

In 1960, Celia and Ginny help found Alaska's first statewide environmental organization, the Alaska Conservation Society. This small group of pioneering conservationists was inspired by Olaus and Margaret Murie to work for the establishment of the Arctic National Wildlife Range and to protect the special and unspoiled lands of Alaska.

Working together, Celia and Ginny have tackled all of Alaska's major environmental issues. They fought against Project Chariot and the Rampart Dam project, became loving stewards and advocates for Denali National Park, and worked to create and pass the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, the greatest lands conservation act in world history.

In the late '70s, Celia's leadership moved to the national level when she served as Executive Director for the Wilderness Society. She also began writing memorable environmental columns for the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner. Fearless and outspoken, Celia carefully studied a diversity of issues and wrote articulate and compelling columns for more than 20 years. Dedicated to the conservation movement, she also helped found the Alaska Conservation Foundation in 1980.

Through the years, Celia not only devoted her energy to environmental causes, she also loved people and the web of connections between them. She had the natural ability to inspire and nurture countless individuals by listening to their ideas and dreams and sharing her views. Her glacial-blue eyes could look into one's soul and bring out the best of a person's spirit including a good laugh.

Celia leaves a tremendous legacy of conservation accomplishments. Her vibrant spirit will live on in the wilderness she loved, in the lives of those she inspired, and in the legislation that holds her tireless effort to protect what she truly loved. The earth and all its a living things are grateful. Alaska will forever remember Celia.

[From the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, Dec. 4, 2001]

A GREAT LOSS FOR ALASKA

Celia Hunter died still doing the work she loved most—fighting for Alaska's environment.

The night before her death Hunter had been putting together a list of U.S. senators who might be considered undecided regarding the Senate vote on drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Hunter spent more than 50 years as a pioneer and conservationist in Alaska, most often working side-by-side with her long-time companion and fellow conservationist Ginny Wood.

Hunter's years of dedication to the protection and preservation of Alaska and her work to that end on the local, state and national levels meant that she played a vital role in shaping Alaska's environmental future.

Her work and contributions to increase public awareness of Alaska's unique natural resources have been pushed even more into the public eye as the nation began focusing on solving national energy policy issues. One of the biggest questions directly related to Alaska has been what role if any should ANWR play in that policy—the very issue Hunter contemplated during her last days.

Hunter and Wood first flew in Fairbanks in January 1947, piloting two planes to be delivered to the Interior. Extreme temperatures kept the pair here longer than expected, and after spending a bit of time in Europe, they were back to stay.

The list of her works in conservation and environmentalism are lengthy. In the 1950s,

Hunter and Wood built Camp Denali, an early combination of ecology and tourism. Not long after, Hunter was a founding member of the Alaska Conservation Society, the first statewide conservation society in Alaska. Later on, she was instrumental in the formation of the Alaska Conservation Foundation and served as its first board chair. Hunter was interim executive director of The Wilderness Society in the 1970s. In 1991, she was presented the Sierra Clubs' highest honor and has received innumerable awards in recognition of her dedication and service to conservation.

News-Miner readers recognize Hunter as a longtime contributor to this page—she began writing her column in 1979. While her opinions quite often differed from our own, our respect for Hunter was beyond question.

In the days since her death, Hunter's friends and associates have described her in a variety of ways: pioneer, voice of responsible environmentalism, adventurer, kind and honest with everybody. And all said that her passing would leave a void in Fairbanks and in Alaska.

In during a 1986 interview with a News-Miner reporter, Hunter said that her basic philosophy was that much of the damage done to the earth was caused by people making a living. That creates an obligation, she said: "Each one of us has a responsibility to take care of the part of the world we live in."

Hunter's life-long goal was to minimize the footprints that humans leave on our environment. But through her work and her passion Alaska, she has left behind an impression that will long be remembered.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN VIRGIL AUGUSTUS KING

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Captain Virgil Augustus King, who will be retiring from the Santa Clara County Department of Correction on December 28th after twenty-six years of service to Santa Clara County.

Captain King joined the Department of Correction in 1989 after serving as a Deputy Sheriff and Sergeant for the Sheriff's Department. Since that time, he has served as a Sergeant in the Main Jail, Work Out of Class Lieutenant in The Training Unit, Personnel Unit and the Elmwood Complex. Captain King was promoted to Captain in July of 1999, and currently serves as the Programs Division, Professional Compliance and Audit Unit and Special Projects Commander.

Captain King was integral to the development of the Regimented Corrections Program (RCP), a modified boot-camp program with a strong emphasis on education. RCP has been a highly successful program which this December is celebrating its 5th Anniversary. Captain King was also instrumental in the development of the Artemis Program, a similar program designed for pregnant women and women with young children, which was selected as the 2001 recipient of the Thomas M. Wernert Award for Innovation in Community Behavioral Healthcare. The latest innovative

program developed under Captain King's direction is Women in Community Services, a pre- and post-program for female inmates in Santa Clara County, which starts with classes inside the jail and extends into the community for supportive aftercare. Each of the participants is matched up with a professional mentor for up to six months to assist them in the successful achievement of their individual goals.

I wish to thank Captain Virgil King for his compassionate dedication to the County and wish him the best in his future endeavors. His innovation and loyalty will be sorely missed, but the people of the County are the richer for his service.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RONALD APPLBAUM

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the new President of the University of Southern Colorado, Ronald Applbaum. The University and the community of Pueblo are fortunate to have Dr. Applbaum join their extended family. As he prepares for his new post, I would like to recognize several of his academic achievements and wish him the best of luck when he takes his new post in July.

Dr. Applbaum was selected to head the University based on his impressive academic resume and past successes he has enjoyed in other higher education institutions. He was one of three finalists considered for the position in a selection process that lasted just three months. Upon reaching the finalist category, it became an easy board decision to name Dr. Applbaum to the University's top post. The doctor was selected trusting that he can continue to lead the University of Southern Colorado to the prominence and stature that the educational institution maintains today in the State of Colorado.

Dr. Applbaum has enjoyed a long and distinguished career in higher education. He has served in numerous academic positions for several colleges and universities throughout the country. He received a bachelors and masters degree in speech communication from California State University and later a doctorate in the field from Pennsylvania State University. He served as the Vice President of Academic Affairs for the University of Texas-Pan American and Dean of the School of Humanities for Long Beach State. His rise to USC's top post began with a term as president of Westfield State College in Massachusetts, and serving as the President of Kean University in New Jersey since 1996.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to welcome Dr. Ronald Applbaum to Pueblo and the University of Southern Colorado. The community is truly fortunate to gain this new and distinguished leader. I would like to further welcome his family to the area and look forward to meeting them in the coming year. Congratulations on your latest achievement, Dr. Applbaum, and welcome to your new home. I