

late 50's they also have five kids of their own ranging in age from 21 to 36.

"We consider (the foster children) our very own as well," says Rufina. Their biological children treated the foster kids as siblings with the usual ups and downs of childhood, she says. It hasn't always been easy; a one time they had 12 foster children at once!

Some of the foster children measure their stay in weeks, others in months, and a few others in years. One 16 year-old girl currently living with them has been with them for 10 years. The children all call them mom and dad, and Rufina proudly carries their pictures in her wallet. Some of the foster children now have kids of their own, and the Tainatongo count five of them as their foster grandchildren.

While they do receive some compensation from the government as foster parents. "My payment is when the children appreciate what I've done," Rufina says. "The best (part of being a foster parent) is when the kids appreciate and remember you, they talk to you about their experiences."

Asked where she gets the patience to deal with all those children. Rufina replies with a beatific smile, "The Blessed Mother."

Mr. Speaker, Latte Magazine should be commended for honoring the Tainatongos and the other finalists for Islanders of the Year. These included the following individuals:

Tom Ahillen, the general manager for Matson Guam actively serves on the Gift of Life, a non profit organization created to facilitate blood donations for the local hospital.

Anita Sukola, a local Guam attorney provides pro-bono legal representation to disadvantaged persons, many of them victims of abuse.

Dr. Carolyn Hilt, a longtime island educator is the co-founder of the Micronesian Evangelical Mission and the Evangelical Christian Academy, now a premier educational institution on Guam.

Sister Eileen Mearns, the director of the Alee Shelter, a shelter for abused women and children on Guam, is unwavering in her support and advocacy for her clients. Many of them come to her in desperation and in need of protection and assistance.

I know that these individuals serve as fine examples of the generosity and dedication that many in our country still have. I hope that others take notice of their contributions to society and follow in their example. Congratulations to them all.

TRIBUTE TO HON. NOEL WATKINS

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 16, 1997

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Noel Watkins. Mr. Watkins is retiring from his position as superior court judge of Tehama County, CA.

Mr. Watkins was born in Alturas, CA, in October 1932, a descendent of pioneer ranchers. In his early years he attended public school in Chico and continued on to Chico State College where he received a bachelor's degree in political science with honors. After graduation he married Mary Jane Carpenter, native of Tehama County. His academic pursuits led him on to the University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, where in 1957 he was admitted to the California Bar.

Mr. Watkins returned to his northern California roots where he entered into private practice with Rawlins Coffman in Red Bluff. One year later he was appointed as deputy district attorney for Tehama County. This was to be only the beginning of a long career of public service. Over the next 38 years Mr. Watkins continued to serve the people of Tehama County. As the justice court judge for Red Bluff Judicial District while maintaining his own private practice. By 1975 he was elected to serve as superior court judge of Tehama County. His seat remained unchallenged for the duration of his career.

Judge Watkins will always be remembered as a man of honesty and integrity. His knowledge and expertise earned him a position on the California Judges Association's executive board as well as his receipt of their "25-Year Service to the Bench Award." It is with great honor that I recognize this man and his commitment to public service. Noel Watkins is a statesman whose service to this county is synonymous with justice.

On December 31, Judge Watkins will step down from the Bench. He will join his wife Mary Jane and their two children Laura Lazar and Charles Watkins and extended family to begin a new phase of life. Although more time may be spent hunting and fishing, it is without a doubt that law will be a part of that future.

His absence will be a loss to the community. I offer my best wishes for his retirement and look forward to acknowledging his future accomplishments in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO THE SURVIVORS AND FAMILIES OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE TUSKEGEE SYPHILIS STUDY

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 16, 1997

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House to today's White House ceremony in which President Clinton will issue a formal apology today to the eight survivors of the Tuskegee syphilis study.

From 1932 to 1972, the U.S. Public Health Service conducted a study, the "Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis in the Negro Male," in which they withheld treatment to 399 syphilis patients in Macon County, AL.

The intent of the study was to determine if syphilis caused cardiovascular damage more than neurological damage and if the natural course of syphilis differed between races. Treatment was given in the initial stages of the study but then withheld after the original study failed to produce any significant data. Even penicillin was denied to the infected participants when it became available in 1947.

It wasn't until a health worker went public in 1972 that the study was called into question.

Mr. Speaker, it is estimated that more than 100 of the participants, who were all impoverished sharecroppers from Macon County, died of tertiary syphilis. The Ad Hoc Advisory Panel that was appointed in 1972 to review the study determined that the Tuskegee study was ethically unjustified. They further concluded that the amount of knowledge gained was minimal in comparison to the risks that the study posed for the participants.

I am outraged that such an experiment was conducted in the United States. In 1974, the National Research Act created the National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research, which ensured that basic principles of research were established and followed from that point forward.

These actions, of course, are too little, too late for the victims of the Tuskegee syphilis study. In fact, the survivors and families of the participants have never received a formal apology until today. Now, 65 years after the start of this unethical study, the survivors will finally receive the long, overdue apology.

I consider this tragedy a dark chapter in our Nation's history. My thoughts and prayers go out to the victims and their families and hope that at least a small part of their pain may be relieved by today's ceremony. If nothing else, I hope today's apology helps bring closure to this national disgrace.

We must work to ensure that atrocities like that Tuskegee syphilis study will never again happen in the United States.

TRIBUTE TO JAKE STOCK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 16, 1997

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who blessed this world with his music. Jake Stock, who for more than 50 years was a permanent fixture on the American jazz scene, died recently at the age of 86. He will be remembered by all those whom he touched with his sax and song.

Born in Savannah, GA, on July 10, 1910, and having lived an exciting life since, Mr. Stock moved to Monterey in my congressional district from Los Angeles in 1938 with his wife, Grace. He quickly started making music. Offered a job at the Oasis Club in Salinas, Mr. Stock assembled his prized Abalone Stompers, a jazz ensemble that entertained thousands for decades to come. The group, composed of anywhere from 5 to 15 players, performed in a variety of festivals and clubs throughout California and the west coast. In 1958, they opened the Monterey Jazz Festival and shared the stage with Dizzie Gillespie and Louie Armstrong.

Throughout his career, Mr. Stock was the recipient of numerous honors. The inspiration for famed central coast author John Steinbeck's "Sweet Thursday," he was named Citizen of the Year by Monterey's Parade of Nations in 1982. Mr. Stock was also honored by Monterey's Pacheco and Paisano clubs with a dinner called the "Jake Bake." Until recently, he was a featured Sunday player at Big Sur's River Inn.

He is survived by four sons: Jay of Pasadena; Phil of Murphys; Jackson of Los Angeles and Peter of Portland; three daughters: Judy Cooper of Lake Havasu City, AZ; Katy Stock of Carmel and Sally Beckett of Carlsbad; his brother, Morgan Stock of Monterey and five grandchildren.