

year at the El Pomar Awards for Excellence banquet. The banquet was created to honor non-profit groups in the State of Colorado.

HARP's mission is to raise the necessary funding to bring improvements to the Arkansas Valley area. Their project involves the creation of a riverwalk for the City of Pueblo to attract shoppers and restaurateurs throughout the area. Voters approved the need for such an attraction in 1995. The river walk has already begun to revitalize and re-energize the area of downtown Pueblo, not far from my district office, thanks to the efforts by many including HARP.

The foundation is led by Jean Rickman who accepted the Julie and Spencer Penrose Award on behalf of the organization on November 13, 2001. The award contributes \$25,000 to the HARP foundation, which seeks funding from private and corporate contributions. The cash award adds to the impressive total of \$7,000,000 now raised for the project.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to congratulate the HARP foundation on their recent achievement award. Through organizations such as HARP, the people of Colorado can be proud of their heritage and their community. HARP is a model group for non-profit foundations throughout the nation. It is again with great pride that I commend and thank HARP for all their efforts in enhancing the community of Pueblo.

HONORING MS. DIANNE O'DELL

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend of mine, a remarkable woman who teaches us there are no limits to what a person can accomplish.

At 3 years old, Dianne O'Dell was diagnosed with polio and, soon after, began her life in an iron lung. Her parents, Freeman and Geneva, were told Dianne would not reach adulthood. Now, more than 50 years later, Dianne is still going strong. It is believed she has lived longer in an iron lung than anyone else in the world.

Ms. O'Dell's physical handicaps have not discouraged her. While living inside the yellow, seven-foot-long iron lung, she used a two-way radio to complete coursework and graduate from Jackson High School. She took classes from Freed-Hardeman College, now Freed-Hardeman University, and accepted an honorary doctorate in psychology from Freed-Hardeman. She wrote a children's book, "Blinky Less Light," and is currently working on her autobiography.

Dianne says she has been able to reach her goals despite her physical limitations because of positive thinking and her sense of humor. She often refers to her iron lung as her "yellow submarine" and enjoys having it decorated for holidays. Dianne remembers one Halloween when she costumed the machine as a giant roll of Life Savers candy.

Ms. O'Dell also credits her strong sense of faith. She worships with the Campbell Street Church of Christ in her hometown of Jackson, Tennessee, although she is not able to attend services. Members of the congregation bring her taped sermons and the Lord's Supper.

Dianne's family has also played a valuable role. Mr. and Mrs. O'Dell, along with Dianne's two sisters, have been by their daughter's side her whole life, often making personal sacrifices for her health.

Over the years, Ms. O'Dell has worked with others coping with disabilities, especially families with disabled children. She tells them how important it is to keep faith and a positive outlook.

I believe Dianne's spirit and love of life are encouraging—not only to those facing similar situations, but to all of us. She is an inspiration to everyone who knows her or has heard her remarkable story. Above all, Ms. O'Dell is a reminder that there is no limit to what a person can accomplish with an unyielding spirit like hers. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues rise and join me in recognizing Ms. Dianne O'Dell.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER JEAN SMITH

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Jennifer Jean Smith on the release of *True North*, a musical album that she both wrote and composed. Jennifer's love of music and words began at an early age. Always a singer and performer, grade school led to choirs, show choirs and many gigs as a soloist.

An outgoing yet introspective young Jennifer displayed her writing skills at an early age. Little blank books became filled with poetry, and an antique typewriter became a favorite tool for composing stories. An old upright piano, passed on by Jennifer's grandmother, Ruth Smith, a beloved music teacher and musician, served as the instrument for the composition of early songs, including "The Energy Crisis" written in the early 70s.

Jennifer said, dreaming of being a star is one thing, but for a small town girl raised on a dairy farm, actually knowing how one goes about such a thing is quite another. "There were many challenges."

Her first years of college were spent at Michigan State University where she pursued a career that included music. Jennifer moved to Ann Arbor in 1990. Once settled and working at the University of Michigan, she turned her attention again to making music and writing songs. Picking up and learning to play the guitar soon led to many finished songs and trips to Nashville. Jennifer launched her own music publishing company, The Michigan Rose Music Co., and record label, Michigan Rose Records.

In June 2001, Michigan Rose Records released its first single, *True North*, the title cut to Jennifer's first CD. *True North*—relating to the life and death of Dale Earnhardt, the race car hero—was recorded along with four other original songs in Nashville this past May. The CD, which was recorded and produced by Phil Dillon at Nickel City Studios, features her daughter Jackie on background vocals and a group of world-class Nashville studio musicians. Despite being an independent release, the single has received airtime on major country radio stations across the United States and

has resulted in further opportunities to write and sing—the beginning of a long-awaited dream.

Mr. Speaker, we congratulate Jennifer Jean Smith for her perseverance and success.

JONES COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE
BOBCATS

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Jones County Junior College Bobcats for winning the state championship. I am very proud of JCJC which is in my home county. Both of my parents are alums of Jones County Junior College and I was raised supporting the school and its athletic programs. The Bobcats finished the season with 10 wins and 1 loss. Congratulations are in order for Jones County head coach Parker Dykes, his staff and his team. Their victory brings pride and respect not only to the athletic program, but to the college as a whole. Jones County Junior College continues to set the standard not only in athletics, but in academics as well. The technical and vocational training provided at JCJC equips students with the necessary skills to enter the 21st century workforce and become successful members of their community. I am always pleased to see our junior colleges excel. Again, congratulations on an outstanding season.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RICH KOLECKI

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

November 27, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Rich Kolecki and thank him for his contributions to the Boy Scouts of America and the community of Glenwood Springs, Colorado. For the past eighteen years, Rich has served in a number of leadership positions in the Boy Scouts and his dedication is certainly worthy of recognition from this body.

Rich began volunteering when one of his sons joined the Cub Scouts in 1983. That led to an eighteen-year career, which was recently recognized by the Scouting community for his time and volunteering efforts to the program. He has served as a Cub Master, Troop Leader, and Assistant Scoutmaster. While serving in his leadership roles, his sons Ricky and Matthew have achieved the highest honor in Scouts, the coveted rank of Eagle Scout.

The Boy Scout program is designed to introduce young men to the outdoor environment and establish them as civic volunteers. As a Scout Leader, Rich participates side by side with his scouts allowing him to share the same experiences with his troop. It is Rich's hope that participation in these programs will instill leadership qualities in the young men they can draw on later in their future endeavors. The overall goal of the entire program is to produce well-rounded individuals for the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Rich Kolecki for his contributions to the Boy Scouts and the community of Glenwood Springs, Colorado. It is people like Rich, who volunteer their time and effort, who ensures the creation of future leaders for this nation. Keep up the good work Rich and congratulations on your achievement.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF JAMES BEAVER, SERGEANT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of James Beaver. Sergeant Beaver has served with distinction for nearly 30 years as a member of the Police Department at California State University, Long Beach.

Sergeant James Beaver came to the CSULB Police Department after serving our country in Vietnam as a member of the Army. Upon his return, Sergeant Beaver found a calling in public service that appealed to him strongly, and joined the Campus Police on September 6, 1972.

During his tenure, Sergeant Beaver has provided University students, staff and guests with the highest levels of professional police service. He has distinguished himself in perhaps the highest order of being an unparalleled mentor of colleagues and new officers for nearly three decades. Sergeant Beaver has been a model member of both his profession and his community.

Sergeant Beaver will close his professional police career effective December 31, 2001. When he retires, Sergeant Beaver will look back on a career that spanned a period of unprecedented change in our country, and extraordinary dynamic growth in our nation's colleges and universities.

So best wishes to Sergeant Beaver. He will be missed but not forgotten by all those friends and colleagues who will gather on December 22 to wish him the very best for a long, active and healthy retirement.

GENERAL AVIATION INDUSTRY REPARATIONS ACT OF 2001 (H.R. 3347)

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the good work of Aviation Subcommittee Chairman JOHN MICA. Today, he introduced the "General Aviation Industry Reparations Act," in an effort to compensate general aviation businesses that were closed by government edict after the tragic events of September 11. I am pleased to join Chairman MICA as an original cosponsor of this much-needed legislation.

As a result of the terrorist attacks, this segment of the aviation industry was grounded

significantly longer and was saddled with greater flight restrictions than the larger air carriers. In some cases, certain general aviation airports are still unable to operate. On October 17th, the Aviation Subcommittee heard testimony from those affected by the government shutdown, where we learned that direct compensation is the only hope left for many small companies. Drawing from these hearings, Chairman MICA's legislation allows qualified companies that have suffered economic losses due to the government's actions, to ask for reasonable compensation. This legislation directly provides the much-needed cash infusion these small businesses require to stay in business, while making sure only eligible companies receive funds.

This legislation will affect the constituents of almost every Member of Congress, because general aviation operates at more than 5,300 public airports across America. More than 92 percent of the roughly 225,000 civil aircraft registered in the United States are general aviation aircraft. More than 500,000 of the nation's 635,000 pilots fly general aviation aircraft. General aviation is compromised of private business owners, large and small, that rely on our national airspace for their livelihood. Many of these companies are mom and pop flight schools, parachute schools, scenic tour operators, and the people who gas up planes and tie them down at night.

On October 3, I introduced the "General Aviation Small Business Relief Act" to help out the struggling industry. My bill would allow the Small Business Administration to provide direct grants and low-cost loans to general aviation small businesses directly affected by the terrorist attacks to help them make it through this tough time. I am proud to report that 50 of my colleagues, including Chairman MICA, have joined in the effort to provide relief to general aviation businesses.

This is why I am pleased to join with Mr. MICA today, in trying to help out the general aviation industry. Congress acted swiftly to stabilize the large carriers after the tragic events of September 11. It is time to address the financial crisis facing the general aviation industry. I fully support Mr. MICA's efforts and am proud to be an original cosponsor of his legislation.

MEMORIALIZING MAYOR BILL MANNING

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the late Bill Manning, a decorated war hero, a faithful public servant and my friend.

A California native who settled in Tennessee with his wife Jane, Mr. Manning served two tours of duty in Vietnam and was wounded both times. During his second tour in 1968, he lost both his left arm and right hand as a result of a rocket grenade attack. Mr. Manning had a prosthetic left arm and shoulder, and he designed and patented the Accra Hook to replace his right hand so he could maintain its functionality. Those disabilities did not stop what would become a long list of great achievements.

When he returned from Vietnam, Mr. Manning was elected Recorder in Gibson County, Tennessee, and later, Governor Ned McWherter appointed him state Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs. During that time, Mr. Manning played an important role in the construction of three retirement homes for veterans and three cemeteries for veterans in Tennessee. The West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery and the state veterans home in Humboldt are named in his honor.

In 1999, Mr. Manning was first elected mayor of Bradford, Tennessee, and has been credited with reinvigorating community spirit in that town. He was elected to his second term in that position in May 2001.

I am honored to have worked alongside Bill Manning, who is truly an American hero. His spirit and determination allowed him to overcome his physical obstacles and become a leader whose good work still benefits the people of Bradford, Gibson County and the state of Tennessee. We have lost an amazing man, a courageous leader and a dear friend. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me today in recognizing my friend, Mr. Bill Manning.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DON CHAPMAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

November 27, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Don Chapman and thank him for his contributions to the community of Paonia, Colorado. Don will always be remembered as a dedicated leader of the community. As he celebrates his retirement, it is a great loss for a town that has relied on Don for his knowledge and wisdom in times of hardship and prosperity.

Don has served the community of Paonia for over forty years. As a member of the business community he and his family owned and operated a service station, garage and machine shop in the area since 1956. Answering a call to public service in 1973, Don entered the field of politics. He was elected that year to the Town Council as a Trustee, a position he held for the next 10 years. This position propelled Don to the Mayor's office a year later. In 1995, following an eleven-year retirement, Don returned to service and was elected to the Town Council once again.

While serving Paonia, Don has been involved in several organizations that have been instrumental in improving the lives of those who reside in Paonia. He has served on the Fire District Board and the Delta County Hospital Board where he served as President. He has held leadership positions in Masonic Lodge 121, helped bring television to the area, as well as promote Paonia fundraisers, events, and services.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to recognize Don Chapman and his contributions to the community of Paonia as he celebrates his retirement from public service. I would like to thank him for his years of dedication and hard work. His time and dedication are well served. I wish Don the best of luck in his future endeavors and hope he enjoys his well-deserved retirement.