

good about journalism, Santa Cruz County and for all who ply their trade just trying to get a story in the paper without the copy desk screwing it up. He's funny, appropriately disrespectful and—perhaps the greatest praise of all—never boring to have around.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Lee Quamstrom has been the most memorable Santa Cruz resident ever and thus shall be allowed to dismantle the Santa Cruz lighthouse, brick by brick, and take it to the real Surf City, Huntington Beach in Orange County, Calif. As his buddy and former fellow columnist, James Trotter, put it:

"He might as well take the lighthouse because without Lee Quamstrom, Santa Cruz will never be the same place again."

HONORING BILL AND JULIE ESREY

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two of my constituents from Kansas City who recently have been recognized for their outstanding contributions to their community.

William T. Esrey, Chairman and CEO of Sprint Corporation, and his wife Julie Esrey have been awarded the 2001 Star Award by the Kansas City Starlight Theater. The Starlight Theater is Kansas City's largest and oldest performing arts organization and is the second largest theatre of its kind in the United States. Founded in 1950, the Starlight Theatre is now in its 51st season.

This distinguished Star Award was presented the Esreys, who are Honorary Co-Chairs for the 15th Annual Starlight Theatre Benefit Gala on Saturday, May 19, 2001. The Star Award is given to honor those individuals who have made outstanding contributions and dedicated long-time service to Kansas City, making a difference in the community. The Esreys are honored with this award through countless hours worked in the community to help benefit an extensive list of community service organizations.

Under Bill Esrey's leadership, the Sprint Foundation has been a major benefactor of The Starlight Theater. Additionally over the past five years alone, Sprint has donated more than \$17 million in Sprint Foundation contributions and matching grants to organizations in greater Kansas City. Mr. Esrey also spearheaded the drive that raised millions of dollars for the rehabilitation of Union Station and the development of Science City, including \$9 million in Sprint contributions since 1991.

Julie Esrey has worked both for Exxon and as an international economist for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, as well as serving on the boards of Bank IV (Kansas), Duke University and Brown Shoe. In Kansas City, she has served as honorary Chairman, American Cancer Society Gala; Honorary Chairman, Lyric Opera Ball; Chairman, Children's Mercy Golf Classic; Chairman, March of Dimes Gourmet Gala; and Honorary Chairman, KCPT Speaking of Women's Health for 2001, as well as serving on the Central Governing Board of Children's Mercy Hospital from 1989 through 1995.

During Bill Esrey's tenure as CEO, Sprint has grown into a \$23 billion worldwide communications force and was named the most admired communications company in Fortune Magazine's survey of corporate reputation. Business Week named Esrey as one of the "Top 25" business executives in the world in 1997. Bill Esrey joined Sprint, then known as United Telecommunications, Inc., in 1980 as Executive Vice President of Corporate Planning. In 1984, Esrey led the effort to fundamentally reposition the company by entering the long distance market and building the nation's first all-digital fiber optic network. Today Sprint is a leader in the communications industry, which has emerged as one of the growth engines for the overall U.S. economy. Currently, Bill Esrey serves on the boards of Exxon-Mobil Corporation, Duke Energy Corporation and General Mills, Inc. He also is chairman of the Business Council and a member of The Business Roundtable.

In addition to their dedication to the community and their careers, Bill and Julie are dedicated to each other and their family. Married since 1964, they have two grown children, Bill Jr. and John, who have participated in many local activities and follow in their parent's footsteps in giving back to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating Bill and Julie Esrey on receiving the 2001 Star Award. Their dedication to the Kansas City community and their family is an example to all of us of the difference individuals can achieve who have dedicated their lives to making the world a better place. Thank you Bill and Julie.

FERS REDEPOSIT ACT

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, there is no debate over whether the federal government is facing a crisis—it is. Reports indicate that about 30 percent of the government's 1.6 million full-time employees will be eligible to retire within five years, and an additional 20 percent could seek early retirement. Furthermore, 65 percent of the Senior Executive Service will be eligible for retirement by 2004.

One hearing has been held and numerous editorials have been written about the impending workforce shortage, but very few specific policy changes have been suggested. Today I am introducing legislation that takes a step in the right direction. The FERS Redeposit Act would allow individuals who left the federal government and received a refund of their Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) contributions to reenter government service without losing their accrued annuity. Instead of forfeiting credit earned during their prior service, returning employees would be able to redeposit their cashed out annuity upon reentrance. This benefit is already available to federal employees who are registered under the older Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS).

Retiring federal employees represent the institutional knowledge and expertise needed to run the government, and we must pro-actively address this drain on our human capital. Creating incentives for federal employees who left

for the private sector to return to government service is one way to address this problem. Studies indicate that a key trait of younger workers, who are covered by FERS, is their increased professional mobility. FERS's design implicitly acknowledges this fact by incorporating a portable private sector-style Thrift Savings Plan and 401(K) plan. It is ironic that those federal workers who are in CSRS—most of whom have worked their entire careers in the federal government—have a redeposit option while the younger FERS employees do not.

As more and more FERS employees leave the federal government and later wish to reenter federal service, a redeposit option would provide the incentive needed to bring these individuals back to the government.

I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort to make federal service more attractive by co-sponsoring this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the value of agriculture research and the contribution it makes to the lives of U.S. producers and consumers.

Over the past few months, American livestock producers have closely followed the latest international news. We have watched nervously as foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) has ravaged the United Kingdom's livestock community, and as it has marched into the European mainland, the Middle East, Asia and South America.

To date, around 1,560 sites in Britain have been hit by the highly contagious virus. Now, Brazil is the latest country suspected of hosting the disease. Moreover, FMD has cost the world's cattle, hog and sheep industries billions of dollars. Britain's meat industry estimates the highly-contagious disease has cost it \$12 million a week in lost sales leaving the UK with a bill of more than \$4.3 billion just to halt and destroy the disease.

All of this begs the question: How do we best protect American livestock from animal ailments such as FMD and mad cow disease?

In the new global market, it is only a matter of time before the rest of the world's diseases come knocking on America's door. Considering my district—Colorado's Fourth District—is a leader in livestock sales, and that the U.S. livestock industry generates \$55 billion a year, we must be able to defend our livestock from threats like FMD by means of science and technology, instead of relying only on border checks, federal agents and good luck.

Nor is new legislation the answer for the long term. The real key to prevention lies in agricultural research and development. It makes sense to take a proactive approach in protecting and improving America's livestock. Such research leads to the discovery of new uses for ag products, which in turn boosts demand.

I was surprised to learn that even though agriculture receives less than two percent of the federal research budget, productivity in the

ag sector grows four-to-ten times faster than in other sectors. And while the federal government provides about 24 percent of funding for ag research, the private sector pays more than 60 percent of the bill, proving ag research is one of government's best buys.

Much of agriculture's most innovative research is conducted in my home of Colorado. Research excellence is perhaps best exemplified at Colorado State University's Center for Economically Important Infectious Animal Diseases. The center provides America's livestock producers with the latest knowledge and technology in the fight against diseases. A leader in livestock research, the center also plays a key role in food safety concerns.

Another example is the National Beef Cattle Evaluation Consortium (NBCEC). Comprised of renowned scientists from CSU and other leading universities, as well as local cattlemen, the NBCEC is bolstering the competitiveness of U.S. beef by maximizing genetic research and returning the advantage to U.S. cattle producers.

The USDA's research budget has barely grown in real terms over two decades. But the recent livestock epidemics have provided an overdue wake up call, and we can expect Congress to advance a substantial increase in funding for ag research. If planned properly, such support will secure long-term solutions for the producers and consumers of today and tomorrow.

With more than one million individual farms and ranches comprising the U.S. livestock industry, investing in knowledge and prevention is one of the best ways policy makers can stand by American agriculture. It is a matter of national security. After all, at stake is America's capacity to feed itself and the rest of the world.

I ask the House to join me in supporting America's producers by doing everything possible to better the country's agricultural research.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF GUMA' MAMI

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 20th anniversary of Guma' Mami, which means "Our House" in the native language of the people of Guam. Guma' Mami is a non-profit corporation whose mission is to facilitate the full inclusion and integration of adults with developmental disabilities or mental retardation into their communities through individual and family support. Their success stem from ensuring the highest quality of services to support, enhance and improve the quality of life of adults with cognitive and other developmental disabilities.

Guma' Mami began in May 1981 by providing individual and family support and planning a housing support program. Until recently, the organization operated three housing support programs—the Independent Group Home, the Mary Clare Home and a transition home. The Mary Clare Home, which was opened in memory of a young woman in need of positive behavior support, and the Independent Group Home accommodates 11 indi-

viduals. These homes are staffed 24-hours a day, 7-days a week by Community Living Counselors and supervised by a Housing Support Manager with the ultimate goal for these individuals to transition into a home of their choice with the support services they need. To date Guma' Mami has successfully helped 18 persons from its housing support program to homes of their own—from dependency to autonomy. The third home, a transition or emergency shelter, served as temporary housing for homeless developmentally disabled individuals as well as those soon to be homeless. The housing support program successfully ran its eighteen-month funding cycle and transferred clients to homes of their choice. It was funded by the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant.

Guma' Mami also assists individuals who live in the community by providing supportive services through its Comprehensive Case Management Program. Three Case Managers and a Program Coordinator in this section provide services and support for up to 104 individuals in the community. Case Managers monitor the progress of consumers by conducting consumer-driven needs assessment on an on-going basis and coordinate linkages with community resources, such as respite care, day programs, employment, psychological services, medical and dental services, as well as recreation and leisure, and emergency shelter when needed.

Other services provided by Guma' Mami include assisting clients by advocating for rights and training in self advocacy efforts; crisis intervention by providing coping skills for daily living, supportive counseling especially in time of crisis, positive behavior support and family training; and transportation services. Home visits and other personal contacts are made to assist with social integration, budget management, mobility training and personal hygiene. Guma' Mami is the legal guardian of some of the individuals with more significant disabilities. As legal guardian, Guma' Mami attends to the needs of these individuals, such as medical matters and living arrangements.

One of the hallmarks of Guma' Mami has been its ability to take on an active leadership role in the community. Today, the island community looks to Guma' Mami not only for the provision of housing options, but also for leadership in the planning and development of policy reform. Guma' Mami is represented in the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council, the Guam System for Assistive Technology, the University Affiliated Program on Developmental Disabilities, the Rehabilitation Council and the Statewide Independent Living Council. Guma' Mami takes pride in programs that are driven by the preference and choices of individuals it supports.

Twenty years later the organization continues to exist as a highly regarded professional service provider and this year they adopted the slogan, "IT'S ALL ABOUT CARE" to emphasize the basic human value that drives their mission of inclusion and integration of adults with developmental disabilities into their communities through individual and family support. The organization has implemented its three-year plan, "Guma' Mami: Millennium 2000," and has taken steps to begin meeting the goals and objectives as delineated in its plan.

In celebration of their 20th anniversary, and its continuous efforts to breakdown barriers, erase negative stereotypes of persons with developmental and mental disabilities, and educate the public, the Governor of Guam will proclaim the week of May 27 to June 2 as "Guma' Mami Week" in Guam. The Guam Legislature will also adopt a resolution in support of Guma' Mami's efforts.

The Guma' Mami Board of Directors, its staff and management have planned many activities for the week-long celebration. The celebration will begin with a Mass at Santa Teresita Church in Mangilao, the village where the organization's homes are located. Awareness activities include placing a banner along Guam's main highway, inviting the community to visit the Mary Clare and Independent Group Homes and to watch a series of interviews with Guma' Mami clients and staff during the nightly TV news program. Guma' Mami Week will culminate with a luncheon at which clients and persons in the community who have been of great support to Guma' Mami will be recognized.

Mr. Speaker, I share this story with you and my colleagues as a proud member of the Guma' Mami organization, and because its success is a reflection of the selflessness, the generosity and the caring nature of the people of my district. I lend my support in the form of financial contributions and by always being vigilant on the availability of federal grants with which the organization may improve the quality of its services. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and congratulating the staff and management of Guma' Mami, headed by Executive Director Peter Blas, for their tireless efforts to provide a positive and pro-active impact in the lives of persons with disabilities through community involvement, service excellence, and advocacy efforts.

Congratulations are also in order for the Board of Directors under the guidance and leadership of President James Denney for their significant contribution to the Guam community, most especially to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families enabling them to become active and contributing members of the community.

TRIBUTE TO LAURIE MATTHEWS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Laurie Matthews. For the past decade Laurie has directed the Colorado State Parks through a period of transition that has resulted in the system becoming a "national model." Overseeing forty state parks with an annual budget of \$40 million, Laurie has become one of the most valued leaders in outdoor recreation in the nation.

When Laurie took charge of the state parks system, it consisted of 190,000 acres with a maintenance backlog that experts said would take over forty years to clear up. Under her leadership the state park system in Colorado expanded by 25,000 acres worth \$54 million and completely erased the maintenance backlog. Her dedication to the outdoors showed in her bolstering of environmental education and interpretation by adding 19 new visitor centers