

HONORING SYLVIA L. WARNER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sylvia L. Warner for her outstanding service to the people of Michigan's Eighth Congressional District.

Ms. Warner was born and raised in Roanoke, Virginia. After graduating from Jefferson Senior High School, she began her career in journalism at the Belding Banner where she worked from 1969 through 1973. In her dual role as photographer and reporter, she covered local news in Michigan's Ionia County. It was during this time that she developed her passion for journalism and honed many of her reporting talents.

After leaving the Belding Banner in 1973, she joined The Daily News in Greenville, Michigan. Ms. Warner was promoted through the ranks at the paper where she held several positions. She began as the local reporter for the Family Living Section, then the Managing Editor ending her career with the paper as the Editor. Ms. Warner was instrumental in managing a 10 member staff of reporters and photographers. After 20 years of editorial work focusing on local news and events, Ms. Warner left the publication to pursue other interests.

In 1993, Ms. Warner moved to Lansing, Michigan, and combined her editorial expertise with her passion for politics. She joined the Michigan House Majority Communications Office as a Communications Specialist. Her experience with local and community communications proved to be invaluable to the freshmen House members she was assigned to assist. In 1997, Ms. Warner joined the Michigan Senate Majority Communications Office as Senior Writer and Media Specialist. She was tasked with coordinating special media events and supervising junior writers.

In 1999, I was honored to have Ms. Warner join my Senate Majority Floor Leadership office. She quickly became an invaluable member of my staff. With Ms. Warner's experience and guidance, my ability to communicate and work with media was dramatically improved.

In 2000, when I decided to run for the U.S. House of Representatives, I enlisted Ms. Warner's expertise to serve as my press secretary. With the guidance of a talented team I became the U.S. Representative to Michigan's Eighth Congressional District. This would not have been possible without the years of experience, guidance and faith of such talented people like Ms. Warner.

Since my first congressional race, Ms. Warner has served as an exceptional Press Secretary and has been a cornerstone of my team. After many years of dedicated service, she has decided to move to Michigan to be closer to her children, grandchildren and great grandchild.

I, along with the constituents of Michigan's Eighth District, owe Sylvia Warner a debt of gratitude for her unwavering commitment to public and civic service throughout the years. She will be greatly missed.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Sylvia L. Warner for her service and wish her the best in her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO PATTY BENTLEY

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Patty Bentley of Plattsburgh, New York on her retirement after 41 years as a librarian at Plattsburgh State and other institutions.

Patty was born in Kentucky, spent her early childhood in Michigan, and began her career as a medical librarian at the University of Cincinnati in 1970. Since 1977, she has worked to improve the quality of education for upstate New York students at Plattsburgh State. For 34 years, she has served to make her community a better place by volunteering countless hours with various local organizations. Simply put, Plattsburgh would not be what it is today without her tireless efforts.

I have the privilege of calling Patty my friend, and I continue to look to her for guidance on local issues. At the end of this year, Patty will become a retiree, but I am confident that she will never stop serving the community. Mr. Speaker, I thank Patty Bentley for her years of service and congratulate her on 41 wonderful years on the job.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on December 15, 2011. If I was present, I would have voted on the following: H.R. 5446—rollcall No. 631—"yea"; H. Res. 1759—rollcall No. 632—"yea"; S. Con. Res. 72—rollcall No. 633—"yea"; H.R. 6205—rollcall No. 634—"yea"; H. Res. 1764—rollcall No. 635—"yea"; H. Res. 1761—rollcall No. 636—"yea"; H. Res. 1743—rollcall No. 637—"yea"; H.R. 2965—rollcall No. 638—"yea."

HONORING DON SIMMS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Don Simms upon his retirement as the Assistant District Supervisor for the Wildlife Services Central District.

Mr. Simms began his career with the USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services as an Animal Damage Control Trapper in 1971 in Mariposa County. He eventually left Mariposa County and worked in a number of places in the state and country, including Santa Clara County, Modoc County, San Diego County at the San Diego Wild Animal Park on the wild cheetah project, Alameda County, San Mateo County, and finally on Kodiak Island, Alaska, on a raccoon rabies project. In 1983, Mr. Simms came back to Mariposa County to become the Assistant District Supervisor for the Wildlife Services Central District.

Mr. Simms has been a dedicated employee of the Wildlife Services program and of Mariposa County. His trapping skills are legendary and he has developed a number of control devices and techniques that have been used in the County and throughout other western states. Mr. Simms has also made presentations on his techniques to Wildlife Services employees in other western states. Mr. Simms has dealt with a wide variety of animals in his time with Wildlife Services, including rattlesnakes, feral pigs, bears, mountain lions and even a Bengal tiger.

In addition to his service to the county, Mr. Simms is a dedicated family man. Don and his wife Judy look forward to having more time to enjoy with their children and grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Don Simms for his dedicated service to the people of Mariposa County. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Simms many years of continued success.

NATIONAL ALZHEIMER'S PROJECT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 15, 2010

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support S. 3036, the National Alzheimer's Project Act. This bill would provide critical federal support and coordination to overcome the growing Alzheimer's crisis.

Today, the effects of Alzheimer's disease are devastating. An estimated 5.3 million people are living with the disease. We must act decisively, or the devastation of Alzheimer's disease will grow far worse. Alzheimer's disease is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States, and is the fastest growing of the 10 leading causes of death. In 2010, Medicare and Medicaid will spend \$122 billion caring for people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

The National Alzheimer's Project Act would establish an inter-agency advisory council to address the government's efforts on Alzheimer's research, care, institutional services, and home and community-based programs. It would also increase awareness, support, and outreach for those confronted with Alzheimer's disease and for their families to help better equip our nation to face this disease.

To decrease health disparities, this bill will work to ensure the inclusion of ethnic and racial populations who are at higher risk for Alzheimer's or who are less likely to receive care in clinical, research, and service programs.

Legislation that advances a cure for Alzheimer's disease is near and dear to my heart because of my father and the millions of others like him who live every day with this disease.

I urge my colleagues to support such a critical piece of legislation. It's a monumental step forward in our battle against Alzheimer's and other dementias.

ISLAND ELDERLY HOUSING ON
MARTHA'S VINEYARD**HON. BILL DELAHUNT**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Island Elderly Housing, an organization that has done an outstanding job of serving the people of Martha's Vineyard.

Island Elderly Housing (IEH) was formed in 1976 by local residents of the Island who were active in healthcare, housing, serving elders and the ministry to provide decent, safe and affordable housing for low and moderate income elderly and handicapped persons. Under the able leadership of Carol Lashnits, the agency has created twelve developments totaling 165 units, using both donated land and buildings and financing from the USDA and HUD.

IEH has grown to become a leader in the advocacy and provision of residential and related services for Island elderly and handicapped residents. Since 1981 when IEH received its first construction loan of \$1.9 million from the Farmers Home Administration's Section 515 program, the agency has received more than \$26 million in federal and state grants and loans, and private grants and donations.

As the nonprofit developer and manager for all of the units, IEH is responsible for the fiscal management for all of the development funds as well as the ongoing operating budgets.

Careful management of its funds and its fiscal responsibility has resulted in ongoing receipt of grants and contributions to IEH and its programs from foundations, local religious organizations, and area citizens.

In 2007, Carol Lashnits left her position as Executive Director for IEH and was replaced by Ann Wallace. Under Wallace, with the help of the larger community and a staff of fifteen, supportive services to aging residents have improved and increased and now include transportation, health, education, advocacy, community building, recreation, exercise, yoga, a meals program, spiritual opportunities, gardening and intergenerational activities.

At the present time the IEH's Board and Executive Director are analyzing the present and future needs of elders on the Island as it plans for its own future activities. It is my hope that its next 30 years will be as productive as its first 30 years have been.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on December 14–15, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for Rollcall No. 628–638. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 628—"yes"—Longfellow House–Washington's Headquarters National Historic Site Designation Act.

Rollcall No. 629—"yes"—Census Oversight Efficiency and Management Reform Act of 2010.

Rollcall No. 630—"yes"—To direct the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property in Houston, Texas, to the Military Museum of Texas, and for other purposes.

Rollcall No. 631—"yes"—Harry T. and Harriette Moore Post Office.

Rollcall No. 632—"yes"—Expressing support for designation of January 23rd as "Ed Roberts Day".

Rollcall No. 633—"yes"—Recognizing the 45th anniversary of the White House Fellows Program.

Rollcall No. 634—"yes"—Private Isaac T. Cortes Post Office.

Rollcall No. 635—"yes"—Providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2965.

Rollcall No. 636—"yes"—Congratulating Auburn University quarterback and College Park, Georgia, native Cameron Newton on winning the 2010 Heisman Trophy for being the most outstanding college football player in the United States.

Rollcall No. 637—"yes"—Congratulating Gerda Weissmann Klein on being selected to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Rollcall No. 638—"yes"—Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act of 2010.

INTRODUCTION OF THE QUILEUTE
TRIBE TSUNAMI PROTECTION ACT**HON. NORMAN D. DICKS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. DICKS. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Quileute Tribe Tsunami Protection Act. This legislation will provide land to the Quileute Tribe to enable the re-location of many facilities outside the tsunami zone. Many of you may know that the Quileute Tribe is featured in the Twilight series of movies.

For people like the Quileutes living along the Pacific coast of the Olympic Peninsula in Washington State, a tsunami is a very real threat they face every day. The Quileute day care facility, the elder center, Tribal offices and Tribal members' homes are directly in the path of the tsunami that one day will surely come. Getting the Tribe out of danger is of great concern to all of us, and I am very pleased to introduce legislation to help the Tribe move their people and infrastructure out of the danger zone.

The Olympic National Park completely surrounds the one-mile-square Quileute Reservation, most of which is threatened either by tsunami or the Quillayute River flood zone. The only way to get the Tribe out of the danger zone is for the Park to transfer higher, safer lands to the Tribe. For many years there has been a dispute between the Park and the Tribe about the northern boundary of the Reservation, and this legislation resolves that dispute to the benefit of the Park, the Tribe and the general public. In addition to protecting the Tribe from tsunami threat, this legislation will permanently preserve public access to some of the most beautiful beaches on the Washington State coast, and will permanently protect as wilderness thousands of acres currently in the Olympic National Park.

I want to thank the Quileute Tribe, National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis and Olympic

National Park Superintendent Karen Gustin for their hard work over many years to resolve this dispute. There must be Congressional approval for this settlement, so I ask my colleagues to consider the present danger to the Tribe and to support this bill.

HONORING NORMAN YOSHIO
MINETA

SPEECH OF

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 15, 2010

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1377, a resolution honoring the accomplishments and legacy of a great American patriot, Norman Yoshio Mineta.

Mr. Mineta's life began like that of so many other Americans. He was born in 1931 in San Jose, California, the son of immigrant parents. However, unlike the typical American story, he and the Mineta family were forced to leave their home and live in the Heart Mountain internment camp near Cody, Wyoming, during World War II. Norm Mineta overcame this experience and went on to graduate from the University of California at Berkeley and serve his country as an intelligence officer in the United States Army.

Most of us know Norm Mineta as Secretary Mineta. In 2000, Secretary Mineta became the first Asian American to serve in a Presidential Cabinet when he was appointed Secretary of Commerce by President William J. Clinton. He continued to break new barriers when he became the first Asian American to serve as Secretary of Transportation in President George W. Bush's cabinet. He went on to become America's longest serving Secretary of Transportation.

For many of us, Norm will always be "Secretary Mineta" because of the respect and leadership which has become synonymous with his name. He is a true political trailblazer and leader of the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. In 1967, he was the first Asian American to serve on the San Jose city council and he became the first Asian American mayor of a major United States city when he was elected to lead San Jose in 1971.

From 1975 to 1995, Secretary Mineta continued to serve the San Jose community as its Representative in the U.S. House of Representatives. During his twenty years in the House, he championed legislation that established Asian Pacific American Heritage Week, the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, and the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, the seminal reparations bill where the United States Government officially apologized for sending families of Japanese descent to internment camps during World War II. He helped author the Americans with Disabilities Act, which became law in 1990. He also co-authored the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, which gave state and local governments control over highway and mass transit decisions. Under his leadership, then-Congressman Mineta founded and chaired the bicameral and bipartisan Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, which continues to promote and advocate Asian American and Pacific Islander concerns and issues.