

no explanation to the sportsmen's community. The sportsmen's bill of rights will help keep these lands open as long as sportsman's use does not interfere with the primary use of the land.

This bill is very important to the people of the State of Alaska. The Federal Government controls over 242 million acres in our State, which makes up 66 percent of Alaska's total land area. To put it into perspective, the Federal lands in Alaska add up to over twice the total area of the entire State of California. This bill helps the Federal agencies keep these public lands open to use of our sportsmen and I urge its swift passage.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 1997

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation to transfer 190 acres of Federal land to Park County, WY. The legislation is the result of 5 years of dedication and hard work by the Cody Country Chamber of Commerce and the Cody Economic Development Council. I also extend a special thanks to Paul Hoffman, executive director of the Cody Country Chamber of Commerce, for his unwavering commitment in getting this matter resolved.

The land to be transferred is currently in public ownership, more specifically that of the Bureau of Reclamation. The Bureau has completed its withdrawal review of this land and have done extensive environmental testing, archaeological, and cultural resource studies. The State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed, and through the Bureau of Land Management [BLM], completed a cadastral survey of the land to be transferred.

All wetlands and lands with potential recreation, wildlife, and water management significance have been surveyed out of the area recommended for disposal, and that land will be retained by the Federal Government under Bureau of Reclamation management.

Through the General Services Administration [GSA], the Bureau of Reclamation recommends that all 190 acres be transferred to the county. BLM would of course be the logical Federal agency to receive the land, but it has formally confirmed it does not want to have the property under its management.

Mr. Speaker, this property, when transferred, will help ensure the economic stability of many businesses that currently hold leases on the property. Most of the acreage has excellent development potential as an industrial area, but the details of its use will be left to the discretion of the people of Park County, WY.

I am hopeful that my colleagues in the House will see the importance of conveying this Federal property, property that is no longer needed by the Federal Government, but is significant to the local entities that will directly benefit from it.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this legislation to my colleagues and urge their support for its prompt enactment.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CAPTAIN
EUGENE SWEENEY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 1997

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, as a retired member of the Michigan State Police, it is an honor for me to bring to the attention of the House of Representatives and the American public the celebration of the retirement of a former colleague, a constituent and most importantly, a friend, Capt. Eugene David Sweeney from the Michigan State Police.

Throughout his distinguished 30 year career, Captain Sweeney has exemplified the attributes and personal qualities it takes to achieve the respect he has earned and the official commendations he has received. As a member of the 67th Recruit School in 1967, he quickly rose through the ranks and was promoted to Sergeant on October 2, 1977, and was transferred to the Fire Marshal Division at First District Headquarters in Lansing, MI.

His leadership and abilities soon provided the basis for additional promotions, including one 8 month span in 1981 when he was promoted to lieutenant, then first lieutenant, and post commander of the Negaunee Post. In 1989, he was again promoted to inspector for the Eighth District. On September 13, 1992, Gene Sweeney received his final promotion as captain in his role as commander of the Eighth District. The Eighth District comprises all of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

There are few, if any positions where an individual places more on the line than in the area of law enforcement. Captain Sweeney put it all on the line every day for 30 years. He received the department life saving award on May 30, 1977. He also served as a model for many State troopers who served under his command and who have gone on to be excellent troopers themselves.

Captain Sweeney is married to the former Kathleen O'Rourke. They have three children, Shawn, Colleen and Aaron who, in keeping with family tradition, is also a member of the Michigan State Police. Aaron is serving with the Fire Marshal Division at the Eighth District Headquarters in Negaunee, MI.

Mr. Speaker, John Stuart Mill once said, "Everyone who receives the protection of society owes a return for the benefit." We have all received the benefit of knowing, working with and for Gene Sweeney and his family.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all the residents of Michigan's First Congressional District and as cochairman of the Congressional Law Enforcement Caucus, I congratulate Capt. Eugene Sweeney upon his retirement and wish him well with all future endeavors.

CELEBRATION OF THE FIFTIETH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE SANTA
BARBARA MENTAL HEALTH AS-
SOCIATION

HON. WALTER H. CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 1997

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Santa Barbara Mental Health

Association, which is located in my district and celebrates its 50th anniversary today. Historically, the needs of people with mental illness have often been neglected and forgotten. The Santa Barbara Mental Health Association was formed in 1947 by caring people who recognized the inadequacies in the care which mentally ill people received, and were determined never to allow these individuals to be ignored.

Today, the volunteers and staff of the association run two group homes and a drop-in center providing classes, support groups, meals, and a friendly atmosphere to mentally ill people. To the families of persons with mental illness, the association offers education and support services. The association also helps build understanding in the community by putting people in contact with, and educating them about, the challenges and triumphs of the mentally disabled.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take a moment to thank my dear friend Tom Rogers who will be honored by the Mental Health Association for his years of dedicated service and outstanding achievement on behalf of persons with mental illness. As a county supervisor and well-respected leader of our community, Tom Rogers has had the courage and ability to stand up and work for those people who most need a friend and advocate. And as everyone on the central coast knows, Mr. Speaker, Tom's courage and strength of spirit are shining brightly in the face of his own personal adversity.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me today in commending Tom Rogers and the Santa Barbara Mental Health Association for their years of service to the community.

"HAPPY 200TH BIRTHDAY TO
FELLOWSHIP LODGE"

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 1997

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker. One of the most interesting aspects of representing Massachusetts is our history as one of the original 13 States, and as a place where much of America began.

One great example of this is the Fellowship Lodge, A.F. & A.M. in Bridgewater, MA.

On June 15 this lodge will celebrate its 200th anniversary. On that day in 1797, the grand master of Masons in Massachusetts went to the town of Bridgewater to present a charter to Fellowship Lodge, and that same charter remains in Fellowship Lodge in Bridgewater today. Of particular interest is that the grand master who made that trip is a man who made another, more well known trip in Massachusetts 20 years earlier—Paul Revere. And the man who organized the petition drive to open a lodge of Masons in Bridgewater, Hector Orr, preceded myself and my House colleagues to Washington.

I congratulate the members of the lodge for their persistence in preserving this important part of our history. Massachusetts flourishes in part because our citizens recognize the value of maintaining our strong historical traditions even as we are pioneers in so many breakthrough technologies. It is I think of great note that the town of Bridgewater is the home both of this 200-year-old lodge, begun with a charter by Paul Revere when he was grand master