

rise today to recognize the outstanding career of Mrs. Eeve Lewis, the County Clerk-Recorder-Assessor-Public Administrator for Sonoma County. Mrs. Lewis has worked for Sonoma County for over 35 years, rising from her starting position of Clerk Typist to win 6 elections and serve a total of 7 terms as the County Clerk, during which time she has overseen and led numerous structural adjustments to the division of responsibilities in the county offices.

Mrs. Lewis was born in West Germany, the daughter of an Estonian woman living in a displaced person's camp. Her family immigrated to the United States in 1950, and she cites the welcome and opportunity they found here as one of her primary motivations to enter a life of public service. She graduated with Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Chico State and Sonoma State University, respectively.

Mrs. Lewis was hired by Sonoma County in 1971, and transferred to the Clerk's Office in 1974. A swift series of promotions followed. She was appointed the Acting County Clerk 1977 when her predecessor died in office. She won her first election in a runoff and has since won 6 more terms in office. During almost 30 years as the elected Clerk of Sonoma County, Mrs. Lewis has presided over expansion and refinement of the responsibilities and jurisdiction of the office of the Clerk. By always approaching jurisdictional matters with an open attitude and a concern for the relevant statutes, Mrs. Lewis has guided a series of changes that have greatly benefited the government and people of Sonoma. By working closely with court staff, Mrs. Lewis straightforwardly organized the reapportionment of duties and streamlined costs when it became necessary to create a separate office to administer the county's court system. Similar structural adjustments in 2001 saw the Clerk's Office absorb the County Recorder's responsibilities and then the County Assessor's role. Through all of these changes Mrs. Lewis has carefully studied the new responsibilities assigned to her, and maintained the high standard of performance for which the Clerk's Office is known.

In addition to her work in Sonoma County, Mrs. Lewis has been active in professional organizations around the state helping other counties emulate the success of Sonoma in developing and maintaining an effective Clerk staff. She is responsible for the development of a series of workshops to help train staff around the state, with the first of these meetings scheduled to take place this coming March. Additionally, she participated in a legal taskforce mandated to update confusing or outdated portions of California Code related to the duties of County and Court Clerks. All of these activities greatly contribute to a higher quality of governance throughout the State of California and represent a service to the people every bit as important as her work in Sonoma County.

Mr. Speaker, we rise today to congratulate Mrs. Eeve Lewis on the occasion of her retirement after 35 years of service to Sonoma County, including a remarkable 28 years of capably guiding that office as the elected County Clerk. She will leave behind the finest organization in the state and a legion of admirers who valued the insight and care with which she approached her work.

HONORING EEEV LEWIS OF  
SONOMA COUNTY

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 5, 2006*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, together with my colleague Ms. Woolsey, I rise today to recognize the outstanding career of Ms. Eeve Lewis, the County Clerk-Recorder-Assessor-Public Administrator for Sonoma County. Ms. Lewis has worked for Sonoma County for over 35 years, rising from her starting position of Clerk Typist to win 6 elections and serve a total of 7 terms as the County Clerk, during which time she has overseen and led numerous structural adjustments to the division of responsibilities in the county offices.

Ms. Lewis was born in West Germany, the daughter of an Estonian woman living in a displaced person's camp. Her family immigrated to the United States in 1950, and she cites the warm welcome and opportunity they found here as one of her primary motivations to enter a life of public service. She graduated with Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Chico State and Sonoma State University, respectively.

Ms. Lewis was hired by Sonoma County in 1971, and transferred to the Clerk's Office in 1974. A swift series of promotions followed. She was appointed the Acting County Clerk in 1977 when her predecessor died in office. She won her first election in a runoff and has since won six more terms in office. During almost 30 years as the elected Clerk of Sonoma County, Ms. Lewis has presided over expansion and refinement of the responsibilities and jurisdiction of the office of the Clerk. By always approaching jurisdictional matters with an open mind and a concern for the relevant statutes, Ms. Lewis has guided a series of changes that have greatly benefited the government and people of Sonoma County. By working closely with court staff, Ms. Lewis successfully organized the reapportionment of duties and streamlined costs when it became necessary to create a separate office to administer the county's court system. Similar structural adjustments in 2001 saw the Clerk's Office absorb the County Recorder's responsibilities and then the County Assessor's role. Through all of these changes Ms. Lewis has carefully studied the new responsibilities assigned to her, and maintained the high standard of performance for which the Clerk's Office is known.

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Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Ms. WOOLSEY to congratulate Ms. Eeve Lewis on the occasion of her retirement after 35 years of service to Sonoma County, including a remarkable 28 years of capably guiding her office as, the elected County Clerk. She will leave behind the finest organization in the State and a legion of admirers who valued the insight and care with which she approached her work.

TRIBUTE TO THE DEMOCRATIC  
PACIFIC UNION

**HON. JULIA CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 5, 2006*

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I salute the Democratic Pacific Union which was formally inaugurated in Taipei, Taiwan on May 14, 2005, the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II. Notable guests at the inaugural ceremony included presidents of Taiwan, Costa Rica and Guatemala as well as vice presidents of Taiwan, Nicaragua and Palau. The goals of the Union are to integrate resources in the pan-Pacific region for joint development and regional cooperation and to promote democracy, peace and prosperity among DPU member democracies.

Since May of 2005, the Union has established a Secretariat, published its first quarterly, planned West Pacific regional meetings, formed a Pacific economic advisory group, and initiated the Pacific Congressional Caucus project. The project seeks to bring congressional and parliamentary members of DPU together to promote exchange and cooperation among lawmakers throughout DPU member countries. The Taiwan Chapter of the Pacific Congressional Caucus was inaugurated on May 20, 2006 and convened by the Speaker of Taiwan's Legislature Yuan.

My commendations also to the Taiwan Chapter of the Pacific Congressional Caucus. The Chapter will sponsor a symposium on congressional reforms December 8–10, 2006, in Taipei, Taiwan. Legislative members of the DPU, member states and U.S. Members of Congress have been graciously invited to attend this symposium either as participants or observers. I hope that my colleagues will find time to attend this very important event in Taipei and lend our encouragement and support to The Pacific Congressional Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, I also commend the Union for its goals, achievements, and initiations which include a training program on hazard mitigation on typhoon-related disasters held May 8–12, 2006 in Taiwan. The DPU has also established a 2006 fellowship and scholarship program providing funds for students from DPU member states to attend universities in Taiwan. Another significant achievement for this young organization is an invitation to distinguished women from member states to attend meetings in Taiwan to identify and address gender issues and problems women face in the Pacific region. The DPU has also invited political experts to observe elections in Taiwan; and established the Pacific Center for Disaster Reduction in Taipei.