

Shenandoah Valley scheduled to open in 2003.

Lee Taylor's talents were not limited to horticulture. He was nationally known as the creator of miniature houses and rooms. His genius had been recognized in articles in *Nutshell News* and *Treasures in Miniature*. Mr. Taylor bequeathed more than one dozen miniatures to the new Museum of the Shenandoah Valley.

Mr. Taylor was a champion of preservation in the northern Shenandoah Valley. He served on the governing board of Belle Grove, the National Trust for Historic Preservation site in Middletown, Virginia. He was a charter board member of Preservation of Historic Winchester. Both of these organizations recognized Mr. Taylor's contributions with special awards. Mr. Taylor also served on the Winchester-Frederick County Historic Resources Advisory Board as well as the Community History Advisory Board of Shenandoah University.

Lee Taylor will be remembered as a truly gentle man. When not helping others, he could generally be found in his garden. He was always generous with his time and horticultural knowledge—encouraging even the most timid novice gardener to turn the first spade of dirt, to plant the first seed.

Today, because of Lee Taylor's vision, Glen Burnie is a peaceful refuge for all who visit.

Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to R. Lee Taylor as Glen Burnie's first Curator of Gardens and creator of an experience of uncommon beauty. Lee Taylor took a seed and planted it, and all that has grown will enrich our lives for many years to come. In his honor, I encourage all to go to Glen Burnie in Winchester, Virginia and to discover the magic of the gardens that Lee Taylor created.

TRIBUTE TO FBI SPECIAL AGENTS
RONALD A. WILLIAMS AND JACK
R. COLER

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 28, 2000

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, twenty-five years ago last Monday, FBI Special Agents Ronald A. Williams and Jack R. Coler were mercilessly gunned down on South Dakota's Pine Ridge Reservation. The agents were pursuing a fugitive on June 26, 1975; one of the three people in the vehicle the agents were tracking was Leonard Peltier. A fugitive from justice wanted for attempted murder, Peltier and his associates abruptly emerged from their vehicle and opened fire on the agents. Williams and Coler were shot point blank in the head, and died instantly. Peltier was captured after several months, and now serves two consecutive life sentences at Leavenworth.

Time and again, Peltier rightly has been denied parole for his heinous crimes, most recently just two weeks ago. Each of his appeals has failed. Even after a quarter century, and amid the constant barrage of liberal Hollywood actors glorifying this murderer, the American people have not forgotten Peltier's fatal assaults. Leonard Peltier slaughtered two young FBI special agents at the beginning of

their careers, for which he deserves to spend the remainder of his life in prison.

As a fellow former FBI special agent, I am honored today to recognize the supreme sacrifice of Ronald A. Williams, age 27, and Jack R. Coler, age 28. These slain heroes gave their lives in defense of justice for all. I join law enforcement officers throughout the nation in saluting their memories on this day. Their fidelity, bravery, and integrity live on in their comrades.

I commend to my colleagues' attention the following statement by FBI Director Louis Freeh.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
Washington, DC June 26, 2000.

STATEMENT OF FBI DIRECTOR LOUIS J. FREEH

On behalf of the men and women of the FBI, and in memory of all who have lost their lives in the line of duty, I would like to observe the 25th anniversary of the brutal slaying of Special Agents Ronald A. Williams and Jack R. Coler.

Twenty-five years ago today, these two outstanding Special Agents of the FBI were summarily executed by a gunman in South Dakota. Ron Williams and Jack Coler had been searching for a robbery suspect near Pine Ridge on 6/26/75 when they were shot from a distance of 250 yards. They were grievously wounded and on the ground when the killer approached and shot them, one after the other, at point blank range, through their faces.

The FBI cannot forget this cold blooded crime, nor should the American people. I was a new Special Agent, still in training school, when this horrific crime was enacted. Its cold blooded disregard for law and order ensured that it would never be forgotten, its criminal nature never obscured.

In February 1976, Leonard Peltier was arrested and charged with the murder of these two agents. The evidence was unarguable and conclusive. On 4/18/77, he was found guilty of the first-degree murders of Williams and Coler and sentenced on 6/1/77 to two consecutive life terms. All his many appeals to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit have failed. The Supreme Court of the United States has twice denied Peltier's petitions for review of his case. Most recently, on 6/12/2000, his parole board held its regular 2-year statutory review of the case, pending the full hearing it is required to hold in 2008. Once again, parole for Leonard Peltier was not recommended. It is a testament to the American judicial system and the American people that 25 years have not been able to erase or soften the facts of the case. The rule of law has continued to prevail over the emotion of the moment, the cornerstone attribute of our criminal justice system.

The men and women of the FBI—and law enforcement officers everywhere—put their lives on the line on a daily basis to protect the American people. They, with me, would like to remind the nation of the fidelity, bravery, and integrity of Agents Williams and Coler who 25 years ago today lost their lives but not their places in our hearts.

A TRIBUTE TO CONANT HALSEY
FOR 47 YEARS OF MUSICAL EX-
CELLENCE AT THE REDLANDS
BOWL

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 28, 2000

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to call your attention to nearly five decades of dedication to music and love of community by Mr. Conant K. Halsey, who has guided the Summer Music Festival of the Redlands Bowl through decades when many local concert series declined—and has helped make it into a regional event attended by 100,000 people each year.

The Redlands Bowl Summer Music Festival was created in 1924 by founder Grace Stewart Mullen, and is the nation's oldest continuing outdoor concert series that has never charged admission. Thanks in large part to the financial expertise of Conant Halsey, the festival has also never asked for government funding for operations—it has survived and prospered entirely on the donations and volunteer work from those who love good music in the surrounding communities.

Halsey, a stockbroker who came West for his health, joined the board of the Redlands Community Music Association in 1953, and took over as chairman when Grace Mullen died in 1967. Under his guidance, the association created an endowment fund that is now self-sustaining—the festival only uses income, not principal. When he joined the board, the annual budget was \$50,000—now it is \$317,000.

In a white dinner jacket and bow tie, Conant Halsey has been a fixture at many of the 940 concerts he has helped stage in the past 47 years. He has made the announcements, led children in the Pledge of Allegiance, and greeted visitors from other states and foreign countries.

Mr. Chairman, the City of Redlands is known for its grace and appreciation of culture in no small part because of the continuing success of the Redlands Bowl summer concerts. After 47 years of helping guide that dedication to excellent music, Conant Halsey is retiring from the board on June 30 at the bowl's first concert of the 21st Century. I ask you and my colleagues to please join me in offering our congratulations on this tremendous accomplishment, and wish Mr. Halsey well in years to come.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOP-
MENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4733) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.