

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 PASSAVANT
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 Zelenople on its 100th year celebration. For the past century the Passavant Retirement community has provided valuable services to the senior citizens of Zelenople.

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 Zelenople on its 100th anniversary. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional

District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute organizations such as the Passavant Retirement community which provide such valuable services.

RECOGNIZING ROSS CLAYTON
WOODBURY FOR ACHIEVING THE
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ross Clayton Woodbury, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 45, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Ross is currently a senior at Central High School in Saint Joseph, Missouri and is the son of Mark and Karen Woodbury.

Ross has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Ross started out as a Cub Scout, became a Webelo, completed Cub Scouts and then moved on to the Boy Scouts. During his Boy Scout career, Ross rose through the ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class Scout, First Class Scout, Star Scout, Life Scout, and now Eagle Scout. Ross earned 25 merit badges and served as Troop 45's Troop Guide. Additionally, Ross was the recipient of the 50 Miler Award on three occasions for Adventure Trips to Wyoming, Colorado, and Canada. Ross was also tapped into the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and was given the name "Little Iron Ring."

For his Eagle Scout project, Ross led a team of scouts in association with the Saint Joseph Museum and the Missouri Department of Conservation to preserve Mount Mora Cemetery in Saint Joseph, an historical funeral park where Civil War Generals, Missouri Governors, and Pony Express Riders are buried. Mr. Speaker, it may please the House to know that Mount Mora's designer helped craft the plan for the Washington Monument here in our nation's capital.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ross Clayton Woodbury, for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
REGARDING LANDS OF THE
OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF
OFF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2005

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation to require a moratorium on leasing, exploration, and development on lands of the Outer Continental Shelf off the State of California. It is imperative to the people of California and San Diego County that we continue the Federal ban on offshore gas or oil drilling off of California's coast. The environmental sensitivities along the entire California coastline make the region an inappro-

priate place to drill for oil or gas using current technology. The 1989 National Academy of Sciences (NAS) study confirmed that new exploration and drilling on existing leases and on undeveloped leases in the same area would be detrimental to the environment. While I believe that it is vital to explore additional domestic sources of oil, and to pursue effective energy research and conservation programs, it is clear that immediately drilling off of California's delicate shoreline would be worth far less than the threat that such drilling poses on California's beaches.

HONORING J. MACK SWIGERT AS A
GREAT LIVING CINCINNATIAN

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 25, 2005

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor J. Mack Swigert, a friend and constituent, who will be formally honored as a Great Living Cincinnatian on February 24, 2005 by the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce. The recipients of this prestigious annual award, presented since 1967, are selected on the basis of professional achievement; leadership; vision; and community service. Past honorees include Neil Armstrong; Dr. Albert B. Sabin; and Charles Scripps.

Mr. Swigert is well known for his work on the historic National Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947, better known as the Taft-Hartley Act, which is still the critical center of America's labor law. At the time, Mr. Swigert was a young associate attorney representing employers at the Cincinnati firm of Taft, Stettinius and Hollister. He was asked by U.S. Senator Robert Taft to draft some suggested amendments to the Wagner Act, the 1935 law protecting the bargaining rights of unions. While he believed that the Wagner Act had generally good features, Mr. Swigert felt some key changes were needed. Eventually these important amendments were passed over President Truman's veto. Although Mr. Swigert credits Senator Taft's political acumen with getting the changes passed, the law's endurance today is truly Mr. Swigert's legacy.

Ironically, Mr. Swigert never intended to become a lawyer. Born in Illinois and raised in Iowa, he graduated from Harvard. He met his late wife, Alice, in 1930 while visiting his parents in Tennessee, and she encouraged him to attend law school. Following a brief stint with a Chicago law firm, in 1936 he was asked by Charles Taft to work in the labor department at Taft, Stettinius and Hollister, one of Greater Cincinnati's largest and most distinguished law firms. He was named partner in 1948, and in 1979 was named managing partner and chairman of the Executive Committee. He still retains the title "Of Counsel" with the firm.

In Cincinnati, Mr. Swigert has held leadership posts with the Queen City Club; Cincinnati Country Club; Queen City Optimists Club; Cincinnati Tennis Club; Recess Club; and Harvard Law Club. In 2004, the Cincinnati Bar Foundation presented him with its Lifetime Achievement in Law award. Mr. Swigert has two living children, David and Sally, and five grandchildren.

All of us in Greater Cincinnati congratulate Mr. Swigert on being named a Great Living Cincinnatian.

RETIREMENT TRIBUTE TO GLENN
R. FULLER

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 recognize Superintendent Glenn R. Fuller who has retired after thirty-two years of service in the National Park Service.

During his career Glenn R. Fuller worked in several national parks including Grand Canyon National Park as a back-country district ranger doing search and rescue; Cape Cod National Seashore as a Park Ranger; Rocky Mountain National Park as a Park Technician; Golden Gate National Recreation Area as a Park Ranger; and Site Manager at Muir Woods National Park. He is also a retired law enforcement officer.

Glenn became Park Superintendent at Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site in November 1993. In December 2001, he was promoted to Superintendent of O'Neill NHS, John Muir National Historic Site, and Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial.

Glenn's accomplishments are many and varied including the following:

Successfully negotiating after fourteen years a settlement agreement with the Kuss Road Homeowners allowing access to Eugene O'Neill NHS. The agreement was signed in 1994.

Developing the treatment plan for the Cultural Landscape Report at Eugene O'Neill NHS. This included installation of a deer fence, new irrigation system and removal of hazardous and non-historic trees and shrubs.

Contracting in 2000 with a commercial video company to produce a video tour of areas in the Tao House that are not accessible to wheelchair users.

Securing funding and requesting a Site Assessment for Livestock Pond Wetland Restoration at Eugene O'Neill NHS.

Collaborating with Contra Costa County, Friends of Alhambra Creek, and neighbors on the Strenzel Lane Erosion and Sediment Reduction Projects Stability of Alhambra Creek at the John Muir family gravesite.

Securing funds and initiating the Environmental Assessment and Fire Management Plan for John Muir NHS and Eugene O'Neill NHS.

Securing funds and initiating Environmental Assessments for two large construction projects at John Muir NHS. One project is to create a new parking and staging area on Franklin Canyon Road. This will allow multiple school buses and visitors to park safely and provide a staging area for the entrance at Mt. Wanda. The other project improves the back entrance to the park on Canyon Way and access through the Highway 4 tunnel.

Successfully negotiating with the Navy and Army an agreement for access to the Port Chicago National Memorial. For eleven years, the National Park Service has been trying to get this agreement and, after a concerted effort during the last three years, an agreement was signed November 24, 2004. Port Chicago and the story the Memorial tells has been a personal and professional commitment of Glenn's. He has long believed that the story is of national significance that needs to reach all