

were awarded the Business of the Year by the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce. John himself has served in the board of the Wells Fargo Trust Board, and is a former Rotarian. John is supported by his wife Angie, and their two adult children Leslie and Jay.

Both Angie and John went to Mesa State College and actively give back to their alma mater by providing scholarships, supporting projects, and have been intimately involved in the planning of the Moss Performing Arts Center. In addition to the restaurant business and college philanthropy, John and Angie also are involved in real estate, ranching, and farming that feed their enthusiasm for the outdoors. They are stewards of the land who have been awarded the Colorado Division of Wildlife's Landowner of the Year award in the past, and currently maintain a seventy-acre conservation project along the Colorado River.

Mr. Speaker, John and Angie Moss are strong, dedicated individuals who have served their community for over 20 years and I am honored to stand here before this body and recognize the efforts of two such selfless and benevolent people. Thanks for all your hard work over the years John and Angie, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

NORTHERN RIO GRANDE NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 6, 2004

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 211, which includes language to establish the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area. I am pleased to have sponsored H.R. 505, companion legislation to S. 211 as introduced and passed in the Senate. That version of the Senate legislation only provided for establishment of the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area. The bill before us today, however, includes an additional 100 pages of legislative language pertaining to other heritage area designations. Nevertheless I am pleased that we will be moving one step closer to making the Northern Rio Grande Heritage area a reality.

The establishment of the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area is a citizen-driven effort to protect the remaining significant resources representative of the Spanish and Pueblo colonial era in north-central New Mexico. The bill identifies the northern New Mexico counties of Rio Arriba, Santa Fe and Taos as a National Heritage Area—an elite designation from Congress reserved for areas regarded as a significant resource.

Northern New Mexico boasts many sites of historic and cultural significance. Our state is a blend of pueblo and Hispanic cultures, making it a very unique and special place in our country. This legislation would identify many of the sites that tell northern New Mexico's story, help preserve them and, in the process, allow them to be more thoroughly enjoyed by New Mexicans and visitors to our state. Preservation would directly lead to economic development of this area through enhanced tourism.

The legislation creates a non-profit corporation governed by a 15 to 25 member board of trustees charged with developing a manage-

ment plan for the heritage area. The board will consist of representatives from the state, affected counties, tribes, cities and others. The corporation's plan would consist of recommendations for identifying, conserving and preserving cultural, historical and natural resources within the heritage area, along with strategies to promote tourism of the region's natural and cultural assets.

The Northern Rio Grande Heritage Area is supported by the city of Española, the city of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, Rio Arriba County, Taos County, La Jicarita Enterprise Community, the Chimayo Cultural Preservation Association, and the Eight Northern Pueblos. I urge my colleagues to join me and these communities and organizations in support of this legislation by voting for its passage today.

TRIBUTE TO COBB COUNTY BOARD OF REALTORS

HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to pay tribute to the Cobb County Board of Realtors on the occasion of their fiftieth anniversary.

Originally founded by a handful of local brokers, the Cobb County Board of Realtors has grown with its county to become one of Georgia's largest Boards of Real Estate Professionals.

Board members subscribe to a strict code of ethics as prescribed by the National Association of Realtors. Their members participate in the Realtors Political Action Committee, and the Board is active in Federal, State and local public affairs.

Many individuals and organizations have contributed to the dynamic growth of Cobb County, but none have contributed more than the Cobb County Board of Realtors.

Homeownership is the cornerstone of America's strength, and in Cobb County homeowners have no greater advocate than the Cobb County Board of Realtors.

I am pleased to commend the Realtors of Cobb County on this, the fiftieth anniversary of their Board, and wish them continued success and prosperity.

HONORING ROBERT R. SIMMONS, JR.

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Robert R. Simmons, Jr., a dedicated servant to the Temple Terrace community, who sadly lost his battle with cancer last week.

A North Carolina native, Bob served in World War II and attended North Carolina State University. A few years after their wedding, Bob and his wife, Ann, made Temple Terrace their home, and Bob began building his business, R.R. Simmons Construction Corporation, in Tampa. He was among the first in his trade to employ Design/Build and Tilt-Up

Wall construction, and throughout his career, Bob was highly regarded within the construction industry.

However, Bob may be best remembered for his contributions to the Temple Terrace community. Bob was a founding member of the Temple Terrace Presbyterian Church, an early member of the Temple Terrace Chamber of Commerce and active in the Lions Club and Sertoma Club.

Many will recall Bob's service on Temple Terrace community boards and his dedicated support for local historic preservation projects. Bob helped local 4-H students on animal and agriculture projects, championed a tree planting program for the community golf course and pushed for pine bore beetle infestation and eradication efforts to protect and save Temple Terrace's pine trees.

On behalf of the entire Tampa Bay community I would like to thank Bob Simmons for his leadership and service and extend my deepest sympathy to his loved ones.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KAREN PAULSON

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize an outstanding individual who for many years has selflessly served the interests of the people of my Congressional District and the State of Colorado. Karen Paulson has served as my Executive Assistant and Office Manager since 1998, and I am proud to bring attention to her accomplishments here today before this body of Congress and this Nation.

Karen has been an unwavering servant to Colorado for many years. She began her career of public service as the Clerk of the Colorado State House of Representatives, where Karen took on the administrative responsibilities of the Colorado General Assembly. Her duties there led to a position as the Executive Assistant to the Colorado Republican Party, where she was instrumental in efforts to recruit high quality candidates for public office in Colorado. In 1992, Karen served as the Executive Assistant to the Majority Leader of the Colorado House of Representatives, cultivating close working relationships with local, state, and federal officials.

Karen's experience with policy and procedure made her a perfect candidate for Executive Assistant in my Washington, DC office. She is a soft-spoken, dependable, kind and intelligent individual whose work ethic is strong. Karen's diligent guidance and tireless commitment have really set the tone for my Washington office over the last six years.

The adoring mother of two, Karen lovingly displays pictures of her sons Greg and Carl in her office, and beams with news of their latest exploits. Karen also serves as the "den mother" to her extended family—my Washington staff—always remembering their birthdays with a card, a cake and a smile. I cannot count the number of times that I have seen Karen go out of her way to brighten someone's day with a kind word or a sympathetic embrace. I have learned a lot in the twelve years since I first came to Congress, and Karen Paulson has demonstrated to me the true meaning of the phrase "public servant."

Mr. Speaker, Karen Paulson is a consummate professional. However, far more important, she is a truly humble, caring and selfless person. Her work in my office, and her constant devotion to the people of our state of Colorado, is remarkable. I am truly honored to stand today before my colleagues and recognize the service of such a devoted friend. I want to personally thank Karen for her many years of hard work and her impact on my life. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

LINCOLN COUNTY CONSERVATION,
RECREATION, AND DEVELOP-
MENT ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 4, 2004

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I rise today to encourage my colleagues to vote for passage of H.R. 4593. Title II of this legislation is the Ojito Wilderness Act. The Ojito Wilderness Study Area consists of about 11,000 acres of BLM land characterized by pristine and dramatic landforms and rock structures, and by several rare plant populations that are indigenous to the area. Title II of H.R. 4593 designates this area as permanent wilderness and enables the Pueblo of Zia to buy land to unite the disparate pieces of their tribal lands. I sincerely appreciate the effort of Representative HEATHER WILSON, my New Mexico colleague and the cosponsor of H.R. 3176, The Ojito Wilderness Act, which was introduced last year and is being voted on today as part of Mr. GIBBONS' wilderness bill.

I am honored on many levels to have helped get this bill to the floor of the House of Representatives. Forty years ago last month, while my father Stewart Udall was Secretary of the Interior, President Johnson signed into law the Wilderness Act, written to assure that some lands of the United States were left in the natural state in which humans found them. I am proud to follow in my father's footsteps by doing my part to help create the first new wilderness designation in New Mexico in over 25 years. But even more so, I am humbled by the hard work of so many New Mexico residents who have come together and fought for years to make this a reality. The cooperation exhibited among the Pueblo of Zia, the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, private landholders adjacent to the lands, corporations operating in this area, and government, state and local officials has been phenomenal, and all of New Mexico should be proud.

This proposal has been under consideration for many years, and I am pleased we have the opportunity today to take an important step toward making it law. In 1991, Manuel Lujan, the Secretary of the Interior in the former President Bush's cabinet, recommended the Ojito area to Congress for wilderness designation. The BLM has evaluated this area and found it qualifies for full wilderness status and protection.

The legislation has the explicit support of the Governor of New Mexico, the counties of Sandoval and Bernalillo, individual members of State government including our State Land Commissioner Patrick Lyons, the Pueblo of Zia and its members, the adjacent private land

owners and individuals who graze their cattle on the land, numerous environmental groups, mineral extraction companies in the region, and business owners and private citizens living and working nearby.

Beyond its scenic and natural beauty, the Ojito Wilderness Study Area and the surrounding lands are also recognized for their high density of cultural and archeological sites, including sites that have religious significance to Pueblo Indians.

This legislation is extremely important to the Pueblo of Zia. The Pueblo's reservation lands currently lie in two noncontiguous sections. Zia has made a concerted effort over many years to adjoin its reservation lands. This legislation will help make this long-standing goal a reality. The Pueblo has consistently and openly worked in cooperation with other interested parties to reach a mutually satisfactory arrangement for the protection of these important lands as undeveloped open space with continued public access.

The Wilderness Act is one of the most poetic laws ever written, defining wilderness as "an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain". The ability to experience our country's "untrammelled" natural beauty and to learn and teach our children about nature on publicly owned lands is one of the most important reasons for wilderness designations. I thank my cosponsor in the House HEATHER WILSON, Chairman POMBO and Ranking Member RAHALL of the Resources Committee, their staff and all of the people who worked on this legislation for helping us move one step closer to giving our children and grandchildren the legacy of nature's gifts.

I urge my fellow Members to support this legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER
WEST VIRGINIA FIRST LADY
HOVAH HALL UNDERWOOD

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the passing and honor the life and contributions of a former First Lady of the state of West Virginia, Hovah Hall Underwood.

Hovah earned an AB Degree from Salem College and a certificate in Social Work from West Virginia University. She taught at Grantsville Elementary School, worked in a defense plant during World War II, and then served ten years as a child welfare worker in West Virginia before marrying Cecil Underwood in 1948.

Hovah was a young wife and mother when she and Cecil moved into the Governor's mansion in 1956—Cecelia was a toddler, and Craig and Sharon were both born while the family lived in the mansion. She served as a gracious first lady all the while focusing her energies on the task of raising three very young children.

In 1996, the citizens of West Virginia once again elected Cecil Underwood as Governor, and Hovah was once again our First Lady. Building upon a lifelong dedication to the work of Big Brothers/Big Sisters, she always liked to

say that in this term she focused her energies on all the children of West Virginia. She was the driving force behind new programs to strengthen early learning and volunteerism in West Virginia.

Upon learning that our state has one of the highest rates of cancer among women in the nation, Hovah took the lead as the catalyst for expanded Breast Cancer Awareness and Screening initiatives. Hovah Underwood took seriously the charge to serve others each day of our lives, and her legacy is the many thousands of lives she touched.

At her Memorial Service, many remarked upon Hovah's wonderful smile. We know today that each time a young child learns to read, each time a "Big" and a "Little" share a special moment, each time a woman is saved from cancer, Hovah is smiling.

Our thoughts are with Governor Underwood, their children Cecelia Baker, Craig Underwood and Sharon Underwood, grandchildren Christopher and Coleman Richardson, Mary and Quintin Baker and Jordan and Myles Underwood.

All West Virginians have lost a very special friend.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR.
JAMES RICHARD RUTLEDGE

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to mourn the death of Dr. James Rutledge, who recently passed away at the age of sixty-five. I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this Nation to recognize his many accomplishments.

Jim was born December 8, 1938 in Ironton, Ohio. Shortly thereafter his family moved to Ashland, KY where he graduated from Ashland High School in 1956, received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Kentucky in 1960, and attended medical school at the University of Louisville and received his Doctorate of Medicine in 1964 followed by a 2-year rotating internship.

Jim joined the Air Force at the rank of Captain and served his country as a General Medical Officer at Warner Robbins Air Force Base and in Thailand during the Vietnam War in 1967 and 1968. He attained the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Following his return from Thailand, Jim did a 4-year residency in Pathology at the University of Louisville and became board certified in Anatomical and Clinical Pathology in 1972. From 1973 until 1980 Jim was Pathologist and Medical Director of Laboratory Medicine at Greenview Hospital and Bowling Green-Warren County Hospital in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Jim was married to Rhonda Martin in Bowling Green, Kentucky on July 8, 1978. They moved their family to Jasper, Alabama in February 1980 and Jim began his work with Pathology Associates as Surgical and Clinical Pathologist and Medical Director of Laboratory Medicine at Walker Baptist Medical Center.

Jim, along with Rhonda, supported good government by supporting candidates and the