

of Kaiser Steel's Mineral Resources Division. In 1996, he founded NexGen Resources. After finishing in the private sector, McNeil served on National Coal Council after receiving a nomination from the Secretary of Energy. Mr. McNeil has served as director of the Mining and Reclamation Council, National Coal Association, and the Colorado Mining Association. He also serves on the School of Mines board of governors, the Brigham Young University School of Business National Advisory Council, and is vice President of the Denver Area Boy Scouts.

Judy McNeil's career is equally impressive, carving her own path in the non-profit sector and as a leader in her church. After a brief time in the retail sector, Mrs. McNeil worked for the North Dakota Wheat Commission. When the family moved to Colorado, she served at the Denver Area Public Affairs Council for the Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints, and has been leader in her church for the past 35 years. Ms. McNeil is a strong proponent of the arts—she served four years at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. Her work in the medical field has not gone unnoticed either. The Children's Diabetes Foundation tapped Mrs. McNeil to chair their Brass Ring Luncheon in 2008, and she is now the incoming president at the Children's Diabetes Foundation Guild.

Charlie and Judy McNeil will surely continue their dedication to their community for years to come. Mr. Speaker, I feel it is fitting that this body recognizes Charlie and Judy McNeil for their lifetime of service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CALHOUN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2011

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a very special occasion today—the 100th anniversary of the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce.

Originally, the Anniston Chamber of Commerce was formed in 1910 and celebrated their first year at their Annual Meeting in 1911. Two neighboring cities and a town, Oxford, Jacksonville and Piedmont also formed chambers of commerce. In 1979, Oxford and Jacksonville merged with Anniston to create the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce, and in 1984, Piedmont also joined, truly creating a "Voice of Business."

The Chamber solicits input from member businesses, forms policy and acts as a spokesperson for the business and professional community. As the first stop for newcomers, the Chamber serves as the area's "front porch" and referral center. The Chamber provides specific services such as training, marketing tools, networking opportunities and information to assist members in growing their businesses, thus strengthening the local economy.

Over 300 volunteers carry out the annual Program of Action. The chamber is independent of government funding and its entrepreneurial spirit has led the organization to a point in which it delivers three dollars of serv-

ice value for every dollar paid in dues. The chamber has played a crucial role in many community milestones including the establishment of Fort McClellan and Anniston Army Depot, continuing safe destruction of stored chemical munitions, easing of tensions during the Civil Rights era, recruitment of industries, formation of the Economic Development Council and construction of the Veterans' Memorial Parkway.

As Calhoun County and northeast Alabama move forward, the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce is poised for continuing growth and success and I am proud to honor the 100th anniversary of this important organization in my hometown. Congratulations to the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce.

IRANIAN EXECUTIONS

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2011

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, in late 2009, Iranian dissidents took to the streets to protest the fraudulent election of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in what would become Iran's Green Movement. These protesters stood up to hard-line government militias, which fired on crowds and raided universities, killing dozens, injuring scores more, and imprisoning thousands.

Today, the thuggish Iranian regime went a step further. In what was undoubtedly meant as a message to the pro-democracy opposition, two political activists who had protested the 2009 election—Ja'far Kazemi and Mohammad Ali Haj Aghaie—were executed. Hanged, Mr. Speaker. Death by hanging. . . .

Last Congress, the President signed into law an Iran sanctions bill. One provision targets those in Iran committing the human rights abuses. So far, the Administration has targeted just eight individuals for their involvement in beatings and torture. Sadly, Monday's events show there are many, many more human rights abusers to target. Anybody who has quashed the human rights of those seeking democracy deserves to be on this list.

LET'S PROTECT MOBILE HOMES

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced the Mobile Home Protection Act, H.R. 326. The purpose of this bill is to provide Section 8 assistance to low-income owners of mobile homes.

Owning one's home is a central part of the American Dream. For many low-income Americans, mobile homes provide the opportunity to achieve this goal of homeownership.

However, in many cases, while the family owns their home, they do not own the land on which the home sits. In some cases, the landlord will not accept Section 8 vouchers for the land on which the mobile home sits.

I have introduced the Mobile Home Protection Act to correct this problem. This bill would provide this Section 8 assistance directly to

the homeowners to apply toward their rent costs for the land on which their homes sit.

Many mobile home owners have invested their life savings into buying their mobile homes. As mobile home park rents increase, these low-income homeowners are not able to keep up with this cost. This legislation will help keep these homeowners in their homes and maintain these established communities.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ST. CLAIR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2011

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 25th anniversary of the St. Clair County, Illinois, Health Department.

By 1985, there was gathering evidence of the need for a public health department to serve the residents of St. Clair County. Since the 1930s there had been a health department, the East Side Health District, to serve the residents of East St. Louis and several surrounding communities but public health care services did not exist for residents outside the East Side Health District service area.

As Chairman of the St. Clair County Board at the time, I was very concerned that county residents did not have access to public health services. As a result, I appointed a citizens committee, made up of concerned citizens and health care professionals, to determine if there was, indeed, a need for a county-wide public health department.

After many meetings and input from the public, in October of 1985, I presented a resolution to the St. Clair County Board that was approved, creating the St. Clair County Health Department. I am very proud to have played a role in establishing the St. Clair County Health Department.

The new Board of Health met to elect officers in January, 1986, and recruited Kevin Hutchinson to serve as the Executive Director, a post he has held to this day. Funding for the Health Department came from the existing tuberculosis tax, which was converted to a public health tax.

The new Health Department focused on the most critical priorities initially, targeting issues such as communicable disease prevention, food safety and maternal and child health. Today, the Health Department is organized into four divisions, Administration, Health Protection, Community Health and Personal Health.

Evidence of the need for this department can be found in its growth and expansion during the past 25 years. From just over 20 employees and a budget of under \$500,000, the department has grown to 70 employees and a budget exceeding \$6 million. While the need is great, the dedicated professionals of the St. Clair County Health Department continue to meet that need by providing excellent health care, prevention services and educational outreach to the communities and residents of St. Clair County.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the board of directors, administration and employees of the St. Clair County

Health Department, as well as the members of the St. Clair County Board, on their 25th anniversary, and wishing them the very best for many more years of continued service to the people of St. Clair County, Illinois.

CLEAN AIR FOR OUR BORDER

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced the Foreign Air Impact Regulation (FAIR) Air Act (H.R. 325). The purpose of this bill is to combat air pollution along our borders and to ensure that our communities are not unfairly penalized.

Our border communities are being besieged by toxic pollutants from neighboring countries. This is making the air quality along our border worse than ever—and leaves our communities with little recourse to improve the situation.

The FAIR Air Act says that if pollution from another country causes non-attainment of air pollution regulations, then the EPA and the Secretary of State should work together to lower it. Furthermore, the effective date of reclassification should be delayed until the Secretary of State and local leaders develop a plan with the neighboring country to improve the air quality.

We cannot put this international problem on the backs of those who simply happen to live along the border. There truly needs to be a bi-national cooperative solution to address this important issue. We all breathe the same air and it is only with bi-national cooperation and working together to achieve better air quality standards for all.

REEVES BROWN TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Reeves Brown of Grand Junction, Colorado, for his lifetime of contributions in promoting agricultural interests and effective government in the State of Colorado.

Mr. Brown has an impressive agricultural pedigree and has proven himself to be a valuable leader in the field. Mr. Brown grew up on a cattle ranch in Montana and received a B.S. in Agriculture Business from Montana State University. He began his career at the National Cattlemen's Association, serving two years with the organization. Afterwards, Mr. Brown spent nearly a decade at the Colorado Cattlemen's Association as Executive Vice President, during which time he elevated the Association as a national leader in animal care and natural resources issues. During Brown's tenure the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust was created in 1993, preserving over 250,000 acres of Colorado farmland. His leadership in agricultural conservation has spilled over into other States, too. Similar ag land trusts have conserved over one million acres of land. His efforts speak to his commitment in preserving the agricultural business in the United States.

For the past ten years, Mr. Brown has led the non-profit CLUB 20 as Executive Director, which aims to provide a dialogue and recommend public policy for the Western Colorado region. Mr. Brown's leadership earned him the recognition of Colorado's newly elected Governor—On January 3, Mr. Brown was appointed director of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, overseeing the diverse needs of Colorado communities. The department's responsibilities include areas such as education, land management, transportation, energy, water, and health care.

Mr. Brown's commitment to good public policy and track record of effective, collaborative decision-making will surely serve the people of Colorado well. Mr. Speaker, for his years of service in the public and agricultural sectors, Mr. Brown deserves the commendation of this body. We wish him the best of luck on his next endeavor.

CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF ROLLIE SMITH

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2011

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Rollie Smith, Fresno Field Director with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). After 12 years of dedicated service in Fresno, Rollie is moving to Washington, D.C. to be closer to his family.

Rollie Smith first came to Fresno, California in 1997 when he began work with Catholic Charities of Fresno. One year later, HUD hired Rollie as a community activist to help revitalize the City of Fresno. Rollie originally planned to help out for a few years, however his passion and commitment to the community quickly moved him up the ladder within HUD. Rollie became the Fresno Field Director in 2004 and has been doing a great job for the past seven years.

Rollie received his Masters' degrees from Loyola University, Chicago Jesuit Theological School, and the University of Chicago. A natural born leader and teacher, Rollie also taught classes at Loyola University, California State University, and the University of Hawaii.

One of Rollie's specialties was his unique ability to bring groups of people together to help solve issues affecting people in the Central Valley. One of these groups, the Federal Interagency Task Force, is a group that meets regularly and works together to tackle issues such as inadequate housing, poor education, health care, and low-paying jobs. Rollie will be truly missed in Fresno.

I applaud Rollie Smith for his many years of tireless work on behalf of families in California and the Central Valley. I know he will enjoy more time with his wife Bernie, his son Aaron Smith and his wife Carolyn, his daughter Suzanne Chartol and her husband J.P. Chartol, and his three grandchildren Adeline, Claire, and Remy Chartol.

Mr. Speaker, it should be noted that in addition to his countless gifts to our community, Rollie has been a true champion for my constituents. He and his team have always been available to discuss issues and work together to make our Central Valley a better place. I

ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the commitment, dedication and success of Rollie Smith and wish him well as he embarks on new endeavors.

OUR MILITARY MUST BE ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced the Military Environmental Responsibility Act (H.R. 332). The purpose of this bill is to require the Department of Defense to fully comply with Federal and State environmental laws.

Military exemptions from requirements and enforcement provisions under environment, public safety, and worker protection laws harm the environment and human health. Our constituents who border military bases should have the same protections as other municipalities.

This bill will not compromise military readiness. Environmental laws currently include exemptions for the military in the event of "paramount interest of the United States". These exemptions have only been used a handful of times, and the President would retain that authority over this legislation.

Americans believe that their government should be accountable to them and play by the same rules that they have to follow. Much of the cynicism and apathy of recent years can be traced directly to public perception that government officials and agencies are not accountable to anyone. We can only begin to restore faith in government and participation in democracy by ensuring that the federal government works under the same laws and regulations as private businesses and individuals.

DESTINEE REED TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Destinee Reed of Grand Junction, Colorado, for winning a statewide talent competition. Ms. Reed's entry into the competition earned her the opportunity to perform at Governor Hickenlooper's inaugural celebration on January 11, 2011.

Ms. Reed, 15 years old, composed and sang her song "My Colorado," where she sings about the beauty of her home state, mentioning wild mustangs, Palisade peaches, and skiing. The statewide contest accepted applications from elementary, middle and high school students, and while others won prizes as well, she was the only one allowed to perform at the Governor's inaugural party. Ms. Reed recognizes the performance as a unique and privileged opportunity for a young musical artist.

Mr. Speaker, I am thrilled to congratulate Ms. Reed on her musical accomplishments at such a young age. We wish her the best of luck with her academic and musical ambitions.