

Colonel McCoid began his 34 year military career by concealing his age to enlist in the Army in World War II. The Colonel became a member of the famed 82nd Airborne Division and parachuted into Normandy on D-Day. Wounded by ground fire before even exiting the aircraft, Colonel McCoid nevertheless landed with his unit and moved to carry out its mission. Steve Ambrose has recently written a testament to the extraordinary efforts of the men who struggled ashore on Utah and Omaha beaches and parachuted into the Norman countryside on June 6, 1944. In assessing the success of the Allied campaign on D-Day, Mr. Ambrose concluded that "... in the end success or failure in Operation Overlord came down to a relatively small number of junior officers, noncoms, and privates or seamen in the American, British, and Canadian armies, navies, air forces, and coast guards." Colonel McCoid and other brave young men made the difference that day and laid the foundation for defeating the Nazis in Europe.

After recovering from his wound, Colonel McCoid returned to active duty and was again wounded in combat. Following the War, he received a commission in the Army. He went on to serve in Korea and in a number of positions in the Pentagon before beginning duty in Vietnam in 1966. Over the next eight years, Colonel McCoid would spend fifty-one months on active duty commanding the 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division and acting as Deputy Commander of the Independent 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Near the end of the American involvement in the conflict, Colonel McCoid headed the American Element of the Four Party Military Commission encompassing the City of Da Nang and three surrounding provinces. In this capacity, he directly participated in negotiating the terms under which American forces would withdraw. On March 29, 1973, Colonel McCoid was the last ground force soldier outside of Saigon to leave Vietnam.

Colonel McCoid received many decorations and awards during his military career, including the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, five Legions of Merit, five Bronze Stars and two Purple Hearts. The Colonel is one of less than 300 Americans who have been awarded the Combat Infantry Badge three times. This honor is bestowed on American service men and women who have been engaged in direct combat with enemy forces.

Although these awards tell us much about the Colonel's bravery and valor, we can learn as much about his character based on an account of a decoration he would not accept. According to retired Army Colonel John Collins, Colonel McCoid refused to accept the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions in Southeast Asia. Colonel McCoid declined saying that he had done much more in World War II and didn't receive the medal so he didn't see why he should receive it later in his career. Colonel McCoid made a powerful statement about honoring veterans who came before—and later—by declining to accept an award he did not believe he had earned.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Chester B. McCoid was an American hero. He answered his nation's call to service and distinguished himself at every turn. He helped to ensure the freedom of the world and to safeguard the rights

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

we hold so dear. I extend my sympathy to his family and ask all members to join me in remembering Colonel McCoid for his extraordinary service to our country.

HONORING A FORMER STATE SENATOR, WILLIAM SMITH "BILL" GARNSEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to pause to remember the life of William Smith "Bill" Garnsey who sadly passed away, he was 88 years old.

Bill was born on November 5, 1911 in Billings, Montana. He moved to Greeley, Colorado with his family in 1919. Bill graduated from Yale University with letters in football and crew.

Bill was elected to the State Senate in 1967 and served until 1975. He was the chair of the Finance and Business and Labor committees. Bill was a strong supporter of the University of Northern Colorado and was instrumental to the institution when it was granted University status. In 1966, Bill received an honorary doctorate from the University of Northern Colorado for his services to that esteemed institution of higher education.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to pay tribute to Bill Garnsey. He was dedicated to serving the people of Colorado and will be missed by all those who knew him. Bill's service will long be remembered by the people he served in Colorado.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE JACKSON

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Steve Jackson for his hard work and dedication which have earned him the honor of Firefighter of the Year for the City of Montclair.

Mr. Jackson was selected as Firefighter of the Year based on his dedication and perseverance in completing a very difficult paramedic certification program. The Montclair Fire Department does not currently have a paramedic program so Mr. Jackson completed his training during his personal time off using educational grant money. The certification required six months and a minimum of 1,032 hours to complete. As a member of the Montclair Fire Department's Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Committee, Mr. Jackson is now trying to bring a paramedic training program to Montclair.

I commend Mr. Jackson for his desire to improve himself and be excellent in his work.

January 31, 2000

THE WHITE CLAY CREEK WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague JOE PITTS to introduce legislation to officially designate White Clay Creek and its tributaries as part of the National Park Service's National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

This bill is the culmination of over 30 years of grassroots efforts to bring attention to the unique qualities of White Clay Creek and to build consensus to protect its beauty from the adverse consequences of urban sprawl. White Clay Creek is located in the densely populated area between Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Newark, Delaware. Eight million people live within two hours of the watershed.

White Clay Creek is worth protecting. There are 38 properties in the watershed that have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, the watershed is home to three endangered plant species and 100 more plant species of "special concern" to the State of Delaware. With regard to wildlife, the endangered bog turtle is found in the watershed along with 38 "rare" animal species on Delaware's list of "special concern." Because the watershed is located in the middle of the Atlantic Flyway, it is the northern boundary for many southern species of birds and the southern boundary for many northern species of birds. In total, there are about 200 bird species in the watershed, including the American Bald Eagle. White Clay Creek serves as a vital source of drinking water for New Castle County, Delaware and Chester County, Pennsylvania. Finally, White Clay Creek watershed is a popular location for fishing (particularly trout fishing), hiking, jogging, swimming, bird-watching, horseback riding, skating, sledding, cross-country skiing, photography, and limited deer hunting.

In September 1999, the National Parks Service released its final report, as ordered by Congress in the 1992 amendments to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, recommending the size and scope of the Wild and Scenic designation for White Clay Creek. The study confirmed the beliefs of the citizens living in the watershed that there was popular support for protecting the watershed's natural, historic, and recreational resources. In fact, 89% of the landowners surveyed agreed to support land use regulations and programs to conserve and protect the watershed. At the same time a majority believed that there must be room for planned residential, commercial, and industrial growth.

Therefore, a White Clay Creek Task Force of private landowners, river-related organizations, and all levels of government developed the White Clay Creek Management Plan to designate a total of 191 miles, 24 miles as scenic and 167 miles as recreational, of White Clay Creek as suitable for the National Wild and Scenic River System. All fifteen of the local governments in the watershed, including the City of Newark and New Castle County, passed resolutions supporting the management plan. The designated scenic areas flow