

Church, and later in 1986, at St. John Kanty Church. As General Chairman of St. John Kanty Church, he helped to raise over \$1 million for the construction of a new Parish Center. He is the standard bearer for the Passaic Boys' and Girls' Club, and was the recipient of the organization's "Passaic For the Kids" service award. Also, the Pulaski Association of Police and Firemen honored Greg as Citizen of the Year.

An active and involved leader, Greg Komeshok is a past President and Life-Member of the Holy Rosary Young Men's Club of Passaic. He is a Charter Member of St. John Kanty Sports and Athletic Association. Mr. Komeshok is also a perennial Chairman of the Holy Rosary Palm Sunday Communion Breakfast. In addition, he is a baseball Coach for the Clifton Hawks, Babe Ruth, League, Clifton General League, and is the President and General Manager of the Wayne Spartans American Legion Baseball Team.

The son of Emily Rzepecki and John Komeshok, Greg spent his formative years at Holy Rosary R.C. School in Passaic. Greg's family includes his wife Susan and his two sons Kevin and Christopher.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Gregory's family, friends, the Central of Polish Organizations, the Polish-American Community and the community-at-large in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to society of Gregory Komeshok.

TRIBUTE TO MARTIN "TRADER JOHN" WEISSMAN

HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, for nearly half a century, a landmark known throughout the world has stood in Pensacola, Florida. This landmark is not a bronze statue, a marble sculpture, or a breathtaking vista, but rather an unofficial monument to the service of the men and women in the United States Navy. The monument is none other than the world famous "Trader John's Tavern and Blue Angels Museum" founded and operated by Pensacola's own Martin "Trader John" Weissman.

Since 1953, "Trader John's" has been a favorite among aviators, military personnel, and celebrities. It was a place for young Naval flight students to relax and a place for veterans to share old war stories. For many men and women in the service that were stationed far from home, it provided a sanctuary where they could make new friends. What brought these thousands of patrons to this humble establishment wasn't the extensive collection of Naval aviation memorabilia, but rather the persona of the man known as "Trader John."

Mr. Martin Weissman and his wife Jackie moved to Pensacola in 1952. In 1953, the Weissman's took over a dilapidated bar and eatery on South Palafox Street and renamed it "Trader John's." The name stuck, and Mr. Weissman became known as "Trader John."

Over the next 50 years, this gentleman distinguished himself not only through his community service and his successful business, but also through the reputation he earned as an untiring booster of the Navy's Flight Dem-

onstration Team, the Blue Angels. In 1997, he was named the Blue Angels honorary flight leader.

"Trader John's" fatherly way and irresistible charm provided the much-needed support for many homesick aviators. Retired Vice Admiral Jack Fetterman described Trader John as having "unqualified love." Adding "he was a caring guy who never said a bad thing about anybody."

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, February 18, 2000, Martin "Trader John" Weissman was taken from us. But his legacy and memory will live on in the hearts of the thousands of Naval Aviators who trained in Pensacola and when the Blue Angels fly their homecoming show there this year, I'm sure "Trader John" will be watching from above.

TESTIMONY OF DIANA W.H. CAPP

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, on February 15, 2000, I was pleased to introduce my constituent, Diana W.H. Capp, at a Resources Committee hearing concerning the funding of environmental initiatives and their impacts on local communities. Her testimony follows:

Madame Chairman, Committee Members, thank you for this hearing. I'm Diana White Horse Capp, from Ferry County, Washington—4.6 million acres—in the Kettle Mountains, 7200 people. I'm Chairman of the Upper Columbia Resource Council. Madame Chairman, history shows the elite gain power by pitting the masses against each other. Our Constitution, based on the Iroquois Great Law of Peace, is intended to prevent this.

Elite foundations now funnel their wealth to environmental groups who pit the masses against each other. Rural Americans are condemned as savages just as Natives once were. Rural Natives and Whites work in the same occupations. Our welfare is connected. The South half of my county is Colville Reservation. On the North Half, Colvilles and other Native descendants live in peace with Whites. The community is intermarried. We cannot afford the division these foundations instigate.

The environmental elite use Native people. They preach about Tribal Rights and promise to restore justice. Yet they do little for Native people but use them as poster children to buy the clout of Treaty Rights in their lawsuits. Local activists courted favor on the Reservation and Colville Indian Environmental Protection Alliance emerged. This is a foundation grant handled by Native recruiter Winona LaDuke of Minnesota to fight people like me in Ferry County. (See page 2) LaDuke's webpage says the Colville group she funds is opposed to gold mining on the Reservation. (pg 3) But this article says that group lobbied the Tribal Council to oppose Crown Jewel Mine. (pg 4) Madame Chairman, the Crown Jewel Mine isn't on the Reservation—it's 30 miles away, minimum. This kind of deception smears the Tribe's name. Political upheaval rocks the Reservation and some Tribal members want the FBI to step in.

These foundations use environmental groups to destroy rural cultures. Our county is crippled by their attacks on timber, mining, and ranching. Jobs are scarce. Our children feel hopeless—the elite have raped their

future. These grants target Ferry County with \$105,000 just to silence the so-called "incivility" of people like me concerned with human rights. (pg 5) These are grants to Environmental Media Services! They're headed by Arlie Schardt—Al Gore's former Press Secretary!

Slick media activists hound urbanites, screaming that rural cultures destroy the planet, when in fact we feed and shelter them. The 1998 National Wilderness Conference announced its plan for Wilderness designation of the Kettle Mountain Range—Ferry County is the Kettle Range. Their millions wage a high-dollar war for Wilderness in Ferry County along with local Kettle Range Conservation Group. (pg 6) Our county is beautiful. They covet this beauty enough to rape our culture: We don't want them to squeeze us out. This cultural genocide must be acknowledged. That's why the Kootenai Tribe joins Idaho's fight against more Wilderness. (pg 7) This petition by Bret Roberts of Ferry County Action League is signed by many area residents opposed to more wilderness.

Federal insiders reshape policy to destroy rural cultures. This map shows some of the plans to push us out. Colville National Forest's Public Affairs Officer took vacation time to picket for more Wilderness. Pacific Biodiversity Institute boasts that government agencies request their wilderness maps. (pg 8) This Wilderness Society map is part of a local Forest Service Plan. (pg 9) This environmental group's grant says their lynx study will be used by the Forest Service. (pg 10) This job notice (pg 11) even says Nature Conservancy biologists write policy on Indiantown Gap Military Reservation—adding salt to the wound.

You see, government troops forced my Mother's people out of Indiantown Gap in 1932. I don't want that happening to my children, too! Madame Chairman, this juggernaut must be stopped.

SENIOR CITIZENS' FREEDOM TO WORK ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5, the Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act.

As the Representative of Florida's 10th Congressional District, which is home to one of our nation's largest population of seniors, I have consistently supported legislation to eliminate the unfair earnings limit placed on seniors. In fact, one of the first bills I introduced as a member of this body was an act to repeal the Social Security earnings limit.

This outdated law discourages older Americans from working during their golden years, and penalizes the most experienced workers in our nation at a time when many small businesses are searching for qualified employees. The earnings limit unfairly taxes older Americans and at the same time hampers an economy already limited by a lack of workers. I firmly believe our nation will only benefit from the skills and experience of older employees, and this House should welcome their contributions to society and the economy.

Mr. Speaker, the earnings limit is an insult to the dignity of all seniors who wish to continue to work and receive their Social Security

benefit. So many retirees want the freedom to work and support themselves. Many want to supplement their incomes in order to increase their standard of living. Others need to work in order to offset the high cost of prescription drugs. Regardless of the reason, seniors who wish to continue to work should be able to do so without being penalized, and I am proud that today the House is taking action to eliminate this unfair roadblock that stands between older Americans and their desire to continue working.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to repeal this antiquated law and restore freedom to older Americans everywhere.

**SUPPORT AFRICAN AMERICAN
WORLD WAR II VETERANS**

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, most people do not realize that African Americans were central contributors to the allied victory in World War II and served in numeric proportion to their presence in the population. Over 1.2 million African American men and women served in the Armed Forces during the war. Unfortunately, over the decades, the popular culture of major films and books fail to acknowledge. A few efforts have been made to tell the story of a small number of the participants such as the HBO film on the Tuskegee Airman. However, in the mainstream of Americana African American World War II veterans are ignored and bypassed.

To make sure these brave men and women don't pass before their sacrifices are recognized, I am asking for your support of the "Day of Honor 2000" project. The "Day of Honor 2000" project is an organized effort to provide a national city by city special event honoring African American World War II veterans. It is undertaken to provide some measure of clear public acknowledgment and appreciation of the sacrifices of a generation who served America under some of the most trying conditions experienced by any group of Americans in World War II. Day of Honor activities includes an appreciation reception with local African American World War II veterans who will make remarks on behalf of their comrades present and fallen. These veterans will be presented with Oral History Collection Kits which will be used to record their individual stories for future generations. These oral histories will be transcribed and forwarded to major museums focusing on World War II history. The reception also includes a premier screening of the critically acclaimed documentary film "The Invisible Soldier: Unheard Voices." The "Day of Honor 2000" project will culminate with a major event in Washington, DC on May 25th.

If you have any questions or would like to sign on to the bill, please contact Nick Martinelli in my office at 225-0123.

**TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN
CHARLES S. JOELSON**

HON. BILL PASCARELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of a distinguished gentleman and the former Representative from my district, Charles S. Joelson of Paterson, New Jersey. It is only fitting that we recognize him, for he epitomizes caring and generosity of spirit.

Charles Joelson was a man of diverse talents. In his early years he demonstrated scholarship. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a Bachelors of Arts degree from Cornell University in 1937. Later, he graduated from Cornell Law School in 1939.

Charles had always been an active and involved leader. He was an Ensign in Naval Intelligence during World War II. Furthering his belief in civic participation, Chuck mastered the Japanese language. The time spent in the Navy instilled in Charles the attributes necessary for him to become a stellar force in the community. It was the small steps in the beginning of his career that taught him the fundamentals that would make him a role model to the people that he served.

Known for a questioning mind and an ability to get things done, Chuck Joelson returned to law and politics after the war. First he served on the Paterson City Council. Then he became Deputy Attorney General of New Jersey. During the fifties he specialized in criminal law, and became a Prosecutor in Passaic County. Eventually, he became the Director of Criminal Investigation in the State Department of Law and Public Safety in Trenton. In 1960, Chuck led a successful campaign to become the United States Congressman for New Jersey's Eighth District.

His Congressional tenure lasted for nine years. During his final term, he decided to leave Washington, so he asked Governor Hughes to appoint him to the Superior Court. The Governor quickly appointed him, and Charles spent fifteen years on the bench. He held a judicial position in the Chancery Division, as an assignment Judge in Passaic County. He then served his final years as a justice on the Appellate Division in Hackensack, New Jersey, where he demonstrated his writing skills before retiring in 1984.

As the inheritor of the Joelson family legacy, Charles followed his father and Uncle into public service. His father, Judge Harry Joelson, was an advocate for the working people. His Uncle, Dr. Samuel Joelson, exemplified generosity and the love of humanity.

Chuck continually touched the lives of the people around him. He championed needs in education, civil rights and legislation in the workplace. One of the five term Congressmen's greatest achievements was a 1969 piece of legislation that saved thousands of school libraries. His legislation appropriated \$1 billion for public school libraries, remedial programs and guidance counseling.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Chuck's family, friends and the State of New Jersey in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of Charles S. Joelson.

**HONORING CHAVIS NEWMAN-
KEANE OF ANCHORAGE, ALASKA**

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate and honor a young Alaska student from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in his community. Chavis Newman-Keane of Anchorage, Alaska has just been named one of my state's top honorees in The 2000 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Mr. Chavis Newman-Keane is being recognized for his hard work and dedication in implementing an entertainment program called "Musical Smiles" to cheer up elderly residents of two-assisted living facilities. He has volunteered his time by conducting a piano recital every week and has recruited other musicians to join in his program.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it's vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Mr. Newman-Keane are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought this young role model to our attention, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, was created by the Prudential Insurance Company of America in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. In only five years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, with nearly 75,000 youngsters participating since its inception.

Mr. Newman-Keane should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud Mr. Newman-Keane for his initiative in seeking to make his community a better place to live, and for the positive impact he has had on the lives of others. He has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. His actions show that young Americans can, and do, play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

**IN RECOGNITION OF MARTHA
BURNS**

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Martha Burns, a good friend and