

IN HONOR OF MARTIN J. BARRETT, FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE MANHATTAN COMMUNITY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Martin J. Barrett, the former Chairman of Manhattan Community Board Six. Mr. Barrett has for decades been involved in numerous civic associations within Manhattan, most notably with Community Board Six.

Within my district in New York City, Community Boards serve a tremendously beneficial advisory role in ensuring that the opinions of members of the community are recognized by the city government when reviewing prospective neighborhood changes dealing with land use and zoning matters. Among other responsibilities, Community Boards have the important role of making recommendations to the city government in the allocation of the city budget.

Before beginning his term as the Chairman of Community Board Six in 1998, Mr. Barrett served as the Chairman of the Community Board's Public Safety Committee, the Chairman of the Parks and Landmarks Committee, and as the Chairman of the Budget and Legislative Committee.

Mr. Barrett has taken a leadership role in numerous important East Side organizations, including the Stuyvesant Cove Park Association, which he has served as president since 1998, the 14th Street Business Improvement District, of which he has been a member since 1998, and the Friends of the Bellevue Park Association, where he served as vice-president from 1993–1999.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Barrett's extensive involvement in the Manhattan community should serve as an inspiration to us all. His dedication to ensuring that the needs and hopes of his fellow community members were addressed by Community Board Six will serve as an admirable legacy for many years to come.

Although he may no longer be the Chairman of Community Board Six, I sincerely hope that Mr. Barrett continues his work in the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I was attending my daughter Tori's college graduation and missed rollcall votes 106, 107, and 108 on May 10, 2001. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 106, "yes" on rollcall vote 107, and "yes" on rollcall vote 108.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, because I was not recorded as voting, I'd like to state for the RECORD that I would have voted against the Tancredino amendment (Roll Number 108).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably delayed on rollcall vote 114. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 114.

RETIREMENT OF LORETTA NEUMANN

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today is the final day of federal service for Loretta Neumann. Since January, she has been a member of my staff, but that was only the latest way she has been involved with important questions of public policy.

A graduate of Oklahoma State University, Loretta began her career in public service as a writer for the National Park Service, where she rose to become the Chief of the Branch of Internal Communications. From that, she became very familiar with the entire National Park System and the many issues related to management of those lands and the other functions performed by the National Park Service.

In 1973, Loretta began her Capital Hill career when she joined the staff of Representative John F. Seiberling of Ohio, who was a member of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs as well as the Judiciary Committee. During the next four years, she was responsible for advising Representative Seiberling on all issues relating to energy, environmental protection, land conservation, and historic preservation. She played a key role in helping achieve enactment of the legislation that established the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area in Ohio as well as important provisions of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act. She also was involved with development and enactment of the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act of 1976 and the Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1976.

In 1977, Loretta joined the professional staff of the Interior Committee, and remained with the Committee for 10 years.

During that decade, she was instrumental in helping shape many important measures, in-

cluding the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, and the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980, as well as bills establishing new parks and protected areas such as the Harry S Truman National Historic Site and the Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor. Many of these measures were of particular importance to my father, Mo Udall, as well as to Representative Seiberling and other Members of the committee and the House.

After that, Loretta next spent a number of years in the private sector. She built up her own consulting firm, CEHP Incorporated, which provided services in conservation, environmental protection and historic preservation. And she continued to be involved with many of the matters where she had gained expertise on Capital Hill, including the National Historic Preservation Act, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, the Abandoned Shipwrecks Act, and the Archeological Resources Protection Act.

Among other things, she chaired the Four Corners Governors Conference that brought together agencies dealing with matters of importance to Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico.

Loretta returned to service with the Federal Government in 1998, as an employee of the Department of Transportation. She served as DOT's representative to and director of the American Heritage Rivers Interagency Task Force of the White House Council on Environmental Quality. She also worked on other special projects for the Secretary of Transportation in a number of areas, including tourism and transportation and cultural and heritage tourism.

Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that last year's Presidential election did not have the result that I would have preferred. But for me there was at least one silver lining to that particular cloud—the change in Administrations gave me the opportunity to take advantage of Loretta's talents, at least for this brief period.

As a member of my staff, Loretta has worked on a number of conservation issues, especially focused on the issue of urban sprawl, an issue of great concern to Colorado and other states faced with rapid increase in population growth. She helped craft a bill to direct the Council on Environmental Quality to do a study of urban sprawl and smart growth. Building on her extensive experience with historic preservation and cultural heritage, she also helped draft the Cultural Heritage Assistance Partnership Act, which I am introducing today.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I want to assure my colleagues that while Loretta is retiring from federal service, she will continue to be involved with public policy. She will soon begin work as the Director of Leadership Development for the Natural Resources Council of America. I look forward to her continued contributions as I work with our colleagues in the Congress and the Administration to promote sound policies regarding our natural and cultural resources, the environment, and other matters.

INTRODUCTION OF THE POST OFFICE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 2001

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I came to Congress dedicated to making the federal government a better partner in building livable communities. Perhaps the most important opportunity for realizing this goal is to ensure that the federal government lead by example through such simple actions as locating federal facilities in ways that support existing communities.

Today I am introducing the Post Office Community Partnership Act. This legislation, similar to the bills I introduced in the 105th and 106th Congresses, outlines minimum community contact procedures that the United States Postal Service must pursue for any proposed closing, consolidation, relocation, or construction of a post office. Simply put, the bill requires the Postal Service to comply with local zoning, planning, or other land use laws.

This bill is being introduced with 57 bipartisan original cosponsors. In the 106th Congress this bill was supported by 240 bipartisan cosponsors. Identical companion legislation is being introduced this week by Senators JAMES JEFFORDS of Vermont and MAX BAUCUS of Montana. This continued and widespread support, in addition to the multitude of letters received from constituents and stories in newspapers throughout the country, illustrates the important need for this bill to become law.

The Post Office Community Partnership Act takes another step in making the federal government a better partner with communities and local governments. It is important that local officials and citizens have input into the decisions that impact the daily livability of their communities. Additionally, this bill addresses the need for the Postal Service to abide by a community's own plans for growth management, land use, traffic management, and environmental protection—rules by which all citizens and businesses must adhere.

Communities and neighborhoods across the country have been subjected to Postal Service decisions that have negatively impacted service to postal customers and community development. This bill provides communities an opportunity to be notified of Postal Service plans in advance, which will allow for interaction in the decision-making process between local government officials, the public, and the Postal Service. The beneficial results of this type of interaction can be seen from Fairview Village in my congressional district to Castine, Maine.

In Fairview Village, Oregon, by working with the developers of the community, the post office was the first civic building constructed in the area and acted as an anchor for what has developed into a retail street. By centrally locating the post office as the developers proposed, residents can easily walk or drive to the post office from anywhere in Fairview Village. In Castine, Maine, the Postal Service proposed moving the oldest operating post office in the country—a national historic landmark—from its downtown location to the suburbs. After a public outcry, the Postal Service and the Town of Castine worked together to find a way to expand the existing building and

keep the post office in its historic downtown location.

Despite these examples, too often the Postal Service does not involve the community and instead relies on the fact that they are not required to follow local land use laws when building new facilities or renovating existing facilities.

The Post Office Community Partnership Act puts in place basic procedures for notifying local officials and post office customers of any planned facility changes or construction. The Act also requires that the Postal Service follow local land use laws, procedures and public participation requirements to the same extent and manner as other private enterprises. It has been shown that the Postal Service can manage this process without hampering its mission of cost effective and efficient universal service as evidenced by Fairview Village, Oregon and Castine, Maine. It is time to ensure that the Postal Service operates within the same framework and rules that a community imposes on its own citizens and businesses.

The Post Office Community Partnership Act would establish community notification and land use policies and procedures that should have been in place all along. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation that will help ensure that the post office is a productive federal partner in building livable communities.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GERRITT BENJAMIN MEYERS III, CHAE CARLSON AND OLIVER MARTIN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of three Lansing, Michigan, 2001 high school graduates who have played a major role in the selection and celebration of the nation's Capitol 2001 Holiday Tree, which will be provided by the state of Michigan this year.

Mr. Gerritt Benjamin Meyers III, Ms. Chae Carlson, and Mr. Oliver Martin have worked with a group of underclassmen at Waverly High School in Lansing for the past five months to create and maintain the U.S. Holiday Tree 2001 web site. As the senior members of their "Webmasters" group, Mr. Meyers, Ms. Carlson and Mr. Martin provided leadership, working many volunteer hours with the team to produce an attractive, well-organized web site that is easy to navigate and filled with helpful information. Mr. Meyers designed the Michigan map with holiday tree that forms the artistic theme for the pages and each of these seniors has participated in developing graphics and page layouts and also in updating the pages as plans for the selection, cutting and transport of the tree continue.

Their efforts leave a legacy for Michigan and the citizens of this nation who will enjoy not only the holiday tree but also the web site designed by Mr. Meyers, Ms. Carlson, Mr. Martin and their classmates and instructor/advvisor Ms. Janice Kesel. I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Mr. Gerritt Benjamin Meyers III, Ms. Chae Carlson and Mr. Oliver Martin for their mature, professional approach to chronicling the holiday tree and designing www.holidaytree2001.org

NATIONAL DAY OF AWARENESS FOR STURGE-WEBER SYNDROME

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, Mr. MALONEY and I rise today to recognize today as a national day of awareness for Sturge-Weber syndrome. We feel that it is important to recognize this day because Mrs. Karla Priepeke, a native of Haddon Heights, New Jersey and resident of Sandy Hook Connecticut, brought her son's plight to our attention. Her son is affected by this disease and rather than turn inward she has made it her mission to inform and educate members of the society and especially the medical community about this disease. This is why we wish to do our small part to increase awareness of this disease by submitting this Sturge-Weber Foundation press release for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on this national day of awareness of Sturge-Weber Syndrome.

Sturge-Weber Syndrome is a congenital disorder most easily recognized by a port wine stain on the face and/or body. No one is sure how or why it occurs. Babies born with Sturge-Weber can suffer from any or all of these complications: glaucoma, blindness, seizures that range from mild to the need to remove half the brain, mental retardation, and paralysis. The port wine stain often elicits rude stares and outrageously intrusive remarks from the public.

The Sturge-Weber Foundation (www.sturge-weber.com) is establishing May 16, 2001 as the second national Day of Awareness for Sturge-Weber Syndrome. People will make a donation to the Foundation and wear a Sturge-Weber sticker on May 16th. They will receive a packet of information about the syndrome and the work of the Foundation so they can answer questions from colleagues and friends.

The Sturge-Weber Foundation was created in 1987—the result of tenacious parents who refused to accept that all that was known about Sturge-Weber were three paragraphs in medical textbooks. Through Herculean volunteer efforts, the Foundation support group started. Their outstanding web site links families all over the United States and in many parts of the world. The Foundation seeks to improve the quality of life for individuals with Sturge-Weber Syndrome by acting as a clearinghouse for information, providing emotional support, and facilitating research. A minuscule 8 percent of funds taken in goes towards administration. The rest, including what's collected for the National Day of Awareness, goes directly to education, emotional support and research.

The Foundation has attracted the attention and respect of a dozen teams of scientists who are tackling the question of how Sturge-Weber occurs from different angles Klippel-Trenaunay is a related syndrome in which port wine stains on limbs extend to muscle tissue and bone affecting circulation and mobility. Most children with port wine stains have neither Sturge-Weber Syndrome nor Klippel-Trenaunay. Of course, these can cause dermatological complications as the child matures.

Sadly, the culture in the United States over-emphasizes the importance of physical beauty