

and friends in the West Marin community for one hundred and thirty years.

TRIBUTE TO LT. COLONEL  
THOMAS FUHRER, USMC

**HON. JOHN P. MURTHA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding Marine who has dedicated his life to the service of our nation.

Lt. Colonel Thomas Fuhrer has recently completed his Washington service and is being assigned to command the Marine Corps Combat Service Support Schools Training Command at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

Lt. Colonel Fuhrer has served on the personal legislative staff of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs for the past two years. During that time, he has worked closely with senior military, civilian, and Congressional Members and staff in this critical high visibility environment.

His performance has been singularly impressive. He has advised the Chairman, Vice, and senior officers from the Joint Staff as well as Commanders in Chief in a myriad of complex and sensitive issue briefings in addition to their confirmation and annual posture hearings.

Hailing from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Lt. Colonel Fuhrer began his career as an enlisted Marine, graduating from the venerable Parris Island in 1980. He entered Clarion University as a drilling reservist and upon graduation was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps in 1984.

During Lt. Colonel Fuhrer's career as a Marine, he has excelled at every aspect of operations concentrating on the fiscal, disbursing, travel and logistics support of our active duty and forward deployed Marine Corps. His leadership, management, problem-solving and team-building skills have been recognized in his promotion, personal awards, and assignment to the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey. He received his Master's Degree in Financial Management in 1986.

Following a successful tour in the Headquarters of the Marine Corps as a budget analyst, he was selected for the prestigious Legislative Fellow Program through Brookings Institution. This program led him to the Office of Congressman JOHN MURTHA, where his tireless service was focused on Defense and Appropriations issues.

Lt. Colonel Fuhrer leaves his present assignment as the Deputy Legislative Assistant for Marine Corps matters to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff where he served as liaison between the nation's most senior military officer and the United States Congress. He also leaves the close professional relationship he cultivated specifically with Members and their staff on the House Appropriations Committee subcommittee on Defense.

Throughout a career of distinguished service, he has made innumerable contributions to both the military and our nation. As Lt. Colonel Fuhrer departs to tackle new challenges of Command at Camp Lejeune, we will certainly miss him and wish continued success for both him and his family.

IN MEMORY OF SHARON L.  
MONSKY

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Ms. Sharon L. Monsky, a resident of Santa Barbara, California, who was renowned as an advocate on behalf of persons with the disease scleroderma.

Sharon passed away on the night of May 11, and is survived by her three children Max, Samantha, Montana, and their father, her husband, Mark Scher. The legacy she leaves behind is inspiring to us all.

In her youth, Sharon was a nationally ranked figure skater and a top United States Olympic contender. In 1965, she was the youngest female figure skater to ever have received the Senior Ladies Gold Medal Compulsory Award.

She went on to become a successful international business consultant, and received her MBA from Stanford University Graduate School of Business in 1980.

The distinguished San Francisco management-consulting firm, McKinsey and Company Inc., offered Sharon a coveted position, and she was immediately on track to being one of the youngest women partners in McKinsey's history. When in 1983, she was diagnosed with systemic scleroderma, and was given two years to live.

Defying all odds, Sharon spent the next 21 years educating all of us about scleroderma. Through her timeless efforts she brought national awareness to this debilitating disease, which affects 500,000 people annually. And she helped increase federal support for research on scleroderma.

In 1987, she founded the Santa Barbara-based Scleroderma Research Foundation, which is committed to raising awareness of the disease. The Foundation is one of a kind, the only one in our nation dedicated to finding a cure for the disease; it is a blend of science, research, private funding, and political leadership.

But largely due to Sharon's work, there is now a National Scleroderma Awareness Month, and she initiated the Cool Comedy-Hot Cuisine, a benefit gala designed to raise scleroderma awareness. She also leaves behind two research centers: The San Francisco Bay Area Scleroderma Research Center at UCSF and the East Coast Scleroderma Research Center at Johns Hopkins in Boston. Research for the disease has steadily increased to the current level of \$8.3 million, also attributable to Sharon's unwavering efforts. In addition, she served two four-year terms on the National Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases advisory council of the National Institutes of Health.

At the age of 48, Sharon accomplished in half a century's time what many active individuals in excellent health are not able to achieve in a lifetime. Selflessly she sought out a cure for the disease, on behalf of future scleroderma patients and their families.

She was a beloved daughter, sister, wife, mother, businesswoman, and health advocate. She will indeed be missed but will be remembered for years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN T.  
DONLEY

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual who has dedicated his life to serve and protect the citizens of the State of Colorado. Corporal John Donley, of the Pueblo Police Department, has loyally served his fellow Coloradans for over thirty years. After a long and successful career as one of Colorado's finest, John announced his retirement from the force in November of last year. As he enjoys his well-deserved retirement, I would like to take this time to underscore John's service to his community before this body of Congress, and this nation.

John began his service as Motorcycle Burglary Patrol Officer, was honored for his quality service, and reassigned to the Traffic Division in 1974. Receiving a promotion to corporal in 1976, John was recognized for his expertise as a crime scene-diagramming expert and was often called upon by his fellow officers to render aid at the scene of a crime. John also dedicated much of his time to the Pueblo educational system by volunteering his experience and expertise in seat belt safety and safe driving as a School Resource Officer to a local high school. He has been a tremendous asset to the City of Pueblo both as a peace officer and as an educator. I am honored to bring forth his accomplishments today.

Mr. Speaker, today's peace officers face a wide variety of dangers and hazards in their daily duties. These individuals work long hours, weekends, and holidays to guarantee their fellow citizen's rights and protection. They work tirelessly and with great sacrifice to their personal and family lives to ensure our freedoms remain strong in our homes and communities. Their service and dedication certainly deserves the recognition and thanks of this body of Congress, and a grateful nation. Thanks for your service John, and I wish you all the best in your well-deserved retirement.

HONORING CLEAR CREEK HIGH  
SCHOOL'S "WE THE PEOPLE"  
TEAM

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and honor the following young people. Hayley Cook, Emilie Hanson, Ryan Johnson, Courtney Lee, Beth Smulow, Lydon Wilkenson, Tim Bennhoff, Heather Grimm, Willie Arnold, Colin Hale, Cameron Marlin, Kristin Bonk, Ashley Gilbert, Paul White, Julie North, Linnea Pearson and Chris Wilson. These students, from Clear Creek High School, recently competed in the national "We the People" competition in Washington, DC. This exceptional group of students, along with their coach, Mr. Bob Warmack, worked aggressively throughout the year studying the U.S. Constitution, the intent of the framers of the Constitution, the origins and intent behind

the Bill of Rights and the role of citizenship in our democracy.

After winning the state competition in Colorado in December 2001, this team set their sights on the national competition in Washington, DC. They spent countless hours preparing their presentations, debating the issues and practicing their speeches. Each student was responsible for a brief statement and had to be prepared to answer questions from the judges. As a result of their intensive studies, these students acquired a very high level of proficiency on the subject of the U.S. Constitution, American history and federal case law. I have no doubt that they will use this knowledge to participate more fully in the civic life of their communities, and I wouldn't be surprised if one or several of them eventually serve in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank these young people and Mr. Warmack for taking such a strong interest in their government. I congratulate them on finishing in the top ten in the nation at the "We the People" competition. I am both honored and proud to have such excellent young minds in the 2nd Congressional District.

#### SPACE EXPLORATION ACT OF 2002

### HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, as you know, much of my attention these days has been on the International Space Station. I, along with other Members, am fighting hard to restore the capabilities that the Administration has tried to cut from this important program. We need a Space Station that has the crew size, the research capabilities, the habitation facilities, and the crew rescue vehicles that successive Congresses and Administrations have supported. And we need to keep our commitments to our international partners on this program. It is going to be a tough fight, but as Gene Kranz was fond of saying: "failure is not an option".

However, I don't think that our current struggles over the Space Station should divert us from the fact that we are facing a much deeper crisis—a crisis of commitment. The nation's human space flight program is adrift, with no clear commitment to any goals after the completion of the Space Station. I'd like to talk about that today, and I'd like to offer a way forward for the nation that I think can revitalize our space program, energize our industrial and academic sectors, and inspire our young people.

It was 41 years ago this month that the United States took its first, halting steps in the human exploration of space. On May 5, 1961 Alan Shepard was launched on a fifteen-minute suborbital flight. A month before, the very first human flew in space when the Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin completed a single orbit of the Earth.

It was an exciting time. At the end of May of that year, a young, energetic President Kennedy announced that the United States intended to land a man on the Moon by the end

of the decade. The so-called "Space Race" was on! Yet, five hundred years from now, I don't think our descendants will look back at the Apollo moon landings as just an interesting example of the geopolitical rivalries that marked the twentieth century. Instead, I think that the real significance of Apollo will be that it marked the first major step in humanity's journey outward into the solar system.

Would anyone who watched Neil Armstrong step onto the lunar surface for the first time in 1969 believe that three decades later we would still be stuck in Earth orbit? Certainly not me. And I still find it hard to believe.

That is not to diminish what the United States has accomplished in space over the last thirty years. We have sent space probes to every planet in the solar system except Pluto. We have built and continue to operate the world's first reusable space shuttle. And as we speak, we have a permanent crew orbiting overhead in the first truly international space station. We should all take pride in what has been accomplished to date. But we should not be satisfied.

It is now thirty years since the last American—the last representative of Planet Earth—left the surface of the Moon and returned to Earth. And we haven't ventured outward since that time. In my opinion, that's thirty years too long!

We have a solar system to explore. We need to find out if there is life beyond Earth. And we need to build the space-based observatories and research stations that will allow us to search for Earth-like plants around other stars. Space exploration is not about robotic spacecraft versus astronauts. Rather it is about using both robots and humans to explore and to gather knowledge.

I thus am introducing today the "Space Exploration Act of 2002." I am pleased to have bipartisan support with Representatives RALPH HALL, LAMAR SMITH, GENE GREEN, KEN BENTSEN, SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, BRAD CARSON and MARTIN FROST as original cosponsors. Some may say we can't afford a mission to Mars at this time. Maybe so, but my bill says that while Mars is the ultimate destination for a phased program of exploring the inner solar system, there are preliminary voyages of exploration and science that we can and should start preparing for now . . . voyages that will help us prepare for the exploration and eventual settlement of Mars—while having great scientific merit in their own right.

The "Space Exploration Act of 2002" requires the NASA Administrator to set the following goals for the future activities of NASA's human spaceflight program:

Within 8 years of enactment, the development and flight demonstration of a reusable space vehicle capable of carrying humans from low Earth orbit to the L1 and L2 Earth-Sun libration points and back, to the Earth-Moon libration points and back, and to lunar orbit and back.

Within 10 years of enactment, the development and flight demonstration of a reusable space vehicle capable of carrying humans from low Earth orbit to and from an Earth-orbit crossing asteroid and rendezvousing with it.

Within 15 years of enactment, the development and flight demonstration of a reusable space vehicle capable of carrying humans from lunar orbit to the surface of the Moon

and back, as well as the deployment of a human-tended habitation and research facility on the lunar surface.

Within 20 years of enactment, the development and flight demonstration of a reusable space vehicle capable of carrying humans from Martian orbit, the deployment of a human-tended habitation and research facility on the surface of a Martian moon, and the development and flight demonstration of a reusable space vehicle capable of carrying humans from Martian orbit to the surface of Mars and back.

The bill establishes an Office of Exploration within NASA, headed by an Associate Administrator, which will be responsible for planning, budgeting, and managing activities undertaken to accomplish the above goals.

The Administrator will be required to establish a process for conducting competitions for innovative, cost-effective mission concepts to accomplish the above goals, which will be open to industry, academia, nongovernmental research organizations, NASA Centers, and other government organizations.

International participation and cost sharing will be encouraged. The Administrator will be required to establish an independent panel to conduct a merit-based competitive review of the proposals submitted and an independent external review of the cost estimate and funding profile of the competitively selected proposals. These findings must be reported to Congress.

The implementation plans of the competitively selected proposals must be updated every year by the manager of the project and the Administrator must have an independent external review panel review each of the updated implementation plans and report these findings to Congress.

The bill authorizes \$50 million for FY 2003 and \$200 million for FY 2004 to carry out these activities.

If we are ever going to break out of Earth orbit and conduct comprehensive human and robotic exploration of our solar system and universe, we need to overcome a serious obstacle. That obstacle is not technical, although human exploration will be very technically challenging. And the obstacle is not financial, although we need to ensure that human exploration is done in as cost-efficient and financially responsible a manner as possible. No, these aren't the real obstacles to success. The real obstacle is the lack of a commitment to get started. We don't need another national commission to come up with goals for human space flight beyond low Earth orbit—what we need is a national commitment to carrying out any one of the many worthy goals that have been articulated to date.

I want the United States to get started. And I hope that we can interest our international friends in working with us on this grand undertaking. Because space exploration is humanity's future—not just America's. But I am an American, and I want to make sure that at a minimum America steps up to the challenge of achieving our destiny in space.