

## MARRIAGE PROTECTION WEEK

**HON. TRENT FRANKS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 15, 2003*

Mr. FRANKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of President Bush's designation of this week as "Marriage Protection Week." I commend the President for his exemplary leadership in the vital effort to preserve and strengthen America's families.

It is with complete respect to the Constitution as—according to George Washington—"the guide which I will never abandon," that I feel compelled to speak on behalf of a federal marriage amendment.

Judicial recklessness has become the breeding ground for challenges against the institution of marriage. Recent court decisions, like *Lawrence v. Texas* have set a dangerous precedent. Sadly, America's courts continue to abuse their power by legislating from the bench, and usurping the will of the people. I am concerned that the state laws that define marriage between a man and a woman are in jeopardy of being struck down by the court's total disregard for the law as it is written.

However, there is good news concerning the sanctity of marriage from my home state of Arizona. Recently, a three-judge court-of-appeals panel in Arizona upheld a 1996 state law that defined marriage as the union of a man and a woman. They said in their decision [and I quote], that "the fundamental right to marry protected by our federal and state constitutions does not encompass the right to marry a same sex partner." Here, the courts simply read the state and federal constitutions as they are written, and applied them without prejudice.

Across the Nation, support for House Joint Resolution 56, "The Federal Marriage Amendment"—a constitutional amendment defining marriage as a sacred institution between a man and woman—is rapidly growing. A recent poll taken by the Associated Press showed that 54 percent of Americans are in support of a constitutional amendment that would define marriage as a union between a man and a woman. This same poll showed that 53 percent are also opposed to so-called "civil unions." House Joint Resolution 56 is coming close to obtaining 100 cosponsors, and support for the sanctity of marriage is building on both sides of the aisle. I commend my friend and colleague from Colorado, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, for having the courage to introduce H.J. Res. 56. It is my hope, that this body will take a bold stand and defend the definition of marriage as the sacred union of a man and a woman.

Thank you Mr. President, for your leadership.

## HONORING MAYOR SAMSON

**HON. PETER DEUTSCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 15, 2003*

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Dave Samson, the late Mayor of Sunny Isles Beach. Mr. Samson was not only an exemplary civic leader, but a great

Floridian, and a caring husband, father and grandfather.

Since retiring in 1972 as a business owner in Chicago, Samson promptly moved to South Florida. Always eager to assist his fellow citizens and be active within the community, Samson became involved in many civic affairs, as he assumed the position of president of his condominium association. Eventually, Samson was recognized as the leader of Miami-Dade County's Citizens Advisory Committee. In 1997, Samson led a successful campaign to incorporate the 3-mile-long strip in northeast Miami-Dade County, and he became the founding father of Sunny Isles Beach. He also spearheaded a large-scale movement to remake a sleepy area of low-rise motels built along Collins Avenue in the 1950s into a dream city of soaring condominium towers.

Not to be forgotten, Mayor Samson, the one and only Mayor of Sunny Isles Beach, was devoted to his family, his work, and his community. He was a remarkable man who was still working hard on his city's vision at age 88, up until his death this past weekend.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor to stand here today and remember the life of an exemplary citizen of South Florida, one who devoted himself to his constituents, friends and family, and always sought a better quality of life for his community. His legacy will surely last a lifetime. Mr. Samson is survived by his wife, Marion, with whom he recently celebrated his 64th wedding anniversary, sons Michael and Stuart, and seven grandchildren.

## RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF DAN CORSON

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 15, 2003*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dan Corson, who will retire next month as a member of the Boulder, Colorado City Council.

Elected to the Council in 1997, Don has had a notable career in public service.

Dan graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Miami University in Ohio, received a Master of Arts degree from the University of Denver, and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Colorado Law School. He clerked for Judge Luis Rovira in Denver District Court and worked as an attorney in civil litigation.

As a member of Colorado Preservation, Inc., the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Historic Boulder and the Colorado Heritage Area Partnership, Dan has been a strong contributor to saving Colorado's history. Dan also served as a member of the City of Boulder's Planning Board and the City Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board, and shared his expertise to benefit the community and the state.

Dan now serves as the local government liaison for the Colorado Historical Society, working with citizens and local government officials interested in establishing historic preservation commissions by offering technical advice, drafting ordinances and resolutions and offering training regarding conducting meetings, preservation law and design review. Dan

also administers grants to both local governments and the Historic Preservation Fund grants from the National Park Service.

Committed to providing progressive leadership on the City Council, Corson worked diligently to forge a strategy to find more affordable housing for Boulder citizens, while tightening the city's budget during difficult economic times. He also supported the largest purchase of open space in the city's history.

With the unique combination of public, private and nonprofit experience, Dan Corson has been an admirable public servant committed to bringing wisdom and innovative ideas to city government.

On behalf of the residents of Boulder, I thank him for his service on the Boulder City Council and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

## TRIBUTE TO THE DESPLAINES VALLEY NEWS ON ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 15, 2003*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding organization from my District on the south side of Chicago, Illinois. I would like to honor the Desplaines Valley News in celebrating 90 years of service to its community this year.

Founded as "the People's Paper" on October 13, 1913 by A.S. Bushkevitz in Lemont, Illinois, The Desplaines Valley News now serves twelve suburbs southwest of Chicago and provides circulation to the communities of Argo-Summit, Bedford Park, Bridgeview, Brookfield, Countryside, Hodgkins, Indian Head Park, Justice, Lyons, McCook, Willow Springs and the LaGrange Highlands.

This neighborhood newspaper has provided uninterrupted news coverage on local, state, and national events every week for the past nine decades. Since 1986, the John C. Noonan family has been dedicated to publishing the Desplaines Valley News. Currently, the Noonan family distributes the weekly publication to subscribers both through newsprint and the internet.

I would like to pay tribute to the Desplaines Valley News, as it is a shining example of the ideals under which our nation was founded.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Desplaines Valley News for the many years it has provided services to the community and wish them the very best in the years yet to come.

## RECOGNITION OF THE BROOKPORT LIBRARY

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 15, 2003*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Brookport Library located in Brookport, Illinois.

I recently visited the Library and wanted to share their story with you.

The Brookport Library was established in 1991 by the Brookport Betterment Committee (BBC) Inc.