

will be celebrated on September 16, 2006, at Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse which is located in my district.

This lighthouse was first proposed for Hillsboro Inlet in 1851, although funding did not become available until the early 1900's. The lantern room and cupola were displayed at the 1904 St. Louis Exposition prior to the final construction which lead to the lighthouse being completed and lit in 1907. The light from the Fresnel lens could be seen for 25 miles. This was the last onshore lighthouse built in Florida and it remains in service today.

In 1992, the rotation mechanism failed in the lantern and the U.S. Coast Guard planned to retire the original Fresnel lens. This action would have destroyed the historical integrity of the lighthouse. I was pleased to work with the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society, local U.S. Coast Guard personnel and the Coast Guard Auxiliary to facilitate the agreement to restore the lens. On August 18, 2000, I was honored to speak at the re-lighting ceremony hosted by the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society.

In 2003, the Hillsboro Lighthouse was chosen to represent Florida lighthouses by the U.S. Postal Service on their lighthouse stamp series.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to give special recognition today to the members of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Preservation Society. Established in 1997, this organization is dedicated "to promote the history of the Hillsboro Lighthouse Station and the Hillsboro Inlet area through preservation of structures and artifacts, education and public access tours."

I look forward to joining my friends this Saturday as we celebrate Florida Lighthouse Day 2006.

IN HONOR OF TOM McMURRAY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tom McMurray of Springfield, Illinois, on his retirement on September 30, 2006 as a Taxpayer Advocate for the International Revenue Service. He has more than 33 years of federal service and has spent a majority of that time as an advocate for the American taxpayers.

Mr. McMurray has been a friend to citizens having disputes with the Internal Revenue Service, and through his work as the IRS' Taxpayer Advocate, Mr. McMurray has assisted countless citizens with tax questions. I congratulate Mr. McMurray, his wife Patti and their children, Traci and Scott, on his retirement from the Internal Revenue Service's Taxpayer Advocate Office. I wish Mr. McMurray all the best for an enjoyable retirement.

REMARKS IN HONOR OF THE 12TH ANNUAL NATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING WEEK

HON. JOHN KLINE

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 1 million senior citizens and people

with disabilities who call the Nation's 36,000 assisted living and residential care facilities "home." Every day, quality assisted living and residential providers are striving to ensure that their services are harmonious with residents' desires.

I am certain that virtually each and every one of us here is cradled by the comfort of knowing that our grandma or grandpa, mom or dad, aunt or uncle, friend or neighbor is being cared for by the noble workers and volunteers at assisted living facilities.

Personally, Mr. Speaker, I am thankful for the assisted care facility whose faithful employees provide around-the-clock care for my mother, Litta.

As we celebrate the 12th annual National Assisted Living Week, I stand today with my colleagues to salute the dedicated workers of assisted living facilities across America, and to salute the 1 million seniors and people with disabilities that call those facilities "home."

IN HONOR OF CLAIRE WETHERELL

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the contributions and character of former Idaho State Senator Claire Wetherell, an Idaho woman who is the very embodiment of civic virtue, community involvement and—most of all—class.

A municipal park named in her honor on Monday, September 18, 2006, is a testament to the admiration and affection that the people of her hometown of Mountain Home, ID, hold for Senator Wetherell.

Earlier this year, she was presented with both the key to the city of Mountain Home and a lifetime achievement award from the Elmore Medical Center Auxiliary, which she served as its first president in 1955.

Senator Wetherell also led the bond issue campaign that resulted in construction of the original Elmore Memorial Hospital. In addition, she put her experience as a U.S. Navy nurse during World War II to work as one of the first nurses at the new hospital.

It was my great privilege to serve with Senator Wetherell for 10 of my 14 years as Idaho's lieutenant governor and presiding officer of the Idaho Senate.

Her 12 years in the Idaho Senate, and her 8 years on the Mountain Home City Council, showed that no public official could have a better friend than Claire Wetherell, or a more determined political adversary.

It didn't matter whether you were a Democrat or a Republican; if she liked you she would go out of her way to extend the hand of compromise and conciliation. Yet there was almost nothing an opponent could do that she wasn't fully prepared to challenge.

Senator Wetherell served the public interest with a passion for justice and equal rights, and she applied the same standards to herself. She would make her case with great intensity, but also would be the first to admit when she was mistaken. She was quick to pursue the truth, and just as quick to acknowledge those rare occasions when that pursuit went astray.

Senator Claire Wetherell deserves the congratulations of Congress, and a grateful Na-

tion's thanks for her lifetime of contributions to the people of Mountain Home and all the people of Idaho.

LAKE BARKLEY WATER LEVEL PILOT PROGRAM

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of legislation I introduced today to create a Pilot Program to extend the summer water level of Lake Barkley, KY, until after Labor Day.

Barkley Dam impounds the Cumberland River near Grand Rivers, KY, creating Lake Barkley, which was taken over by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1966. In order to create this body of water, communities were flooded in the 1960s. Today, people still talk about Eddyville and "Old Eddyville", as well as Kuttawa and "Old Kuttawa". The "Old" areas were the portions of the cities that were left above the water after the areas were flooded. The present day cities were created after the lake was formed. Old foundations, streets, and highways, including U.S. Highways 68 and 62, are still visible in shallow water areas. The Illinois Central Railroad was also relocated and can also still be seen underwater from lowflying planes above.

One mile above the dam is a canal connecting Lake Barkley with Kentucky Lake, forming one of the greatest freshwater recreational complexes in the country. The lakes run parallel for more than 50 miles with Land Between the Lakes recreational area located between them. This site has been used for numerous fishing tournaments and other outdoor events, which have helped to create an economic boon for the Lake Barkley area.

Lake Barkley is 134 miles long with over 1,000 miles of shoreline. The lake's water levels fluctuate from summer to winter "pool levels" for flood control purposes. During the "summer pool" months, recreation and wildlife thrive at the lake. However, the draw down for "winter pool" begins in early July and this becomes extremely dangerous for boaters as tree stumps, old road beds, and other obstructions have caused fatal boating accidents. In addition, the "winter pool" level has become a serious concern in the past few years due to the prolonged siltation, which has made the lake even shallower since its creation.

This pilot program will allow us to test under normal weather conditions what an extended summer pool lake level would mean to enhanced boating safety, recreation, navigation, fishing, and tourism activities, while also enabling us to gauge the economic impact of longer and higher water levels. I believe that these new water levels will make the lake safer for boaters and have a positive impact on the wildlife and the overall lake environment. To that end, this pilot program will ensure the safety of residents and visitors to Lake Barkley, KY, and improve recreation, navigation, and the economic vitality of the lake's region.