TRIBUTE TO PHYLLIS LUDWIG

HON. SCOTT McINNIS
OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to an outstanding civil servant from my district. After almost three decades of service, Phyllis Ludwig of Bayfield, Colorado recently announced her retirement from the Bayfield Post Office. As she prepares to begin a new phase in her life, I am honored to pay tribute to Phyllis and her many accomplishments.

Phyllis has been with the Bayfield Post Office for nearly twenty-eight years. She began as a part-time flexible worker, steadily working her way up the ranks. In 1983, Phyllis was appointed Postmaster. To her credit, in the twenty years that she has served as Postmaster, not a single grievance has been filed against her.

While Phyllis may be retiring from her professional life, she plans to remain active in the community. Phyllis will remain President of the Upper Pine River Fire Department Auxiliary and will continue to organize Operation Merry Christmas, a program to assist underprivileged children and families.

Mr. Speaker, Phyllis Ludwig is an active member of her community and dedicated civil servant. She has devoted nearly twenty-eight years to serving her friends and neighbors, and I am honored to join with my colleagues in recognition of her service today. Thank you, Phyllis, for your tireless work. I wish you all the best in retirement.

HONORING JAMES H. “JIMMY” RAINWATER

HON. SANDFORD D. BISHOP, JR.
OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, if there has been a more dynamic or visionary leader in public service anywhere in the United States in recent years than James H. “Jimmy” Rainwater, there is no one who served as Mayor of Valdosta, Georgia for 16 years until his death from a heart attack on Sunday, October 12, I don’t know who it would be. In the words of the Valdosta Daily Times, he was “Valdosta’s voice, the city’s representative, its administrator, ambassador, negotiator, cheerleader and leader.”

Mayor Rainwater seemed to be everywhere at once. If there was a groundbreaking or ribbon cutting, he was there as a booster. If there was a new business or grant to secure, he was always in the thick of it. If a disaster struck, he was there to help and comfort those who suffered. As his city experienced an extraordinary acceleration of growth and development, he was there, leading the way.

Valdosta emerged under his leadership as an officially designated metropolitan community. He played a leading role in the successful effort to save Moody Air Force Base, the community’s largest employer, when the base was threatened with closure. He promoted tourism, which generates $175 million annually for the Valdosta area. One such development is the Wild Adventures Theme Park, the Valdosta-Lowndes County Conference Center, the new Valdosta Regional Airport, the new industrial park, and many new hotels and restaurants. His support helped Valdosta State College become Valdosta State University. He pushed hard to strengthen the city’s infrastructure, and during his tenure the city built a water treatment plant, completed a citywide paving program, and organized a nationally accredited police department.

Mayor Rainwater was born and raised in another growing city within the Second Congressional District, Tifton, which I also have the privilege of representing. Citizens in Tifton remember him as one of the most outstanding students to ever come out of Tifton High, where he quarterbacked the football team, served as homecoming president, and was named to the Who’s Who list. He more than fulfilled that early promise. In addition to serving as Mayor of one of Georgia’s great cities longer than any other person in history, he was a successful businessman and was prominent in statewide municipal affairs as an active member and next year’s President-to-be of the Georgia Municipal Association.

When I learned of Jimmy Rainwater’s passing at the age of 62, my first thought was that I had lost a wonderful friend. So did everyone who lives in Valdosta and our area of Georgia. He will be missed.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE AND FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 17, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3399) making emergency supplemental appropriations for defense and for the reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chairman, it’s not always easy to do what is right. Doing what’s right sometimes means going against expectations. In regards to Iraq, the United States is doing the right thing; the reconstruction, granting the money, and building a relationship with a new Iraq is all part of staying committed to winning the war on terror. The price is high, the undertaking is huge, but we cannot afford to fail.

Winning the war means more than merely capturing terrorists, it means capturing the hearts and minds of Iraqis. During the U.S.-led invasion, Valdosta State University purchased their homes, we targeted an evil regime. After the major combat, Iraqis saw the United States take a stand for stability and security. In the wake of recent deadly attacks, Iraqis see it is the U.S. rebuilding their schools and hospitals, not terrorists from neighboring countries whose only aim is to rip apart the beginnings of a democracy.

In Iraq, citizens know we invaded their country in pursuit of Saddam Hussein. They know we did it for oil or other profit. Upon that premise, we are building a foundation of trust. That foundation will breed civility not hate, understanding not undermining, and prosperity instead of chaos.

What Iraqis didn’t expect was a reassuring hand after the smoke cleared. What Iraqis won’t respect is an invader who forces them to sign loan papers.

We are getting something for our investment—an historic beginning to Middle East stability. In exchange for rebuilding their infrastructure, we are asking Iraqis to reject thirty years of an evil regime. We are asking that they consider democracy instead of anti-American hate. We are asking Iraqi citizens to hold structure over chaos and not become a breeding ground for terrorist training camps. We are not handing Iraqis money and a simple request. We are asking them to reject everything Saddam Hussein stood for, and build anew.

The sole reason we entered Iraq was to protect national security. We must continue on that course. More than 30 countries are working with the United States and Iraq to enable the Iraqi people to achieve self-governance. And just this week, the Japanese government committed $1.5 billion to Iraqi reconstruction.

The cost of reconstructing Iraq is high but we would pay a higher cost if we buried Iraq with a multibillion-dollar debt. History shows us what a tyrant can do when a country is burdened by war debt. Repeating the mistakes of the past could open the door for another Saddam Hussein, or another Adolf Hitler.

REMEMBERING FAITH FANCHER

HON. BARBARA LEE
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of an extraordinary woman, Faith Fancher. Faith passed away in her home in Oakland, CA, on October 19, 2003, at the age of 53 after a long battle with breast cancer.

Faith Fancher was a popular reporter with KTVU Television, Channel 2 and the recipient of numerous awards. Her plight was well known to thousands of KTVU viewers after she disclosed that she was being treated for breast cancer.

In the Spring of 1997, Faith’s Story aired for three nights and won an award at the American Medical Association International Health and Medical Film Competition in 1997.

Faith was born in 1950 in Franklin, TN. She is the wife of Mr. William Drummond, professor of Journalism at the University of California, Berkeley.

They met in 1979, in Washington, DC, while both were working at National Public Radio. They were married on October 20, 1982. Faith leaves behind one