

Aspinall Memorial Commission be printed in the RECORD.

#### ASPINALL MEMORIAL COMMISSION MEMBERS

Tilman N. Bishop, Retired State Senator and Educator.

Greg Walcher, Executive Director Department of Natural Resources.

Charles J. Traylor, Attorney and former Aspinall Campaign Manager.

William Cleary, former Aspinall Washington Aide.

Dean Smith, Mayor of Palisade.

Rich Helm, Executive Director, Museum of Western Colorado.

Robert Helmer, Fruit Grower and President of Palisade Chamber of Commerce.

Henry Talbott, President of Talbott Farms.

Elvis Guin, Retired Engineer, representing Palisade Lions Club.

Don Taylor, former Aspinall student and Retired Military.

Mike McEvoy, President of the Palisade National Bank.

Mary White, sister of Mr. Aspinall.

#### STATE OF COLORADO—HOUSE JOINT

##### RESOLUTION 00-1030

Whereas, The Honorable Wayne N. Aspinall of Palisade, Colorado, was engaged in public service to the people of Colorado for more than half a century; and

Whereas, Wayne N. Aspinall served with distinction in the Colorado House of Representatives from 1931 to 1934, including service as Democratic Whip in 1931 and 1933; and

Whereas, Representative Aspinall also served with distinction in the Colorado House of Representatives in 1937 and 1938, during which time he was Speaker of the House; and

Whereas, Senator Aspinall served with distinction in the Colorado Senate from 1939 to 1948, including service as Democratic Whip in 1939, majority leader in 1941, and minority leader in 1943, 1945, and 1947; and

Whereas, Wayne N. Aspinall served as the United States Congressman from the Fourth Congressional District of Colorado during the Eighty-second through the Ninety-second Congress, serving as Chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and as Chairman of the Public Land Law Review Commission from 1965 to 1970; and

Whereas, Congressman Aspinall was Chairman of the Subcommittee on Irrigation and Reclamation of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs when Congress enacted the Colorado River Storage Project Act, which at that time was the largest reclamation authorization act ever approved by Congress; and

Whereas, The Colorado River Storage Project Act contained authorization to construct four large water conservation storage units (Curecanti, Flaming Gorge, Glen Canyon, and Navajo) and eleven participating irrigation projects in Colorado and her three sister states in the Upper Colorado River Basin; and

Whereas, It is fitting that one who has served this state long and faithfully should be recognized in a permanent and substantial way; and

Whereas, The Aspinall Memorial Commission, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, has been formed by a group of citizens in Palisade and Mesa County for the purpose of erecting a memorial to Wayne Aspinall; and

Whereas, A major component of the planned Wayne N. Aspinall Memorial is a series of "Walls of Accomplishment" to educate students and others about the water conservation needs of the State of Colorado and the entire western United States; and

Whereas, The town of Palisade has donated land for the Wayne N. Aspinall Memorial at

a prime location in Palisade Park and has, by resolution, agreed to maintain the memorial once it is conveyed to the town by the Aspinall Memorial Commission; and

Whereas, The Honorable Wayne Aspinall is one of Colorado's most devoted and illustrious statesmen and citizens; and

Whereas, The faithful, dedicated public service of Wayne Aspinall provides an inspiring example for those who follow him in the difficult tasks of self government; and

Whereas, Wayne Aspinall deserves a substantial and lasting memorial for contributing so much to the improvement of the great state of Colorado; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

1. That the General Assembly encourages all private citizens, corporations, clubs, and other organizations to provide support and assistance to the Aspinall Memorial Commission.

2. That the General Assembly encourages private grant-making foundations and organizations to support the efforts of the Aspinall Memorial Commission.

3. That the General Assembly encourages all agencies of the State of Colorado to support, cooperate with, and provide assistance to the Aspinall Memorial Commission to the fullest extent possible.

4. That the General Assembly encourages Governor Bill Owens to use his best efforts to cause Colorado's neighboring states and their cities that benefit from the dams and reservoirs built as a result of Wayne Aspinall's tenure in the United States House of Representatives to provide assistance and support to the Aspinall Memorial Commission.●

#### IN HONOR OF JOSEPH NASTASI

● Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Mr. Joseph Nastasi, who has been an advocate for the seniors of Monroe, Louisiana, for 18 years as executive director of the Ouachita Parish Council on Aging.

A veteran of World War II, and the wars in Korea and Vietnam, Joe honorably served his country in the Marine Corps from 1943 until he retired in 1979. After his long and distinguished service, Joe shifted his focus to serving older Louisianians as he began work with the Ouachita Council on Aging in 1982.

Under his leadership, the Ouachita Council on Aging has significantly increased its senior services. Eighteen years ago, daily meals were delivered to 80 seniors. Today, that number has expanded to approximately 500. And, in large part to Joe's efforts to enhance senior transportation, more seniors in Ouachita Parish now have access to essential services such as heart and cancer centers.

In addition to his work with the Council on Aging, Joe has also served as President of the Louisiana Council on Aging Directors Association, on the boards of the Louisiana Public Transportation Association and Louisiana State University Monroe Medical Center, and as a member of the Louisiana Elderly Health Care Council.

As ranking Democrat of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, I can tell you that Joe has been an invaluable re-

source to me and my Aging Committee staff. Last November, he testified at an Aging Committee field hearing in Monroe and provided excellent insight into the challenges faced by family caregivers. Joe's experience and insight have enriched our work time and again.

After many years of loyal service, Joe recently retired from the Ouachita Council on Aging. I want to thank him for his hard work and dedication, and wish him well in his retirement.●

#### RECOGNITION OF DAVID FORRESTER OF THE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES CENTER

● Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I would like to share with you an example of how local educators are using the innovations in the high tech field to improve our children's education. David Forrester, founder and director of the Learning Opportunities Center in Tumwater, Washington, has created a program that gives students with unique needs the opportunity to work at their own pace in an environment that teaches them new skills and encourages them to excel. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Mr. Forrester's outstanding work and give him my next Innovation in Education Award.

David Forrester is the mastermind behind the Learning Opportunities Center which has grown over the last six years and now supports 150 students ages 9 to 21 from high schools in nearly ten separate school districts. The Center supports students from extremely rural areas or who have struggled in the traditional education system. Through this center, students succeed and take courses in English, Math, and Science through a computer system specifically created for their needs.

With the help of grant money, Mr. Forrester has designed software which he has named Pathware. Pathware allows him to manage a large scope of curriculum and organize it to fit each student's needs. In essence, each student has their own personalized program that can help them work at their own level and pace in multiple subject areas, allowing him to maintain one-on-one relationships with his students.

Pat Cusack, the Coordinator of the School to Work program at the New Market Vocational Skills Center considers David Forrester to have, "He's a man with a big heart who puts kids first with tireless energy and tremendous vision."

Shaun Rohr, a student of Mr. Forrester, has told me that because of the Learning Opportunities Center and Mr. Forrester's motivation, he has been offered a job in web-page design. Shaun says, "Mr. Forrester is always there to help, and shows you different ways to approach a problem. At first I was not ready to learn web-page design, but Mr. Forrester kept asking me and showed me how. Without his belief in me and his patience with me, I probably would not have learned."

I applaud the dedication and hard work of Mr. Forrester who has found new and creative ways to serve the needs of his students and I am proud to recognize his contributions and his persistence in carrying out his vision. By creating so many new options for children, Mr. Forrester is giving back to local schools and setting a wonderful example for those around him.●

#### WOODBIDGE HIGH STUDENTS SELECTED AS FINALISTS IN CIVICS PROGRAM

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I am pleased to rise today to congratulate 15 students and their teacher, Ms. Barbara Hudson, from Woodbridge High School in Bridgeville, DE, for their outstanding achievement in qualifying as finalists of the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program.

This program is administered by the Center for Civic Education which provides curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide. These materials assist students in obtaining a working knowledge of our Constitution, Bill of Rights, and the principles of democratic government.

Next, "We the People" conducts a 3-day competition which tests a student's knowledge of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. A mock Congressional committee hearing is conducted in which the students testify and then respond to questions on Constitutional issues before a panel of judges.

This demanding competition takes hard work and diligence to reach the national finals, which are being held in Washington, D.C. from May 6 to May 8, 2000. I am pleased to congratulate those students from Woodbridge High School who will be participating in the final stage of this competition: Jennifer Blackwell, Steve Breeding, Jarelle Bruso, John Conner, Rachel Dawson, Shawnita Dorman, Chelsea Ferrell, Adam Hickman, Jerome Holder, Nick LaRusso, Kat Leiter, Jennifer Sheets, Latoya Thompson, Robert Tribbett, and Jessica Umstetter. Together with the help of their teacher, Ms. Hudson, they successfully learned and applied a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy. Their knowledge will be tested yet again during the national finals, where they will compete with more than 1,200 students from throughout the United States.

It is exciting to see these young people from Delaware and so many other students from across the Nation expressing interest in our country's Government. Programs such as "We the People" help to inspire new generations of leaders. These students from Woodbridge High School are shining examples of the promise bright young people offer the future of this country.

It is my honor to recognize these students who represent excellence in Delaware scholastics, and I am sure that my fellow Delawareans join me in wishing these young "Constitutional experts" the best of luck during the upcoming competition.●

#### A TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WEEK

● Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I proudly rise today in recognition of National Science and Technology Week. Since 1985, the National Science Foundation has used this opportunity to celebrate and bring awareness to the scientific and technological wonders that encompass our lives.

American spirit and determination have created advancements our society could not have imagined a mere 50 years ago. As the world embraces the new information age, our quality of life has been the benefactor. Telecommunications and the Internet have brought billions of people together, while biotechnology research gives hope to solving many of our world's medical mysteries. Environmental technology allows increased sustainability of our precious natural resources and space sciences open up new and exciting worlds.

Science, education, and community organizations all over the U.S. are participating in National Science and Technology Week. Clearly, promoting the awareness of science and technology to the public benefits everyone. In particular, piquing the interest of children has been proven to instill a lifetime of learning. The importance of a strong scientific education is indisputable, for the skills we learn as children prove invaluable on a daily basis in adult life. Here in Congress, the legislative process utilizes scientific reasoning methods to pinpoint problems, research solutions, experiment, and choose the best course of action.

I am proud of my efforts during the 106th Congress to secure \$5 million in funding for improvements to the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge and National Park Services operations in the new Science Museum of Minnesota. Our state-of-the-art museum allows all Minnesotans the opportunity to experience wonders of science ranging from a face-to-face encounter with a polar bear to navigating a virtual towboat down the Mississippi River. I encourage all our citizens to plan a visit soon.

As National Science and Technology Week activities are conducted across the country, it is my hope that all Americans reflect on the significance of science and technology in our society. In science, as in all of life, the only barriers we cannot overcome are those we do not attempt. Please join me this week in celebrating our achievements and potential.●

#### THE LAST CLASS IN BUTTE

● Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, in a recent article in the New York Times, Nicholas Kristof, a reporter, posed the question why this country should care about the fate of family-based agriculture in this country.

Many people are asking that question today. For part of the answer, I suggest they read a short essay by Elizabeth Haugen, a high school senior in Butte, North Dakota, a town of 129 people in the central portion of my state.

Elizabeth has grown up on a family farm. As her grandmother put it, she "helps with the cows, drives truck, cleans granaries, and maintains an A+ grade average." She sings in the State Choir and competes in statewide speech contests.

Elizabeth is a member of the last graduating class in Butte Public School—one of two seniors. After she leaves the school will close. The school will not close because it has failed. It has been a success, and Butte too has been a success. For generations, the school, and the town, have produced the kind of traditional community values that we hear so much about in this Chamber and that this Nation desperately needs.

The Butte Public School will close because family farms are failing, and family-based agriculture is the economic base of Butte—as it is for thousands of small communities like it across America.

This is not rural romanticism of Jeffersonian nostalgia. It is real. If we want the kind of traditional values in this country that people here in Washington preach so much about, then we have got to show some concern for the kinds of economic arrangements that promote those values—including the family farm.

Family based agriculture is not failing in this country because it is unproductive or inefficient. It is failing because it cannot survive in a marketplace in which big grain companies, food processors and the rest are permitted to stomp on family farmers with impunity. It cannot survive when the federal government favors these corporate interests at every turn.

To begin to understand why we need to act, I commend this essay by Elizabeth Haugen to my colleagues. "The little town of Butte, North Dakota is the positive evidence that the small, trustworthy, and simple lifestyle still exists," she writes. How would we replace those values, once they are lost?

I include for the RECORD a copy of the essay.

The essay follows:

THE LITTLE WORLD ALL BY ITSELF  
(By Elizabeth Haugen)

We live in a world of advanced technology, increasing violence, and the rush of people running through their lives in an attempt to conquer their busy schedules. What has happened to the silence? The beautiful grazing land? The simple pleasures of life? It once was all people knew. Let's dig deep. This lifestyle has been preserved somewhere.