

As a Member of this body who represents a tobacco growing area, I worked to ensure that this is balanced legislation. This is not a perfect bill, but it does represent an approach that considers the impact on those whose livelihoods depend on farming tobacco. North Carolina is the largest tobacco producing state in the Nation and my district is in the top three of overall production. We cannot simply ignore the economic impact that this crop represents to our state, and in this legislation we have not done so.

Tobacco remains a legal product, but we need to protect our Nation's children from its effects. H.R. 1256 puts in place uniform marketing standards and controls, as well as ensuring that the marketing is straightforward, and that the ingredients are properly disclosed.

While this bill will go a long way in protecting our Nation's children from tobacco, it allows our Nation's tobacco farmers to continue their way of life. As the Chairman has assured me in our colloquy on the House floor, this legislation will keep FDA off the farm.

I urge my colleague's to protect our Nation's children and support our Nation's farmers. I urge my colleagues to vote yes on H.R. 1256.

IN HONOR OF HULET HORNBECK

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend to my colleagues an article in the Martinez News Gazette, my hometown paper, that beautifully captures the wonderful contributions that Hulet Hornbeck has made to the environment and open space in our portion of the East Bay of San Francisco.

The article is entitled, "Life, Love and the Great Outdoors," dated February 28–March 1, 2009.

I have known Hulet for many, many years and I have always admired him as a great leader and an avid defender of the environment. He understood many years ago just how important it is to protect open space for generations to come. He has been a leader in our community in acquiring lands for public use and creating magnificent recreational and open space opportunities for young and old alike.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Hulet for his lifelong work and I am proud to be able to rise today to publicly thank Hulet for his vision and for his tireless efforts on behalf of our community.

[From the Martinez News-Gazette, Feb. 28–March 1, 2009]

LIFE, LOVE AND THE GREAT OUTDOORS

HULET HORNBECK WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN EXPANDING EAST BAY REGIONAL PARKS, THE LARGEST PARK AGENCY IN THE NATION

(By Greta Mart)

At his serene, wooded home in Muir Oaks, Hulet Hornbeck looks out at the horse pastures and wildflower-blanketed hills and savors the sound of silence.

"It's the sound of wind, of birds, or simply the trees rustling, I love it," Hornbeck said, standing on his wooden deck that hugs his

one-story house, in which comforting silence permeates. Inside a fire burns quietly in a large stone hearth; non-fiction books are stacked three feet high and four feet deep on the grand piano, oriental rugs dot the hardwood floor, and 50 years of treasures, travel mementos and memories decorate the walls.

In October he will turn 90. A lifetime of adventure, good works and good luck has kept him spry, handsome and spirited. He is one more Martinez resident—one you might see at the store or on Main Street—who holds in his heart an extraordinary character, and if you enjoy the plentiful open space and parkland around the area, you would understand how important his efforts are to you today.

On Thursday he regaled this reporter with an abridged life story.

Born in New Jersey in 1919, Hornbeck spent his first decade in Detroit, until his father abandoned the family at the start of the Great Depression. His mother moved him and his younger sister back to New Jersey to be closer to her two sisters, who provided "some degree of comfort," said Hornbeck.

There, in a suburb of Newark, he shared a bed with a cousin and his sister went to a friend's house while his mother went to work in a factory. During his teenage years, Hornbeck's mother worked her way up the socioeconomic ladder, segueing into sales and earning enough to move the family into a four-story walkup in Bloomfield.

"I liked it, because we could finally live together, and I got good exercise going up and down the stairs," said Hornbeck. "My mother was quite liberal with me, never telling me that I couldn't do something. If I said I wanted to sleep on the roof, she said okay, but tie a rope around your ankle so you don't sleepwalk off."

FALLING IN LOVE WITH THE GREAT OUTDOORS

He was befriended by a local Boy Scout troupe leader, and soon was accompanying groups on camping trips in the Ramapo Mountains. Hornbeck's mother and aunts liked to hike, and with little money and no car, hiking was a frequent form of entertaining excursions for the family. There was still a great deal of open space and nature in New Jersey in the 1930s, said Hornbeck, before the freeways and industrialization obliterated the landscape.

When his mother purchased a used car, the family took its first vacation, down to Cape May in the southern tip of New Jersey. There they stayed in a boardinghouse, and Hornbeck, at age 17, was so impressed with this new environment he asked his mother if he could stay on there for the summer. She told him to go to the hotel across the street and ask for a job.

"I asked the guy if I could wash dishes, and he made me a bus boy. At that time there weren't a lot of restaurants and such, the hotel fed three meals a day to a lot of people, it was a big dinning hall with the girl waitresses lined up against one wall and the boys on the other," Hornbeck. "There was a separate smaller dinning room, where a big family would sit for meals, curtained off from the main hall. They had their own waitresses and bus boys. My boss told me it was the Ambassador to Great Britain and his family."

The U.S. Ambassador to England at the time was Joseph Kennedy and the children Hornbeck watched meal after meal were Robert, Teddy, Rosemary and the four youngest siblings of JFK. JFK wasn't there, as he was already in his 20s at that point and was studying at Harvard.

"I remember saying to my coworkers, you watch, those kids are going to be something else," said Hornbeck.

A small inheritance from a Unitarian Universalist minister, a suitor of his mother's,

then sent Hornbeck to prep school at the Newark Academy.

"He had asked my mother to marry him, but then he died, so for \$50 a month, I got a whole different viewpoint and knowledge for two years," said Hornbeck. "It opened my eyes. After that I hitchhiked to Maine with a friend and we slept in the woods. I got cleaned up in a gas station and went to the registrar of the University of Maine and asked if I could attend. He was impressed that we had come all that way and he said, you're in, just like that."

His time in Maine was spent studying Forestry and luxuriating in the great outdoors, spending school breaks in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

WORLD WAR II

But the looming clouds of war were gathering and Hornbeck, after his sophomore year, told his friends and family there would be a war in Europe, and he was going to join the military.

"I told them I wanted to be trained by the time it started, and that I wanted to fight in the air, not ground," said Hornbeck. "I joined the Army Air Corps, and was sent to cadet school. They saw pretty quickly that I didn't have good eye/hand coordination, and that I liked mathematics, so they made me a navigator."

Pan American Airlines operated one of the few aerial navigation schools at the time, in Coral Gables, Florida, and Hornbeck studied there until November of 1941, when the Air Corps shipped half of his class to Salt Lake City. There his platoon was, introduced to the brand-new B 17 "Flying Fortress" bombers they would soon be flying in the Pacific Theater.

On December 6, Hornbeck was at Hamilton Field in San Francisco, ready to ship out to the Philippines, with a stop in Honolulu, the next day.

"I was still in my blue cadet's uniform, and right before take-off we heard, 'you can't go,' something has happened," said Hornbeck. "Well, we took off that night I steered us all the way to Hawaii using the compass and drift meter, getting a fix on the stars, and suddenly we were right off of Diamond Head [on the island of Oahu]."

Soon he was part of the famed Reconnaissance Squadrons that plied the South Pacific for the next three years, serving as the eyes of General McCarthy and Fleet Admiral Nimitz, and using his navigation skills to locate the Japanese naval fleet in the vast ocean waters.

After the war Hornbeck returned to the States to earn a law degree at Rutgers University courtesy of the G.I. Bill.

"While we were in the South Pacific, I asked a buddy, where's a good Western town to go live when this is over. He said Boise, Idaho," said Hornbeck. "Sure enough, I got myself to Boise and met Mary-Lynn." The two were married for 50 years until Mary-Lynn's death twelve years ago.

MOVING TO MARTINEZ

The pair first lived in New York City, and soon Hornbeck requested a transfer to San Francisco. They rented a house in Pleasant Hill, until Mary-Lynn found their home in Muir Oaks.

"She said, you don't even have to come look at it, it was built for you," said Hornbeck.

Mary-Lynn attended DVC, and then U.C. Berkeley, while raising their two children, Jane and Lawrence, and teaching fourth grade at John Muir Elementary for 20 years.

"It took her several years to get her degree, because she only went to classes at night or on the weekends, she never attended a full semester. When she was finally finished, she said I'm too embarrassed to go get

my diploma, so I went to get it for her," said Hornbeck.

Meanwhile, Hornbeck was working at a large insurance firm in San Francisco, but it was "not what I was cut out to do," and on the side he had started a group of nature enthusiasts called the Contra Costa Park Council.

BRUSH WITH DEATH

In 1965, a doctor's visit revealed melanoma tumor. The doctor gave him five years to live and encouraged him to start pursuing his dreams.

"I went to Bill Mott of the East Bay Regional Park District, and said, I want to work for you," Hornbeck said. "Timing is so significant."

According to the East Bay Regional Parks District's history section of its Web site, "In 1962, William Penn Mott, Jr. became the District's next General Manager. Mott's first order of business at the Park District was to reorganize and plan for the future. He brought new life to every aspect of the District's operation by restructuring, and bringing in talented professionals like Richard Trudeau, Chief of Public Information and Hulet Hornbeck, Chief of Land Acquisition who both would serve as leaders in the park and trail movement during the next 40-years. Mott's enthusiastic vision of a grand system of hilltop and shoreline parks would require additional stable funding, and he moved quickly to increase District revenues. The Forward 1964-1969 Plan was developed by Mott and his staff in 1963 to identify the Park projects that were needed to serve all East Bay residents, even those outside of the District's boundary. In 1962, residents in Contra Costa County had turned down a funding measure for county parks; so park supporters began pushing for annexation to the Regional Park District. In 1964, voters in West and Central Contra Costa County approved annexation to the District, and Kennedy Grove and Briones were soon developed and opened as the first Regional Parks entirely within Contra Costa County."

Hornbeck said the District didn't have a single square acre of parkland when he started, but by the time he retired in 1985, 64,000 acres were purchased and incorporated into the park system, including much of Briones and the Franklin Hills.

"Now it's over 100,000 acres, and thanks to the recent passage of Measure WW, it will keep growing. As a special district, we had the power of eminent domain, but we never used it as a threat, and we always paid fair market value," said Hornbeck. "We had the support of all the key developers in the area, who knew the value of balancing people with open space, and we always worked with justice and integrity. The public supported us."

Hornbeck said Senator John Nejedly was instrumental in securing legislation that expanded the District's ability to create a trail system.

The Hulet Hornbeck trail in the Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline was dedicated in 2005.

"Hulet is credited with overseeing the acquisition of 49,000 acres of parkland, expanding the District's land holdings from eight parks (13,000 acres) to 46 parks (62,000 acres) thus securing the unique position that the East Bay Regional Park District still enjoys today as being the largest regional park agency in the nation," according to the non-profit American Trails organization.

IMPROVING FEDERAL FINANCING FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE TERRITORIES

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, today I have introduced two bills to increase the percentage of clean water state revolving loan funds and drinking water state revolving loan funds annually reserved for American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Guam, and the Virgin Islands under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act respectively. The effect of these bills would be, if enacted, to increase by approximately 50% the amounts of federal funding awarded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) annually under these state revolving loan funds to each of the governments of these territories to help them finance critical water and wastewater infrastructure projects.

I am joined by my colleagues from the territories, Mr. FALOMAVAEGA of American Samoa, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN of the Virgin Islands, and Mr. SABLAN of the Northern Mariana Islands, in introducing these two bills. H.R. 1889 would amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and H.R. 1890 would amend the Safe Drinking Water Act with respect to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. These bills help ensure that all Americans, including our constituents, enjoy access to clean and safe drinking water.

Specifically, H.R. 1889 and H.R. 1890 would require the reservation of one half of a percent of amounts made available each fiscal year for grants to the states and territories under both revolving funds. Currently, the four territories are limited by statute to a third of a percent of total funding, meaning that they actually receive less on a per capita basis than a number of states. This inequity persists in spite of the fact that the territories have some of the most severe needs for federal assistance for clean water and drinking water infrastructure projects. With respect to the Pacific territories, the USEPA generally estimates that over 25% of the population lacks access to sanitary drinking water. That figure is a mere 0.6% nationwide. Furthermore, federal courts have ruled that the territories' water and wastewater systems are in non-compliance with federal laws and regulations and have ordered a wide range of improvements and upgrades. However, the territorial governments are currently challenged in financing these court-ordered projects as a result of budget shortfalls and declining revenues associated with the economic downturn. As a result, the territorial governments remain, in certain cases, unable to comply with the court mandates without risking bankruptcy. In sum, the very regions of the United States that have the direst need for assistance in financing water and wastewater infrastructure are limited by federal law to a diminutive fraction of a percent of total funding. In contrast, each state is guaranteed under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act to receive each fiscal year no less than a full one percent of total funding irrespective of need or population.

Madam Speaker, raising the cap on funding made available to assist the territories from a third of a percent to one-half a percent would be a significant step toward fulfilling critical needs for new infrastructure in the territories. A one-half of a percent funding level is consistent with funding set-asides for the territories under other laws enacted by Congress governing formula grant programs. Finally, because the states are each guaranteed a minimum level of funding as opposed to the ceiling set on the territories, these bills will not significantly impact funding made available to help finance projects in the rest of the United States.

In effect, raising the cap from a third of a percent to a half a percent involves less than five one-thousandths of one percent of the federal budget. It would, however, have a tangible and measurable impact on the health and quality of life for hundreds of thousands of American citizens and nationals residing in the territories. Madam Speaker, I urge a thorough review of this issue and these bills by the committees of jurisdiction.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PAKISTAN ENDURING ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2009

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening to talk about the Pakistan Enduring Assistance and Cooperation Enhancement Act—or PEACE Act—a bill I introduced today with a distinguished group of original cosponsors, including Mr. KIRK, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. ROYCE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. WEXLER. The fundamental purpose of this legislation is to strengthen the U.S. relationship with Pakistan—a country that is central to our national security and to global stability.

The timing of this bill could not be more crucial. We stand at a pivotal moment in our relations with Pakistan and in our campaign to bring stability and security to Afghanistan. Several days ago, the Obama Administration unveiled its new strategy for those countries, the main focus of which is to enhance our ability to disrupt, dismantle, and defeat al Qaeda in its safe havens in Pakistan. The PEACE Act is written with that critical goal in mind. But it also reflects our deep appreciation of the fact that it is in our national interest to create a long-term strategic partnership with Pakistan; one that speaks to the needs of the average citizens of Pakistan—those who live in rural areas, without access to adequate education or healthcare, and who have suffered at the hands of a frequently dysfunctional and corrupt judicial system and police force.

By tripling U.S. assistance for democratic, economic and social development, our bill lays the foundation for a creating a stronger, more stable Pakistan. It places a particular emphasis on strengthening Pakistan's fragile democratic institutions—including the parliament and judicial system—enhancing economic development by increasing local capacity, and improving Pakistan's education system and vocational training.