

day operations and its long range planning, as well as compiling the County's annual budget. Wade was also instrumental in assisting the County in guiding the development of MidAmerica airport and the St. Clair County extension of MetroLink. Wade also has acted as the County Board's Vice-Chairman since 1991. He served on the St. Clair County Planning Commission since it was formed in 1989.

In his tradition of fine public service, Wade was also named officeholder of the year in 1986 by the Belleville Democratic Committee. As a true public servant, he also finds the time to volunteer his services to senior citizens throughout the area. In 1973, as Chairman of the St. Clair County Board, I appointed Wade to the Advisory Board for the Programs and Services for Older Persons program sponsored by Southwestern Illinois Community College. In recognition of his efforts, the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council awarded Wade a lifetime achievement for outstanding public service in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the service of Mr. Wade Brunzman and wish he, his wife Barbara, his daughter Barbara Ann and the rest of his family, the very best in the future.

IN MEMORY OF RABBI SHOLOM KLASS

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my profound and sincere sadness on the recent death of Rabbi Sholom Klass of Brooklyn, NY. After a long illness, the Rabbi died on January 17, 1999 at age 83. Rabbi Klass was truly a giant in Jewish life and an educator to both Jew and non-Jew, alike, on the beauty of G-d's law. Rabbi Klass was an inspirational leader who stood up for morality in the modern world. The Rabbi was a premier teacher of Torah, a pioneer in Anglo-Jewish journalism, and a passionate advocate for the Jewish people.

Rabbi Klass was one of the most important influences for promoting Jewish traditions in our Nation's history. As one of the greatest disseminators of Jewish learning in modern times, the Rabbi taught a weekly class in Talmud for more than 50 years. In addition, he authored "Response of Modern Judaism" (3 volumes). His dedication to spreading Torah into all Jewish homes led many to return to their Jewish roots and to celebrate their heritage. Indeed, he gave all, even those of us who are not Jewish, insights and an appreciation for the richness of Judaism.

One of the Rabbi's greatest achievements was his creation of The Jewish Press. In 1960, to promulgate Judaic thought and opinion, he created The Jewish Press out of secular Brooklyn Daily. Beloved as the newspaper's publisher and columnist for 40 years, he educated and nurtured an understanding of Jewish concerns and turned the paper into the world's largest Anglo-Jewish weekly—with 500,000 copies distributed each week. Many readers, in New York and around the world, say they looked to the Rabbi's writings to guide them through daily life.

Since the paper's creation, Rabbi Klass conducted a regular question-and-answer column

on Jewish law. A renowned author and scholar, who was blessed with a photographic memory, he tackled the gamut of biblical and Talmudic law. I understand that, over 40 years, the Rabbi responded to more than 20,000 questions, on issues ranging from the use of electricity on the Sabbath to the Torah's view on organ transplants. In his scared writings, he found a solution for every modern contingency of the human condition.

I get a great pleasure learning from, and writing for, The Jewish Press. I always appreciated the kindness that Rabbi Klass showed me in allowing me to be part of his incredible newspaper. Rabbi Klass was a wonderful, influential and talented man who used his abilities for great public service.

Finally, in addition to his dedication to spreading an understanding of Torah, through his teachings and his newspaper, Rabbi Klass was a powerful advocate for the Jewish people and the world over. His support for the State of Israel and for Orthodox Judaism was instrumental in formulating national and international policies. He was a distinguished member of the Directorate of the Rabbinical Alliance. With the death of Rabbi Sholom Klass, the world has lost a moral leader of great magnitude.

I want to extend my heartfelt and deepest condolences to the family of Rabbi Klass—to his wife, Irene, to his two daughters, Naomi Mauer and Mindy Greenwald, and to his grandchildren and great grandchildren. May they be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, the following is a list of rollcall votes I recently missed and how I would have voted had I been present:

JANUARY 31, 2000

No. 2—Days of Remembrance: H. Con. Res. 244, Holocaust remembrance. Yea.

No. 3—Hillory J. Farias Date-Rape Prevention Act, Senate amendments to H.R. 2130. Yea.

FEBRUARY 1, 2000

No. 4—Child Abuse Prevention & Enforcement Act, Senate amendment to H.R. 764. Yea.

No. 5—Taiwan Security Enhancement Act, H.R. 1838. Yea.

No. 6—Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2990, Quality Care for the Uninsured Act. Yea.

FEBRUARY 2, 2000

No. 7—Workplace Goods Job Growth and Competitiveness Act, H.R. 2005. Yea.

FEBRUARY 8, 2000

No. 8—Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, Senate amendment to H.R. 1415. Yea.

No. 9—Poison Control Center Enhancement and Awareness, S. 632. Yea.

No. 10—Honoring the Former Speaker of the House, Carl B. Albert, H. Res. 418. Yea.

FEBRUARY 10, 2000

No. 11—Journal for Wednesday, 2/9/00. Yea.

No. 12—Rule (Marriage Tax Penalty Relief). Nay.

No. 13—Rangel substitute (Marriage Tax Penalty Relief). Yea.

No. 14—Hill of Indiana motion to recommit (Marriage Tax Penalty Relief). Aye.

No. 15—Marriage Tax Penalty Relief Act (final passage), H.R. 6. Nay.

FEBRUARY 14, 2000

No. 16—National Donor Day, H. Con. Res. 247. Yea.

No. 17—Child Abuse and Neglect, H. Con. Res. 76. Yea.

FEBRUARY 15, 2000

No. 18—H.R. 3557, Gold Medal for Cardinal O'Connor. Yea.

No. 19—H.R. 3642, Gold Medal to Charles M. Schulz. Yea.

No. 20—H.R. 3201, Carter G. Woodson Home National Historic Site Study Act. Yea.

No. 21—Approval of the Journal for Monday, February 14, 2000. Yea.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SHIRLEY RYALS

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, no one I know loved Tampa more than Shirley Ryals and no one I know worked harder to make our community a better place. Her passing is a tremendous loss for all of us.

I will never forget Shirley's incredibly selfless devotion to countless causes; her courage; her grace; her sense of humor, including her willingness to laugh at herself; and her remarkable ability to relate to people. Shirley did not hesitate to stand up for what she believed in. She often prevailed and got things done because people knew that she respected and appreciated them and that she was always thinking about what was best for our community.

Shirley Ryals did not understand the meaning of the word cannot. Such a word didn't exist in her vocabulary. Her approach was simply that anything was possible if you work hard and dedicate yourself to accomplishing a goal. Her work to bring three Superbowls to Tampa is a testament to that, as is the endless list of other good works she did to better our community.

Through the Tampa Junior Women's Club, she established the Tampa Oral School for the Deaf, the first preschool program in Hillsborough County that allowed families to keep their children at home instead of sending them hundreds of miles away for an education. The program has helped thousands of children emerge from their sounds of silence and is now a part of the Hillsborough County Public School System.

Her achievements, activities and honors are almost too numerous to mention. She was named Tampa's 1995 Citizen of the Year. She served as a trustee for the University of Tampa and the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center and as an executive committee member of the American Red Cross, Hillsborough Community College Foundation and Outback Bowl Foundation. She was also on the Florida State Fair Authority and on the boards of the Boys & Girls Clubs, Boy Scouts of America, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center Foundation and many other groups.

One of the amazing things to me is that despite all the demands on her time, Shirley never let any project or any task come before her family. She was a devoted wife to Lester, a wonderful mother to Karen and Les, and a doting grandmother to Caroline and Courtney. She also carved out time each week for a Sunday night dinner with all of the family, a tradition that is becoming more and more rare in our busy society.

In an editorial praising Shirley's life, The Tampa Tribune wrote,

Shirley Ryals should be an inspiration to us all. She worked hard and effectively for the public good. She never lost sight of the importance of family and friends. And she left an enduring mark on her community, which benefited immeasurably from her wonderful way of helping people work together. It is commonplace in editorials like this to observe that the subject "will be missed." Missed? Shirley Ryals, how are we going to get along without you?

Like so many others in our community, I'm going to miss my dear friend, Shirley. May she rest in peace.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, on rolcall numbers 21 and 20, I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN SUPPORT OF FREE TRADE OF SOFTWOOD LUMBER

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce this resolution with my colleague from Arizona, Mr. KOLBE, and a bi-partisan group of 30 other Members. This resolution supports affordable housing for all Americans and promotes free trade of softwood lumber between the United States and Canada.

This resolution expresses the Sense of the Congress that the 1996 U.S./Canada Softwood Lumber Agreement (SLA) should not be extended when it expires in 2001. The President should continue discussions with the Government of Canada to promote open and competitive trade between the United States and Canada of softwood lumber, and that all stakeholders should be included in discussions regarding trade of softwood lumber.

The Softwood Lumber Agreement of 1996 was intended to promote free trade; however, it appears to have had the opposite effect. More importantly, the expansion of this agreement is directly affecting consumers by increasing the cost of lumber used for homebuilding. For many Americans owning a home is a dream come true, but if lumber prices climb and homes are not affordable, for many Americans it will remain a dream unfulfilled.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this resolution that will help ensure affordable housing for all Americans.

TRIBUTE TO ETHNOBIOLOGICAL SCIENTISTS

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, on November 2, 1999, it was my great pleasure to participate in a reception on Capitol Hill to launch the "International Conference on Ethnomedicine and Drug Discovery," a significant scientific and cultural celebration of the role of traditional medicine in the discovery and development of new drugs and phytomedicines. I commend conference participants for their ethnomedical and ethnobotanical research efforts described during the conference, which provide solutions to problems of global public health, as well as the rapidly increasing loss of biological and cultural diversity.

The rich history of drugs from nature was delivered by Dr. Gordon Cragg of the U.S. National Cancer Institute. A presentation by Dr. Brian Schuster from the Walter Reed Army Research Institute followed, describing many lead compounds to treat malaria, leishmaniasis and trypanosomiasis from plants found in West and Central Africa. The active compounds, from plants that healers in Nigeria and Cameroon use regularly, were discovered through the U.S. International Cooperative Biodiversity Group program for the treatment of parasitic diseases. A special colloquium, organized by Dr. Maurice Iwu, Director of the Pan-African NGO Bioresources Development and Conservation Programme, was devoted to the West African medicinal plant *Garcinia kola* Heckel, also known as "bitter cola," containing antiviral, antiinflammatory, antidiabetic, bronchodilator and antihepatotoxic properties, and found recently to have potential for treatment of the Ebola fever.

The conference opening ceremony, "The Festival of Living Culture," featured West African healers and musicians conducting traditional welcoming ceremonies with plants, music and dance, followed by a Native American healer who performed a traditional Cherokee ceremony. This dramatic opening demonstrated how the core elements of traditional medicine are inherently integrated with science, spirit, art, dance and ritual.

The conference, held in Silver Spring, MD from November 3–5, 1999, included several hundred world wide participants. It was organized by national and international research, training and teaching organizations including the Bioresources Development and Conservation Programme (www.bioresources.org), the Alternative Medicine Foundation (www.amfoundation.org), American Herbal Products Association (www.AHPA.org), Axxon Biopharma, Inc. (www.axxonbiopharm.com), the Missouri Botanical Garden (www.mobot.org), the National Center for Natural Products Research at The University of Mississippi (www.olemiss.edu), Bastyr University (www.bastyr.edu) and the Healing Forest Conservancy (www.shaman.con/Healing_Forest.html).

THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CELEBRATES ITS 150TH ANNI- VERSARY

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, as the senior member of the Los Angeles County Congressional delegation, I am honored to pay tribute to the County of Los Angeles on its 150th anniversary.

On August 1, 1769, a Spanish expedition under the command of Gaspar de Portola came upon an Indian village called Yang-na along the banks of a river which Portola named El Rio de Nuestra Senora la Reina de los Angeles de Porciuncula, (the River of Our Lady the Queen of the Angels of Porciuncula), which was quickly shortened to Los Angeles. This was the site of present-day Los Angeles, but the Spanish did not return to Los Angeles until 1781, when a party of 44 colonists from Mexico was settled by Don Felipe de Neve, California's provincial governor, as part of Spain's effort to strengthen its control over its territories in the north. These first Angelinos fashioned a crude settlement to produce grain, just as the friars of San Gabriel Mission had done for a decade.

Americans first arrived in Los Angeles by way of nearby San Pedro, then an unimproved roadstead port. Beginning in 1805, U.S. vessels traded intermittently with the area's farmers and, in 1818, Joseph Chapman, a crew member, stayed long enough to help with construction of the town's first church. In 1826, the fur trapper Jedidiah Smith became the first white man to reach Los Angeles by traveling overland from the Missouri frontier, but he was followed by few others. It was not until the 1830s, with the arrival of whaling and seal hunting ships, that Americans became a regular presence in the provincial community.

Los Angeles had been affected little by the revolution that replaced Spanish rule with that of an independent Mexican government in 1821. Mexico's Congress declared Los Angeles the capital of California in 1835, but the provincial governor refused to move south from San Francisco, so the city's relative isolation and the local authority of its prosperous farmers and ranchers remained unthreatened. By the 1840's, Los Angeles had become the largest settlement in Southern California, attracting its first party of American pioneers, led by William Workman and John Rowland, in 1841.

The Mexican-American War of 1846 ushered in a new era for Los Angeles. The city was occupied in August by U.S. troops under Commodore Robert Field Stockton and Captain John C. Fremont, but the 50-man garrison left to hold the farm town was driven out by local residents a few months later. Stockton returned in January 1847, supported by land troops from New Mexico under General Stephen Watts Kearny, and retook the city in a battle with Mexican forces that had retreated there. They soon were joined by Fremont's California Battalion and, on January 13, Fremont signed the Treaty of Cahuenga at Los Angeles, which ceded California to the United States.

American influence grew steadily thereafter, with the first English-language school and the