

This legislation will allow the National Park Service to purchase Fern Lake and incorporate these lands into the Cumberland Gap National Historic Park boundary. Further, this legislation will secure a clean and reliable water source for the city of Middlesboro, Kentucky.

This bill authorizes the purchase of land now neighboring the Gap boundary and the 150-acre lake. The measure would also allow the Park Service to acquire another 4,500 acres of adjoining watershed from willing sellers if funds become available. By buying this property, we will protect this important national passageway for generations and address the resource needs of our local communities today.

This legislation began with a petition, delivered to me by Ben Hickman, the mayor of Middlesboro. From there, we sat down with the National Park Service and brought them together with local officials to create this win-win opportunity for the park and the entire region both in Kentucky and Tennessee.

This important acquisition fits into our efforts to create jobs, protect our environmental resources, and promote economic development by enhancing our potential for tourism. I am proud to have the support of Congressman WAMP and look forward to its passage at a later date.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM "BILL" SELLERS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Mr. William "Bill" Sellers of Waynesville, Missouri.

Mr. Sellers was born in Davisville, Missouri, on August 5, 1926. Bill was married to his wonderful wife, Melba, on November 2, 1945. He has always been a community, religious, and business leader.

Mr. Sellers has thirty-two years of sales experience in the automobile industry. He served as the General Manager of Springfield Lincoln-Mercury in Springfield, Missouri, and Sales Coordinator of Craig Distributing Company of Salem, Missouri. Bill went on to form Sellers-Sexton Ford, Lincoln, Mercury, and Mazda Dealership, in St. Robert, Missouri, with his partner Larry Sexton. Mr. Sellers was the Vice-President of Sellers-Sexton, Inc. He was also a member of the Missouri Automobile Dealers Association and a member of the National Automobile Dealers Association.

Mr. Sellers was a successful businessman, but above that, he was a caring community leader and a loving Christian man. Bill was the past President of the Fort Leonard Wood Mid-Missouri Chapter of Association of the United States Army, a member and past Chairman of the Committee of Fifty, and past board member of the Waynesville/St. Robert Chamber of Commerce. He was a 32nd degree Mason, member of Tyro Lodge No. 12 in Caledonia, member of Abou Ben Adheim Shrine in Springfield, Missouri, and member of the Missouri Association of State Troopers Emergency Relief Society.

Mr. Sellers was a strong Christian man who was not afraid to share his beliefs with others.

Bill was ordained Deacon in 1973 from Southaven Baptist Church, Springfield, Missouri, and was a member of Westside Baptist Church, Waynesville, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Sellers was a man who never met a stranger and was always willing to help his fellow man. He had a steadfast dedication to his family, church, community, and business. I know the members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife Melba; his three children Connie Sexton, Billie Jean Dalton, and J. Craig Sellers; and his five grandchildren.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEWS40

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the 5th anniversary of NEWS40, which is currently serving Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire counties in Massachusetts.

NEWS40 originally aired on April 14, 1953 on Channel 55 as an affiliate of CBS and Dumont Television Networks. However, in 1956 the station was reallocated to Channel 40, and in 1959 changed affiliations to join the ABC network. The Guy Gannett Publishing Company of Maine purchased the radio portion of the network in 1979, which necessitated new call letters for the television station. After an in-house contest, WHYN-TV became WGGB-TV, named after the publishing company. In April of 1999, the Sinclair Broadcast Group of Baltimore, MD purchased NEWS40 and facilitated the use of a digital transmitter while on the air. Despite a variety of administrative changes throughout its history, NEWS40 remains a dominant leader in local news.

Located in the heart of Springfield, MA, NEWS40 sets the standard in entertainment, news, and community involvement. It is the home of hits such as Nightline, 20/20, N.Y.P.D. Blue, and The Practice, as well as quality children programming. Moreover, NEWS40 is an essential participant in local community events. NEWS40 was among the earliest stations to carry the Muscular Dystrophy telethon, and has been televising the event for 35 years. Also, the station collects over 10,000 coats to distribute throughout the winter for the "Coats for Kids" campaign, and collaborates with the Salvation Army to provide Thanksgiving meals for over 600 families. As an active partner with Head Start, the station is a vehicle to collect toys, clothing, and housewares from viewers for the "All I Want for Christmas" campaign. The station's annual contribution to the community demonstrates the essential role of NEWS40 in the greater Springfield area.

As the station celebrates its 50th anniversary I would like to commend their continuous role in the community. From the days of live news broadcasts to the beginning of the digital transmitter, NEWS40 is truly coverage you can count on to be an active and essential member of the community.

RURAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE FAIRNESS ACT OF 2003

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, in the dark of night on August 27, 2002, the town of Kaycee, Wyoming was overwhelmed by a four-foot surge of water from the Powder River caused by a severe and destructive rainstorm pouring down two-thirds of the town's annual rainfall within a six-hour period. The damage was disastrous, over 80 percent of Kaycee's businesses and one-third of their residences were damaged or destroyed. But despite Kaycee's massive loss—one that would have cost billions had Manhattan, Los Angeles or Chicago lost 80 percent of their businesses—there was no disaster declaration.

This flood effectively erased the community of Kaycee, and it's absolutely preposterous that a disaster of this magnitude does not qualify as a disaster. A comparable disaster in Washington, D.C. would have destroyed 96,196 homes and 15,575 businesses. Washington, D.C. would not function after such a disaster and neither can Kaycee, Wyoming. In fact, under today's criteria, a majority of Wyoming's communities could be destroyed without receiving a disaster designation, as Kaycee has shown. The federal disaster designation criteria need to be re-calibrated.

In the Stafford Act, the law that governs disaster relief, Congress prohibited discrimination against small communities by outlawing the use of formulas and scales based on income and population. Somehow, however, the rules that came after the Congressional action neglected to observe these guidelines. That's why I am drafting legislation that will reinstate fairness in disaster relief. My bill will send FEMA back to the drawing board to create rules that will respect Congressional intent and not freeze out cities and towns across the country simply because they are small towns. It will also create an office of rural advocacy to assist small states in the application for disaster assistance and advocate for rural concerns in rulemakings and other administrative actions. When federal agencies promulgate rules that are counter to the intent of Congress, it is our obligation as a body to reassert those intentions and have the appropriate agency correct its errors. Passage of this bill will do just that.

TRIBUTE TO ANGELA L. STONE

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a native South Carolinian and multi-talented dignitary in the entertainment industry, Angela L. Stone. By proudly representing her home state in her enormously successful recording career, Ms. Stone will be inducted to the Columbia Housing Authority's Wall of Fame on April 17, 2003.

Like so many successful recording artists, Ms. Stone began her singing career in the church. At the age of 11, she performed her

first gospel solo, "The Harvest is Plentiful," at First Nazareth Baptist Church in Columbia. Recognizing his daughter's precocious ability, her father inspired his only child by taking her to gospel performances by the likes of the Singing Angels and the Gospel Keynotes.

While starring as a basketball player at C.A. Johnson High School, Stone spent much of her spare time nurturing her artistic talents by writing poetry. Upon graduation, she turned down college basketball scholarship offers to pursue her passion and embarked upon a career in the music industry.

Ms. Stone saved money to record her demo at a Columbia studio called PAW. Shortly thereafter, her self-taught keyboard skills along with her naturally melodious singing voice would quickly garner the attention of the music industry. Her professional career took off in the mid-80s when she joined the rap trio Sequence. After the group disbanded, she began collaborations with rap group Mantronix and rock singer Lenny Kravitz. She then formed the neo-soul trio Vertical Hold, who first reached the R&B charts in 1988 with "Summertime." The group's 1993 single, "Seems You're Much Too Busy" reached number 17 on the charts.

Ms. Stone signed a contract with Arista Records in 1997. While with Arista, she recorded her first album, Black Diamond, in 1999. The title of the album's first hit single was "No More Rain (In This Cloud)," was inspired by a phrase her father would use when Stone would ask for money: "There's no more rain in this cloud."

Several movie soundtracks feature Ms. Stone's talent. They include "Disappearing Acts," "Bamboozled" and "Love & Basketball." She released her second album, Mahogany Soul, in 2001. The album made Entertainment Weekly's Top 100 list of albums for that year. Ms. Stone was also a 2003 Grammy Nominee.

Ms. Stone made her "big screen" debut in the movie Hot Chicks. She has recently completed filming of her second movie, The Fighting Temptations starring Cuba Gooding, Jr. She can currently be seen in Coca-Cola and Gap television commercials, and is preparing for her first appearance on Broadway in the musical, Chicago.

Mr. Speaker, I plan to be present for Ms. Stone's induction ceremony on Thursday April 17th, and ask you and my colleagues to join me in commending Angela L. Stone for her achievements in the entertainment industry. Her status and visibility in music and film is worthy of much praise and pride from her family, friends, and all in her native state of South Carolina.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF PHIL BURTON

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, as the Dean of the California Delegation and someone who was honored to serve in Congress with Phil Burton, I wanted to join with my colleagues in celebrating the life of this remarkable man.

When I hear the name Phil Burton what comes to mind is the memory of an elemental

force of nature. The fact that we reflect today on this man of the House twenty years after his death reaffirms this sense. It reminds me of black holes as astronomers describe them. While they can't be seen, they exert an awesome attractive force.

Phil once yelled at me, "If I'm shouting at you, it means I love you!" To be on the receiving end of such tough love was not always pleasant, but it was effective. And, it explains, in part, why Phil was a legislator's legislator.

One of his biographers describes him as "one of the most effective and forceful congressmen ever to pass through [these congressional] halls." She adds that, "His force would be missed by those who shared his views after he was gone." That is very true. But what is also true is that his force is still felt by those of us who were lucky enough to know and serve with him.

I learned much from Phil Burton and continue to use those lessons today.

TRIBUTE TO KAREN ENGLE

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant, all around great Kentuckian, and someone I am proud to call a friend, Karen Engle. As Executive Director of the PRIDE program, Karen has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of people throughout southern and eastern Kentucky. I want to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude for her many contributions.

Born and raised in Pike County, Kentucky, Karen has spent much of her life working to make her region a better place. I first had the opportunity to get to know Karen when she joined my congressional staff in 1994. From the very beginning, it was clear that she was bright, motivated, and a natural born leader. For almost five years, she served as a Project Manager and Field Representative in my Pikeville District office. Her knowledge of the region and its people, along with her professionalism and commitment to service, made her a most valuable part of my team.

In 1999, I asked Karen to put her insight and leadership skills to work by taking the helm of the PRIDE program. Under Karen's leadership, this federal, state, and local partnership has made significant strides in cleaning up our region's rivers and streams, helping our counties address sewage and trash problems, and educating our children about the importance of a clean environment. Since the program's creation in 1997, more than 74,500 PRIDE volunteers have worked over 225,000 hours cleaning up 286 streams, 1,294 illegal dumps, and 3,000 roadways. Additionally, PRIDE has eliminated 20,560 straight pipes and failing septic systems that have long polluted our region's waterways. Thanks to Karen's unwavering commitment, the PRIDE program has soared to amazing heights and is going strong. There is no doubt that the people of Kentucky will continue to benefit from her contributions for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues and myself, I want to thank my friend Karen Engle for the time, energy, and devotion she

has put into the lives of others. I am especially grateful for her unwavering commitment to the PRIDE program and the people of southern and eastern Kentucky.

TRIBUTE TO AMERICA'S TROOPS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to bring to your attention a poem that was read at a "Support the Troops Rally" on March 22, 2003, in Jefferson City, Missouri. These words were given to the crowd by Rita Turley of Jefferson City, though they were written by an unknown author. Ms. Turley understands the words of the poem, as she has a son serving in Iraq, in the Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Brigade.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the members of the House should welcome these words of support and dedication.

I am a small and precious child, my mom's been sent to fight.

The only place I'll see her face is in my dreams at night.

She will be gone too many days for my young mind to track.

I may be sad, but I am proud. God, protect her in Iraq.

I am a strong and loving wife, with a husband soon to go.

There are times I'm terrified in a way most never know.

I bite my lip, and force a smile as I watch my husband pack.

My heart may break, but I am proud. God, protect him in Iraq.

I am a caring mother, my son has gone to war.

My mind is filled with worries that I have never known before.

Everyday I try to keep my thoughts from turning black.

I may be scared, but I am proud. God, protect him in Iraq.

I am a Soldier, Serving Proudly, Standing Tall.

I fight for freedom, yours and mine, by answering this call.

I do my job while knowing, the thanks it sometimes lacks.

Say a prayer that I'll come home. . . . God, protect me in Iraq.

HONORING WWLP-TV22

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the 50th anniversary of WWLP-TV22, which on March 17, 1953 became the first station to broadcast on the air in Western Massachusetts.

As an NBC affiliate, WWLP is a leader in broadcasting, news, and ratings in Western Massachusetts. In 2003, the station was recognized by the Massachusetts/Rhode Island Associated Press as having the Best TV Newscast, the Best Sportscast, and the Best Public Affairs Program. Also, the station hosts