

TRIBUTE TO THE JACKIE ROBINSON AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT NO. 252

**HON. JULIAN C. DIXON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 18, 1995*

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the members of the Jackie Robinson American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 252 for their hard work and compassion in helping homeless and need veterans. The 145 auxiliary members, Legionnaires, and Sons of the American Legion [SAL] members of the Jackie Robinson American Legion family volunteered over 3,000 hours organizing and preparing South Central Homeless Veterans Care Day 1995. On March 11, 1995, the auxiliary opened its home, Post No. 252, for Care Day 1995 which successfully assisted over 200 veterans and their families.

South Central Homeless Veterans Care Day 1995 provided needy veterans and their families with clothing, food, showers, and haircuts. The auxiliary collected over \$5,000 worth of donated clothing and distributed 200 care bags with food, blankets, comfort kits, and extra clothing to veterans. Veterans were provided with transportation to the post and other off-site facilities. Seventeen service organizations participated in Care Day 1995 providing medical, social, legal, and other veteran-related services and benefits. As a part of Care Day 1995, the auxiliary volunteered their assistance to other communities and organizations who provided homeless veterans a weekend retreat from the streets.

The success of Care Day 1995 was further enhanced by the fact that this was the first event of its kind in the South Central Los Angeles community. Usually, events of this magnitude require at least 1 year of preparations. Remarkably, this event's success came after only 3 months of preparations. It is a pleasure to recognize the diligence and dedication of Auxiliary Unit No. 252 in quickly organizing South Central Homeless Veterans Care Day 1995.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud of the members of Jackie Robinson American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 252, and ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in commending their commitment to helping our needy veterans. In a time when many forget about those who have so bravely served to protect our country and democracy, the efforts of the Jackie Robinson American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 252 stand as a shining example of how we should assist those needy veterans who fought for our country.

THE FOREST ECOSYSTEM  
STEWARDSHIP ACT OF 1995

**HON. PAT WILLIAMS**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 18, 1995*

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Forest Ecosystem Stewardship Demonstration Act of 1995. This legislation represents countless hours of work by folks in my district. It is based on the work done in the last Congress on the Forest Ecosystem Stew-

ardship Demonstration Act of 1995. Folks in my district took that concept and incorporated the concerns of Forest Service officials, the comments of the American Foresters organization and the comments of business and conservationist leaders in Montana.

The result of this hard work has been to produce a blue print of how we should go about assuring the health of the both our local forest and our local communities. This legislation is also a blueprint for those who are tired of the constant polarization that has become the hallmark of public lands debate. The entire process is based on the belief that through cooperation we can have wood for our mills and protection of our wild lands, but we can have neither unless we find ways to come together as friends and neighbors and agree on how to proceed.

This legislation establishes a stewardship contracts process, under the guidance of a local stewardship council, that would identify opportunities for logging in areas of poor forest health. The legislation sets up both a standard and a recognition system to allow for logging to go forward and for the industry to gain credit for when its done right. This type of local involvement helps assure that appeals will not be filed and that when problems arise there is a process to get past the rhetoric that has so typified the discussion up till now.

This proposal is only a demonstration project because we all agree that some confidence in our mutual goals must be demonstrated for this approach to achieve wide acceptance. This type of proposal sets on its head the old charge forward mentality that public planning has become and was raised to a new level in this sessions debate on salvage timber. Those approaches have produced no stability and no wood for the mills, this legislation prepared by traditional enemies will show us the way to a future of better harvest and stronger communities.

Attached is a list of the advantages this type of approach affords the debate on the management of our national forest lands.

*Stewardship:* Restoring the connections between the community and the land; recognizing that healthy forests are more likely in areas with healthy economies and healthy societies; focusing on what's left in the forest, not what's taken out; recognition of the logger/forest professional as more than someone just taking trees of the forest—encouraging "ownership"—doing your work out there like you would do it on your own land; and Montana Logging Association has established Accredited Logger Program (ALP) to make available stewardship training to loggers who wish to upgrade and expand their skills.

*Collaboration:* People from all points of view working together to find solutions. This bill was brought to Pat by Montana loggers, mills owners/operators, environmentalists, interested citizens, etc. all coming together to find local solutions to forest management issues; breath of fresh air—takes us beyond the age-old and very tiresome "environment vs. jobs" rhetoric. Focussing on our common concerns, not our differences.

For whatever reason, there is a real lack of trust between large segments of the public and public land managers. This trust has to be rebuilt from the bottom up. There are no quick fix solutions. This is just a start.

Continuing dialogue at the local level is necessary to rebuild that trust. That is one of the important reasons for the local stewardship councils proposed.

*Flexibility:* Local solutions are needed for local problems. We have ample evidence that "one size fits all" management doesn't work. Local conditions vary as much as forests vary.

Stewardship contracts done under this legislation would still have to comply with all federal environmental and other legislation.

The key is rewarding excellence. Incentives for loggers now are based on doing a job at least cost, which encourages the cutting of corners. By separating the stewardship activity from the selling of logs, and compensating stewardship contractors based on how well they treat the resources, we are building in an incentive to do the best work possible.

The accountability factor is very high. Lots of accountability factors are included in the legislation, and public involvement in stewardship project planning and monitoring is encouraged and facilitated.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 18, 1995*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 100th birthday of the New York Public Library.

The New York Public Library was started during the latter part of the 19th century when several of the city's citizens had the foresight to realize that it was imperative that New York have a great library if it was to become a prominent urban cultural center.

Many eminent New Yorkers played an important role in getting the library started, but three in particular stand out: Governor Samuel J. Tilden, John Jacob Astor, and James Lenox. Samuel Tilden bequeathed the bulk of his fortune, approximately \$2.4 million to "establish and maintain a free library and reading room in the city of New York." John Jacob Astor left \$400,000 in his will to establish a reference library in New York. The Astor Library opened its doors in 1849, becoming a major source for reference and research. James Lenox founded the Lenox Library, consisting primarily of his personal collection of rare books, which included the first Gutenberg Bible to come to the New World.

In 1892 the Astor and Lenox Libraries were both experiencing financial difficulties. A trustee of the Tilden Trust, John Bigelow, devised a plan whereby the resources of the Tilden Trust, the Astor Library, and the Lenox Library would be combined to form the Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations—what would become known as the New York Public Library.

Dr. John Shaw Billings, considered one of the most brilliant librarians of his day, was named director of this new library. Billings goal was to get the library's resources into the hands of all those who requested them as quickly as possible. He designed what has now become a landmark building, with its Beaux-Arts design and the largest marble structure ever attempted in the United States. The Cornerstone for the library was laid in May 1902, at the same location where this landmark library now stands.

In February 1901, the library consolidated with the New York Free Circulating Library and established its circulating department. In