

works in Knight's Ferry. In the late 1850s, David Locke built a flour mill at Knight's Ferry. The mill was destroyed by a flood in 1862, but was rebuilt by David Tulloch in 1866. Charles Tulloch, David's son, assumed management of the mill and purchased the miner's canal and water rights so he could extend the canal and sell the water to irrigate six thousand acres near Oakdale and Valley Home.

In 1887, the Wright Irrigation Act was approved by the California State Legislature and signed into law, giving water districts eminent domain rights, authority to issue bonds and to tax properties for the construction, maintenance and operations of irrigation works. In 1890, the Oakdale Irrigation Company began to work on an eleven mile long canal near Knight's Ferry. A few years later the Stanislaus Power and Water Company, headed by Mr. Tulloch, took over the irrigation company works. In 1909, Oakdale citizens held a town hall meeting to demand their own irrigation system; the land was surveyed and the district boundaries were established. With this completed, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors authorized an election in Oakdale; the people voted 849 to 27 to create the Oakdale Irrigation District. On November 1, 1909, the Oakdale Irrigation District, OID, was formally established.

In 1910, the OID partnered with the South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) to jointly purchase the "Tulloch System" for six hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The two districts agreed on equal water rights, totaling over nine hundred second-feet of natural flow diversion. Since 1912, the OID and the SSJID have jointly constructed five dams on the Stanislaus River. The first was Goodwin Dam constructed at a cost of \$325,000.

The Melones Dam was completed in 1926, providing 112,500 acre-feet of water storage. Completed in 1957, the Tri-Dam project, including the Donnell's, Beardsley and Tulloch Dams, added 230,400 acre-feet of storage capacity to the watershed and a combined power generation capacity of eighty-one thousand kilowatts. Along with these storage facilities the OID built approximately three hundred and fifty miles of canals and laterals to supply water to users throughout the district. Completed in 1984, the Sand Bar Hydroelectric powerhouse added over sixteen thousand kilowatts of power for the district.

In 2004, the OID launched a major Water Resource Plan to study means to repair, rebuild, and modernize the old and outdated system. The plan's overall goal was to protect the OID's water rights while enhancing the system and improving services. The Plan has led to major rehabilitation efforts that continue today.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the Oakdale Irrigation District on 100 years of development and service within its region. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing the Oakdale Irrigation District many years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I regret that I missed rollcall votes Nos. 832–841.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 832–837 and votes 839–841. On rollcall vote No. 838, I would have voted "nay."

AVA SUZANNE CULVER MAKES HER MARK ON THE WORLD

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chad and April Culver on the birth of their daughter, Ava Suzanne Culver. Ava was born yesterday, Wednesday, November 4, 2009. She weighed 7 pounds and 14 ounces and measured 22 inches long. My wife Faye joins me in wishing Chad and April, and Avery's grandparents Durwood and Vickie Stephenson, great happiness upon this new addition to their family.

As the father of three, I know the joy and pride that Chad and April feel at this special time. Children remind us of the incredible miracle of life, and they keep us young at heart. Every day they show us a new way to view the world. I know the Culvers look forward to the changes and challenges that their new daughter will bring to their lives while taking pleasure in the many rewards they are sure to receive as they watch Ava grow.

I welcome young Ava into the world and wish Chad and April all the best.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN OVERINGTON

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John Overington as he becomes the first member to reach 25 years of service in the West Virginia House of Delegates.

First elected to represent the 55th District of West Virginia in 1984, John has spent the past 25 years working tirelessly to address the needs of Berkeley County. He has become revered for his public service while successfully bringing results through his leadership and involvement with numerous community organizations. Working on many vital pieces of legislation, John has assured that the best interests of West Virginia are at the forefront.

John is involved in countless organizations and has received several recognitions for his efforts, including Martinsburg-Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Chairman Award in 1988. I know his involvement in the Bedington Ruritan Club is very special to him, where his passionate support has helped achieve fellowship, goodwill, and community service in the area.

It is an honor to congratulate such a distinguished public servant for his years of service and contribution to Berkeley County and the State of West Virginia. I'm proud to call John a friend and fellow West Virginian.

IN HONOR OF BILL POOLE

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, many years ago on a high mountain lake, two young boys were catching trout from a small rowboat, using corn kernels for bait. The "captain" of this ten-foot boat was a wiry, older guy with an ageless face and a direct manner. He was all business.

"Keep your rod tip up. You're hooked into a monster," he commanded. The boy let out a whoop as the "monster," a twelve-inch rainbow trout, broke the surface of the lake.

That boy was me. The other boy was my brother Sam, who is now serving in Iraq.

The captain of the rowboat was Bill Poole who, on this and other occasions, made life very exciting for us. Sadly, Bill lost his battle with cancer last month.

After our first experience together, I would learn that Bill was a legendary outdoorsman and sport fishing captain, whose "monsters" were fish that weighed in at hundreds of pounds, whose fishing trips were 1,000 mile sojourns, and whose boats were the standard for the sport fishing industry.

But on that day, Bill was exhibiting the quality that made so many San Diegans and outdoorsmen from around the world want to be near him. He radiated outdoor excitement and anticipation. Bill Poole was fun. For us kids, his mock sternness would half-frighten us and then melt into a big smile as he showed us "the right way to do it."

Bill represented the fabulous outdoor dimension of our San Diego community. Early on he recognized the treasure that the fishing grounds of California and Baja California offered to outdoorsmen who wanted their fishing trip to be a real adventure. He was the father of long-range sport fishing in San Diego. His talent for finding big fish was legendary. His integrity was stainless, and his personality pulled people of all ages to him like a giant magnet.

One of those people was his wife Ingrid. A combination of beauty and purpose, she shared Bill's life on a thousand outdoor adventures around the world. Together, and with thousands of adventurous San Diego friends, they made the Safari Club a wellspring of conservation and outdoor fun.

When the Hunter family was going on a hunting trip, Dad would always make a swing by Bill's house to "borrow" equipment. Bill would ladle out gear and advice on our upcoming outing, interspersed with comments like "I'll never see this again." Then he and Dad would laugh. The gear would eventually make it back to Bill's garage.

A new generation is charged with stewardship of the magnificent outdoors resource that we call America. It's our job to keep our waters and land full of game and fish. As important, it's our job to keep our wonderful resource open for enjoyment by our citizens and their kids. Let's remember that enjoying that resource was Bill's legacy, so that a hundred years from now, a small boy can bring in a 12-inch "monster" rainbow trout under of the encouragement of people just like Bill Poole.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PUGET
SOUND RECOVERY ACT OF 2009

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. DICKS. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Puget Sound Recovery Act of 2009.

One of the iconic physical features of my home state is Puget Sound. It is a keystone of our identity in Washington State. In a region known for its beauty, Puget Sound is beyond comparison.

But the postcard image of Puget Sound belies the fact that it is in decline. Over the last 20 years we have seen increasing signs that water quality is deteriorating. We are experiencing low-oxygen zones in a growing number of areas within Puget Sound. Many of our most cherished aquatic species are in trouble with salmon and Orcas listed under the Endangered Species Act. At this point, nearly three-quarters of our original estuaries and wetlands are gone. And as a toxic remnant of its more industrialized past, the bottom of the Sound has many thousands of acres of extreme contamination.

Even with this decline, the Sound remains a natural wonder, and my legislation will provide an increased Federal role to reverse the deterioration. Its 2,800 square miles of inland marine waters makes Puget Sound the Nation's second largest estuary after Chesapeake Bay. There is a strong marine and natural resource industry. The bounty of the Sound includes several hundred fish species, plentiful shellfish and shrimp, 25 different marine mammals and 100 different species of sea birds.

Several years ago, the State of Washington led by Governor Gregoire recognized the dire condition of Puget Sound. In response, the Puget Sound Partnership was set up to lead the state effort to restore the Sound. The Partnership developed the Puget Sound Action Agenda which was recently approved by the EPA as the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan. This Action Agenda will serve as the blueprint that local and state government, Tribes, and federal agencies will follow in this cooperative effort to restore Puget Sound. In tandem with these efforts occurring in Washington State, the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee which I chair has approved increasing amounts of funding for Puget Sound in the annual EPA budget. For FY 2010, I am proud that the EPA budget contains \$50 million for Puget Sound. President Obama signed this spending bill into law on October 30th.

The Puget Sound Recovery Act of 2009 sets up an EPA office in Washington State to coordinate the federal effort to implement the Action Agenda. The other Federal agencies that are involved in the cleanup include the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Park Service, the Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service within the Department of Agriculture, the United States Geological Survey, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Departments of Commerce, Defense, Homeland Security and Transportation. In addition, this bill authorizes grants to study the causes of the Sound's declining water quality and ways to counter these threats, as well as grants for sewer and stormwater discharge projects.

I am pleased that the 6 Washington State Delegation Members whose districts surround the Puget Sound are original cosponsors of this legislation.

Madam Speaker, the Puget Sound Recovery Act of 2009 is an important step to authorize the federal role in the cleanup of this important water body.

CHERYL ANDERSON PEGUES ON
THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered to pay tribute to an outstanding member of our community and my good friend, Cheryl Pegues, as she celebrates her retirement. A dedicated professional, volunteer, mentor and friend, Cheryl has earned the respect and admiration of those throughout our community.

Cheryl has been a member of the Administration at Gateway Community College in New Haven, Connecticut for more than two decades. She spent 18 years as the Director of Financial Aid, a year and a half as Acting Dean of Students, and, today, is retiring from the position of Director of Student Development and Services. Prior to her move to Gateway, she served as Assistant Director of the Connecticut Talent Assistance Cooperative-Education Opportunity Center—a federal TRIO program where she also served as an education counselor. As you know, TRIO programs are educational opportunity outreach programs designed to motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Throughout her professional career, Cheryl sought to assist young people in their endeavors to further their education. Many of those she worked with would not have otherwise benefitted from a college education. Education is the cornerstone of success and today, more than ever before, our young people are facing weighty challenges as they try to pursue a college degree—and those challenges are even larger for disadvantaged children. Cheryl's work has opened the doors of opportunity for countless young people and made all the difference in their lives.

Cheryl's interest in enriching the lives of young people extends far beyond her professional life. Over the years she has been an active member of the Board of Directors of the Latino Youth Development, the Education Support Services program, the Children in Crisis Coordinating Committee, and the Urban Improvement Corps. Cheryl served on the original Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Conference Committee and has organized financial aid workshops and college orientation seminars upon request from local high schools, churches, as well as civic and service organizations.

In addition to all of this, Cheryl still finds the time to serve as a Deacon and active parishioner at Immanuel Missionary Baptist Church. She also served as a member of numerous professional organizations including the Theta Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha

Sorority, the National Council of Negro Women, the Greater New Haven Chapter of the NAACP, and the New Haven Chapter of the Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Her invaluable contributions have left an indelible mark on our community and I have no doubt that Cheryl will continue in her work to enrich the lives of young people and make our community a better place to live, learn and grow.

Today, as she celebrates her retirement from her professional life, I am proud to join her husband, Elbert, her children, Elbert and Elicia, and her granddaughter, Kaila, as well as the many family, friends, and colleagues in extending my sincere congratulations to Cheryl Pegues. Her extraordinary professional career and infinite generosity touched the hearts and minds of many. I wish her all the best for many more years of health and happiness.

HEALTH CARE

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, 4-1/2 decades ago on this very floor, Congress debated legislation closely related to the bill we will consider later this week.

It is said that history is destined to repeat itself, especially when we repeat ourselves. So listen to these statements from the predecessors of my friends in the minority when they debated the bill creating Medicare.

Their arguments sound very familiar—some strikingly similar—to the comments we've been hearing about the Affordable Health Care for America Act:

Quoting Representative Durwood G. Hall, a Republican congressman from Missouri, who happened to also be a medical doctor:

Mr. Speaker, the basis of quality medical care is the voluntary relationship between the doctor and patient. This would begin to disappear as the Government supplants the individual as the purchaser and provider of health services . . .

Are we to tell the people of America, the senior citizens, that they are not capable of determining this matter . . .

The result will inescapably be third-party intrusion into the practice of hospitalization and medicine. The physician's judgment would be open to question by others, not responsible for the patient's wellbeing . . .

Congressman Hall went onto say:

. . . Its adoption would be another downward step toward of loss of freedom of choice.

Consequently, we cannot stand idly by now, as the Nation is urged to embark on an ill-conceived adventure in Government medicine, the end of which, no one can see, and from which the patient is certain to be the ultimate sufferer. For make no mistake about it: The medical profession will never deprive the people of high-quality medical care and the fruits of progress of medical science. That will come when the Government begins meddling and interfering with medical freedom.

Quoting Edward Derwinski, a Republican congressman from Illinois, who made similar arguments:

As we look into the future, we see clear signs of rigid governmental control of our