

than five hundred thousand miles in driving around my congressional district. Ruffy has clearly been up to the task, serving above and beyond the call of duty by going to every convention and every meeting that involved veterans. He was instrumental in creating a program to name a U.P. Veteran of the Year, and he has been active as a judge in those great VFW programs, Voice of Democracy and National Youth Essay.

Ruffy has held numerous positions at his own local post, Negaunee's Post 3165, including serving as post commander in 1980–81. He is currently 14th District Junior Vice Commander.

Ruffy has counseled widows of veterans on the benefits they are due, fought to keep veterans in nursing homes, and helped process myriad claims for deserving former military individuals. All his great attributes aside, however, Ruffy has one blind spot. Maybe it was those years in Detroit, but despite the advice of friends, despite the wishes of his own children, he remains a Detroit Lions fan in the heart of Green Bay Packer country. We'll forgive him this flaw.

Mr. Speaker, on Dec. 8, Ruffy Johnson will be honored by friends, peers, his wife of 45 years, his career-Army son, and two of his three daughters who are able to make it, at a gathering in Ishpeming, Michigan, I ask you and my House colleagues to join me in saluting Rollin "Ruffy" Johnson, a true friend of veterans in northern Michigan.

TRIBUTE TO MS. DEBBIE TAMLIN

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the House to congratulate and call attention to one of Colorado's truly out-

standing citizens. Ms. Debbie Tamlin of Fort Collins, Colorado, this week, has been named Realtor of the Year by her peers and colleagues of the Fort Collins Board of Realtors, a commendation she richly deserves for a variety of reasons. Debbie is a true professional who never lets up until her clients are well served. Her standard is excellence, and her dedication to her profession is legendary.

Debbie is proprietor and president of her own firm ZTI Group. She has been a real estate broker in Colorado for over twenty years, and president ZTI Group since 1989. Recently she was awarded for her work receiving the Distinguished Service Award twice from the Colorado Association of Realtors (CAR), and the 2001 Political Service Award from CAR.

Debbie is a familiar face at the Colorado State Capitol, at the County Courthouse, at City Hall, and even here in the nation's Capitol. She is clearly my community's most forceful and most competent advocate for the improvement of laws to benefit consumers and to build a stronger, healthier community. As one who for thirteen years has been on the receiving end of Debbie's lobbying, I can tell you, she's not to twist arms, make threats, or mislead. She's a skilled negotiator, a brilliant intellectual, and an honorable decent woman whose word is her bond, and whose integrity precedes her. Of course she's persuasive. Many of the best laws related to property rights and housing at the federal, state, and local level have only been accomplished because of Debbie Tamlin's devotion to her community and her profession.

Debbie Tamlin is a political activist. She's backed me in each of my efforts to represent Colorado, and I humbly warrant I would not have succeeded were it not for her assistance. In fact, there are many leaders in office today who owe their election victories to Debbie. Conversely, there are many aspirants whose political ambitions have been dashed because of Debbie * * * well, let's just say because Debbie didn't see things exactly their way.

Mr. Speaker, Coloradans know and appreciate Debbie Tamlin's numerous achievements, but to me, Debbie is a close friend, one I've known since I first arrived in Colorado. She's a devoted mother, a pious believer, and one of the most honorable people I've ever met. Whenever there is a cause, Debbie is there to be its champion. Whenever there is a need, Debbie is there to help. Whenever there is a challenge, Debbie is there to face it. She's a profile in courage, a heroine of endless generosity, and a loyal friend to many.

Debbie Tamlin is an authentic American and an enthusiastic patriot. She loves the West and all its traditions. She embodies the spirit of freedom and the hope of a brighter tomorrow; and she inspires all around her to achieve great things that once seemed only distant dreams. She's a leader—one whose mark on her community is unmistakable and always positive—the kind of leader who makes her friends and neighbors proud, sets the bar high, and leaves us in awe. She is respected across the country and beyond even that. Her passion for excellence in her professional life and personal life make her extraordinary. She is a splendid woman.

Mr. Speaker, it's difficult for any of us to describe the essence of a particular State. Colorado, for example, is known for many things—a rich history, rugged mountains, wild majestic skies and hard-working people. Debbie Tamlin is the face of Colorado. Her life's work embodies the qualities we all admire. She's a loving wife, a caring mother, and gentle soul and impressive figure in Colorado's bright future.

I am grateful for our colleagues from throughout the nation who join us tonight in expressing our warmest commendations and congratulations to Debbie. She's more than the Realtor of the Year, she's Debbie Tamlin. May God continue to richly bless her and her family.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2001 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 7

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on the nomination of Sean O'Keefe, of New York, to be Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
SR-253

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the employment-unemployment situation for November, focusing on payroll employment figures.
1334 Longworth Building

DECEMBER 10

10 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings on the nomination of David L. Bunning, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky.
SD-226

DECEMBER 11

9:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the local role in homeland security.
SD-342

10 a.m.

Judiciary

Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine homeland defense issues, focusing on sharing information with local law enforcement.
SD-226

DECEMBER 12

10 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the future of the Microsoft settlement.
SD-226

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine the state of human rights, democracy and security concerns in Kyrgyzstan, focusing on human rights and democracy in the Central Asian region.
334 Cannon Building

DECEMBER 13

9:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine security of the passenger and transit rail infrastructure.
SD-342

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine housing and community development needs in America.
SD-538

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
SD-226

DECEMBER 18

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the limits of existing laws with respect to protecting against genetic discrimination.
SD-106