

Observing the pristine carpet of snow around Belle Grove, Dr. Stanley Hirschberg, former president of the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation, likened it to a "fresh beginning" for the historic acreage and manor house near Middletown.

And so it is—a "fresh beginning" born of a partnership to preserve or, as Rep. Bob Goodlatte, R-6th, called it, "a new way to protect and preserve." On Friday, the National Park Service officially joined the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation, the Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Foundation, and Belle Grove Plantation as caretakers of this historical gem—now known as the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park.

These four entities are now partners in a new-model national park, one whose very approach to land acquisition plows virgin ground in this field. Suffice it to say, at a time when rampant development is threatening the Chancellorsville battlefield park near Fredericksburg and dollars for such new endeavors are scarce in the federal budget, this is soil that needed to be furrowed in such fashion. And a steadfast combination from Virginia's congressional delegation—legislators eager to set a new and different precedent in the creation of national parks—saw that it was done.

What is new and different about this national park? For starters, the approach to acquiring land. There will be no acrimonious condemnation by the Federal government in this process; it will only purchase private property inside the 3,000-acre park when owners express a willingness to sell. Such guidelines, Mr. Warner said, need to be "replicated" across America.

"There's little money left for national parks," he said, after noting the weather and the fact that Confederate Gen. Judal A. Early attacked the Union Army ringing Belle Grove under a similar cover of fog on Oct. 19, 1864.

"Uncle Sam doesn't have to buy every square foot of land to bring about preservation."

In addition, all three lawmakers on hand for the ceremony—Messrs. Warner and Goodlatte as well as Rep. Frank Wolf, R-10th—noted that current residents and businesses will be able to live and work within the park's boundaries, and will be free to change or renovate their property as they see fit. And, as Mr. Wolf pointed out, this will be the first national park to allow historical re-encounters—i.e. the annual Battle of Cedar Creek—within its confines.

"There will be a partnership with the community, a reaching out beyond our boundaries," said Fran Mainella, director of the National Park Service.

Significant as well is the broad historical scope of this park. Though known primarily as the site of the climactic Civil War battle in the Shenandoah Valley, Cedar Creek/Belle Grove is more than just a Civil War battlefield. Much as its current watchwords—"Back Country to Breadbasket to Battlefield and Beyond"—duly suggest, the park will embrace a wide swath of our blessed heritage. Emphasis will be placed on Native American and French and Indian War history in addition to that of the Civil War. Central to these themes will be the Belle Grove manor house designed, so local lore has it, by Thomas Jefferson.

Thus, Mr. Wolf had it right when, taking in the panoramic surroundings Friday morning, he said that "we stand on the shoulders of giants." Now, however, it is time for us, as residents of this Valley, to build on the vision of these latter-day statesmen who strove so diligently to craft a new-model national park, one of which we can all be proud.

Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation: Suzanne Chilson, executive director; L.A.

"Butch" Fravel—vice president; Joseph Whitehorn, President; Board Members: Daniel Ambrose; John Cadden—Secretary; Martin Downey; Stanley Hirschberg; Mike Kehoe; Richard Kleese; Kay Ely Pierce; Sam Riggs; and Gary Rinkerman.

Belle Grove, Inc. Trustees: The late Mr. Jay Monahan; Mr. Frederick Andreae, past president and Belle Grove Park Working Group representative; Mrs. Libburn T. Talley, past president. Officers: Mr. Robert W. Claytor, President; Mrs. Harry F. Byrd, III, first vice president; Mrs. Charles Schutte, second vice president; Mrs. Mary Potter Robinson, immediate past president; Mr. David N. Carne, treasure; Mrs. Kathryn Perry Werner, assistant treasurer; Mrs. David Powers, secretary; Mrs. Charles O. Davis, assistant secretary; Mr. Jay Hillerson, at-large member, Executive Committee; Mr. D. Richard Hottel, Jr., At-Large Member, Executive Committee. Members: Mrs. Frank Armstrong, III; Mr. Douglas C. Arthur; Dr. Byron Brill; Mrs. Stuart Butler; Mrs. H. Robert Edwards; Mrs. Lee Fawcett; Dr. Clarence Geier; Mr. Lawrence P. Goldschmidt; Mrs. Jeffrey Harris; Ms. Maral Kalbian; Mrs. Thomas Larsen; Mrs. William H. Leachman, III; Mr. Christopher Lewis; Mr. Ron Llewellyn; Mrs. Gilbert McKown; Dr. Thomas S. Truban. Belle Grove staff: Elizabeth McClung, executive director, Park Working Group representative; Amy Keller, administrative assistant; Jacquelyn Williamson, Museum Shop manager/buyer; Ed Presley, program coordinator; Christopher Taucci, maintenance technician. Selected Belle Grove Advisory Council and Docent Guild Members: Advisory: Mr. Malcolm Brumback; Mr. John Copeland, mayor, Middletown, VA; Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Lyon; Mrs. Eve Newman; Mrs. Gee Gee Pasquet. Docent Guild Members: Mrs. Jean Allen; Mr. Charles Davis; Mrs. Robert Dever; Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Frey; Mrs. Dolores Fridinger; Mrs. Mary Ellen Gross; Ms. Paula Hite; Mrs. Wanda Kruezfeldt; Ms. Barbara Moss.

National Park Service (NPS): Jeffrey P. Reinbold, NPS planner; Alexander "Sandy" Rives, NPS Virginia director; Wendy L. O'Sullivan, NPS project manager; Marie G. Rust, NPS Northeast regional director; Donald T. King, NPS chief of lands, Martinsburg office; Charles F. Blouser, NPS realty specialist, Martinsburg office; Fran P. Mainella, NPS director; Denny Galvin, former NPS deputy director; Alma Ripps, NPS legislative affairs specialist; Donald J. Hellmann, NPS deputy assistant director Legislative & Congressional Affairs; Steve Griles, Department of the Interior deputy secretary; Howard G. Miller, lands coordinator & control officer; Richard Moe, president, National Trust for Historic Preservation; David Brown, executive vice president, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Paul Edmondson, vice president and general counsel, National Trust for Historic Preservation; James Vaughan, vice president, Stewardship of Historic Sites, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Robert Nieweg, director, and regional attorney, Southern Field Office National Trust for Historic Preservation; Patrick Lally, director of Congressional Affairs, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Emma Panahy, program assistant, Southern Field Office, National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Members of Congress: Senator John Warner; Senator George Allen; Rep. Bob Goodlatte; former Senator Chuck Robb, the late Rep. French Slaughter.

Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation Trustees: Patricia L. Zontine, chair of the Board of Trustees; Joseph E. Callahan; Vincent F. Callahan; Faye C. Cooper; James A. Davis; Beverly H. Fleming; Kay D. Frye; Nancy H. Hess; Susie M. Hill; Kathleen S.

Kilpatrick; Richard B. Kleese; William B. Kyger, Jr.; Allen L. Louderback; John W. Mountcastle; D. Eveland Newman; David W. Powers; Alexander L. Rives; Dan C. Stickley, Jr.; Kris C. Tierney; James L. White; the late Carrington Williams.

Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District Commissioners: Daniel J. Beattie; Larry D. Bradford; John L. Heatwole; Donovan E. Hower; Richard D. Kern; Janet O. Kilby; Scot W. Marsh; Nicholas J. Nerangis; the late Eugene L. Newman; William G. O'Brien; Joseph W.A. Whitehorn; H. Alexander Wise, Jr. Staff of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation: Howard J. Kittell; John Hutchinson, V; Nancy R. Long; Elizabeth Paradis Stern; Sherman L. Fleek.

Rep. Frank R. Wolf staff members: Daniel Scandling, chief of staff; Chris Santora, legislative assistant.

Senator John Wamer staff member: Ann Loomis, legislative director.

## RECOGNIZING CARRIE BOYCE

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Carrie Boyce, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, Troop 472, and in earning the most prestigious honor of the Gold Award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement attainable in girl scouting. To earn the Gold Award, a scout must complete five requirements, all of which promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills. The requirements include, (1.) earning four interest project patches, each of which requires seven activities that center on skill building, technology, service projects, and career exploration, (2.) earning the career exploration pin, which involves researching careers, writing resumes, and planning a career fair or trip, (3.) earning the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, which requires a minimum of 30 hours of work using leadership skills, (4.) designing a self-development plan that requires assessment of ability to interact with others and prioritize values, participation for a minimum of 15 hours in a community service project, and development of a plan to promote girl scouting, and (5.) spending a minimum of 50 hours planning and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award project that has a positive lasting impact on the community.

For her Gold Award project, Carrie refurbished and painted a playground.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Carrie Boyce for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

## TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE DELANO PALUGHI

### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2003

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of the Honorable Delano

Palughi, who passed away suddenly and unexpectedly last Saturday, February 22, 2003. Judge Palughi, who served with distinction on the Mobile County District Court, was a pillar of the Mobile community and a man whose character and generosity towards others will be remembered by all who were fortunate enough to know him.

Judge Palughi was deeply religious and attended mass daily, often at St. Mary's Catholic Church. His reverence for his country was strong as he opened his courtroom every morning with the Pledge of Allegiance. His dedication to his community and fellow man throughout his law practice, which he maintained for 40 years, and as Mobile County District Court Judge since his election in 1998, prompted the attendance of more than 600 family, friends, fellow judges and colleagues at the service honoring his life. Judge Palughi will be honored and remembered not only for his service to his community but for his unwillingness and inability to turn down an indigent prospective client during his many years practicing law. He represented the poor and down-trodden when others would not. The Reverend Paul Zoghby recognized Judge Palughi's kindness and humility and stated, at the service, that "If he's not there (in Heaven), I don't think the rest of us have a chance." His charitable nature will be missed amongst the legal community and the City of Mobile.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to pay tribute to the life of Delano Palughi. Judge Palughi's love for his wife of 33 years, Frances; his two sons, Vincent and Anthony; his brother, Peter; two grandchildren, family, friends and his church was the foundation of his compassionate and charitable manner towards clients and those who appeared before him as District Court Judge. I would like to extend my prayers and deepest sympathies to his family and friends.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.J.  
RES. 2, CONSOLIDATED APPRO-  
PRIATIONS RESOLUTION, 2003

**HON. CHARLES F. BASS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 25, 2003*

Mr. BASS. I have come to the floor today to compliment the Committee on an excellent job balancing all the very important programs in the Omnibus Appropriations bill and particularly the Chapter of the bill that includes the matters that relate to the jurisdiction of the VA/ HUD Subcommittee. I know the spending limitations necessarily imposed on the Subcommittee do not permit the Chairman and other members to address each and every issue as fully as they would like, but nonetheless the chairman has achieved a balanced and good result. I want to extend this praise to Chairman WALSH and the other members of the subcommittee.

Earlier this year, a number of Members contacted the Subcommittee to express the view that the Veterans Health Administration be as proactive as possible to help ensure that disabled veterans have the most advanced prosthetic and sensory aids devices made available to them, as would be medically appropriate. I want to strongly associate myself with those views and in that regard, I was pleased

to see that the committee approved the Administration's fiscal year 2003 budget request for \$739.1 million for prosthetic and sensory aids devices providing an increase of \$60.3 million over last year's level. I am also most appreciative of the report language the committee included on this subject.

One of the exciting new prosthetic and sensory aids devices known as the IBOT was invented in my home State of New Hampshire. It is a mobility device that climbs stairs, traverses all-terrain, and balances the seated user at standing eye-level. It would be my view that some portion—at least 1 percent—of the approximately 25,000 veterans with service-connected spinal cord injuries should have access to this advanced mobility device. In fact, at the request of Congress, the VHA conducted a study of this mobility device last year that concluded with the finding that "the subjects were unanimous in their recommendation that the Veterans Health Administration should provide IBOTS to veterans" and that "the IBOT could improve integration and work performance." Additionally as Secretary Principi has established a priority of "restoring the capability of disabled veterans to the extent possible" it is my expectation that such devices will be actively considered and provided to disabled veterans as medically appropriate.

It is my view and the view of Members who I have discussed this matter with the Department should aggressively pursue making this mobility device and other state of the art assistive technologies available to veterans with disabilities as medically appropriate. I should state further that it is my intention to work with the Department and with Chairman WALSH over the next year to ensure that the Department does pursue this matter appropriately.

RECOGNIZING JENNIFER  
BLACKWELL

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 25, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jennifer Blackwell, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, Troop 511, and in earning the most prestigious honor of the Gold Award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement attainable in Girl Scouting. To earn the Gold Award, a Scout must complete five requirements, all of which promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills. The requirements include, one, earning four interest project patches, each of which requires seven activities that center on skill building, technology, service projects, and career exploration; two, earning the career exploration pin, which involves researching careers, writing resumes, and planning a career fair or trip; three, earning the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, which requires a minimum of 30 hours of work using leadership skills; fourth, designing a self-development plan that requires assessment of ability to interact with others and prioritize values, participation for a minimum of 15 hours in a community service project, and development of a plan to promote

Girl Scouting, and five, spending a minimum of 50 hours planning and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award project that has a positive lasting impact on the community.

For her Gold Award project, Jennifer collected school supplies for the Community Service League.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jennifer Blackwell for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF  
MOUNT PENN

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 25, 2003*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Borough of Mount Penn, Pennsylvania during its 100th anniversary celebration. Mount Penn, known as the "Friendly Borough," truly lives up to its moniker.

The area lying at the foot of Mount Penn was settled in 1748; it was originally named Dengler's, after one of its most prominent citizens. With busy Philadelphia Pike running through town, Dengler's quickly became a popular suburb of nearby Reading. Some of the first businesses were carriage and wagon works to help speed travelers along the 55-mile trip between Reading and Philadelphia.

In 1902, residents of the village petitioned the courts to create their own borough. On January 7, 1903, the petition was granted and the 500-citizen Mount Penn Borough was born. As time went on, trolley lines and paved roads running to all points around Mount Penn brought more visitors and settlers to the borough.

Today, Mount Penn has grown to around 242 acres and 3,000 residents—many of whom are third- and fourth-generation "Mountaineers." The Borough contains a thriving business district, including Leinbach's Hardware, which at 82 years old is the longest continually operated business in the borough.

Although the Borough has kept up with the times, it still retains the small-town feel that made it so appealing to travelers many years ago. In a day and age when many people do not even know their neighbors, Mount Penn is a shining example of what a community can be. I congratulate Mount Penn Borough on its one hundredth anniversary and call upon my colleagues to do the same.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES E. STEWART

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 25, 2003*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. James E. Stewart of Foley, Alabama, on the occasion of his being honored by his friends, family and colleagues on "James E. Stewart Day" in Baldwin County, Alabama.

For the past fifty years, Jim Stewart has been the anchor of the Baldwin County radio