

the occasion of his retirement on June 30 after 44 years of commendable public service. Prior to his appointment as Colorado Springs City Manager in 2002, Mr. Kramer had served 28 years with the Los Angeles Police Department and more recently for 11 years as the Chief of Police for Colorado Springs.

A capable leader, Mr. Kramer has been a guiding force behind several projects in my hometown including the TOPS renewal, the renovation of Prospect Lake, the improvement of METRO and highway transportation systems, and the establishment of both Stormwater Enterprise and Airport Business Park. In addition to his commendable public service, Mr. Kramer volunteers in his private life with many organizations and serves on the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce, the Colorado Springs Leadership Institute, the Pikes Peak United Way, and the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Mr. Kramer's list of accolades is impressive. He has received the 2003 Alumni and Friends Award from the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs and the Graduate School of Public Affairs, the Public Administrator of the Year from the Graduate School of Public Administration at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, and was appointed by the Governor of Colorado to the Colorado Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission and the Drug Control Systems Improvement Committee.

Colorado's Fifth District is fortunate to count among its citizens a man of Mr. Kramer's accomplishments. I am certain that though he is retiring from public service, Mr. Kramer will continue to have a positive impact on the Colorado Springs Community.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SANTA CRUZ BEACH BOARDWALK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the 100th Anniversary of the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, a storied tourist destination on California's central coast. The Boardwalk, with its 35 rides and other attractions, has provided a lifetime of memories for millions of people, establishing itself as a national landmark and as a vital component of our community. Situated on a sandy mile-long beach, it is the only remaining major seaside amusement park on the West Coast.

When the Boardwalk first opened on June 15, 1907 it immediately attracted national attention and received a telegram from President Theodore Roosevelt himself. Since then, tens of millions have visited the Boardwalk for fun and entertainment. Its rich history includes Miss California pageants, premier big bands, and daring performers.

I myself have spent many fun-filled days at the Boardwalk with friends and family, both when I was growing up and when I was raising my own child. Those are memories that I will never forget, and I am sure that millions of other families would say the same thing.

The Boardwalk is also unique in that two of its rides have been designated National Historic Landmarks, both built by members of the

Looft family of Danish woodcarvers: the Giant Dipper, a wooden roller coaster built in 1924, and the Looft Carousel, built in 1911. In fact, sometime this year the Giant Dipper will carry its 55 millionth rider on an adventure they won't forget. It is the 6th oldest roller coaster in the U.S., and has been in several major motion pictures.

As the primary asset of a locally owned corporation, the Santa Cruz Seaside Company, the Boardwalk has been an important driving force for our community, employing nearly 1,600 people at the Boardwalk, hotels, and other tourist destinations operated by the Seaside Company. Its active charitable contribution program results in yearly donations of approximately \$100,000 in cash and tickets to local organizations, and it has been repeatedly recognized for its support of ecotourism and its environmental efforts and policies, winning the California State Ecotourism Award in 2002.

As a steward of the environment and the local community, the Boardwalk has made itself indispensable to everyone involved with it. And although it has undergone many changes in the last hundred years, one thing remains the same: the Boardwalk has been, and will continue to be, one of California's premier tourist destinations.

Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to present the congratulations of my House colleagues to this community icon on this joyous and historic occasion.

INTRODUCTION OF NATIVE ENTREPRENEURS LEGISLATION

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to provide business developmental assistance to Native American entrepreneurs across the country. I am pleased to be joined in doing so by Representatives ABERCROMBIE, RENZI, MORAN, MICHAUD, GRIJALVA, HERSETH SANDLIN, HONDA, MCCOLLUM, WU, and MOORE.

While our nation has experienced a steady economic expansion over the course of its history, the vast majority of tribal communities have not benefited or experienced similar growth. The unemployment and poverty rates for Native American and Alaska Natives are nearly double those rates for all Americans. Additionally, many tribal communities lack sufficient physical and technological infrastructure, and are hindered by low income levels.

Despite these shocking facts, there are reasons to be optimistic. Many Native American owned businesses are flourishing, while the number of Native American and Alaska Native owned businesses continues to increase. In fact, Indian tribe members and Alaska Natives own more than 201,000 businesses. These businesses employ over 190,000 employees and generate almost \$27 billion in revenues.

My bill works to expand on these entrepreneurial efforts by ensuring that small business owners and budding entrepreneurs can grow their businesses by accessing counseling and technical assistance available through our nation's Small Business Development Centers. The bill does this by authorizing grants that

SBDCs can apply for to provide assistance with outreach, development, and enhancement on Indian lands of small business startups and expansions that are owned by Indian tribe members, Alaska Natives, or Native Hawaiians. The business development tools offered by the SBDCs can assist Native Americans with the information and opportunity to build sustainable businesses in their communities.

This legislation also requires SBDCs receiving grants to help with these services to request the advice of the governing bodies of Native American tribes, Alaska Native Entities, and Native Hawaiian organizations on how to best provide services to their tribal members. This ensures assistance from the SBDC that is culturally sensitive and appropriate.

It is clear we must do more to assist Native American entrepreneurs in building their businesses, which will, in turn, benefit their communities. With Congress's support, this initiative can play an important role in bringing economic growth to our nation's Native American lands. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this bill and help foster entrepreneurial opportunities on areas of this nation that have thus far been left behind.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH B. SUMMERS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, earlier, California lost one of its great water experts with the death of Joseph B. Summers.

Joe was once deemed "Watermaster" for several water entities in central and southern California. His knowledge, skill and a lifetime of experience brought many people seeking his advice on a multitude of water issues. His wise counsel is greatly missed.

Joe was born in Iowa and served in World War II as a B-24 Bombardier in Europe. He obtained a degree in civil engineering and began his career with the Bureau of Reclamation of the Department of Interior in Denver where he met his wife, Rose. Moving to California in the 1950s, he worked for the Modesto Irrigation District and then was principal engineer for Stoddard and Karrer Engineers in Los Banos.

After establishing his own firm in Kings County, California in 1962, he was an engineering consultant for the Tulare Lake Drainage District to determine the drainage needs of the area and designing a drainage system for the Tulare Lake Bed near the town of Corcoran. At the same time, he negotiated contracts with the California Department of Water Resources for water supplies from the California Aqueduct, then under construction, for water supplies from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to southern California. In addition to those duties, he was principal engineer for the Solano Irrigation District in Solano County, California.

During the 1990s Joe undertook one of the most difficult tasks in U.S. water history: chairing the oversight committee which crafted a \$100 million agreement between the Southern California Metropolitan Water District, the supplier of water to much of the Los Angeles area, and the Imperial Irrigation District. It was one of the most complex water negotiations

undertaken and settled a long-term and previously intractable issue. Its settlement was an achievement unparalleled in California and U.S. water history.

As recently as 2003, Joe was chairman of two coordination committees to oversee the concrete lining of the Coachella Canal and All-American Canal in southern California to reduce seepage which will conserve thousands of acre feet of water annually. The projects are key components of an agreement reached on the allocation of Colorado River water among competing entities in the state and helped resolve issues among states who are parties to the Colorado River Compact.

Joe's Iowa farm experience served him when he applied his engineering expertise to develop cultivation techniques in the cultivation of his walnut farm near Hanford, California. His agriculture leadership was recognized as he was the first recipient of the Merriam Improved Irrigation Award and induction into the University of Iowa's College of Engineering's Distinguished Engineering Alumni Academy. Joe's local contributions include serving on the Hanford Community Foundation.

Joe was an inspiration and mentor to young people interested in hard work, achievement and having an impact on their chosen professions. His friendship and expertise are greatly missed.

THE 11TH ANNUAL WORLD CONGRESS ON CIVIC EDUCATION

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the 11th World Congress on Civic Education, which will take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, May 17–21. The conference, hosted by Conciencia Argentina and the U.S.-based Center for Civic Education, will welcome delegates from over 60 countries, including leaders of civic education organizations throughout the world. Participants will discuss best practices for imparting the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for democratic citizenship to students living in established and emerging democracies.

Through a national and international network of individuals, organizations, educational institutions, and governmental agencies, Civitas International Programs have responded for more than a decade to the wave of democratization sweeping through Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Civitas International Programs are directed by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the U.S. Department of Education under the Education for Democracy Act. They are implemented by the U.S. State Department and USAID, in cooperation with nongovernmental and governmental institutions in the United States and abroad.

The goals of the Civitas International Programs are to:

Acquaint international educators with exemplary curricular and teacher training programs in civic education developed in the United States and other participating nations.

Assist international educators in creating, adapting, implementing, and institutionalizing

effective civic education programs in their own countries.

Create and implement civic education programs for students in the United States that will help them better understand the history and experiences of both established and emerging democracies.

Facilitate the exchange of ideas and experiences in civic education among educational, governmental, and private sector leaders in the United States and other countries.

Encourage independent research and evaluation that will determine the effectiveness of civic education in providing students with the knowledge and character traits essential to the preservation and future progress of democracy.

I applaud the outstanding achievements of the Civitas International Programs, and wish the delegates to the 11th World Congress on Civic Education much success in their continued efforts throughout the world in developing a political culture supportive of democratic values, principles, and institutions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, May 3, 2007, I requested and received a leave of absence from May 3 to May 9, 2007, due to my presence at previous commitments in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 315, the Tom Davis of Virginia Amendment, "no"; Rollcall No. 316, the Thompson of Mississippi Amendment, "aye"; Rollcall No. 317, on Motion to Recommit with Instructions, "no"; Rollcall No. 318, on Passage, Homeland Security Authorization Act, "aye".

Madam Speaker, I was also unavoidably absent from the chamber from March 21, 2007 to March 22, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 167, Motion to Permit to Proceed in Order on This Day, "aye"; Rollcall No. 168, the Neugebauer of Texas Amendment, "no"; Rollcall No. 169, the Price of Georgia Amendment, "no"; Rollcall No. 170, the Al Green of Texas Amendment, as Modified, "aye"; Rollcall No. 171, on Motion to Recommit with Instructions, "no"; Rollcall No. 172, on Passage, Gulf Coast Hurricane Housing Recovery Act, "aye"; Rollcall No. 173, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 835, "aye"; Rollcall No. 174, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 327, "aye"; Rollcall No. 175, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 797, "aye"; Rollcall No. 176, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 1284, "aye"; Rollcall No. 177, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 1130, "aye"; Rollcall No. 178, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 740, "aye"; Rollcall No. 179, on Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 260, "aye"; Rollcall No. 180, on Agreeing to the Resolution, "aye"; Rollcall No. 181, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, H. Con. Res. 66, "aye"; Rollcall No. 182, on Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 261, "aye"; Rollcall No. 183, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, "aye";

Rollcall No. 184, on Approving the Journal, "aye".

CONGRATULATING PAM SCHMIDT

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, dedicated and passionate teachers are vital to the education and development of our future generations. Today, I am honored to recognize Ms. Pam Schmidt, an eighth grade science teacher, in Aurora, Colorado. Ms. Schmidt is a recipient of the 2007 Amgen Award for Science Teaching Excellence for her exceptional efforts and commitment to provide her students with an outstanding science curriculum.

Ms. Schmidt, the 1997 Colorado Teacher of the Year, seeks to inspire her students to explore the world around them by providing hands-on experiences such as collecting fossils in the Badlands of Wyoming or caring for one of the 47 classroom snakes. Through her efforts and example, Ms. Schmidt has helped foster a love of science and provided a better learning environment for her students.

The Award for Science Teaching Excellence is given by Amgen, an internationally known biotechnology company with branches in Colorado. The Amgen Award for Science Teaching Excellence is given to teachers in public and private schools whose dedication to imparting a love of learning and interest in science to the future generations. The recipients are selected by an independent panel that judges the applicants on effectiveness and creativity of teaching methods and how they plan to use the grant money to further science education in their schools.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RICHARD MORGAN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Richard Morgan for his service of 10 years as founding Dean of the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada Las Vegas.

Dean Richard Morgan has overseen the development of the Boyd School of Law. His vision and commitment to academic excellence, as well as his talents as an academic administrator allowed the Boyd School of Law to receive full American Bar Association accreditation in five years, a truly incredible accomplishment.

Prior to becoming Dean of the Boyd School of Law, Morgan contributed to the legal profession in a number of different forums. From 1972 through 1980, Morgan served as an Associate, and later Partner, at the law firm of Krueger & Marsh in Los Angeles, California. In 1980, Morgan dedicated himself to the study of law and became an Associate Professor of Law at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona. In 1983, Morgan was named Associate Dean of Arizona State University, a position