

HONORING H. MERLE JACKSON,
VICE CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Ms. HOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great Oregonian and a proud American, H. Merle Jackson.

Mr. Jackson, a native son of Oregon, served his country for 32 years. During his nine years on active duty in the United States Air Force, two years on active duty in the United States Navy and 21 years as a member of the United States Army Reserve, he served all over the world, including the Korean War and multiple tours in Vietnam, finishing his service to our Nation as a Master Sergeant.

After his retirement, Mr. Jackson continued his commitment to our Nation by taking up the cause of our retired fighting men and women through his work with the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). He has served as a post and district commander, state chairman and from 1998–99 he was the Department Commander for the State of Oregon.

Today, Mr. Jackson continues his lifelong dedication to those who have sacrificed so much for our Nation, as he enters his fourth year on the National Legislative Committee to the Veterans of Foreign Wars and his first year as Vice Chairman of this prestigious committee. He is the first Oregonian to serve in this capacity, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his dedication and determination to ensuring that we meet our responsibilities to our Nation's veterans.

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRED BOSILEVAC

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Fred Bosilevac, one of the most beloved people in Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas, celebrates his 90th birthday on September 11, 2006. Since 1970, two years after its inception, Dr. Fred has been president of Congressional Forum, a monthly luncheon with the area's third Congressional District representative sponsored by the Kansas City Kansas Area Chamber of Commerce. In addition to me, my Third District congressional predecessors who have fond memories of Dr. Fred include Larry Winn, Jr.; Jan Meyers; and Vince Snowbarger. Dr. Fred is known for his pithy commentary, regardless of the subject or speaker. He is the heart and soul of the Congressional Forum.

Dr. Fred is a native son of Kansas City, Kansas, from the historic Strawberry Hill neighborhood. He was the first medical doctor of Croatian descent in the area. He started his practice in the Brotherhood Building in Kansas City, Kansas, in 1949. He later moved his practice to the medical building on 18th Street. He practiced ophthalmology for 49 years.

Dr. Fred is also notable alumnus of the University of Kansas, which also is in my congressional district. Dr. Fred was a member of

the 1937 University of Kansas men's basketball team, and he and his son, Dr. Fred Bosilevac, III, are among four father-son combinations that played for the Jayhawks. Dr. Fred's 1937 team also played in the Final Four, which guaranteed him god-like status in my congressional district.

In addition to playing basketball, Dr. Fred played championship football at KU and was pressured to sign with a professional team after graduation. Nevertheless, he decided to attend medical school on the advice of his mother who reminded him that doctors made a good living.

Dr. Fred is an all around athlete and remains an avid hunter and golfer. A spring hunting accident in which he tripped and dislocated a shoulder required some surgery but has not deterred him from swinging a golf club daily.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing Dr. Fred Bosilevac our heartiest wishes for a joyous day, and many more years for us to enjoy his marvelous example of a good and happy life.

IN MEMORIAM OF A SON OF TEXAS: JUDGE JAMES DEANDA

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in great honor and solemn regret for a great son of Houston that passed away last Thursday. I stand in honor of the late U.S. District Judge James deAnda who passed last week from a battle with cancer.

The son of Mexican immigrants, James deAnda was born and raised in North Houston and graduated from my alma mater, Jeff Davis High School. He went on to graduate from Texas A&M University, but not before he joined the U.S. Marines and served in the Pacific during WWII. Once returning from service he graduated from the University of Texas School of Law.

With a resume of this caliber James deAnda could have gone on to private practice and plea cases that would have made him a very rich man. Instead he went on to fight for the disproportionate and unrepresented Texans of that time. James deAnda went on to work cases, pro-bono cases, to fight segregation of Hispanics within Texas' schools, he also won a Supreme Court ruling stating that Hispanics were a separate group deserving of the same constitutional protection as other minorities.

While his career was a long and great one, cases such as these serve as witness to the type of character that Judge deAnda was. A man that never sought after the limelight or recognition.

Fortunately for all of us, he did gain recognition 1979, when President Jimmy Carter appointed James deAnda to serve as Federal Judge for the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of Texas. He later would serve as Chief Judge of the Southern District of Texas. He became the second Hispanic to be appointed to a Federal Judge bench.

He served in this role with distinction until he retired in 1988, he went back to work in the private sector until he began cancer therapy.

Judge James deAnda leaves us with a great sense of honor and pride. The footprints that

he has left for us will be hard to follow. Judge deAnda took part in the creation of the Texas Rural Legal Aid and he was the co-founder of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, but most importantly he changed the law to work for all men and women during a time when there were many that were opposed to such change.

Mr. Speaker I ask for one minute of silence in honor of Judge James deAnda, not only a son and public servant of Texas but also of this great Nation. I ask this as his service takes place back home in Houston.

SALUTE TO RUSTY HAMMER

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my best wishes and sincere gratitude to Rusty Hammer, who, after 5 fruitful years, left his position as president and chief executive officer of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.

In keeping with the chamber's 118-year history, Rusty dedicated himself to improving the quality of life and economic prosperity of the Los Angeles Chamber's 1,500 members, who represent more than 600,000 employees throughout the Los Angeles region. Under Rusty's strong leadership, the Los Angeles Chamber has successfully built partnerships between business, community, labor and civic organizations. These partnerships have reestablished the chamber as the Los Angeles region's premier business advocacy organization.

During Rusty's tenure, he pioneered many noteworthy projects. For example, Rusty spearheaded the chamber's effort on local business tax reform and established a highly successful workforce development program. His leadership role in creating "Mobility 21," a transportation advocacy coalition, helped secure over \$2 billion in State and Federal funding for transportation improvements in Los Angeles. By partnering with the organization UNITE LA, Rusty helped create a badly needed and extremely valuable college scholarship program that has provided scholarships, application assistance, and college access information to nearly 30,000 students in the Los Angeles region.

Under Rusty's stewardship, the chamber's annual trip to Washington, DC, has become one of the most successful advocacy efforts on behalf of the Los Angeles region and the Los Angeles business community. In addition, his weekly opinion article, "The Business Perspective," provides an insightful and informative look at business issues facing the Los Angeles region.

Rusty's talents, innovative strategic thinking and willingness to work with stakeholders on all sides of the political spectrum have played an integral role in the Los Angeles area's economic growth. He has truly earned the respect, admiration and gratitude of all who know him and have worked with him.

While Rusty Hammer will truly be missed in Los Angeles and at the Los Angeles Area Chamber, we will all continue to benefit from his many contributions. We are fortunate that we will also gain from his talents as he continues to work on issues that affect California's economy and quality of life.

My husband, Ed, and I are fortunate to have Rusty and his very special wife, Pam, as dear friends. I am proud to join the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce in thanking Rusty Hammer for his great leadership and many contributions to the Los Angeles region and the business community. Ed and I send our best wishes and sincere gratitude to Rusty, Pam and his wonderful family.

RECOGNIZING TINA BATT FOR HER
WORK WITH THE MUIR HERITAGE
LAND TRUST

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Tina Batt, the Founding Executive Director of the Muir Heritage Land Trust, as she leaves her post after eighteen years of dedicated service.

Under Ms. Batt's leadership, the Martinez Regional Land Trust grew to become the Muir Heritage Land Trust, a powerful force for conservation in Contra Costa County. She has been directly responsible for preserving over 2000 acres of open space in and around the City of Martinez, California. Her passion for the environment and dedication to preserving our heritage has translated into a highly successful fundraising effort that has over the years totaled over five million dollars.

The Muir Heritage Land Trust has also expanded its public agency partners to include the Bay Area Ridge Trail, the California Coastal Conservancy, California Wildlife Conservation Board, California Departments of Fish and Game and Water Resources, the City of Martinez, Contra Costa Fish and Wildlife Committee, East Bay Regional Park District, the Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Program, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Critical support from well-established public and private foundations has increased dramatically due to Tina's efforts. The list of supporters now includes the Bechtel Foundation, East Bay Community Foundation, Firedoll Foundation, David B. Gold Foundation, Martinez Community Foundation, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, David and Lucille Packard Foundation, Resources Legacy Fund, the B.T. Rocca, Jr., Foundation, the San Francisco Foundation, the Charles Schwab Corporation Foundation, L.J. & Mary C. Skaggs Foundation, Strong Foundation for Environmental Values, Trust for Public Land, the Morrison Foerster Foundation, and the Valley Foundation. She also fostered steadfast corporate support from Union Bank of California, Conoco Phillips, Mechanics Bank, Shell Oil Products, Tesero Corporation, Chevron, Parsons Corporation, Shapell Homes, Telfer Oil, Dow Chemical Company, John Muir Health, Overaa Construction, Plumbers & Steamfitters Union Local 159, Contra Costa Times, Diablo Magazine, East Bay Business Times, and Galilee Enterprise.

With all of this valued support, Tina Batt has led the Muir Heritage Land Trust through a phenomenal period of expansion. The Trust has preserved easements, facilitated acquisi-

tion of treasured open space, and ensured the permanent protection of an important segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail, which runs the length of the Franklin Ridge from Martinez to Hercules and Crockett.

Mr. Speaker, because of Ms. Tina Batt's many contributions to acquisition and preservation of open space in Contra Costa County, I am delighted to have this opportunity to recognize her tireless efforts, and ask all Members of the House to join me in wishing her well in her future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING TAYLOR CHAN
ON HER RECEIPT OF A JEFFERSON
AWARD

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Miss Taylor Chan on her recent receipt of the Jefferson Award and to thank her for her ongoing community service to seniors in San Francisco. The Jefferson Award is given by the American Institute for Public Service, founded by Jacqueline Kennedy, Senators Robert Taft Jr. and Sam Beard. The award is considered the Nobel Prize for public and community service. I congratulate her on receiving this award, and am proud that she resides in my congressional district.

Taylor Chan is unique among Jefferson Award winners in that she is a mere 13 years of age. For the last six years, since Taylor was the weak tender age of 8, she has been playing piano and violin for seniors at the Adult Day Health Center in San Francisco. Recognizing that many seniors have neither the financial resources nor the mobility to attend the opera or the symphony, Taylor and her older sister Tracy have been performing one-hour concerts to provide the seniors at the Adult Day Health Center with the gift of music. The seniors and the staff at the Health Center have roundly praised not only Taylor's generosity but her prodigious skill. While Taylor may still be in her formative years, she already has nine years of experience playing the piano and nearly six years playing the violin. I assert with great confidence that Miss Chan will accomplish a great many things more in the future as both a musician and a human being.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Taylor for her contribution to the senior community in San Francisco and congratulating her on this award. I am truly delighted and find inspiration in Taylor's accomplishments at such a young age.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE SENIOR
CENTER OF BOULDER CITY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Senior Center of Boulder City which will celebrate the Grand Opening of their new location on June 3, 2006.

Originally founded in 1975, the Senior Center of Boulder City enhances the quality of life

and promotes wellness by providing social, educational, and health services to seniors in the community. Due to budget cutbacks that forced the elimination of city-funded senior programs, volunteers formed the Senior Center of Boulder City, Inc. in 1983, a private non-profit (501C3) corporation to maintain the services of the senior center. Since that time, the Senior Center has been maintained by volunteers who desired to give services to seniors when there was no other city funded programs available. Founding Director Bert D. Hildebrand, and the first Executive Director, Marilyn Moore were both instrumental in obtaining the Center's current site. The Senior Center is presently located in a historic building built in 1932 in the heart of historic Old Town and remains a center of civic and cultural life.

Thirty years after first opening their doors, they have outgrown their current site and plan to relocate to the building, once occupied by the library, at 813 Arizona Street, which is of equal historic value. This new building will approximately double their square footage and help them to better serve their six-hundred plus members as well as other members of the community with their rich variety of programs, activities, and services.

The Center has a very active Board of Directors led by President Don Meeks along with Vice-President Betty Smith, Secretary Sharon Lazar, Treasurer Larry Morris, and other members Jack Cummings, Starlene Jarvis, June Lobell, Robert Mayfield, Paul T. Ryan, Tom Shverha, Paul Stouterborough, and Bette Porter and Ede Zinn who are two long-time members and past Board members that serve as Emeritus Members of the Board. I would also like to recognize past President Karl Peddy who has recently past away and Alice Hagan for her devotion to the Senior Center since 1975.

Executive Director Anita Gant, who is celebrating her one year anniversary with the Senior Center, has been a tremendous asset to the center. She and her staff of nine consisting of Program Director Norma King, kitchen staffs consisting of Jane Shafer, Debbie Kittleson, and Steve Reteria, four part-time drivers Gene Crawford, Eric Kramer, Robert Zubrod, and Ted Zubrod, and a custodian Warren Britton, who all work very hard to ensure the seniors of Boulder City are very well cared for. They are looking forward to another plus twenty years of service to the community in their new facility.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Senior Center of Boulder City on the floor of the House. I commend them for their contributions to Boulder City and thank them for her continued service to the seniors of Southern Nevada.

RECOGNIZING THE LATE JUDGE
ALBERT A. PEÑA JR.

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and remember the late Judge Albert A. Peña Jr., who passed away July 4 of this year. He was a public servant who dedicated his professional and personal life to empowering the Mexican-American community and