

Before Nov. 15, arrests meant transporting a prisoner to jail in one of the other counties, said police Chief Tom Deland. They are resting officer was off the street for hours.

Now the county has its own 80-bed jail.

Under a unique system, prisoners are booked at the arrest scene via computer hook-up. The prisoner is taken to jail in a van, while the arresting officer goes back on patrol, Deland said.

Never a high-crime area, the daily jail population at the new jail has not broken the low 20s, Deland said.

The number will increase in coming months—probably to the 50s—as more people begin serving sentences imposed by Broomfield County court. Most Broomfield crimes now before courts were committed before Nov. 15, and so they are being heard in the previous counties.

So far, the most serious crime committed in the city or county of Broomfield was assault on a police officer with a knife, Deland said. No murders or sexual assault reports have occurred.

Yengich, the motor vehicle clerk who helped Young register his Subaru, said she would have gone out of her way to help a customer at the Jefferson County motor vehicle office, where she previously worked.

But, she said, the Broomfield office “is smaller and not quite as busy as the Jefferson County office. . . . It seems like everybody is closer knit here.”

Yengich said she's in the process of selling her house in Lakewood. She plans to move to Broomfield.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO J.W. WILDER

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I pay tribute today to senior Colorado State Parks ranger J.W. Wilder, whose courageous act of capturing two dangerous fugitives went above and beyond the call of duty, and displayed a measure of heroism worthy of being brought before this body of Congress. It takes a truly special person to put himself in harm's way, not out of duty or obligation, but out of simple benevolence and civic responsibility. I, along with the citizens of Colorado, am both grateful and proud of J.W.'s extraordinary act of valor, and believe it appropriate to pay tribute to him for his courage and bravery.

Though not typically in the job description, J.W.'s extraordinary efforts to apprehend two armed killers near Salida, Colorado on September 29, 2001 are a testament to his relentless dedication to his job, to his community and to his state. After checking on a colleague who was manning a roadblock, J.W. became involved in the search for the two killers. When the two fugitives were finally flushed from hiding, it was J.W., along with other state wildlife employees, who apprehended the two suspects, and ultimately brought them into custody. Because of his incredible bravery, these criminals are now in the hands of law enforcement officials, and of no threat to anyone else in the area. His courage in the face of both fear and adversity is truly remarkable, and for his efforts, J.W. was named the outstanding ranger of the year by the Colorado State Parks.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to rise and pay tribute to a man whose actions are the

very essence of all that makes this country great, and I am deeply honored to be able to bring them to the attention of this body of Congress. It is in times of great need that true heroes emerge, and I am proud to say J.W. Wilder is a hero not only to me, but to his family, his friends and to this country. It is with a great deal of pride that I stand to honor him today, and wish him at the best in his future endeavors.

HEALTH INFORMATION INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 2002

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Health Information Independence Act of 2002. This act takes a major step toward restoring the right of consumers to purchase the dietary supplements of their choice and receive accurate information about the health benefits of foods and dietary supplements. The Health Information Independence Act repeals the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) authority to approve health claims of foods and dietary supplements. Instead, that authority is vested in an independent review board. The board is comprised of independent scientific experts randomly chosen by the FDA. However, anyone who is, or has ever been, on the FDA's payroll is disqualified from serving on the commission. The FDA is forbidden from exercising any influence over the review board. If the board recommends approval of a health claim then the FDA must approve the claim.

The board also must consider whether any claims can be rendered non-misleading by adopting a disclaimer before rejecting a claim out of hand. For example, if the board finds that the scientific evidence does not conclusively support a claim, but the claim could be rendered non-misleading if accompanied with a disclaimer then the board must approve the claim provided the claim is always accompanied by an appropriate disclaimer. The disclaimer would be a simple statement to the effect that “scientific studies on these claims are inconclusive” and/or “these claims are not approved by the FDA.” Thus, the bill tilts the balance of federal law in favor of allowing consumers access to information regarding the health benefits of foods and dietary supplements, which is proper in a free society.

The procedures established by the Health Information Independence Act are a fair and balanced way to ensure consumers have access to truthful information about dietary supplements. Over the past decade, the American people have made it clear they do not want the federal government to interfere with their access to dietary supplements, yet the FDA continues to engage in heavy-handed attempts to restrict access to dietary supplements.

In 1994, Congress responded to the American people's desire for greater access to information about the benefits of dietary supplements by passing the Dietary Supplements and Health and Education Act of 1994 (DSHEA), which liberalized rules regarding the regulation of dietary supplements. Congressional offices received a record number of comments in favor of DSHEA.

Despite DSHEA, FDA officials continued to attempt to enforce regulations aimed at keeping the American public in the dark about the benefits of dietary supplements. Finally, in the case of *Pearson v. Shalala*, 154 F.3d 650 (DC Cir. 1999), reh'g denied en banc, 172 F.3d 72 (DC Cir. 1999), the United States Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit Court reaffirmed consumers' First Amendment right to learn about dietary supplements without unnecessary interference from the FDA. The Pearson court anticipated my legislation by suggesting the FDA adopt disclaimers in order to render some health claims non-misleading.

In the more than two years since the Pearson decision, members of Congress have had to continually intervene with the FDA to ensure it followed the court order. The FDA continues to deny consumers access to truthful health information. Clearly, the FDA is determined to continue to (as the Pearson court pointed out) act as though liberalizing regulations regarding health claims is the equivalent of “asking consumers to buy something while hypnotized and therefore they are bound to be misled.” Therefore, if Congress is serious about respecting the First Amendment rights of the people, we must remove FDA authority to censor non-misleading health claims, and those claims which can be rendered non-misleading by the simple device of adopting a disclaimer, by passing my Health Information Independence Act.

In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to help establish an objective process that respects consumers' First Amendment rights to non-misleading information regarding the health benefits of foods and dietary supplements by cosponsoring the Health Information Independence Act.

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE EXPANSION ACT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation which would expand the Family and Medical Leave Act so that individuals can take time off when disaster strikes.

Each year, disasters such as hurricanes, floods, wildfires, earthquakes, and other tragedies strike thousands of families and businesses throughout the United States. In the last year alone, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) responded to forty-five declared disasters and ten emergencies in thirty-two states, the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico. More than 49,500 affected families and businesses sought assistance after the September 11th attacks.

Following a disaster, families often have no home, belongings, clothing, or transportation. They struggle to deal with insurance companies, government officials, the Red Cross, and other organizations so that they can get the assistance they need to get back to normal. For many individuals this process can take several weeks, if not months.

While most employers are sympathetic and compassionate people, they sometimes will not allow employees to take the time they need to manage a disaster and get their lives

in order again. As a result, these individuals are left with no home, no belongings and no job. This situation can often create a downward spiral for some families, where they cannot recover.

The legislation I have introduced would expand the successful Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) so that individuals can take time off from work to resolve their situations during a natural disaster. Dealing with a natural disaster is as trying an ordeal as a health crisis, and amending the FMLA to include this change will ensure that workers are protected in times of family crisis.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

H.R.—

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Family Medical Leave Expansion Act".

SEC. 2. LEAVE IN CASE OF STATE OR FEDERALLY DECLARED DISASTER.

(a) NON-FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Section 102(a)(1) of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. 2612(a)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(E) Because of a State or Federally declared disaster occurring in the geographical area in which the employee resides, works, or through which the employee must travel to get to work or as a part of the employee's work duties."

(b) FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Section 6382(a)(1) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(E) Because of a State or Federally declared disaster occurring in the geographical area in which the employee resides, works, or through which the employee must travel to get to work or as a part of the employee's work duties."

CONGRATULATIONS ON 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF AARP CHAPTER 2840 IN FALLING SPRING, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the members of AARP chapter number 2840 of Falling Spring, Pennsylvania, on the 25th Anniversary of the chapter's founding. The AARP is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for its members and for members of the community through education, advocacy, and service.

This very active chapter is comprised of nearly 650 members and 100 honorary members. The members of this chapter focus on community service and strive to live by their motto "To Serve and Not to be Served." To that end, this chapter has served as the long-time sponsor and supporter of the Chambersburg Toy Mission, which help bring the Christmas spirit to children in Franklin County. The members also participate in the Adopt-a-Highway program and the "Meals on Wheels" program. The chapter even has its own chorus that tours the area performing for residents of nursing and retirement homes.

The Falling Spring chapter of the AARP is a wonderful example of an organization that is making a difference in the lives of the people of central Pennsylvania. I enthusiastically congratulate them on their anniversary and wish them another successful 25 years.

IN FOND MEMORY OF JUDY BOGGS

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in great sorrow to remember the life of Judy Boggs. Judy passed away suddenly on Monday, February 25th. She will be greatly missed, not only by my staff and me, but by countless members of the community which she served so thoughtfully over the past 30 years.

Judy grew up in Portland, Oregon and graduated from the University of Washington. She had a passion for the university's football team, and it was in 1961 when the Huskies played in the Rose Bowl that Judy was introduced to Pasadena and the surrounding areas which she grew to love. After marrying Mr. Dale Boggs, she moved from the Pacific Northwest to La Cañada Flintridge in the mid-1960s and was a resident of that community for over 30 years.

Judy will long be regarded as one of the most influential Democratic political activists in the foothills communities of my Congressional District. She began her political career by volunteering for the 1972 presidential campaign of George McGovern, but her involvement in local politics began in 1973 when she co-founded ACT, a non-partisan action group which over the years has supported campaigns for elected leaders serving the foothill communities in the California state Assembly and Senate, and the U.S. House of Representatives.

Most recently Judy served as a Senior Field Deputy to State Senator Jack Scott. It is in this capacity that my staff and I grew to respect Judy for her wealth of experience and knowledge, and to love her for her charm, grace and dignity. She possessed an unmatched spirit, and brought joy and laughter to all who had an opportunity to work with her.

I believe the former mayor of Pasadena, the Honorable Kathryn Nack, said it best when she commented, "You don't meet a Judy Boggs in this world and not . . . want to see her all the time." Judy's bright smile and quick wit were adored by all who were lucky enough to have Judy in their lives, and we will always carry a terrific fondness and love for her.

I ask all Members of the United States House of Representatives to pause and join me today in honoring the life of Judy Boggs, for her many gifts, most especially her friendship. She will be missed by many people.

FAMILY SPONSOR IMMIGRATION ACT

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the House overwhelmingly passed

H.R. 1892, The Family Sponsor Immigration Act, a bill that will help keep the American Dream alive for immigrants whose hopes have been crushed by the sudden or unexpected death of their American sponsors.

We know that hundreds of thousands of immigrants throughout the world go through the immigration process each year for the chance to share in the promise of America. And what a wonderful promise it is—the opportunity to share in the freedom and blessings of a nation born out of ideals.

In many ways, our immigration process is unique. President Reagan often remarked, "You can go to Turkey and live there your whole life, but never really become a Turk. You can go to Japan and live there, but never really become Japanese. You can go to Germany, but never become German. But, you can come from any place in the world and become an American."

This process is often lengthy and many times even tedious. But our laws are designed to provide for the fairest and most just system possible, a system that will not only allow others access to our society, but that will also help foster their success. Integral to the success of immigrants are their American sponsors—proven citizens with established roots and financial security. American sponsors provide the support necessary to help an immigrant begin their journey in America.

We know, however, that under current law, in the rare case that an immigrant's American sponsor passes away, so too dies the promise of America for the immigrant. Imagine the case of an immigrant who applies to become a permanent resident, who plays by all the rules and waits patiently in hope, perhaps to be united with a long separated loved one, but who at the last minute is hit by the death of this loved one. Not only is the loss of this person a tragedy to be overcome, but the hopes and dreams of the immigrant are thwarted as well.

According to reports from INS, this scenario became part of the September 11 tragedy. As the towers crumbled and thousands of lives were lost, so too was lost the chance for immigrants in waiting to continue on the road to become Americans. Thankfully, the Patriot Act which the President signed last fall included important provisions to extend visas and filing deadlines for the alien relatives of those killed in the World Trade Center already involved with the immigration process. However, more needs to be done to accommodate future scenarios.

HR 1892 will help correct this glitch in our immigration law. It says if a qualifying relative of the deceased sponsor exists, they can act as a replacement. As an immigrant you don't have to start the whole process over again.

Remember, we want to reward those who have played by the rules—those who attempt to go through the process we have designed, seeking justice and fair treatment. Let's correct this unfair technicality in our immigration law to help keep the American Dream a reality for those who lose their sponsors. The hope of freedom should not die because of the untimely death of a sponsor. I thank my colleagues for supporting HR 1892.