

position of Democratic Party Chairman for the City of Passaic, New Jersey. He was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1976. Furthering his belief in civic participation, Greg was elected to the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the county's legislative body. The time spent working as a Passaic County Freeholder, and eventually Freeholder Director, instilled in Greg the attributes necessary for him to become a stellar force in the community.

This native of Passaic has many experiences as an elected and appointed official. In 1978, then New Jersey Governor Brendan Byrne appointed him Commissioner of the North Jersey District Water Supply.

Known for his keen mind, Greg Komeshok is a respected and industrious leader in education. Greg assumed the role of an elementary school principal for nine years, and was also an adjunct professor at Kean University. Greg currently serves as the Supervisor of Career and Alternate Education for the Passaic Board of Education.

Greg continually touches the lives of the people around him. In 1978, he established English classes for immigrants at Holy Rosary Church, and later in 1986, at St. John Kanty Church. As General Chairman of St. John Kanty Church, he helped to raise over \$1 million for the construction of a new Parish Center. He is the standard bearer for the Passaic Boys' and Girls' Club, and was the recipient of the organization's "Passaic For the Kids" service award. Also, the Pulaski Association of Police and Firemen honored Greg as Citizen of the Year.

An active and involved leader, Greg Komeshok is a past President and Life-Member of the Holy Rosary Young Men's Club of Passaic. He is a Charter Member of St. John Kanty Sports and Athletic Association. Mr. Komeshok is also a perennial Chairman of the Holy Rosary Palm Sunday Communion Breakfast. In addition, he is a baseball Coach for the Clifton Hawks, Babe Ruth, League, Clifton General League, and is the President and General Manager of the Wayne Spartans American Legion Baseball Team.

The son of Emily Rzepecki and John Komeshok, Greg spent his formative years at Holy Rosary R.C. School in Passaic. Greg's family includes his wife Susan and his two sons Kevin and Christopher.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Gregory's family, friends, the Central of Polish Organizations, the Polish-American Community and the community-at-large in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to society of Gregory Komeshok.

TRIBUTE TO MARTIN "TRADER JOHN" WEISSMAN

**HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 8, 2000*

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, for nearly half a century, a landmark known throughout the world has stood in Pensacola, Florida. This landmark is not a bronze statue, a marble sculpture, or a breathtaking vista, but

rather an unofficial monument to the service of the men and women in the United States Navy. The monument is none other than the world famous "Trader John's Tavern and Blue Angels Museum" founded and operated by Pensacola's own Martin "Trader John" Weissman.

Since 1953, "Trader John's" has been a favorite among aviators, military personnel, and celebrities. It was a place for young Naval flight students to relax and a place for veterans to share old war stories. For many men and women in the service that were stationed far from home, it provided a sanctuary where they could make new friends. What brought these thousands of patrons to this humble establishment wasn't the extensive collection of Naval aviation memorabilia, but rather the persona of the man known as "Trader John."

Mr. Martin Weissman and his wife Jackie moved to Pensacola in 1952. In 1953, the Weissman's took over a dilapidated bar and eatery on South Palafox Street and renamed it "Trader John's." The name stuck, and Mr. Weissman became known as "Trader John."

Over the next 50 years, this gentleman distinguished himself not only through his community service and his successful business, but also through the reputation he earned as an untiring booster of the Navy's Flight Demonstration Team, the Blue Angels. In 1997, he was named the Blue Angels honorary flight leader.

"Trader John's" fatherly way and irresistible charm provided the much-needed support for many homesick aviators. Retired Vice Admiral Jack Fetterman described Trader John as having "unqualified love." Adding "he was a caring guy who never said a bad thing about anybody."

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, February 18, 2000, Martin "Trader John" Weissman was taken from us. But his legacy and memory will live on in the hearts of the thousands of Naval Aviators who trained in Pensacola and when the Blue Angels fly their homecoming show there this year, I'm sure "Trader John" will be watching from above.

TESTIMONY OF DIANA W.H. CAPP

**HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 8, 2000*

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, on February 15, 2000, I was pleased to introduce my constituent, Diana W.H. Capp, at a Resources Committee hearing concerning the funding of environmental initiatives and their impacts on local communities. Her testimony follows:

Madame Chairman, Committee Members, thank you for this hearing, I'm Diana White Horse Capp, from Ferry County, Washington—4.6 million acres—in the Kettle Mountains, 7200 people. I'm Chairman of the Upper Columbia Resource Council. Madame Chairman, history shows the elite gain power by pitting the masses against each other. Our Constitution, based on the Iroquois Great Law of Peace, is intended to prevent this.

Elite foundations now funnel their wealth to environmental groups who pit the masses

against each other. Rural Americans are condemned as savages just as Natives once were. Rural Natives and Whites work in the same occupations. Our welfare is connected. The South half of my county is Colville Reservation. On the North Half, Colvilles and other Native descendants live in peace with Whites. The community is intermarried. We cannot afford the division these foundations instigate.

The environmental elite use Native people. They preach about Tribal Rights and promise to restore justice. Yet they do little for Native people but use them as poster children to buy the clout of Treaty Rights in their lawsuits. Local activists courted favor on the Reservation and Colville Indian Environmental Protection Alliance emerged. This is a foundation grant handled by Native recruiter Winona LaDuke of Minnesota to fight people like me in Ferry County. (See page 2) LaDuke's webpage says the Colville group she funds is opposed to gold mining on the Reservation. (pg 3) But this article says that group lobbied the Tribal Council to oppose Crown Jewel Mine. (pg 4) Madame Chairman, the Crown Jewel Mine isn't on the Reservation—it's 30 miles away, minimum. This kind of deception smears the Tribe's name. Political upheaval rocks the Reservation and some Tribal members want the FBI to step in.

These foundations use environmental groups to destroy rural cultures. Our county is crippled by their attacks on timber, mining, and ranching. Jobs are scarce. Our children feel hopeless—the elite have raped their future. These grants target Ferry County with \$105,000 just to silence the so-called "incivility" of people like me concerned with human rights. (pg 5) These are grants to Environmental Media Services! They're headed by Arlie Schardt—Al Gore's former Press Secretary!

Slick media activists hound urbanites, screaming that rural cultures destroy the planet, when in fact we feed and shelter them. The 1998 National Wilderness Conference announced its plan for Wilderness designation of the Kettle Mountain Range—Ferry County is the Kettle Range. Their millions wage a high-dollar war for Wilderness in Ferry County along with local Kettle Range Conservation Group. (pg 6) Our county is beautiful. They covet this beauty enough to rape our culture: We don't want them to squeeze us out. This cultural genocide must be acknowledged. That's why the Kootenai Tribe joins Idaho's fight against more Wilderness. (pg 7) This petition by Bret Roberts of Ferry County Action League is signed by many area residents opposed to more wilderness.

Federal insiders reshape policy to destroy rural cultures. This map shows some of the plans to push us out. Colville National Forest's Public Affairs Officer took vacation time to picket for more Wilderness. Pacific Biodiversity Institute boasts that government agencies request their wilderness maps. (pg 8) This Wilderness Society map is part of a local Forest Service Plan. (pg 9) This environmental group's grant says their lynx study will be used by the Forest Service. (pg 10) This job notice (pg 11) even says Nature Conservancy biologists write policy on Indiantown Gap Military Reservation—adding salt to the wound.

You see, government troops forced my Mother's people out of Indiantown Gap in 1932. I don't want that happening to my children, too! Madame Chairman, this juggernaut must be stopped.