

who are hungry in communities across the nation. On May 13, 2000, local branches of the Letter Carriers, along with the United Way and the United States Postal Service, will kick off their annual food drive to collect non-perishable food and other essential items for families in need.

Residents of Amarillo, Canyon, Hereford, Dumas and Tulia, Texas will be asked to place non-perishable food items, paper products or hygiene items by their mailboxes. The letter carriers will pick these items up on May 13th and deliver them to the High Plains Food Bank. The donations received through this food drive will help fill the need for food distribution throughout the summer months.

This food drive is a worthwhile and important project, and has been extremely helpful to a large number of families over the years. In fact, 83,000 pounds of food were collected last year from postal routes across the Panhandle and sent to the High Plains Food Bank, currently serving over 5,200 families each month. The goal this year is to raise over 90,000 pounds of food. I am confident that our community will rise to meet this challenge.

The Amarillo branch of the National Association of Letter Carriers is deserving of our full support and I praise them for their work in the fight against hunger. Together, with such individual acts of generosity, we can help stop the growing problem of hunger on the High Plains.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained today, May 3, 2000.

If I had been present for rollcall No. 133, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 134, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 135, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 136, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 137, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 138, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 139, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 140, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 141, I would have voted "yes."

WILKES-BARRE LAW AND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an organization of which I am proud to be a member, the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association. I am pleased and honored to have been asked to participate in the 150th anniversary of its founding.

Founded in 1850 by the leading attorneys of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, the Association was first known as the Wilkes-Barre Law Association. As the bar association for all of Luzerne County, the association soon adopted the longer name of Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association, which is how it is still known today.

Its original function was a law library for its membership. Because of the expense of older law books dating back to the Civil War era, it was an attempt to create a central law library as a less costly way for lawyers of the day to have an important resource in their practices. The original library contained around 2000 volumes. Throughout the years, the library has expanded and by 1968 contained over 21,000 volumes of law books including English law. Some of the oldest volumes date back to the early 1700's and the library is one of the finest in the nation to this day.

The membership of the Association currently includes 649 members and has had a total of over 1,600 members in good standing in its 150-year history. Its first president was the Honorable Hendrick B. Wright, a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature, and Andrew McClintock and George B. Nicholson served as the first treasurer and secretary, respectively.

Many of the original names on the membership list are quite familiar to those of us in the Wyoming Valley—Welles, Dennison, Bidlack, Conyngham, Wright—as even to this day many of our streets and communities bear these distinguished names. Many served in the Pennsylvania Legislature and were icons of the era. At least 14 members of the Association were elected to the U.S. Congress, myself included. The Association also boasts three governors among its ranks: Henry Hoyt, Arthur James, and John S. Fine.

Mr. Speaker, the list of appellate and state supreme court justices from this bar association's membership list is too long to name all of them here, but that list includes some of the most distinguished jurists in the Commonwealth's history. One of its most famous was Chief Justice Gibson, whose case precedents were considered the most widely read in his era and were cited regularly by courts as far away as Westminster, England.

Currently in senior status, Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Max Rosenn is a highly respected member of the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association. With my strong support, the Congress recently renamed the Wilkes-Barre Federal Courthouse in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association is the oldest and most distinguished legal institution in Northeastern Pennsylvania. It is the center of the legal community in Luzerne County and its library is a great resource to its membership. I am extremely proud to be a member and to have this opportunity to bring its history to the attention of my colleagues in the House of Representatives. I send my sincere best wishes on this milestone anniversary and for the future of the legal profession in Luzerne County.

GARY EVERHARDT: PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise and commend a great public servant of Western North Carolina and the National Park Service, Gary Everhardt, Superintendent of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Gary has been devoted to making our National Parks cleaner, safer and more enjoyable for future generations. Today marks the beginning of Gary's well-earned retirement.

Gary is a native of Western North Carolina and is a product of the Lenoir North Carolina School System. He graduated in 1957 with a degree in Civil Engineering from North Carolina State University and immediately began work for the Park Service as a civil engineer for the Blue Ridge Parkway. He has served in engineering positions at the Park Service's Southeast and Southwest offices. Gary was also named the Superintendent of Grand Teton National Park in January 1972. While there he helped orchestrate and conduct the Second World Conference on National Parks. For his effort and hard work, Gary was awarded the Department of the Interiors Meritorious Service Award.

President Gerald Ford recognized Everhardt's dedication, professionalism, and hard work as he named Gary the ninth director of the National Park Service on January 13, 1975. It was under Gary's leadership that the Park Service saw a period of unbridled growth and success. The Park took great steps in the areas of visitor services and safety. Gary, with President Ford's approval, proposed doubling the park size with the purchase of nearly 32 million acres of land in Alaska.

Gary returned home to the Blue Ridge Parkway in 1977 to assume leadership as the fifth Superintendent of the Parkway and since that time Gary has worked diligently to improve relations with neighbors of the Parkway and government agency officials. Gary took a construction program that was near death and revived it. The final section of the Parkway motor road at Grandfather Mountain was completed in 1987. During Everhardt's tenure, the number of visitors to the park has risen to over 25 million.

I would like to add my tribute to Gary to the long list of honors that he has received in the past. In 1985 Everhardt received the Department of the Interior's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award. In 1990 he received the Cornelius Amory Pugsley Medal from the National Park Foundation for stellar contributions to the advancement of parks and recreation. In September 1998 Gary received the Walter T. Cox award at the George B. Hertzog Lecture at Clemson University, this Award recognized Gary's sustained public achievement in wise management of natural and cultural resources.

Everhardt has a long list of involvement in other agencies and groups including his roles as Past President of the Asheville Federal Executive Association, a member of the Board of Directors of the Appalachian Consortium, and as a member of the North Carolina National Parks, Parkway & Forestry Development Council.

I am sure that Gary will enjoy this well-deserved retirement from the National Park Service. But I believe that it will leave him more time for the jobs that he enjoys most; being a husband, father of two, and a grandfather of three. I know that my colleagues will join me in saluting this fine public servant and community leader and thanking him for nearly 45 years of service to the National Park Service.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING
ACHIEVEMENTS OF LAFAYETTE
PARISH SHERIFF DONALD J.
BREAU

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding law enforcement career of Lafayette Parish Sheriff Donald J. Breau. Sheriff Breau's over 30 years of distinguished service in Louisiana law enforcement are coming to a close on July 1, 2000, and I would like to take this opportunity to honor his accomplished service.

Sheriff Breau began his career in law enforcement in 1958 at the age of twenty-one with the Lafayette Police Department. In 1964, he left local law enforcement to join the Louisiana State Police where he remained until his retirement in 1980. Shortly thereafter, he was appointed Lafayette City Marshall where he served until 1984 when he was elected Sheriff of Lafayette Parish. Today, fifteen years later, he is retiring from the law enforcement arena after what he calls a "blessed" life and career.

His years of distinguished service also includes leadership in numerous law enforcement organizations. He has served as: past president of the Louisiana State Troopers Association; past president of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association; Chairman of the National Sheriff's Drug Enforcement Committee; Director of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association Strike Force; member of the American Correctional

Association Committee on Accreditation; member of Accreditation for Corrections; and member of the American Correctional Association's Committee on Correctional Standards.

In his four terms as Lafayette Parish Sheriff, Sheriff Breau spearheaded construction and operation of the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Training Academy, the opening of the Lafayette Parish Correctional Center, the computerization of the Sheriff's Department and consolidation of many city-parish services for Lafayette Parish residents. He has placed an emphasis on combating drugs in Lafayette Parish through the development of a comprehensive community drug education program. This program, combined with a strong enforcement initiative, equates to roughly 100 drug arrests each month by Metro Narcotics. Sheriff Breau was also instrumental in bringing the Drug Awareness Resistance Education Program (D.A.R.E.) to school children in Lafayette Parish. Since, DARE has provided over 6,000 Lafayette Parish school children with the knowledge they need to resist and report drugs in their communities.

Sheriff Breau has made a lasting impact, not only in Lafayette Parish but in Louisiana as a whole. He will long be remembered as a leader who constantly strove to meet the changing and expanding needs of his diverse community. His record of public service exemplifies the heights to which he has brought the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Department, and is one that will be honored for years to come.

Congratulations Sheriff Breau on your retirement.

THE BUTTERFLY PAVILION & IN-
SECT CENTER OF WESTMINSTER,
COLORADO: BRINGING WONDERS
OF THE INSECT WORLD TO THE
ROCKIES

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I think few people know that the Second Congress-

sional District of Colorado is home to over 1,200 spectacular butterflies from 50 different species, over 100 different species of tropical and sub-tropical plants, and a variety of exotic arthropods that are normally found only in far-away lands. This may seem impossible given our dry climate at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, but thanks to the Butterfly Pavilion & Insect Center located in Westminster, Coloradoans have the opportunity to see these fascinating creatures and plants first hand.

The Butterfly Pavilion & Insect Center is an educational facility for study of insects and other invertebrates. The facility exists to foster an appreciation of butterflies and other invertebrates while reminding the public about the need for conservation of threatened habitats in the tropics and around the world.

The Butterfly Pavilion & Insect Center is the only stand-alone nonprofit insect zoo in the nation. Visitors to the facility find themselves surrounded by free-flying butterflies while walking through the lush, tropical conservatory. A chrysalis viewing area allows visitors to watch the amazing process of metamorphosis as adult butterflies emerge from their gemlike chrysalides. In the insect center, visitors can watch, touch or take a closer look at some of the world's most fascinating insects and their relatives. They can discover what it feels like to hold a rose-haired tarantula from Chile, a Madagascar Hissing Cockroach or a giant mealworm.

The Butterfly Pavilion & Insect Center is a publicly supported scientific and educational facility and operates in collaboration with scientific advisors from zoos, universities and museums both locally and nationally. The facility is located at 6252 West 104th Avenue in Westminster, Colorado. It can also be found on the World Wide Web at www.butterflies.org. I encourage everyone to visit and learn more.

I would like to commend this organization for their steadfast commitment in educating the public about these living treasures. I thank them for bringing this source of amazement and beauty to our great state.