

Brach's Market, he would go out of his way to tend to all of his customers. When he moved to Grand Junction at the age of 5, he knew that he was destined to make a difference.

Louis Brach is someone who will be missed by many. His friends and family will miss the man that they all enjoyed spending time with. The rest of us will miss the man who exemplified the selflessness that so few truly possess. But, when we lose a man such as Mr. Brach, being missed is certainly no precursor to being forgotten. And, everyone who ever knew him, will walk through life differently for it.

RECOGNITION OF JO-ANNE F.  
WILKIE

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2000*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jo-Anne Wilkie of St. Clair, Michigan for her inexhaustible efforts to further her community's appreciation of the arts.

For the past fifteen years, Jo-Anne has served as the Executive Director of The Art Center in Mount Clemens, Michigan. She has worked relentlessly to expose our community to the fine arts, as well as to preserve the historic center for generations to come. Under Jo-Anne's direction the center has truly prospered, and her work on the "Art in Public Places" program has made a tangible contribution to the lives of thousands by bringing fine art out of the confines of museums and into the streets and parks of our community.

Jo-Anne's work in Mount Clemens is only one chapter in a life that has been devoted to serving her community. Before coming to Mount Clemens, Jo-Anne was an elementary school vocal music teacher, the Founding Executive Director of the Downriver Council for the Arts, and the General Supervisor of Arts and Special Programs for the City of Indianapolis Department of Parks and Recreation. For her extraordinary commitment and hard work, Jo-Anne was awarded the key to the City of Indianapolis.

Jo-Anne is now being honored by the Daughters of Isabella Queen of the Skies Circle No. 683, and I ask that you join with me in commending Jo-Anne Wilkie for her inspiring devotion to the improvement of our community through the arts.

HONORING THE LATE WALTER  
HALL

**HON. NICK LAMPSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2000*

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness to honor Walter Hall, who passed away on Sunday afternoon at age 92. Walter Hall, known by many as "Mr. Democrat" was a man who not only talked the talk, but walked the walk. He was a true visionary with a vision of a better life for all Americans.

He spent his life fighting for equality, justice, and opportunity. Walter was at the forefront of

the civil rights movement, he spoke out eloquently about his belief that all men were created equal. He led the charge to abolish the poll tax, supported equal rights for women, and worked for the Civil Rights Act in 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

He was a community activist who believed in opportunity for all, and was always looking to the future of the Southeast Texas-Gulf Coast area. He negotiated with the city of Houston to supply clean drinking water to Galveston County cities, and helped build the first water and sewer facilities in League City, Hitchcock, La Marque, Dickinson, Alta Loma, Kemah and Friendswood. He is credited with bringing NASA to the Clear Lake area, for the location of the Mainland Medical Center, and for the expansion of the seawalls of Texas City and Galveston. Throughout his long and successful career as a banker he provided opportunity to many through small business loans.

He was a man of humble beginnings who became a man of great fortune and power. He served as a mentor for many young people interested in politics, and was a close friend of President Lyndon B. Johnson and Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn. "Mr. Democrat" was a liberal Democrat and proud of it. Walter was a tremendous influence on the political community in Texas, and those in the political arena often sought his advice. He was actively involved with Lyndon Johnson, Ralph Yarborough, Jack Brooks, myself, and numerous other national, state, and local public officials.

Walter was a family man. He married his high school sweetheart Helen, had three sons, 8 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren. In 1999 he donated Helen's Garden to the City of League City, a park in the Historical section of town featuring 100 year old Butler Oaks, to honor his late wife and to protect the oak trees. His hobbies included hunting and fishing, activities he could pursue with his family in tow.

Mr. Speaker, despite all his clout, Walter Hall remained a man of the people, honest and forthright. His was of the utmost character, and his attributes of selflessness and commitment to others are rare gifts that the Southeast Texas-Gulf Coast area was lucky to have. His work and his dedication to the people of this great country is unparalleled. Walter will be sorely missed.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HENRY W.  
MCGEE POST OFFICE BUILDING  
BILL

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2000*

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce H.R. 3909, designating a United States Postal Service facility in the First Congressional District of Illinois as the "Henry W. McGee Post Office Building."

Henry McGee, the first black Postmaster of Chicago, gave 44 years of outstanding and exemplary service to the Post Office Department, now known as the U.S. Postal Service.

He began his career in 1929 as a temporary substitute letter carrier and ended it in 1973 as General Manager of the eight metropolitan districts of Chicago.

For this reason alone, I think it is more than fitting to honor his service and commitment to excellence, by naming the post office facility at 4601 South Cottage Grove Avenue as the "Henry W. McGee Post Office Building." But Mr. McGee's accomplishments do not end here and neither should the praise.

Mr. McGee coordinated the arrangements for the 1939 convention of the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees and in 1945 he served as president of the Chicago branch of the National Alliance. In 1948, Mr. McGee was appointed by the postmaster to comanage the employment office, later becoming the manager and overseeing the conversion to career employment for a large number of female employees.

Continuing to strive for excellence, Mr. McGee acquired his bachelor of science degree from the Illinois Institute of Technology, and earned a promotion making him General Foreman. Later, he became Superintendent of the largest finance station of the Post Office Department. In 1961, Mr. McGee received a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Chicago, while concurrently being promoted to Personnel Manager for the Chicago region of the Post Office Department, which encompassed Illinois and Michigan. Five years later, Mr. McGee became the first black Postmaster of Chicago.

Abraham Lincoln said: ". . . in the end it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

I am honored to submit this legislation saluting 90-year-old Henry McGee, a praiseworthy and admirable man. I urge my colleagues to support this worthwhile measure.

A TRIBUTE TO FRUITA MONUMENT  
HIGH SCHOOL'S  
WILDCAT DEBATE TEAM

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the accomplishments of an outstanding student organization, the Fruita Monument High School Speech and Debate Team. In doing so I would like to honor the following individuals on the team for their superb contributions to the speech and debate team: Juli Carrillo, Ginger Jacobson, Jenna Birkhold, and Eric Slater.

The stellar performance by the team is a direct indication to why they qualified for the national competition, to be held in Portland, OR. Their love of argumentation and debating issues helped them become victorious. They have proven to be an asset to their school and community.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say congratulations to the Fruita Monument's Speech and Debate team on a truly exceptional accomplishment.