

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING CECIL J. DELANGE

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 7, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to commend the honorable Park County Commissioner, Cecil J. DeLange, on a job well done. Mr. DeLange has been the Park County Commissioner since 1998. He was concerned with issues such as finance and personnel within the local government. In December, Mr. DeLange will conclude his service as a County Commissioner.

Mr. DeLange, before becoming commissioner, spent three decades with the John Deere Corp. in Illinois and Iowa. Upon moving to Colorado, he started a consulting business and was quite active in the Home Owners Association. Mr. DeLange's knowledge of business and agriculture has helped him guide Park County.

Mr. DeLange, through his public service, has made Park County a better place to live and for that Colorado is thankful.

Thanks for your hard work, Cecil. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO VERONICA BARELA

**HON. DIANA DeGETTE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 7, 2000*

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the splendid efforts and notable accomplishments of an extraordinary woman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize this community leader for her exceptional record of civic leadership and invaluable service. It is to commend this outstanding citizen that I rise to honor Veronica Barela.

Veronica Barela has made a tremendous impact on our community and has an impressive record of civic involvement. Ms. Barela has served as the Director of the NEWSED Community Development Corporation, since 1978. She is recognized for her skills in community based economic development, community organizing, housing development, civic event management, development of successful arts and culture initiatives, and civic rights work. Her leadership has been the catalyst for the revitalization of Santa Fe Drive in Denver. Her efforts through NEWSED have attracted one hundred and eighty new businesses to Santa Fe Drive and near Westside Neighborhood and, in addition, she has developed two shopping plazas and one mini center for the community. These business development successes have generated over 3,000 jobs for the immediate community. Ms. Barela's efforts

have been nationally recognized and NEWSED has developed national standing as a model Community Development Corporation.

Veronica Barela has also made great contributions to the cultural life of our community. Through her leadership, the annual Cinco de Mayo celebration in Denver has grown to be the largest outdoor Cinco de Mayo celebration in the United States. Her broad range of activities and interests has been a great service to our city as well. She has served as the Chairperson of the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority Board and served as Co-Chair of the Human Service and Education Committee for Denver's Comprehensive Plan 2000. She was President of Hispanics of Colorado and co-chaired the People of Color Coalition. Ms. Barela was appointed to the Consumer Advisory Council for the Federal Reserve Board in Washington DC and served in various capacities on the National Community Reinvestment Coalition Board. Other board memberships include Servicios de La Raza, the American Civil Liberties Union, Denver's Urban Economic Development Corporation and the Hispanic Advisory Council for both Mayors Pena and Webb.

Her commitment and service has earned her several awards in including the Outstanding Women's Award from Metropolitan State College. Mayor Wellington Webb declared June 26, 1992, "Veronica Barela Day" in the City and County of Denver for her long standing work in civil rights, economic development and community organizing.

Please join me in commending Veronica Barela. It is the strong leadership she exhibits on a daily basis that continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all Americans. Her life serves as an example to which we should all aspire.

IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH HENRY SKILES

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 7, 2000*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding citizen and community leader from the Fourth District of Texas—the late Joseph Henry Skiles, Jr., of Sanger, TX, who passed away earlier this year at the young age of 56.

Mr. Skiles was president of Tenstrike Oil and Gas and advisory director of Guaranty National Bank of Sanger. He was a member of the Sanger Lions Club and the Public Library Board and was a lifetime member of the First United Methodist Church in Denton.

Mr. Skiles was born on November 4, 1943, in Lincoln, Nebraska, to Joseph Henry Skiles, Sr., and Kathleen Clayton Skiles. A graduate

of Denton High School, he earned a bachelor's degree in economics in 1965 from Southern Methodist University and a jurisprudence degree in 1968 from Harvard University School of Law. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was a Vietnam veteran.

Mr. Skiles is preceded in death by his wife Kathleen Dolan Skiles. He is survived by his son, Clayton Dolan Skiles and daughter, Claire Elizabeth Blanche Skiles, and many other family members and friends. He was an integral part of his community and will be sorely missed. So as we adjourn today, let us do so in memory of Joseph Henry Skiles, Jr.

HONORING MYRON MYLES KRONKRIGHT

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 7, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I take this moment to recognize the accomplished life of Myron Myles Kronkright. Mike, as he was known, recently passed on at age 77. Mike was a cherished person among the Grand Junction community and he will be greatly missed.

Mike committed nearly half of his adult life helping the children of Grand Junction, Colorado. For over four decades he officiated football, basketball, baseball and softball throughout the valley. He helped to establish the Football and Basketball Officials Association for Colorado as well as served on the Grand Junction Park and Recreation Advisory Board. His commitment to helping children and the sports community was recognized when he was presented the Lloyd McMillian Award and when a softball complex was named in his honor.

Mike went to great lengths to help others, donating a great deal of time and effort to help the children of his community understand the importance of team sports. He helped Colorado by giving them an association where other individuals could learn the importance of helping children appreciate fair play in athletics. He may be gone, but memories like these will live on in the hearts of all that knew him.

Mike Kronkright was a truly great Coloradan that was extremely committed not only to bettering children's lives through team sports, but also giving back to his community. He had an immense impact upon the community of Grand Junction that will not soon be forgotten.

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