

handled criminal trial work. Before being appointed to the New York Supreme Court she served as the Deputy Criminal Justice Coordinator and Head of the Arson Strike Force at the Office of the New York City Criminal Justice Coordinator.

Since 1986 Ms. Snyder has held her position as a New York Supreme Court Judge, and in 2000 she was appointed to the Court of Claims. Judge Snyder presides mostly over the highest level, "A-1" multiple defendant narcotics felonies; drug gang/homicide cases; organized crime cases and "white-collar" criminal cases. She has presided over the trials of many of New York's most violent drug gangs and successfully defied death threats from major drug lords.

Judge Snyder is the author of "25 to Life" and is a continuing lecturer to Bar associations and law enforcement groups concerning narcotics, sex crimes, homicides, criminal trials and women and the law. Judge Snyder also speaks to many school groups and has adopted two classes at a local public school. She makes numerous monthly visits to schools to observe court proceedings and conduct mock trials.

Additionally, Judge Snyder has appeared on a range of television programs including: "60 Minutes," "The Today Show," and others. She has been featured on news, cable and Court TV programs regarding crime, drugs and drug gangs, rape, women and the law and law enforcement.

Finally, Judge Snyder is the recipient of many awards including: The Radcliffe College Distinguished Alumnae Award, The Justice and Compassion Award, The Association of Legal and Medical Experts' Outstanding Contribution Award and the Retired Detectives of New York Award among numerous others.

Judge Snyder is truly an outstanding woman and an integral part of both her community and the United States' legal system. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Judge Snyder for her countless achievements to date and her continuing devotion to this important line of work.

TRIBUTE TO BRECKENRIDGE FIRE
CHIEF JOHN MOLES

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the distinguished service of John Moles, Chief of the Red, White and Blue fire department in Breckenridge, CO. Chief Moles is retiring this month after 27 years of service to his community.

Chief Moles and his colleagues in fire departments throughout the country put their lives on the line daily to ensure our health and safety. Their service is especially critical in these times of war and threats to our homeland.

Chief Moles recognized the importance of this service and helped to make the Breckenridge fire department the proud community asset that it is today. We too often fail to acknowledge the hard, selfless work of people like Chief Moles. So, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking John Moles for his service and many contributions to his col-

leagues, community, state and nation and in wishing him and his family all the best for the future.

For the information of our colleague, I am attaching a copy of a recent story about Chief Moles and his work for Breckenridge that appeared in the Summit Daily newspaper.

From the Summit Daily, March 23, 2003

BRECK FIRE CHIEF RETIRES AFTER 27 YEARS
(By Jane Stebbins)

BRECKENRIDGE.—After 27 years in the fire service, Red, White and Blue Fire Chief John Moles announced his retirement Thursday afternoon. Assistant chief Gary Green will serve as the interim chief until the fire district board selects a successor.

Moles spent Friday packing up boxes of photos, awards and other memorabilia he's collected in his years at the Breckenridge fire station.

"I've been cleaning out my desk and finding pictures from 15 years ago, ID cards from when I started with the Breckenridge Volunteers," Moles said. "I wondered where that went."

Moles doesn't plan to do anything for a couple of weeks, then he'll take a vacation with his wife, Carol, daughters, Kelly and Jennifer, and son, Tommy. Then he'll look for a second career.

"I really don't know what, though," he said. "After doing this for 27 years, I want to do something different."

Moles joined the department as a volunteer in May 1975—when the department was still known as the Breckenridge Volunteer Fire Department—and was promoted to maintenance officer a year later.

Moles worked his way up the ranks, first as a training division captain for five years, then as the assistant chief of operations. In July 1993, he was promoted to chief.

During his tenure, Moles saw two station remodels and the construction of a new station near Tiger Road and Highway 9. Several old, outdated vehicles and equipment were replaced.

He worked on some of Breckenridge's biggest fires—at the Cedars condominiums in Breckenridge and at Jack Pine in Dillon—and numerous car accidents. Emergency response, however, took a different tack on Sept. 11, 2001.

"All of a sudden, we entered a new age," Moles said. "It was a new age of anthrax and serious terrorism, biological and nuclear threats."

Over the years, the fire department has matured from volunteers responding from their homes to a 24-hour staff of career, volunteer and resident firefighters. When he started, the Breckenridge Volunteers comprised 14 volunteers. Today, Red, White and Blue comprises 15 volunteers, 30 residents and career firefighters and five administrative staff members.

Over the years, Moles helped the 911 dispatch center and spearheaded the program to get automatic external defibrillators (AED) for cardiac emergencies. He also was the first firefighter in the county to use an AED and save someone's life.

"We had just gotten certified by a hospital in Denver, and the paperwork was just coming in on a fax," he said. "But the only thing that came in was a cover sheet—no names, no acknowledgement of certifications. And then we got a cardiac arrest at the Breck Inn (now the Breckenridge Mountain Lodge), and the defibrillator was sitting in my office. I had to decide whether to use it without truly being certified. I was a little nervous, but I opted to use it."

That call was among his favorites, he said. "It's the thrill of a victory," he said. "You have this training, and you get instant results."

Under his leadership, fire crews have expanded safety inspections, firefighter and medic training and public education.

Despite all his accomplishments, Moles said he is happiest to have watched his firefighters grow into a group of dedicated professionals with expertise and training that rivals bigger city departments.

"They're very progressive, a very young bunch of enthusiastic firefighters who want to do the best for the citizens, and they'll continue to get better every year," he said. "I'm proud of the whole system. I was proud of the firefighters when I started and where they went year after year. I feel that even back in '70s and '80s we were the best, and we kept getting better. We never settled to be 'good enough.'"

HONORING THE LIFE OF ORANGE
COUNTY ASTRONOMER WILLIAM
KUHN

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2003

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Orange County astronomer William Kuhn.

Mr. Kuhn's fascination with astronomy began in his youth. At 18 he built his first telescope, and he continued to design and build telescopes his whole life.

In 1963, Mr. Kuhn moved to Orange County, where he taught astronomy to hundreds of people in his backyard. He helped to make the Orange County Astronomers one of the best amateur astronomy groups in the nation.

His greatest accomplishments included the discovery of eight supernovae and more than twenty asteroids, all discovered with his own 22-inch telescope.

Mr. Kuhn's contributions and dedication to astronomy will live on through future generations of astronomers. And his passion for exploring the mysteries of our universe will never be forgotten by the amateur astronomers in Orange County.

CONGRESSWOMAN LEE'S ARTICLE
ON PEACE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I commend to my colleagues' attention the following article on Representative Barbara Lee that appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle Magazine on Sunday, March 23, 2003. Congresswoman Lee has been an eloquent advocate for peace and justice. Her tireless efforts to seek a diplomatic solution to the conflict with Iraq are vital to upholding our nation's moral leadership in the world. She is a credit to this institution and the values of democracy, freedom and human rights throughout the world. I'm honored to serve in Congress with her.

[From the San Francisco Chronicle Magazine, Mar. 23, 2003]

GIVING PEACE A CHANCE; LOCAL REP.
BARBARA LEE ON HER NATIONAL FOLLOWING

(By Sam Whiting)

It isn't lonely as it used to be way out there on the far left.