

bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Cincinnati before embarking upon an eighteen year teaching career at Douglas Elementary and Stowe and Bloom Junior High Schools.

He enjoyed teaching, but became interested in selling real estate in 1944 after he and Marian purchased their first home. He opened a real estate office while he continued teaching for six years. Eventually, Donald A. Spencer and Associates grew to 23 employees in two offices, and flourished for thirty years. In 1986, Mr. Spencer was the first African American member of the Cincinnati Board of Realtors, and served on its statewide legislative committee. Later, he was named President of the Cincinnati Association of Real Estate Brokers, and was active with the National Association of Real Estate Brokers.

Mr. Spencer has remained active in education. He co-chaired the Cincinnati Public Schools' successful 2001 school levy campaign, and in 2003, he co-chaired the Cincinnati's Active in the Support of Education, which helped pass a \$485 million school levy to build 35 new schools and renovate the remaining ones.

A lifetime member of the NAACP, Mr. Spencer has also served on the boards of Ohio University; Family Housing Developers; Friends of Cincinnati Parks; Walnut Hills High School Foundation; and Ohio Valley Goodwill. Among his many awards are the Ohio University Board of Trustees' Founders Citation and the Cincinnati Charter Committee's Charles P. Taft Civic Gumption Award.

The Spencers have two sons and two grandsons.

All of us in Cincinnati congratulate Donald Spencer on being named a Great Living Cincinnati.

HONORING JUDY HART, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ROSIE THE RIVETER/WORLD WAR II HOME FRONT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK UPON HER RETIREMENT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2005

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to recognize Judy Hart who is retiring after a twenty-seven year career with the National Park Service.

Judy Hart has served as the first superintendent of the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, California. My legislation creating the new national park was signed into law by President Clinton on October 24, 2000, and Ms. Hart began as Superintendent on January 15, 2001.

Prior to becoming Superintendent, Judy coordinated the study for the new park. She has devoted the last four years of her career to laying the foundation for this national park. The Rosie Park recognizes the City of Richmond and its unique heritage as the epicenter of a national effort to memorialize and interpret the contribution of the Home Front. Many of the experiences that began in Richmond not only helped to win World War II but also changed the way the nation thought about civil rights, child care, health care and labor rights.

The challenges Judy has faced, and the obstacles she has overcome, are even more remarkable because, as a "partnership park," all of the land and buildings are owned by entities other than the National Park Service. In addition, the federal funds available for start-up are limited. Working with a number of grants, volunteers and her public and private donors, Judy will turn over to her successor a sound structure on which to build. She made an incomparable contribution to moving the RRNP from concept to reality.

Her accomplishments at RRNP include working with many partners to accomplish the following: oversaw the implementation of the General Management Plan process which she also is coordinating with the City of Richmond's general plan amendment; worked with the Port of Richmond to open Shipyard #3 to visitors; none of the historic structures have been torn down even though every structure in the Park legislation has been threatened with demolition; National Register nominations will shortly be completed for all structures but one within the Park; developed Phases one and two for oral histories of home front workers. In addition, over 9,000 Rosies have contacted the Park to share their names and short stories. After connecting with the Park, over 2,000 Rosies have written out the whole story of their home front adventures, up to 55 typed pages from one Rosie. Over 2,000 Rosies have donated their precious mementos, treasured for over 50 years and now delivered to the safekeeping of the Park. Volunteer hours went from 0 in 2003 to over 3,000 hours in 2004.

Judy Hart's career in the Park Service spans 27 years. Prior to moving to California for this new position, Ms. Hart worked for 12 years in the Washington, D.C. headquarters. She was the first National Program Coordinator for the National Heritage Areas which are partnership areas privately owned and managed in cooperation with the NPS. Previous to that Ms. Hart developed the Conservation Study Institute, now operated in partnership with the University of Vermont and the new Marsh Billings National Historical Park in Woodstock, Vermont.

Ms. Hart served in the Washington office of Legislation for 6 years, supporting the creation of Petroglyphs National Monument, Marsh Billings National Historical Park, the Mary McLeod Bethune National Historic Site, and Manzanar National Historic Site, as well as many other park units.

Ms. Hart lived for 6 years in Seneca Falls, NY and was the first superintendent of the Women's Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, after suggesting the idea, working on the study and working on the legislation. Prior to that, Ms. Hart worked on park legislation out of the NPS Regional office in Boston, MA.

Prior to her career with the Park Service, Ms. Hart worked for the Boston Redevelopment Authority, City of Boston, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as Director of the Bureau of Relocation. She also worked for the Federal Highway Administration on Environmental Impact Statement reviews.

She began her career in publishing at Little, Brown and Company, and as a company newsletter editor for the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company, both in Boston. Her graduate degree is in English Literature from Cornell University, and her graduate degree is a

Master of Arts in law from Goddard College in Vermont.

Mr. Speaker, because of Ms. Hart's many contributions to preserving and interpreting our nation's history, I am delighted to have this opportunity to recognize her unique contributions, especially to the Rosie the Riveter National Park, and to ask all Members of the House to join me in wishing her well in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE SENECA VALLEY GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Seneca Valley Girl's Volleyball team, this year's Class AAA WPIAL Champions. Head coach Heather Haff, lead the Seneca Valley Raiders to the WPIAL Championship game, where they defeated the Mount Lebanon Lady Blue Devils. The Lady Raiders ended the season with an impressive 18-1 record.

I am happy to see such spirit, dedication, and teamwork flourishing in the congressional district that I represent. I wish the members of 2004 Seneca Girl's Volleyball team continued success.

I am proud to have such talented young athletes in the 4th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, and I ask that all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives join with me in recognizing their great achievement.

DISASTER ON THE HORIZON

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2005

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I cannot begin to guess how many times throughout my years of service in this institution I have heard my colleagues stand on this floor and pay homage to America's workers. I could probably paper these walls a dozen times over with the copies of speeches delivered here that have praised American working families for their contributions to our economy and our culture.

Patriotism, fairness, loyalty, a belief in hard work—these are just some of the qualities I have heard so accurately ascribed to America's working families. They are certainly traits deserving of public admiration. But I believe that they are also qualities that deserve to be preserved and maintained by Congress, because these are the threads that form the fabric of American life.

Today, the quality of life and the core values of America's working families are under siege, again, and the work of Congress faces unraveling. In particular, I raise the matter of a court decision last fall that knocked loose a core underpinning of the Coal Act.

In horrendous decisions, a federal judge thumbed his nose at Congress, and its work to ensure that the federal promise to America's miners would be kept. In a wrong-headed decision, that court placed in jeopardy the health care of thousands of elderly and ill retired miners and their spouses. The case involved Horizon Natural Resources—the nation's fourth

largest coal company—which had gone to court to seek a way out of its obligations to its workers.

This was not so much a matter of a company whose tills were empty and whose assets were gone. It was, more precisely, a matter of a company that wanted the books to look better for prospective buyers who could scoop of the existing mines and processing facilities free of the weight of Coal Act obligations.

So Horizon went to court and asked a judge to let it use bankruptcy loopholes to circumvent its legal duties to its workers under the Coal Act. The company, quite plainly, wanted a seal of approval to turn its back on the men and women who had devoted their lives to it. Then, in September, almost inconceivably, the judge gave Horizon the final nod. It was OK, it was ruled, for an American company to so devalue the American worker and to go around the intent of Congress. Horizon could merely dump its obligations, and go along its merry way.

It is not just the workers of Horizon who will suffer. In turn, the cost of the benefits legally owed by Horizon have been thrown onto already financially strained benefits plans. Consequently, Horizon and the courts, have sent a shock wave that jeopardizes the health care benefits of thousands of other retirees and beneficiaries. The weight of those obligations cannot long be managed in the current scenario. And if other companies follow suit, collapse will only be hastened. The need for a fix is urgent.

I have, therefore, joined with Senator ROCKEFELLER in introducing legislation intended to address this court decision. My bill will make it clear that the benefits and obligations mandated by the Congress through the Coal Act cannot be modified by the bankruptcy courts. It will, as well, prevent additional companies from trying to circumvent the Coal Act through bankruptcy, while leaving others, who play by the rules, holding the bag.

I am all too familiar with the struggles of working men and women in our country. I have always believed that a fair day's labor deserves a fair day's wages. I believe, too, that a company has certain obligations to a faithful worker who has devoted his life to laboring for the good of the company. It has been here, in the halls of Congress, where these beliefs have found refuge in the form of legislation, such as the Coal Act. The bill I introduce today reaffirms a federal promise made to America's coal miners and helps to fulfill the duty of Congress to America's working families.

HONORING THE CHIEF CLERK OF
THE MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
EDWARD A. BURDICK

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2005

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a loyal public servant and a nationally renowned parliamentary expert, Edward A. Burdick. On January 10th, 2005, Minnesota paid tribute to Mr. Burdick, Chief Clerk of the Minnesota House of Rep-

resentatives, upon his retirement after nearly four decades of service.

After beginning work in the Minnesota House as a page in 1941, Mr. Burdick became the second full-time employee in House history when he took the job of desk clerk in 1955. At the age of 83, he leaves the position of Chief Clerk where he oversaw House operations with 250 full-time employees. He served through six changes in majority, alongside 12 speakers and more than 700 representatives. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Burdick worked tirelessly to ensure that the needs of Minnesota's Representatives were met.

Mr. Burdick has set a national standard as an expert, impartial parliamentary mediator and administrator of House operations. As a former Member of the Minnesota House, I was privileged to work with him and witnessed firsthand how he commands utmost respect and credibility through his selfless commitment to the institution. He taught me the Rules of the House, and the most important rule—that debate is about policy not personality. His faithful stewardship of the rules ensured that all voices could be heard.

Mr. Burdick is among the most highly respected and honored individuals living in our State. He is the only living Minnesotan whose bust stands in the Capitol, where it is located outside the entrance to the House chambers. Mr. Burdick has been a vital part of the daily life of the Capitol, helping drive the business of the Minnesota House of Representatives since 1967.

Few public servants have such a distinguished and lengthy record of service. Mr. Speaker, it is a true honor to thank Ed for his years of service and wish him a happy and healthy retirement.

RECOGNIZING FLASH GORDON
QUARRY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2005

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Flash Gordon Quarry for his 35 years of committed service to AMTRAN. His knowledge and experience have made the transportation organization the efficient machine that it is today.

Flash began his journey through AMTRAN as an operator 35 years ago. He quickly proved himself as a capable worker and quietly earned recognition for his incomparable performance on the job. Mr. Quarry's distinguishing loyalty was acknowledged as he became a Director of Transportation in only 10 years. Working tirelessly to overcome the obstacles of having to learn and master continually changing technology, Flash flourished in his position as Director and for his continually professional performance he was awarded the very first Superstar of Transportation award in 1999.

Mr. Quarry's spirit and dedication to AMTRAN remains unparalleled. To the enjoyment of his family, friends, and coworkers, Flash has proven to be reliable and dependable time and time again. He willingly shoulders every major responsibility and handles the most difficult problems with patience and ease. Amongst all of his demands at work

however, Flash always finds time to spend with his family, teaching his children and grandchildren to be exemplary citizens.

In the 35 years that Mr. Quarry has had a significant hand in the operations, AMTRAN has become a more efficient organization, making a strong impact on the Altoona area. He has demonstrated an unyielding enthusiasm and care for the organization which he has served. For his incomparable generosity, service to AMTRAN, and unabated commitment to excellence, Flash Gordon Quarry deserves the highest recognition. He has built a legacy as an outstanding director, incorporating leadership skills, innovative solutions to problems, and an efficient work ethic. His uncompromising sense of duty to AMTRAN has been a source of inspiration, and the organization would definitely not be the same without the guidance, leadership, and expertise that Flash offers.

As a pillar of strength within his community, Mr. Quarry is a role model and leader who is admired by many, and he will undoubtedly continue to surprise all who know him. His contributions will not go unnoticed by the business for which he works nor the community in which he lives. I would like to congratulate Mr. Quarry on his accomplishments, and I look forward to the future of AMTRAN under his guidance.

CONGRATULATING THE PASSA-
VANT RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Passavant Retirement Community in Zelienople on its 100th year celebration. For the past century the Passavant Retirement community has provided valuable services to the senior citizens of Zelienople.

The centennial celebration will be marked with numerous events in the coming year including lectures and the annual light up night that kicks off the holiday season for members of the retirement community. This year's light up night was different however, because the staff and members of the community planned something special for the event. Pat Goetz, the director of the Main Street Community Life Program and resident Chuck Miller decided to construct homemade lanterns for the occasion. Miller used Goetz's design to fashion over 200 lanterns that were hung throughout the retirement community. The entire Passavant staff also wore vintage clothing dating back to the early part of the 20th century when the community was founded.

The Passavant Retirement community was founded in 1905 by a board of directors consisting of 15 individuals who organized the Old Peoples Home of the Pittsburgh Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Initially the community consisted of six residents, but now has over 600 members on a 42 acre campus.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Passavant Retirement Community in Zelienople on its 100th anniversary. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional