

Whereas, such an increase would actually reduce the cost of the Superfund program over time, and confer significant public health, environmental and economic benefits on many American cities.

Now, Therefore, be it resolved that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to increase the appropriation for Superfund by \$300 million a year for the next five years, and to dedicate such increase to financing actual cleanup at ready to go sites.

TRIBUTE TO KEN YEAGER AT THE BAY AREA MUNICIPAL ELEC- TIONS COMMITTEE'S 20TH ANNI- VERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 2004

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I'm joined by Representatives LOFGREN and HONDA in rising today to recognize the achievements of Ken Yeager, District Six City Councilman for the City of San José and co-founder of the Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee, a four county Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender political action group celebrating 20 years of civil rights advocacy.

Ken represents the neighborhoods of Willow Glen, Rose Garden, Shasta/Hanchett, Sherman Oaks, Cory, Canoas Gardens, Hamann Park and Buena Vista on the San José City Council. He is a graduate of San José State where he interned with former City Councilmember Susie Wilson. He then worked for Congressman Don Edwards, leaving to earn a Ph.D. from Stanford in 1991.

Ken was the first openly gay man to be elected to office in Silicon Valley when he was elected to the San José Community College Board. He has dedicated much of his impressive career to educating the community about LGBT issues and fighting for their rights throughout the Silicon Valley.

BAYMEC was founded to educate and inform, and it has raised its concerns with countless elected officials. It lobbied Sacramento on AIDS and LGBT civil rights and worked with police, fire departments, governmental, organizational, and a variety of community groups to further equality for LGBTs. BAYMEC continues to lobby for the passage of hate-crime legislation, transgender issues, domestic partnership rights and civil unions, as well as bringing LGBT sensitivity to the forefront in the domestic violence field.

During LGBT Pride weekend, Ken spearheaded the campaign to fly the rainbow freedom flag over City Hall. He worked hard to make sure that the Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center was completed on time and chaired the fundraising committee to improve the center. Ken has also led the drive to pass a Gender Non-Discrimination Ordinance for the City and he supports providing full benefits for all married City employees, regardless of sexual orientation.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in thanking Ken Yeager for his steadfast and tireless service to his constituents and to the LGBT community. We look forward to working with him to further the causes important to BAYMEC, because until all people are treated with dignity and respect, none of us can truly be free.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BRUCE ROCKWELL

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to mourn the passing of Bruce Rockwell of Denver, Colorado. Bruce dedicated his life to improving his community, and the entire City of Denver is indebted to him for his service. His enthusiasm for serving others resonates throughout Colorado, and I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing Bruce for his tremendous service to the City of Denver before this body of Congress and this nation.

Bruce grew up on Marion Street in Denver and came from a strong family that made community service a vital part of their daily lives. Bruce's father ran a small real estate and insurance business and was a respected ornithologist. His family was of modest means but constantly thought of those less fortunate than themselves, often feeding the unemployed from their own kitchen. Bruce put himself through Yale University on various military scholarships.

Bruce was devoted to the development of downtown Denver, spearheading the creation of Downtown Denver, Inc. and playing a crucial role in the development of the Sixteenth Street Mall. From 1954 to 1968, he chaired the Denver Urban Renewal Authority and aided the preservation of Larimer Square. At the same time, while serving as the CEO of Colorado National Bank, Bruce loaned talented developers the money to buy and restore numerous historic buildings.

Mr. Speaker, Bruce Rockwell set a new standard for community service and his deeds have touched nearly every community institution in Denver. His model of leadership and service will be hard to replace. I am honored to recognize the efforts of such a devoted public servant before this body of Congress. My thoughts and prayers go out to Bruce's friends and family during this time of bereavement.

HONORING THE SCHUYLKILL CHAPTER 0413 OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FED- ERAL EMPLOYEES ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 2004

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Schuylkill Chapter 0413 of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees as it celebrates fifty years of distinguished service to Federal retirees, employees and their families in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania.

Originally chartered as Pottsville Chapter 413 in 1954, the Chapter made recruiting and retention a top priority. By way of free luncheons, speaker series, outdoor summer picnics, catered dinner meetings, and a recruiting booth at the Schuylkill County Fair, membership spread to many towns in the county.

Area-wide recruiting success was achieved when the National Association of Retired Federal Employees authorized the Chapter's name change to Schuylkill Chapter 0413, allowing them to serve a greater number of citizens.

An association such as Schuylkill Chapter 0413 achieved success through the continued hard work of dedicated members and officers. Since its first meeting, the Chapter has stood as an integral facet of the community, working to meet the needs and concerns of the community in which it serves. As a member of Schuylkill Chapter 0413, I share the profound pride felt by my fellow members as our organization reaches this milestone.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to be able to recognize an organization that has been sustained for fifty years on its commitment to the people of my district and all of central Pennsylvania. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Schuylkill Chapter 0413 of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees on fifty years of devoted service and thank them for the many contributions they have made toward the well being of the citizens of this great Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 2004

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday and this morning, I was in my Congressional district for the primary election and missed the vote on the following measures:

(1) On agreeing to H.R. 4381, the Harvey and Bernice Jones Post Office Building Designation Act (No. 422). I intended to vote "aye."

(2) On agreeing to H.R. 4556, the General William Carey Lee Post Office Building Designation Act (No. 423). I intended to vote "aye."

(3) On agreeing to H. Res. 754, On ordering the previous question providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5006) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes (No. 424). I intended to vote "aye."

BOARD OF EDUCATION, NIXA, MISSOURI, PEGGY TAYLOR, PRESIDENT

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 2004

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding leaders dedicated to the education of our youth in southwest Missouri. At a time when many school systems are struggling to provide a quality education, these civil servants have settled for nothing less than excellence in preparing our students in southwest Missouri for the future.

The Missouri School Boards' Association has selected the Nixa R-II Board of Education as the State of Missouri's Outstanding Board

of Education for 2004. This decision was made by a committee of school board members from among 524 districts. It is the second time that Nixa's school board has received this honor, demonstrating their unwavering commitment to education in our community.

The Nixa School Board, chaired by Peggy Taylor, has successfully lobbied local, state, and federal officials for continuing support of educational goals. Their leadership contributed to the lives of Nixa students in five general areas of significance: school district accreditation, community engagement, improved student achievement, success with school district goals and local board initiatives. Through their dedication and relentless pursuit of the goals placed before them, this school board has called attention to the strength of the education system in the Seventh Congressional District of Missouri.

Additionally, the school board has built overall trust and encouraged effective communication between the Nixa RII School Administration and the community. The District Superintendent, Steven Kleinsmith, attributes much of the school district's success to the high expectation that the Board of Education placed on itself and sought from others. Success, such as a perfect score on Missouri's Annual Performance Review conducted by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and earning the State of Missouri's highest accreditation possible, "Accredited with Distinction for Performance," demonstrate a demand for superior education and represents the quality of our public schools in southwest Missouri.

Today is a great day for the city of Nixa, the Nixa RII School System, and its Board of Education. I am proud to salute their leadership as an example for us all.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAVID THOMSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of David Thomson, a lifelong Boy Scout, dedicated patriot and beloved community activist who recently passed away at the age of 87. David died at his home in Redstone, Colorado after a lifetime of service to Colorado and the nation. I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this nation and recognize his service and accomplishments.

David was born in Glen Ridge, New Jersey in 1917, and attended his first Boy Scout Jamboree in 1937. After he attained his Eagle Scout and Silver Beaver status with the Boy Scouts he met Shirley in 1940 and married her two years later. Together with their three children John, Janet, and JoAnn they lived in North Carolina, Virginia, and Texas where David served in the Marine Corps as an aircraft mechanic instructor during World War II. After the war, the family spent fourteen months in Lima, Peru while David was an inspector for Pan American. When his stint in Peru was completed, the family settled in Golden where David took swing shifts at the Gates Rubber Plant as he finished his coursework to complete his college degree.

In 1952, David completed his degree and applied to the Boy Scouts' Western Colorado Council to serve as a district executive in Grand Junction. After 20 years of long hours on nights and weekends, David retired to Redstone. There he served as a substitute teacher for the Roaring Fork School District and operated a small library that was used to give story hours on Saturday mornings. David and his wife Shirley were very active in their local church, which prompted the pastor to name them true "visionaries". Despite his busy career, David always maintained his service with the Boy Scouts, acting as a mentor and fundraiser for the Western Colorado Council.

Mr. Speaker, David Thomson was an honorable, kind, and genuine soul who lived a long and full life doing what he loved. He touched the lives of many who have been fortunate enough to cross his path, and I am privileged to recognize the life of such a tremendous public servant. My thoughts and prayers go out to David's family and friends during this difficult time of bereavement.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE AIR CARGO HARDENED CONTAINER PILOT PROGRAM

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 2004

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask for unanimous consent to address the House for as much time as I may consume.

I want to bring to the attention of this Congress, legislation that I have introduced today—The Hardened Containers for Air Cargo Security Act of 2004.

This legislation is in direct response to the 9/11 Commission Report's recommendation that a blast proof container should be on every commercial airplane that handles cargo. This legislation is a proactive step that puts this much needed and much delayed technology to immediate use.

To successfully implement the hardened container program, a win-win partnership needs to be formed between the government, the air carriers and the flying public.

This legislation puts these partners together. Specifically, this legislation creates a pilot program that does the following:

Creates an incentive program that provides assistance to air carriers to test the use of hardened containers.

Develops guidelines that determine the type of cargo that will be placed in hardened containers on a passenger aircraft.

The pilot program will test the function and interaction of the hardened containers with other components of the aviation security system. It will validate estimates of the quantity of hardened containers required in the air carriers' operations, and identify issues in logistics and control.

The pilot program will ultimately validate training and maintenance requirements required for integrating hardened containers into a carrier's fleet.

The total investment in this pilot program is \$1.7 million.

As the 9/11 Commission Report has outlined, our nation must have a layered ap-

proach to aviation security. Hardened containers and the subsequent program this legislation creates, I firmly believe, must be a staple in aviation passenger security in the near future.

Hardened containers, or blast proof containers as they are sometimes called, are the last line of defense if an explosive device eludes active security measures.

We cannot rely on one technology or one security measure to protect our citizens, our aviation infrastructure and our aircrafts.

Integrating a hardened container program will compliment technology and security measure that are already in place such as Explosive Detection Systems (EDS), on ground screeners, air marshals and of course our brave flight attendants.

Since the catastrophic bombing of Pan Am 103 in December 1988, industry, the Federal Aviation Administration and the Transportation Security Administration, have developed hardened containers that safely contain the detonation of bombs that otherwise would destroy airliners in flight.

We have made the investment in this technology, now is the time to integrate it into our aviation system. The hardened containers are effective now in preventing damage to airliners by bombs considerably larger than the one that destroyed Pan Am 103.

I ask my colleagues to strongly support the "The Hardened Containers for Air Cargo Security Act of 2004" and to comply with the 9/11 Commission Report's recommendation on this very important issue.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAVE NORMAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 2004

Mr. SCOTT McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dave Norman, a dedicated Colorado native who has committed himself to 30 years of service on behalf of senior citizens in Garfield, Mesa, Moffat, Rio Blanco, and Routt counties. Dave is a compassionate individual whose devotion has aided over 8,800 seniors in Colorado. He is a valuable member of his community, and it is an honor to recognize his service before this body of Congress and this Nation.

Dave received his bachelors degree from Colorado State University, and his masters degree in Social Work from the University of Denver. He has been the Director of the Northwest Colorado Area Agency on Aging for the past 30 years, which assists more than a quarter of the senior citizens in the Western Colorado region. The agency provides seniors with adult day care, home delivered meals, legal services, caregiver information, nutrition education, respite care, congregate meals and basic transportation.

Throughout his extensive career of service, Dave has found time to serve as the Director for the Northwest Colorado Council on Aging, a volunteer group that serves as an advisory board on senior needs and programs. He also served as a member and past chairman of the Colorado Aging Policy Advisory Committee for which he received an Outstanding Performance Award from the Colorado Division of