

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.

I applaud Marge's extensive experience and impressive career in public service. Her contributions and leadership as Refuge Complex Manager of the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge have left an indelible mark. I join her colleagues in thanking her for her dedicated service to the Refuge Complex and wish her every success in her new position within the Fish and Wildlife Service.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
ANTHONY "TONY" GENTILE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Anthony Gentile has received his honorary Bachelor of Science degree from Youngstown State University; and

Whereas, Anthony Gentile gave up his college education to serve his country during World War II as a member of the United States Army; and

Whereas, Anthony Gentile should be commended for his service to the United States and for his dedication to furthering his education.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in honoring and congratulating Anthony "Tony" Gentile for his outstanding accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING ANGELA SAN
NICOLAS QUIHUIZ

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Petty Officer 2nd Class Angela San Nicolas Quihuiz, a distinguished Chamorro sailor recently selected as the Military Sealift Command, MSC PAC, Shore Sailor of the Year. Throughout her career, Angela's commitment to excellence, professionalism, and exemplary performance has been consistently recognized by her superiors.

Angela is the daughter of Annie Toves San Nicolas, formerly of Agana Heights, and Michael Gonzalez Quihuiz, formerly of Phoenix, AZ. Though she and her daughter Kambrea A. Quihuiz currently reside in Chula Vista, CA, Angela still deeply values and respects her Chamorro heritage and visits Guam frequently.

Angela enlisted in the U.S. Navy in August 1998 and currently serves as the MILDET Junior Yeoman for the MSC PAC in San Diego, CA. She has been recognized for her exemplary service on numerous occasions, receiving a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with two gold stars, a Navy Unit Commendation Medal, a Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, a Navy Good Conduct Medal with one bronze star, a Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, a National Defense Service Medal, a Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, and a Navy Recruiting Service Rib-

bon. She was named the Sailor of the Quarter, First Quarter 2001 while serving aboard the USS *John C. Stennis*. Angela's dedication, determination and enthusiasm has made her an integral part of many operations. She currently serves as the Awards Yeoman, Temporary Additional Duty Travel Coordinator, Leave Clerk, and Muster Petty Officer, supporting over 140 afloat military personnel in 19 forward deployed MSC PAC ships in the Pacific.

I commend Angela for her hard work and dedication to our country and express my sincere congratulations on being chosen as the Military Sealift Command Shore Sailor of the Year. As a native daughter of Guam, Angela serves as a model of success and brings great pride to our island and our people.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
LIEUTENANT COLONEL GARY ACE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to LTC Gary Ace who will be leaving his position as Legislative Liaison officer in the Army House Liaison office on February 18, 2005. Gary has volunteered for assignment to United States Central Command with duty in Iraq and Kuwait. During his tenure, Lieutenant Colonel Ace has distinguished himself as a friend, trusted resource, and an officer who epitomizes the modern American professional soldier.

The quality of Lieutenant Colonel Ace's leadership, management, and inter-personal skills, led him to be specially selected to serve in the Secretary of the Army's Legislative Liaison office in the United States House of Representatives. In that capacity, he has been responsible for maintaining liaison with 435 Members of Congress, their personal staffs, and 20 permanent or select legislative committees. Over the past year, Gary devoted himself to getting to know more than 100 Members personally. His dedication, candor and professionalism while serving in this capacity has earned him the reputation of being a go-to person on Capitol Hill to resolve issues pertaining to the Army.

Gary's fine service to his country has seen him recognized with many awards and decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Achievement Medal, the Ranger Tab, the Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, and the Expert Infantry Badge. Lieutenant Colonel Ace has repeatedly stood for the defense of this Nation, her citizens and their freedom. This devotion and steadfast commitment to the defense of freedom and liberty around the world is the hallmark of a great American.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my personal gratitude to Lieutenant Colonel Ace for his service to the House of Representatives, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Gary for his service to our country. The United States will be well served as Lieutenant Colo-

nel Ace furthers his career at CENTCOM in Iraq and Kuwait.

A SALUTE TO WALTER MESS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Mr. Walter L. Mess, on the occasion of his retirement after 46 years of service with the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. Walter is a good man who has made invaluable contributions to our area through his dedicated public service.

I am proud to call attention today to Walter's achievements. He spent 30 years as chairman of the park authority and under his leadership the park authority has become a thriving organization. I would like to share an article from a recent edition of the Washington Post which highlights Walter's many accomplishments and contributions.

[From the Washington Post, February 3, 2005]

AREA PARKS PIONEER EARNS A REST

(By Leef Smith)

He was the longest-serving public official in Northern Virginia, overseeing the area's regional park authority as chairman for 30 years.

In December, Walter L. Mess stepped down from that post at the age of 90—his hearing, not his age, the deciding factor—having devoted more than 46 years of his life to preserving land in the area.

Under his leadership, the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority preserved more than 10,000 acres while operating 19 regional parks in the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church, as well as in Arlington, Fairfax and Loudoun counties.

Today, the authority's assets are valued at more than \$1 billion.

"His contributions have been immense," said Barry Buschow, a member of the park authority board since 1990, who represented Falls Church along with Mess. "He's taken a struggling organization from nowhere to a billion-dollar corporation."

Asked this week to name his proudest achievement, Mess did not mention the development of the 45-mile Washington & Old Dominion Railroad Regional Park trail, or the acquisition of the 5,000-acre Occoquan Reservoir shoreline.

Instead, he talked about his family.

He told a story about one of his 10 grandchildren, Christine, now a schoolteacher with two children of her own. Just a teenager at the time, she confronted a manager at Upton Hill Regional Park in Arlington and demanded to know why a plaque honoring her grandfather was not being displayed.

"That's what I'm the proudest of," said Mess, who also has 10 great-grandchildren. "That's where the pride comes from."

Mess and his wife, Jean, met in business school in 1934. They were married for 62 years and raised four children. She died in 2002.

The parks agency was a voluntary, time-consuming sideline to Mess's career as a land economist and mortgage banker.

As a child he canoed, hiked, hunted and fished with his father and uncle throughout