

Papers as Plant Manager and Controller. On September 1, 1970 Mr. Fontes was appointed Assessor of San Benito County, and ran unopposed for eight consecutive terms.

Arnold Fontes played a significant role in the community during those years. His activities include 31 years with the Boy Scouts of America, serving as District Chairman and as Vice President of Special Assignments of the Monterey Bay Area Council. He was President of the California Assessors' Association in 1982 and Treasurer from 1983 to 2000. He was a member of the San Benito Chamber of Commerce for 35 years, including Director from 1972 to 1974. During his 32 years with the Hollister Rotary Club he served as President from 1979 to 1980, and received the Paul Harris Fellowship from the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Currently, Mr. Fontes serves as Treasurer for the Community Foundation for San Benito County.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Arnold Fontes's many accomplishments, and commend him for his tremendous devotion to his community. I join all of San Benito County in honoring this truly remarkable man for his lifelong achievements.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING  
MR. JOHN ALBERT "AL"  
WICKLAND, JR.

**HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2005*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to remember and honor an outstanding citizen and dear friend, Mr. John Albert "Al" Wickland, Jr. from Carmichael, CA, who died on Thursday, January 20, 2005. He was 84 years old.

Al was raised in Orland, CA. He attended the University of California, Berkeley, where he studied electrical engineering. When World War II began, Al left the University and began his lifelong dedication to his country and the communities he called home. Al entered the U.S. Army Air Corps and served honorably as a B-26 instructor during the war. On February 4, 1942, while on leave from his duties serving our country, Al wed Mary Elizabeth Linton in Carson City, NV. They were happily married for 58 years until Mary's death in 2000.

After the war, Al returned with Mary to Orland where they raised four children. In 1954, Al started Wickland Oil Company and a life-long career in oil distribution and marketing. Wickland Oil quickly opened a chain of gasoline and convenience stores called Regal Stations, which operated throughout California, Oregon, and Nevada. By adopting innovative strategies such as offering low-cost self-serve gasoline, Al demonstrated a unique ability to understand and cater to the needs of his consumers. With Al's leadership and vision, Wickland Oil and Regal Stations quickly grew into a regional powerhouse.

By 1980, Wickland Oil's commodities trading and oil storage business was a major operator on the international stage. Again displaying great vision, Al directed Wickland Oil into the Chinese market, making it one of the very first

American firms to open trade relations with China. Under Al's leadership, Wickland Oil impressively built storage and distribution facilities in California, China, Australia, Singapore, Russia, and the Caribbean. Al was especially grateful for the contributions his two sons, John and Roy, as well as his son-in-law, Dan Hall, made to Wickland Oil. He took great pleasure in working with them on a day-to-day basis.

In addition to building a world-renowned company, Al served his community. He was a charter member and co-founder of the Orland Rotary Club, a Trustee of the YMCA, a member of the advisory board of California State University at Chico, and the co-founder of the California Independent Oil Marketers Association. Upon moving to Sacramento in 1972, Al joined the Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento Rotary, the Sutter Club, and Del Paso Country Club. In addition to participating in these activities, Al especially loved spending time with his family and friends piloting his boat, the Regal Lady, along the North American coastline and elsewhere.

While Al enjoyed great success in his business and community endeavors, his passion remained his family. Al is survived by his wife of 3 years Beatrice Rogers Wickland and his four children: John A. Wickland III, Valerie E. Wickland, Roy L. Wickland and his wife, Janet E. Wickland, Laurel Wickland Hall and her husband, Daniel E. Hall. Al also had a great affection for his 11 grandchildren: Joshua D. Wickland, John A. Wickland IV, Stacia C. Wickland, Scott Lusk, Tracy Frost Lusk Scollan, Jessica Wickland Oehmen, Allison C. Wickland, Matthew J. Wickland, John L. Hall, Danielle E. Hall, and Joseph D. Hall.

Mr. Speaker, today I join with Al Wickland's family, friends, and community to commemorate his life of hard work, service to country and community, and dedication to his family. May he rest in peace.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2005*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, due to reasons beyond my control I was unable to vote on February 1st, or February 2nd of this year. I would like the RECORD to reflect how I would have voted on the following votes.

On rollcall vote No. 14, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall vote No. 15, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall vote No. 16, I would have voted "nay."

On rollcall vote No. 17, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall vote No. 18, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall vote No. 19, I would have voted "yea."

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
JEANNE CROTTY

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Jeanne Crotty has served diligently as an intern for the office of Congressman BOB NEY in the United States House of Representatives; and

Whereas, Jeanne Crotty has demonstrated that she is an extremely talented individual who understands public policy, government relations and the American political system; and

Whereas, Jeanne Crotty should be commended for her excellent service, her integrity and dedication to the projects she was asked to perform.

Therefore, I join with Members of Congress and their staff in thanking Jeanne Crotty for her outstanding service as an intern in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING THE EXEMPLARY  
SERVICE OF MARGARET KOLAR

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2005*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret (Marge) Kolar's 29 years of exemplary service with the Fish and Wildlife Service. For the past 10 years Marge has served as the project leader for the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex, whose administrative offices are located in Newark, CA.

As project leader, Marge has overseen seven unique San Francisco Bay and Monterey Bay area refuges. Her most recent projects include her active collaboration on the Project Management Team for the South Bay Restoration Project. In February 2005, Marge will move from her current position to serve as assistant manager for the Refuge Program in the California Nevada Regional Office.

Marge has served in a variety of programs, geographic areas, and organizational levels. She started her federal career with a 3-year stint in the Peace Corps as a teacher in Sierra Leone, West Africa. After several years in the private sector, Marge joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1976. She joined the Office of Biological Services in Washington DC, working on the National Wetlands Inventory and other wetland issues. In 1980, she moved to the Service's Washington/ Oregon Area Office as the assistant area manager for Environment and Endangered Species, supervising three field stations. During her time in the Area Office, Marge also worked as the Habitat Protection Coordinator, including developing proposals for refuge land acquisition. Her next move was to the East Lansing, Michigan Field Office, where she was the assistant field supervisor and acting field supervisor from 1982 to 1989. Marge returned to the Washington office in 1989 to work in the Branch of Federal Activities and Habitat Conservation. Her last 3 years in this office were as Branch Chief.