives of America's youth through both education and public service that make our great country what it is today. Basil T. Knight may be gone, but his proud and distinguished legacy will long endure.

America is most assuredly a better place for having known Basil T. Knight.

PROPOSED TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL DOUGLAS E. WADE, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Douglas E. Wade as he prepares to culminate his active duty career in the United States Air Force. Doug is the epitome of an outstanding officer and leader.

Lieutenant Colonel Wade began his career more than 20 years ago as an enlisted soldier in the Army. He then received his direct commission as a second lieutenant in the Air Force. A law graduate of Ohio State University, as well as the Air Command and Staff College, Doug Wade has met the many challenges of military service as an Air Force Officer, and has faithfully served his country in a variety of command and staff assignments.

Doug concludes his career as the Director for House Affairs in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs; he was instrumental in advising the Defense Department leadership on a broad range of national security issues of immediate interest to Congress. Doug's personal rapport with the House leadership and Members of Congress was vital in ensuring Department of Defense programs were clearly presented and soundly defended on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Speaker, service and dedication to duty have been the hallmarks of Lieutenant Colonel Wade's career. He has served our nation and the Air Force well during his years of service, and we are indebted for his many contributions and sacrifices in the defense of the United States. I am sure that everyone who has worked with Doug joins me in wishing him and his family health, happiness, and success in the years to come.

HONORING DONELDA WARHURST AND LIZ STUMPF OF YORBA LINDA, CALIFORNIA

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I honor Donelda Warhurst and Liz Stumpf, teachers at Bryant Ranch School, in Yorba Linda, California. Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf are more than just educators; they are passionate, inspiring leaders who encourage their students to reach beyond the walls of the classroom in their pursuit of knowledge.

Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf spearheaded the award-winning "Once Upon a River" curriculum. "Once Upon a River" is an integrated, cross curriculum approach that allows students to learn more about the Santa Ana River while simultaneously mastering grade-level skills in language arts, math, science, social studies, and the arts.

In addition to studying the chemistry and biology of the water, the historical importance of

the Santa Ana River, and data collection skills, the students also have a public property access permit to carry-out mitigation of Arundo Donax, Castor Bean, and Tamarisk. Students have applied their knowledge to effectively clear the area of Arundo Donax, an introduced species of bamboo that was threatening native plants, build and install bluebird boxes, and educate others about the Santa Ana River.

Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf have showcased and furthered the work of their students through various community partnerships. The Orange County Park Service and the Orange County Flood Control District have served as advisors. Students have also worked with officials at the City of Yorba Linda and a local bat biologist.

"Once Upon a River" has been a success. After five years and 10,080 volunteer hours provided by 280 students, an acre of the highly invasive "Arundo Donax" has been completely removed along the Santa Ana River.

Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf have been recognized by the Orange County Board of Supervisors, the Placentia Yorba Linda Unified School Board, and the Points of Light Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this House please join me in recognizing, honoring and commending Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf for their creativity, leadership, and commitment to their students.

A TRIBUTE TO NICK ROMANO

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to my good friend and a life-long supporter of working men and women, Nick Romano, who retired July 1, 2000 after 42 years of dedicated service to and membership in the United Auto Workers (UAW).

Nicholas Romano was hired in 1958 at the Milwaukee manufacturing plant of American Motors. Throughout his years at the American Motors Body Plant, Chrysler and the UAW, Nick has been a progressive advocate for his union brothers and sisters, his neighbors and community. A selfless leader, Nick seized every opportunity available to express the opinions of organized labor to his elected officials locally, on the state level and nationally. Nick organized and participated in many grass-roots lobbying efforts to bring labor-related issues and concerns into the limelight.

The union membership granted Nick many official duties, including group steward, head steward, benefits representative, chair of the bargaining committee, member of the Local 75 Executive Board (culminating in the last 15 years as Local President), member of the national UAW negotiating team for the DaimlerChrysler national contract negotiations and a seat on the Wisconsin State UAW CAP Executive Board until his retirement last month.

It will be literally impossible to replace Nick Romano and forget all that he has done and meant to the UAW in southeastern Wisconsin, the Midwest and our nation. But let each and every one of us learn from Nick's four decades' worth of leadership to step up and do the best we can to live by his example. May God bless you Nick, Judy and your family.