

ladder and Karen starts shouting out the window "Hurry before my father hears you." In a very low and quiet voice, he said "shut up" trying hard not to break out in laughter so as not to wake up the neighbors. But I seriously doubt he could hold it in. Kind of reminds

In 1985, when Kristen was born, Sandy was in Kenmore Mercy Hospital and at that time, they still had strict visiting hours for maternity. But as we all know, that wouldn't stop Bob from visiting his daughter and granddaughter. He walked up to the front desk and gave Sandy's name and when he was advised visiting hours were over, he announced that he was Mrs. McNerney's pastor and of course, was allowed right in. Only Bob could get away with that, with a straight face, no less.

One of Sue's favorite stories from her Grandmother Seeburg was from Bob's childhood. He was about 6 years old and came home early from school one day. When his mother asked him why he was home so early, he claimed that the store across the street from the school burned down and they let all the kids leave early. Mrs. Priddle's suspicions led her to walk over to the vicinity of the school where, of course, she noticed the store in question was still intact. We probably don't want to know what happened when she returned home. But at least we now have a better understanding of the early development of Bob's storytelling ability.

One of Elvi's favorite stories is about a cold winter morning when Bob was working at McCorney's in Lockport and had to be there early to open up for business. But he went out to start his car and found the battery was dead. He came back in the house and called Triple A and was told it would be at least an hour or more before they could get to him. He told the dispatcher, "Look, you've got to help me out here, I stayed overnight at my girlfriend's house and her husband is going to be home any minute." The poor fellow on the phone was overcome with sympathy for the situation and needless to say, a truck was in the driveway in a matter of minutes. Bob arrived at work with time to spare and probably pretty proud of himself for such a coup.

For those of you who know Kate, one of Bob and Elvi's two lovely granddaughters, you may know she has become somewhat of a connoisseur of French onion soup, thanks to her grandfather. It seems that one evening at dinner at Cameo's when Kate was about 8 years old, Bob had ordered the French onion soup and it had lots of cheese on top. Kate

Donnalee has visited many times since Bob was admitted to McAuley on

March 17, 1998. She remembers the first year he was there and was still pretty mobile and managing to get to the far corners of the building in his wheelchair. He happened upon a new maintenance man and struck up a conversation asking him how long he had been there, where he was from, etc., perfectly normal for Bob. Then he said to the man, "Do you know what my job is here?" And the maintenance man looked at him kind of funny since he was quite sure he was a patient, but was kind enough to go along with him and said, "No, what do you do?" Bob said, "I am the elephant chaser." The man, a bit perplexed, answered, "Oh, really?" and Bob replied, "Well, you don't see any elephants around here, do you?"

All of us who knew and loved Bob realized that patience wasn't exactly one of his primary virtues. When he was in Buffalo General Hospital in January of 1998, he needed a nurse, but when he rang the buzzer a few times, no one came. So he picked up the phone and dialed "911" and told them they had better hurry up and get a nurse in there for him.

One time when Bob and Joe met at Brighton Golf Course, they teed up on the first hole, a par four and Bob hit one heck of a swing but unfortunately, hit the maintenance barn, way too far to the right. He was a little disturbed, but set up another ball and swung and again hit the barn. He started saying some very bad words about the golf balls he was using, but teed up for a third time and this time hit over the barn and into the parking lot. He turned to Joe and said, "I probably should have had that second Manhattan to straighten out my swing."

I think it is safe to say we are all better for having known this loving, kind, funny and loyal man who was so devoted to his family and friends. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints on your heart." Throughout the rest of our days, may we always have Bob Priddle's footprints on our hearts.

HONORING FLORENCE HOFFMAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Florence Hoffman on receiving the Jackson County Council on Aging 2001 Senior of the Year Award. Florence's giving heart and gentle spirit have been instrumental in the

Council's success. I am encouraged by her determination and willingness to help others and would like to take this moment to honor her.

Florence is a long-time resident of Cowdrey, Colorado. After her husband passed away, Florence came to rely on the community's senior citizens' OATS van, which provides alternative transportation for those who request its aid.

Mr. Speaker, the contributions that Florence has put forth certainly deserve the praise and admiration of this body. Florence has made significant monetary contributions annually to the service and also offers sizable increases to the usual fee for each ride that she takes. Her notable acts of selflessness have bolstered the OATS van and have ensured its consistent availability to the senior citizens of Jackson County.

It is with great pleasure, Mr. Speaker, that I congratulate Florence Hoffman on being named the 2001 Senior of the Year by the Jackson County Council on Aging. I would like to say thank you for the donations made to the service, which the entire elderly population in the area depend so much upon. We are proud of you, Florence!

TRIBUTE TO NANCY G. BACA ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Nancy Baca, of Barstow, on the occasion of her retirement on July 3, 2001. Nancy has had a distinguished career of outstanding service, spanning 34 years at the Marine Corps Logistics Base at Barstow, California, for which she has received 13 awards and promotions. These awards recognize her skill and acumen at accounting, express appreciation of her hard work and extra efforts, and salute her notable achievement of saving money and promoting efficiency at the Base.

Through her overtime, persistence, and relentless pursuit of cost-effectiveness, Nancy has contributed to saving the Base from closure. The Base plays a pivotal role in the community of Barstow, as an employer and a resource, so we should all be grateful to Nancy and others who have worked to strive for excellence.

This is not just about protecting a community, this is about standing up for the vital interests of our nation, for the Marine Corps Logistics Base at Barstow is essential for testing and repairing vehicles for the Marines. Barstow has special equipment, including water immersion facilities, to ensure that when a vehicle leaves the facility, it is in fighting shape

for the mission that lies ahead. As a veteran who has worn the uniform of the United States, I can attest to the peace of mind that comes from knowing our nation has the finest Logistics facilities of any fighting force. For ultimately, the battle is won as much by dedicated workers like Nancy as it is by the labors of the soldier in the field.

Nancy's story is about working hard, overcoming impoverished circumstances, seeking to better oneself and one's family by embracing opportunities. It is the story that many individuals of my generation have embodied, indeed, one my own family experienced growing up. It is the process by which our nation renews itself. It is about the dedication and hope of parents, about their striving for a better world for their children. It is about education and hard work. It is about the Latino experience.

Born on February 14, 1938, and raised in Valencia, New Mexico, in a very poor family of 10 children, Nancy moved to Barstow, California, in 1954, when her father came to Barstow to work on the Santa Fe Railroad. Nancy graduated from Barstow High School in 1957, married Morris Baca, began a family, and started in 1966 as a GS II/Key Punch Operator at the Marine Corps Logistics Base, in Barstow, California. She took accounting classes, ultimately playing a key role in the accounting and budgetary operations of the base.

Through it all, Nancy has been a dedicated parent of four children: Yolanda Minor, Berna Hawkins, Anthony Baca, and Anita Lo. For years she accompanied her children to baseball practice, judo matches, girl scouts. Her children have gone on to great success, completing schooling, and pursuing careers that span the courts, health care, and other.

Throughout her labors, Nancy has found time to travel the world, visiting Germany, France, Italy, Spain, and our Nation's Capitol. She wants to take some short cruise trips, now that she is retired, and become more involved in exercise activities. One can tell that there is no slowing Nancy down—she is still taking the world by storm!

Mr. Speaker, this is the promise of America, that the daughter of a railroad man can serve our nation with distinction and see the rolling hills of Europe, the sunset over the Seine, the canals of Italy, the dusty villas of Spain. She can gaze at the panorama of our Nation's capital, and marvel at its monuments. She has the freedom that is the birthright of every American, freedom she has helped preserve in her work at Barstow!

And so, I wish Nancy many fine years of active retirement, and the joy that comes through bringing in the harvest of one's labors. I wish her golden sunsets with her children, lazy days with her grandchildren and great grandchildren, and all good things in life. I wish her God's blessings and good wishes on this fine occasion. We are all proud of you, we all salute you, as you embark on this new and exciting chapter in your life.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF GENE SMITH

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Gene Smith for his many ac-

complishments as an educator and interim president at Middle Tennessee State University. Dr. Smith will end his outstanding career in the higher education arena on August 1 when he retires.

Dr. Smith is an MTSU alumnus who came home to finish his career. After 37 years as an administrator and educator at the University of Memphis, Dr. Smith agreed to guide MTSU through a period of adjustment while the school sought a permanent president. Dr. Smith took the helm at MTSU on October 1, 2000.

Dr. Smith, who grew up next door to the Murfreesboro, Tennessee, university in neighboring Wilson County, received his undergraduate degree from MTSU in 1957. He went on to receive his master's degree from the University of Memphis and his doctorate from the University of Mississippi. Dr. Smith also has authored numerous publications.

During his short but productive tenure at MTSU, Dr. Smith kept the university of 19,000 students on a steady course. He made sure gains continued in the school's highly touted academic programs, and his leadership helped MTSU's athletic department earn the Sun Belt Conference's top award for excellence—the Vic Bubas Cup—after just one year in the conference.

The entire MTSU community has profited from Dr. Smith's stewardship. I congratulate Dr. Smith for his outstanding career in higher education and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TAX ACT OF 2001

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce with my colleagues the Economic Revitalization Tax Act of 2001. This legislation is designed to revitalize one of America's most important economic partners. The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, home to 3.9 million U.S. citizens, purchases over \$16 billion a year in goods and services from the rest of the United States. A strong economy in Puerto Rico helps generate over 320,000 jobs in the U.S. mainland.

A strong Puerto Rican economy should be important to all of us. We need to recognize that since October of 1996 manufacturing employment in Puerto Rico has declined by 16,000 jobs, a drop of over ten percent. No other U.S. jurisdiction has lost manufacturing jobs at such a high rate. In calendar 2001, a growing number of American companies, including Intel, Coach, Sara Lee, Phillips Petroleum, Star Kist and Playtex have announced that they will close or reduce operations in Puerto Rico. This will entail a loss of more than 8,700 additional direct jobs. These jobs are being lost to foreign competitors.

Puerto Rico's main competitors enjoy significant advantages. For example, Singapore, Malaysia and Mexico have significantly lower wages and fringe benefits. Ireland enjoys low transportation costs and duty-free access to the European Market. Malaysia and Mexico not only have much lower wage costs but have less stringent environmental, health, safety and welfare standards.

To reverse this trend, today we are introducing legislation that will help make Puerto Rico more attractive to investors. Our bill simply states that if you invest in Puerto Rico instead of in a foreign country, you may bring your profits back into the U.S. at a preferred tax rate. This will not only help Puerto Rico directly, but it will also help the American economy by returning profits to the U.S. where they can be invested in other job creating activities.

In 1993 Congress imposed significant restrictions on the value of these tax incentives to raise more than \$3.7 billion in revenue to help balance the federal budget. In 1996, Congress approved a ten-year phase-out of what remained of these provisions (section 936 and section 30A of the Internal Revenue Code) to offset more than \$10 billion in the cost of federal tax benefits enacted to alleviate the impact of the increase in the minimum wage. This legislation is Puerto Rico's best opportunity to participate in the tax reduction measures that Congress enacted earlier this year. Puerto Rico helped reduce the budget deficit. It is now time for the U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico to benefit from the budget surplus.

HONORING JIM SAMUELSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like honor a man whose contributions should be looked upon as an inspiration to all. James Samuelson, longtime resident of Glenwood Springs, recently passed away. James served in World War II, flourished as co-editor and publisher of The Glenwood Post, volunteered in his community, and gave his time and contributions to help those in countries less fortunate than our own.

As we mourn his passing, Jim will be remembered for his dedicated service with the Army Medical Corps during World War II. During his commitment, Jim served in many places including North Africa, Sicily, and Italy. After the war, Jim pursued his journalism career where he used his skills working as co-editor and publisher of The Glenwood Post with his brother, John, until 1966, after which he earned his Masters of Education from the University of Wyoming.

Throughout his life, Jim enjoyed many activities such as skiing, fly fishing, and playing sports. He also was an active volunteer with the Lions Club, American Legion, and the Mountain View Church. As we remember his life, let us not forget Jim's efforts to aid those less fortunate living in foreign countries where he helped establish medical clinics for the underserved in both Haiti and Mexico.

For 55 years, Jim was married to his wonderful wife, Marilyn. Together, he and Marilyn