Every square inch, including the mortar, have been updated as well as handicapped access to all floors. They have found fifty workers to help them update the building with new electrical, mechanical, plumbing, and fire suppression systems, as the building with "the pink elephant—an eyesore" at an auction in 1941, The Wide Net and Other Stories (1941), The Bride of the Innisfallen and Other Stories (1955). She also wrote the non-fiction works The Eye of the Storm (1978), and One Writer’s Beginnings (1984).

Welsy’s works seem not to reflect so much an attempt to write the great American novel, but rather the act of simply telling a story and having the readers connect with its characters. These beautifully written works offer not only a panorama of Welty’s extraordinary vision, but they also give a sense of, as she said herself, “watching a negative develop, slowly coming clear before your eyes.”

HONORING DAN AND MARY KING
HON. SCOTT McINNIS
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 23, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I’d like to congratulate and thank Dan and Mary King of Ouray, Colorado, for having the courage and initiative to take on a project that will enrich the City of Ouray. The couple, who are working to completely renovate the historic Beaumont Hotel, will provide residents and visitors both with a sense of history and foundation.

Dan and Mary, who are from San Antonio, Texas, have made a huge investment in the once crumbling hotel. They purchased what Lori Cumpston of The Daily Sentinel called “the pink elephant—an eyesore” at an auction in 1998 with the hopes of transforming it into “a revitalized hotel with retail shops, restaurants, and a spa.” Currently, the Kings have found fifty workers to help them update the building with new electrical, mechanical, plumbing, and fire suppression systems, as well as handicapped access to all floors. They are also baring the natural brick that has long been covered with bubblegum pink paint. “Every square inch, including the mortar, has had to be hand scraped,” Mary said. While the new Beaumont will portray new amenities, however, they are also keeping the hotel authentic. Dan said, “We want to change as little as possible. We want the experience to be that it’s 115 years old.”

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues from Mississippi in expressing deep appreciation and admiration for one of the most gifted literary figures of our state and nation, Eudora Welty, whom we lost this afternoon following a lifetime of contribution to her art. Although recognized and celebrated throughout her career, Welty had a gracious and genteel demeanor. She spoke frequently to students of literature and lovers of writing, encouraging them to develop an ability to listen and to carefully observe before trying to understand or tell a story.

Born in 1909, Welty was a life-long resident of Jackson, Mississippi, where she grew up in a close-knit extended family. She claimed to have been sheltered and protected from outside forces of all sorts. She attended Mississippi State College for Women, the University of Wisconsin in Madison, and Columbia University in New York. She returned to Mississippi during the Great Depression. She held various jobs, including publicist for the Works Progress Administration and a number of lecturing and teaching posts. She also had a love for photography, and took many pictures during that era that were later displayed and published.

Photography had a profound influence on her mode of writing, teaching her that life does not hold still and inspiring her to try to capture its transience in words. Notoriously taciturn about her life, Welty carefully controlled her public persona. She firmly insisted that her work was not political, and did not discuss social or cultural issues in her work outside those endemic to immediate community and family. She traced her upbringing and mediated upon the forces, both familial and situational, that shaped her as a writer and as a person.

Welsy’s novels include The Robber Bridegroom (1942), Delta Wedding (1946), The Ponder Heart (1954), Losing Battles (1970), and The Optimist’s Daughter (1972). Her short story collections include A Curtain of Green (1941), The Wide Net and Other Stories (1943), The Golden Apples (1949), and The...