

past 114 years, has exemplified the important role filled by community newspapers in cities and towns across America. The City of Summerville is located in Chattooga County, in the Seventh District of Georgia. This rural county of approximately 25,000 residents, is home to "The Summerville News." Just last month, the Summerville News started into its 115th year of service to Chattooga County and the surrounding area of northwest Georgia. The newspaper is the oldest consumer business in the county. It started with presses fed with paper a single sheet at a time, by hand, to larger letterpress, and then to offset presses that run 16,000 papers an hour.

Over the years, the Summerville News has come a long way. O.J. Espy bought into the News around 1906, and purchased the entire newspaper about five years later, in 1911. After his death, his son, D.T. Espy, bought out all of his siblings (there were quite a few) to become sole owner. He, in turn, sold to his four sons, Bill, Don, David, and Gene, in 1968. Since that time, Bill and Don have died and a fourth generation is part owner, with others working at the plant. Greg Espy, son of Don, is part owner; Tracy Espy, son of David, and Jason Espy, son of Gene, are all working with the News to print a product of which the entire county can be proud and look forward to every Thursday.

In thanking the community for 114 years of friendship, Editor Gene Espy wrote: "In a way, a community newspaper is the community. It is the news of the people in that community and what they have accomplished, failed to accomplish, and hope to accomplish. We take the task of publishing the Summerville News seriously. It is important to us and we hope it is important to our readers and advertisers and the community itself."

The Summerville News is to be congratulated on its 114 years of dedication and service to the citizens of Chattooga County. Babies have been born, dear citizens have died, world leaders have come and gone, wars have been fought and won, businesses have opened and closed, many left the farms to find employment in other cities, technology continues to advance, and still our community thrives. Through it all, the citizens of Chattooga County continue to count on The Summerville News for local, state and national news; every week, every year, every generation. Thank goodness.

HONORING MARK ACHEN UPON HIS
RETIREMENT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a man who has dedicated over 16 years of his life to the City of Grand Junction, Colorado. Mark Achen has given immeasurably and made great personal sacrifices to ensure Grand Junction's health and well-being.

Since 1984, Mark has been the City Manager of Grand Junction and has seen the city grow and prosper. Working with seven dif-

ferent city council members who each had a different agenda and policy perspective was no small chore. Mark's calm demeanor stood out amid contentious debate over Grand Junction's numerous issues, including still, annexation policy in the late 1980's and into the 1990's. He was a reservoir of institutional knowledge during negotiations to end a long-running dispute between the city and Mesa County over the Persigo Wash Wastewater Treatment Plant. Achen brought the city from economic devastation to incredible increases in sales tax revenues.

Leaving the position of City Manager will enable Mark to spend more time reading, hiking, climbing, fishing and boating. Above all, Mark will get to spend more time with his family and friends.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute and say thank you to, my friend, Mark Achen. He is a man that has given selflessly for many years to make Grand Junction the wonderful city it is today.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
MR. HARRY C. PASINI

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Mr. Pasini having been selected for Senior Executive Service, United States Army, has served as a Department of Defense Employee for thirty-two years; and,

Whereas, Mr. Pasini's untiring and dedicated service to his profession has resulted in his appointment to Senior Executive Service; and,

Whereas, Mr. Pasini was instrumental in the fielding of several new Army weapon systems and as a result of his professionalism, steadfast dedication, expertise, interpersonal skills and personal commitment to the Department of Defense, Mr. Pasini has been able to place the most advanced and capable weapons systems in the hands of our nation's soldiers; and,

Whereas, the Members of Congress, with a real sense of gratitude and pride, join me in commending Mr. Harry C. Pasini for his appointment to Senior Executive Service.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH J. WOOD

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man whose life has benefited all members of the automotive and aerospace industries, Joseph J. Wood. Mr. Wood will soon be retiring from the United Automobile, Aerospace Agricultural Implementation Workers of America (UAW). For nearly forty years, Mr. Wood has worked tirelessly to ensure the fair and just treatment of union members in several fields of business.

Joseph J. Wood is an International Representative with the UAW working from his

home base in Detroit, Michigan. Mr. Wood began his career with the Union while employed with Boeing Helicopters located in my district of Ridley Township, Pennsylvania.

He was hired by the Boeing Helicopters Division in March of 1960 after receiving an Honorable Discharge from the Marine Corps. He became active within UAW Local 1069 and rose through the union's leadership as Shop Steward, Committeeman, Shop Chairman and then was elected President. In 1985 the UAW International Union appointed Mr. Wood to serve on the UAW National Aerospace Staff to service Local 1069 (Boeing Helicopters Division), Bell Textron Helicopter local unions 218 and 317 and GE Local 647. Mr. Wood's efforts brought out successful contract negotiations between both sides. Throughout his career, Mr. Wood's representation of working families has always been exemplary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in a tribute to Joseph J. Wood for his selfless dedication to his community and his country. I congratulate Joe, and I know his family must be very proud of his years of dedicated service.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL
COMMISSION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2000

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a few moments to highlight the importance of a bill we further considered on the floor today, H.R. 1451, the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act.

This bill originally passed the House by a vote of 411-2 on October 4, 1999. It was amended by the Senate in November and brought back to the House with minor changes to the commission's composition.

Let me begin by thanking the bill's sponsor, the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. LAHOOD, and the gentlelady from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) for their willingness to work with me to include representation from the states of Indiana and Kentucky on the Commission to be formed by this bill.

Indiana and Kentucky played significant roles in the life and development of Abraham Lincoln, and I very much appreciate my colleagues' recognition of this history and their openness to including citizen members from each of these states on the Commission.

I am pleased that the changes made by the Senate to the composition of the commission did not include a fundamental I have been fighting for: the appropriate representation on the commission from each of the states claiming Lincoln as its citizen.

While Abe Lincoln is America's 16th president, he rose from humble roots deeply embedded in all three Midwestern states. In my mind, it is only right that the governors of all three states select citizens to sit on the commission established by this bill.

The commission will commemorate the bicentennial of President Lincoln's birth in 1809, which took place in Hodgenville, KY.

At the age of 7, young Abe Lincoln moved to Southern Indiana, and the family moved to Illinois in 1830. As the National Park Service points out at the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, he spent fourteen of the most formative years of his life and grew from youth to manhood in the State of Indiana. His mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, is buried at the site. And even today, what is probably the largest private Lincoln Museum in America is in Fort Wayne, IN, in my district.

Thomas Lincoln moved the family to an 80 acre farm in Perry County, Indiana after the crops had failed in Kentucky due to unusually cold weather. He bought the land at what even then was the bargain price of three dollars an acre.

Just days before, Indiana had become the 19th state in the union. The land was still wild and untamed. President Lincoln later recalled that he had "never passed through a harder experience" than traveling through the woods and brush between the ferry landing on the Ohio river and his Indiana homesite. This observation speaks volumes about the nature of the Hoosier frontier.

The family quickly settled into the log cabin with which we are all so familiar from our earliest history lessons. Tom Lincoln worked as a cask maker. Abe Lincoln worked hard during the days clearing the land, working with the crops, and reading over and over from his three books: the Bible, Dilworth's Speller, and Aesop's Fables. He also wrote poems.

Shortly after the death of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, young Abe attended a new one room schoolhouse. When his father remarried, his new stepmother Sally Bush Johnston brought four new books, including an elocution book.

W. Fred Conway pointed out in his book "Young Abe Lincoln: His Teenage Years in Indiana" that the future president after reading the book occasionally "would disappear into the woods, mount a stump, and practice making speeches to the other children."

Abraham Lincoln also received his first exposure to politics and the issues that would later dominate his presidency while in Indiana. One of his first jobs was at a general store and meat market, which was owned by William Jones, whose father owned slaves in violation of the Indiana State Constitution. This was Lincoln's first introduction to slavery.

In addition, he exchanged news and stories with customers and passersby, with the store eventually become a center of the community due largely to Young Abe's popularity. Once he was asked what he expected to make of himself, and replied that he would "be President of the United States."

Mr. Speaker, Indiana takes pride in its contributions to the life of President Lincoln, and we greatly look forward to the work of the Commission in honoring him and reminding Americans of his legacy.

HONORING PAUL EDWARD SHUEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to remember the life of a man

that will be missed by many people. Paul Edward Shuey passed away on January 17, 2000.

Paul grew up in Pennsylvania, from grade school to college. He worked for West Penn Power Company until he met Ernestine Gigax of Grand Junction, Colorado. Paul and Ernestine had two children together. Tragically, Ernestine passed away during labor with their third child.

Paul enlisted into the United States Navy in 1942. He served in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater and Philippine Liberation as an Electrician's Mate 2nd class. He was honorably discharged in 1945.

While he lived in Colorado, he was employed by Sweet Candy Company. The sweet must have worked as he married Lucy Chiaro in Grand Junction in 1953. In 1959, Paul moved his family again to Salt Lake City, Utah, to be a sales manager for the Sweet Company. He retired in 1982 and lived in San Diego, California until his death.

Paul was a fourth degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council #1062 in Grand Junction. He was very dedicated to his faith and loved singing in the choir. Paul liked to play tennis, take care of his garden and smoke his pipe.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I offer this tribute in honor of Paul Shuey. He was a great man who loved life to the fullest.

A TRIBUTE TO JEAN McNEIL

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, Alexis de Toqueville once said that America was great because her people were good. Today I have the honor to pay tribute to one of these truly good people.

Earlier around noon today, Jean McNeil of Wichita, KS, died. Jean was a wonderful woman. She had a laugh and smile that made you feel warm and safe. She was humble and kind, quiet and compassionate. Why was Jean so good? Because she loved. Her love permeated all who knew her; it enveloped her children and grandchildren, and touched all who were blessed to call her a friend.

One cannot remember Jean without remembering the times she would simply sit back and laugh at someone's story, encourage her grandson Tony to perform just one more magic trick, or make a pithy comment about some politician who had lost his way. Although Jean was kind, she had a passionate side. Her anger could be aroused, but only in the most serious of circumstances, and those usually involved a loss for her beloved Kansas Jayhawks.

St. Francis once said that we should preach the Gospel every day, and when necessary use words. Like St. Francis, Jean lived less by her talk than by her walk. You saw Christ within her in her kindness, her gentleness, her constancy and yes, her humility. Each of us is thankful for the time we had with Jean. I am sure her friends at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church would agree.

Mr. Speaker, life is such a precious gift. It is so special that often we fail to consider it. Our founders enshrined this gift in our Declaration of Independence as the first right. Back in 1994 Jean's daughter, Charlotte, her husband, Tom and their five kids, Andy, Emily, Mike, Paul, and Tony probably did not fully consider the value of each other's life. But, when Tom went down in his private plane that year, each of their lives changed, forever. Tom, Mike, and Paul crossed the threshold of Heaven that day, but Charlotte, Jean and the surviving children remained: left to make sense of it all.

Some questions are not easily put to rest, but for Jean the question of life was simple: respect it.

There is much disagreement on the floor of this great body, about whose life should be protected in law, but Jean was never confused. The great Chairman, HERRY HYDE, could have been talking about her when he reflected on the moment when each of us will appear before our Creator to account for our lives. He said:

I really think that those in the Pro-Life Movement will not be alone. I think there will be a chorus of voices that have never been heard in this world, but are heard very beautifully and very loudly in the next world. And, I think they will plead for everyone who had been in the movement. They will say to God: "Spare them, because they loved us." And God will look at us and say not, "Did you succeed?" but, "did you try?"

Mr. Speaker, today, the Chorus in Heaven just became a bit louder. Rock Chalk, Jean.

JOSEPH THEODORE'S GOOD WORKS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, last year, too late for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for 1999, I received a very inspiring packet of material from a resident of South Dartmouth, MA, Joseph Theodore, Jr. As the accompanying article from the New Bedford Standard Times points out, Mr. Theodore decided nearly 30 years ago to respond to the anguish that our country was undergoing as a result of the debate over the war in Vietnam by flying a flag 24 hours a day from a very prominent spot in the city of New Bedford, which I am privileged to represent. As the column by Hank Seaman notes, every day since 1971, a total of 341 flags—"which had draped the coffins of SouthCoast servicemen, have flown from the former fire station observation spire overlooking Route I-195" in New Bedford. In addition to his wonderful gesture with regard to the permanently flying, illuminated American flag, Mr. Theodore has devoted his efforts to calling attention to the 44-year-old U.N. Peace Tree. Mr. Theodore three years ago called attention to this tree, which had been planted by 25 New Bedford residents in 1955, as a symbol of dedication to world peace. At a time when some have unfairly doubted the importance of the United Nations, I think it is worth some attention that thanks to Mr. Theodore's efforts, the city of