

Chamber of Commerce, is the past director of the Colorado Bankers Association, and is an appointee of Colorado Governor Bill Owens as a member of the Fire and Police Pension Association. Kris is a strong role model for her peers and colleagues, leading by example in her community.

Mr. Speaker, Kris Gardner has persistently worked to better her community through service and hard work for over 30 years with Alpine Bank. I am honored to recognize her contributions to the town of Glenwood Springs before this body of Congress and this nation. Thanks for all your hard work, Kris, and I wish you and your family all the best in your future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MINTURN, COLORADO

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the town of Minturn, Colorado.

Minturn is a small town on the Western Slope of Colorado, with a population of a little over 1,000. Despite its size, Minturn holds an important place within Colorado's history. It began in 1887 as a railroad crew-changing station and was named in honor of Robert B. Minturn, who helped secure funds to build the Denver & Rio Grande westward down the Eagle and Colorado Rivers. The town quickly grew as more people began to make Colorado their home. Some established homesteads to farm in this area at the confluence of Gore Creek and the Eagle River, while others sought riches mining for silver in the mountains high above the town site.

On November 15, 1904, the first Town Council met and Minturn officially became an incorporated part of Colorado. This date became synonymous with the town's birth and was therefore marked as a day of celebration. In the years to come, Minturn became especially indicative of the Colorado experience.

After its vital infrastructures were in place, Minturn attracted people from all walks of life. Historic hotels that still exist today were erected to accommodate the influx of travelers passing through Colorado. And even the military became interested in Minturn, constructing a temporary training camp there for the 10th Mountain Division in 1942—a division that helped train soldiers to fight in high alpine conditions.

As the years passed, Minturn became a favorite stop amongst snow sports enthusiasts, due to its close location to some of Colorado's largest ski resorts, Vail and Beaver Creek. Recently, the town's beauty was on display in movies such as Walt Disney's "Tall Tales", and during the Winter Olympics of 2002, when the Olympic torch passed through the town en route to Salt Lake City, Utah.

I also have great pride in stating that one of my district offices is located in Minturn. Because of this connection—as well as the town's respect for its western rural roots—I have developed an affinity with this town and appreciate the friendliness and communal spir-

it of its residents. This community has welcomed me to their town in a manner that greatly reflects the essence of Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in commemorating the historic 100th anniversary of Minturn, Colorado. I believe that by honoring Minturn and all the other historic small towns of this vast Nation, we keep the great tradition of the American spirit alive for future generations. We must not forget about the many places that molded this nation into what it is today. Centennial celebrations are few and far between, and Minturn's is deserving of our recognition.

HONORING BENNY STRICKLAND FOR HIS SERVICE AS A COUNTY COMMISSIONER OF SUMTER COUNTY

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Benny Strickland for his service as a County Commissioner of Sumter County in the Fifth Congressional District of Florida.

On behalf of the residents of Sumter County, I applaud Mr. Strickland for his years of dedication as a public servant. Since 1994, he has worked tirelessly to provide the residents of Sumter County with excellent leadership and vision. His presence on the board will be dearly missed. Benny's devotion to the residents of Sumter County is a testament to the virtue and selflessness that a public official should aspire to attain.

Sumter County is truly saddened by Mr. Strickland's departure; nevertheless, we are immensely grateful for all his years of commitment and hard work. I wish Mr. Strickland the best in the future and hope he enjoys the pleasures of retirement.

THE CALUMET COMMUNITY HERO AWARD

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend five dedicated individuals who have made significant contributions to Northwest Indiana. These loyal and dedicated individuals, Rosa Vega, Valeta Brannon, John Bakota, Daniel Lowery, and Leonard Tomaszewski, will be honored for their dedication to justice and to the people of Northwest Indiana by the Calumet Project at an awards luncheon at the Social Hall of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Hammond, Indiana on Friday, November 19, 2004.

The Calumet Community Hero Award is being presented to three individuals for their tireless efforts in promoting justice in Northwest Indiana. This year's first honoree is Rosa Vega, a graduate of Gary West Side High School. She has been a member of the executive board of SEIU Local 73 Division 208 since 1979 and has been employed by the Gary School Corporation since 1971. Rosa is

also very active in the Cub Scouts and is a past recipient of the George Meany Scouting Award.

Also receiving a Calumet Community Hero Award is the youngest of this year's award recipients, Valeta Brannon. Valeta is a 1999 graduate of Bishop Noll Institute, where she organized the Black History Club, and a 2004 graduate of Purdue University Calumet, where she earned her B.A. in Psychology. She is employed by the Family & Youth Services Bureau as a Residential Counselor and with Porter-Starke Children Services as a Behavioral Specialist. Her future plans include pursuing an MSW and continuing to fight for social justice for the people of Northwest Indiana.

The third Calumet Community Hero Award is being presented to John Bakota. John is a graduate of East Chicago Roosevelt High School and is a veteran of the United States Army. John spent 38 years as a millwright at LTV Steel, and he has always been extremely active in promoting the enrichment of his community. John is a compassionate activist with the Coalition for a Clean Environment, and he is being honored for his ongoing quest to see to it that justice prevails.

This year's Unity Award is being presented to Daniel Lowery, Ph.D. Dr. Lowery is a graduate of Valparaiso University, holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Indiana University Northwest, and received a Ph.D. in Public Administration from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2001. He is currently Executive Director of the Northwest Indiana Quality of Life Council and has received numerous awards for his outstanding performance throughout his career.

The final award, the Lifetime Achievement Award, is being presented to Leonard Tomaszewski for his outstanding service to the Northwest Indiana Community. Leonard is a graduate of Emerson High School and a veteran of the Korean War. Prior to his retirement in 1996, Leonard was employed by U.S. Steel and Gary Works Sheet and Tin for over 46 years. Since his retirement, Leonard has been an active member of the Steelworkers Organization Active Retirees (SOAR). He has led the fight on behalf of retirees for healthcare, prescription drugs, social security, and other issues of concern to retirees. Leonard's lifetime of service continues as he is a member of the Board of Directors of the Northwest Indiana Community Action Corporation, whose mission is to change lives and build communities. For his lifetime of commitment to fairness and justice, Leonard Tomaszewski is being commended with this prestigious award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending these individuals for their outstanding contributions to Indiana's First Congressional District. Their commitment to improving the quality of life for the people of Northwest Indiana is truly inspirational and should be recognized and commended.

TRIBUTE TO MS. TAMMY CARNRIKE

**HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the appointment of Ms. Tammy

Carnrike as the new Chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE). Ms. Carnrike is a leader at the local and State level whose commitment to economic development and job creation has been a vital asset to the State of New York.

For the last eighteen years, she has been a member of the Chenango County Chamber of Commerce, and its President for the previous eight. During her tenure, Ms. Carnrike has been instrumental in improving the quality of life and promoting further economic growth. This appointment is a well-deserved honor for her achievements within Chenango County and across New York State.

I have had the privilege of working with Ms. Carnrike for the last eight years. Together we have been able to secure over \$12 million in Federal funds for improvements to New York State Route 12—improving access between the cities of Utica and Binghamton, and all points in between. These improvements will greatly benefit the employers located along the Route 12 corridor, stimulating further economic and business growth.

Ms. Carnrike has demonstrated the qualities that the ACCE was founded upon in 1914 in her dedication, excellent leadership and managerial expertise. I also congratulate her for becoming only the third woman to hold this organization's highest office in its 90-year history. She will no doubt continue the fine work begun by her predecessor Carroll Gray of the Charlotte, NC Chamber of Commerce.

I wish her the best of luck and look forward to continuing a positive working relationship to increase opportunities and strengthen the Chenango County economy.

HONORING REVEREND WROTEN  
MCQUIRTER, SR.

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a distinguished religious educator with over 50 years of dedicated service to the Clinton, Jackson, Bolton, and Terry communities in the State of Mississippi, the Reverend Wroten McQuirter, Sr.

Rev. Wroten McQuirter, Sr., is known throughout the State as more than just a pastor, but as a social activist, counselor, supporter, leader, and most importantly as a friend. In 1970, he began his religious training at the Mississippi Baptist Seminary, Jackson, Mississippi, and in 1973, Reverend McQuirter received his bachelor of theology degree from Natchez College.

Throughout Reverend McQuirter's pastoral tenure from 1957 to 2004, he has served in various positions including the dean and moderator of the Original J.M.B. District Association; president of the Hinds County Council for Church and Social Action; president of the Clinton Ministerial Workers Council, dean of the Congress of Christian Education; board member of the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., president of the Terry Ministerial Fellowship, and member of the Moderator Department of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.

In addition to his pastoral duties and responsibilities, Reverend McQuirter has been a

great asset to the communities in Mississippi. He has served as an active leader and organizer for Hinds County Communities in the fight for equality. He has been an activist with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP, for more than four decades. He led the movement for desegregation in the Clinton Public School District in 1968, whereby his two younger children were among the first six black students to enroll in Clinton Park Elementary School.

Although retired, he is not retired. Reverend McQuirter, who recently celebrated his 82nd birthday on October 23, remains actively involved in Christian education ministering to the needs of others. He teaches bible class at the Clinton Community Christian Corporation as well as bible study at Pleasant Green Church. He also teaches several courses in church leadership schools offered by various churches.

Please join me in congratulating Rev. Wroten McQuirter, Sr., on 50 years of distinguished service. It is in achievement that brings pride not only to his local community, but to the whole State of Mississippi and the Nation.

RECOGNIZING INTELLIGENCE SPECIALIST SENIOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICER STEPHANIE A. STORCH

**HON. DUNCAN HUNTER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent, Intelligence Specialist Senior Chief Petty Officer Stephanie A. Storch. Senior Chief Storch is retiring after twenty-one years of dedicated service to the nation.

Senior Chief Storch began her career in 1983 as a Mess Specialist. During her initial assignment to Naval Radio Receiving Facility (NRRF) Kami Seya, Japan, her professionalism was first recognized when she was selected a 1985 Junior Sailor of the Quarter. In 1986 she joined the Intelligence field and reported to Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron THREE (VQ-3), Naval Air Station Barbers Point, Hawaii.

Senior Chief Storch served throughout the Pacific Theater and the Middle East in a career that focused on Intelligence training and Naval Special Warfare operations. Her leadership and academic accolades are numerous from her 1993 Navy League Woman of the Year selection to the distinction of graduating in the top 1 percent of her Berlitz Language School Arabic class. Senior Chief Storch's Special Operations and Training expertise merged in March 2000, when she was assigned to Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command as the Force Intelligence Specialist for Naval Special Warfare.

Senior Chief Storch culminates her service at the Joint Intelligence Training Activity Pacific (JITAP) where she is the Asymmetric Warfare Branch Head and Senior Enlisted Advisor. She is an Intelligence professional and leader who always put the welfare of her sailors first. Senior Chief Storch's performance reflects greatly on herself, the United States Navy, and our country. I extend my deepest appreciation to Intelligence Specialist Senior

Chief Petty Officer Stephanie A. Storch for her 21 years of dedicated military service and wish her and her family all the best in the years to follow. I am glad to hear that upon retirement, Senior Chief Storch and her family, CWO3 Ernest J. Storch, USN and two sons, Adam and Daniel will continue to make San Diego County their home.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KRISTI  
KNOWLES

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise and pay tribute to a tremendous public servant from my hometown of Grand Junction, Colorado. Kristi Knowles was recently nominated as Grand Junction, Colorado's "Officer of the Year"; it is my honor to call her heroic service to the attention of this body of Congress and this Nation.

Kristi began her service to the City of Grand Junction in July of 1999, signing on as a telecommunicator with the Regional Communication Center. She rose quickly through the ranks eventually earning a position as a sworn police officer in the Grand Junction Police Department's Patrol Section. Since assuming this role, Kristi has continually exhibited a unique commitment to the job and people she is sworn to protect and defend.

Overtime, Kristi has distinguished herself in cases involving domestic violence. Kristi always goes above and beyond the call of duty by comforting victims of domestic violence and ensuring they have access to community resources. Kristi even went so far as to reach out to the staff at the Latimer House to ensure that she was doing everything she could to help the victim.

Community policing is truly a community effort, and Kristi Knowles has certainly done her part. She is a shining example to officers throughout the nation of the passion and concern, which is so vital to accomplishing the mission given to our law enforcement officials each day. It is my honor to congratulate Kristi before my colleagues in the Congress. Her recognition is well-deserved, and I wish her nothing but the best as she continues to serve the Grand Junction community. Thank you for your service, Kristi!

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES S.  
"CHARLEY" SHIMANSKI

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Charles "Charley" Shimanski, an accomplished mountain climber who served as Executive Director of the American Alpine Club from 1993 until his retirement in October of this year.

Charley grew up in Madison, Wisconsin, and graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1981 with a degree in Economics. He worked in the financial services sector for 12 years both in Europe and in Denver, including at Oppenheimer Funds, United Bank