

when the number of nesting pairs of cormorants dropped by 86 percent. Concentrations of DDE and PCB, both persistent toxic substances, decreased in cormorant eggs by more than 80 percent between 1971 and 1989. Concentrations of chlorinated compounds, such as dioxins and furans which are used in the bleaching process of pulp and paper mills, have decreased in the Great Lakes by 90 percent since the late 1980's.

On November 1, 1997, in Niagara Falls, NY, the International Joint Commission, with Canada and the United States, celebrated the 25th anniversary of the GLWQA. This event was attended by many people in the Great Lakes community hailing from United States and Canadian Government agencies, environmental organizations, public interest groups, and industry. The key speakers at the celebration were Deputy Secretary John Garamendi, United States Department of Interior, and the Honorable John Fraser, Canadian Environment Ambassador, as well as a member of my staff, Mr. Brett Kaull.

At this landmark anniversary of the GLWQA, we must not rest on the laurels of the accomplishments of the past, for there is still much to be done to restore the environment of the Great Lakes. This effort will require vigilance and commitment from the United States and Canada, Federal and local governments, industry, and the public. In 1999, the United States and Canada will review the agreement's objectives and terms to determine whether to update its scope. Let us continue to work together in a concerted effort to achieve the goal of bringing back the Great Lakes to their former preeminence as a natural resource to be enjoyed for generations.

TRIBUTE TO RODGER MEIER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a constituent and good friend Mr. Rodger Meier, this year's recipient of the Russell H. Perry Free Enterprise Award. It is very difficult to be brief when paying tribute to Rodger Meier, a man who has championed so many noble causes.

I know him as an advocate of entrepreneurial initiatives, community service and public policy issues that has produced opportunities for the citizens of Dallas. The Wright amendment was established to protect the economic opportunities and financial well-being of the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport. Rodger was right there and never fails to express his feelings about keeping the economy strong in the Dallas area.

In addition, he is a long-time supporter of DART and has led to my constituents enjoying better transportation and environmental opportunities while producing more dollars for area businesses and allowing passengers to reach key destinations without clogging our highways and freeways.

And so, it is truly fitting that he is being honored this year with the Russell H. Perry Free Enterprise Award. This award salutes entrepreneurial spirit and how it fosters opportunities, service, and civic responsibility. After all,

Rodger embodies all of these traits. And I shall never forget how he worked so hard and put in all of his efforts in passing into law, the 1985 education bond election. It was critical and he was there.

He was there because he believed in education and that no child should be left behind and that all children must be included in education. Rodger is just so good in every area and he really understands the needs for all of the people. And in addition to all his caring, he has been the No. 1 Cadillac salesperson in all of the country, and we all like Cadillacs.

I first met Rodger when we both were on the board of trustees at Texas Christian University where we both graduated from. And that friendship will never end. I have so much respect for him as a husband, father, Christian man and civic person extraordinaire. In addition to a few things that I have pointed out, Rodger is involved in so many more. He never forgets the young people, whether handicapped or not.

He never forgets to be caring as it relates to any issue and I think that the committee has decided this year to give honor to the award by citing Rodger Meier.

It is my pleasure to congratulate you Rodger, and in addition to congratulating you, I thank you. I thank you for all that you have done to make this world a better place and to make Dallas a better community. The award does itself honor in honoring you. I thank the awards committee. Rodger, my friend you have earned it, you deserve it and I hope that you enjoy it.

HONORING ADAM ARLEN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Adam Arlen, a pioneer in providing community living for people with mental disabilities.

Mr. Arlen was born in Poland where he was educated in economics. After experiencing years of hardship during World War II and the oppression of the subsequent Communist government, in a dramatic personal adventure, he escaped to the United States to start a new life in 1966.

During his first years in America, following formal training, Adam Arlen became a nursing home administrator. In the early 1970's, seeing that large numbers of individuals with mental illnesses were being discharged from State hospitals into the community with inadequate aftercare, he pioneered the development of this type of community living in New York State. For almost two decades, he stood out among his colleagues as a supporter of the highest quality of services for individuals under his care. In his role as advocate, he testified before legislative and administrative bodies and supported the creation of award-winning mental health programs. As a founding member of the Institute of Community Living's Board of Directors, he has continued to speak out on behalf of those with mental disabilities offering unique and practical advice that stems from his special personal history and as well as professional interests.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the zealous and faithful advocacy of Adam Arlen on behalf of individuals with mental disabilities.

PATRICIA STARK OF RIVERHEAD, SELECTED AS PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my friends and neighbors on eastern Long Island as we pay tribute to Patricia Stark, of Riverhead, in honor of her designation as 1997's Person of the Year by the Paumanok District of the Suffolk County Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Pat Stark's good work is so extensive, it might be more apt to declare her Person of the Decade. She is being honored by the Suffolk County Boy Scouts because they recognize her selfless and seemingly endless contributions of time and energy to the entire Riverhead community. Pat has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for all her neighbors, whether through supporting the arts, beautifying our community, improving education, protecting the environment, or preserving her hometown's historic legacy.

After a career in education where she taught in several Long Island schools, Pat has directed her talents to private business and is now the vice president of Storage Town East. But she is most loved and respected for her tremendous pride in her community, one that has inspired her devotion to Riverhead. Pat founded the Riverhead Country Fair, serving as the event's cochair for 7 years, with the goal of the focusing the townspeople's attention on the special gifts of the Peconic River. With the help of her friends and neighbors, that purpose was attained and today the riverfront has come alive with the bustle of boaters, fishermen, residents, and tourists.

Pat also served as chairperson of Riverhead Townscape, an organization responsible for allocating the funds raised by the fair on beautification projects. Some of the beneficiaries those efforts include the Peconic Riverfront, Lombardi Park, the flower boxes, trees and plantings along Main Street, plantings in Grangebel Park, the gardens and grounds of the East End Arts Council, and the Riverhead Preservation and Landmark Society.

Pat's other efforts includes serving as cochair of the East End Arts Council's Suffolk Theater advisory committee, the Riverhead Business Improvement District's downtown planning strategies committee, and as president of the Riverhead Revitalization and Preservation Corp., which has just completed a vital historic restoration project on Roanoke Avenue.

Completing her prodigious list of volunteer efforts, Pat is a member of the advisory board of the Hallockville historic site, serves as director of Confraternity of Christian Doctrine for St. John's Roman Catholic Church and is still a prodigious fundraiser for many local non-profit organizations. Patricia has been recognized in the Senate by AL D'AMATO for her efforts in housing restoration and it is altogether fitting that the House of Representatives honor her contributions.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, that I ask my colleagues in the House to join me honoring Patricia Stark and recognize her commitment to promoting and protecting the quality of life of Riverhead and the entire east end of Long Island, for her family and for her community. We

are truly blessed to count her as our friend and neighbor.

DESIGNATION OF THE "EUGENE J. MCCARTHY POST OFFICE BUILDING"

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 1997

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise with the support of the Minnesota delegation in the U.S. House, to introduce H.R. 2836, a bill to designate the U.S. Post Office Building in downtown St. Paul, MN, as the "Eugene J. McCarthy Post Office Building."

Eugene J. McCarthy served as a U.S. Representative from Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District, the seat that I've been honored to represent. He also served for many years as a U.S. Senator from the State of Minnesota. He served for over two decades in Congress and was a much celebrated candidate for the Democratic nomination for President of the U.S. in 1968. Gene McCarthy's role in this 1968 campaign was the catalyst that set in place major change in United States and global policy in Southeast Asia and electoral politics in our Nation.

Eugene McCarthy was a teacher in the public schools in Minnesota and a professor at St. John's University in Collegeville, MN. He was also an instructor of economics at the College of St. Thomas in St. Paul and a distinguished author of numerous books on subjects ranging from children's literature to history and most renowned for his poetry.

The State of Minnesota is the home of many great leaders, however, few have touched as many lives as Minnesota's Eugene McCarthy. Senator McCarthy is a tireless leader and throughout his recent illness his fighting spirit persists. Therefore I, as well as, the Minnesota delegation and the people of the great State of Minnesota want to honor the accomplishments and service of this historic Minnesota leader from the area of St. Paul, MN, that catapulted him onto the national stage and into the U.S. Congress.

I welcome the support of my colleagues and this Nation in recognition of the career and public service of this great American.

WALTER CAPPS WAS A JOYOUS MAN

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 1997

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, on October 28 the House of Representatives lost an extraordinary Member. That loss was felt here, and it was felt across the country. Earlier in October the gentleman from California, Mr. Capps, had visited this Member's home State of Nebraska and the city of Omaha, where he was born and grew up. Not surprisingly, Nebraskans responded enthusiastically to his warm and generous spirit. This Member commends to his colleagues the piece by Roger Bergman which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on November 8, 1997.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, Nov. 8, 1997]
WALT CAPPS "WAS A JOYOUS MAN"

(By Roger Bergman)

Even as the lights were coming back on in our house and around Omaha on Oct. 28, another kind of light was being extinguished. Our friend—really a member of the family—Congressman Walter Capps was dead. He suffered a heart attack in Dulles Airport in Washington, D.C.

It seemed impossible that someone so vital—so full of life and with so much to offer—could be claimed by darkness so suddenly, so unexpectedly, so early. Even at 63, even after barely surviving a head-on collision with a drunken driver more than a year ago, Walt Capps was not someone you expected to die. My wife, Dr. Wendy M. Wright, a Creighton University theology professor for whom Capps was an intimate friend and mentor, expressed it well: "He was such a joyous man."

During his recent visit to his native Omaha to attend family and high school reunions and to speak at his boyhood church and at Creighton University, Walt remarked to me that no less a figure in Western civilization than St. Augustine had written both "The Confessions" and "The City of God," respectively classics of spiritual autobiography and political theology.

A longtime and influential professor of religious studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara, Capps was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives less than a year ago. As he said in his lecture Oct. 12 at Creighton, he was trying in his own way and however modestly to bridge the gap between spiritual values and the concerns of public life. That an accomplished scholar and master of the lecture hall would even consider such a challenge at the time in a career when most of us would be thinking of retirement attests to his insatiable thirst for life generally and to his faith in the democratic ideal specifically.

It was also Augustine who proclaimed that a Christian should be an "alleluia from head to foot." Walter Capps was such a man.

And his joy in life and hope for America in a time of cynicism about politics was infectious. After spending the evening of Oct. 12 listening to the congressman speak enthusiastically of the quality of people he was getting to know in Washington and of the genuine care and concern of so many elected officials and their often young and idealistic staffs to do the right thing, one Creighton political science professor remarked that she had not felt so hopeful about Congress for years. Although 15 years my senior, Walt, with an almost boyish verve for an overwhelmingly difficult job, made me feel somewhat jaded by comparison.

Perhaps some of Walt Capps' hopefulness came from the healing and reconciliation he saw taking place in his course on the Vietnam War. Vets who had never told their stories before were invited to share the podium with him. Students whose fathers were unknown to them personally were sent as emissaries of the class to the Vietnam Memorial in Washington to touch those precious names on the black marble. Sen. Bob Kerrey, Nebraska's then-governor, took an active role in the class for years, becoming a close friend to Capps and mentoring him into political life.

Capps quoted Kerrey in his lecture at Creighton. Politics is often defined as the art of compromise. But Kerrey, reported Capps, described politics as the art of the possible.

The congressman's own philosophy corresponded well with that. Especially after his near-fatal crash in 1996, he said he woke up every morning just grateful for the new day and the opportunities it offered.

He approached his legislative role in Washington in the same spirit: Whatever small advance I can help to make for the general welfare of the people of this country, let me be ready to do it. Not a bad philosophy for the rest of us.

Of Capps' 14 books, the most recent was on the Czech playwright and president, Vaclav Havel, another fine intellect who responded to the call of public service. Havel's most recent book is titled "The Art of the Impossible." Walter would have appreciated that perspective on self-government, too. One of his own books was significantly titled, "Hope Against Hope."

But Walt Capps was not merely a dreamer. He wanted to make a difference. And so he put up with the arduous demands of the campaign trail (and the insults of his opponent, which he did not return) and the daily frustrations of an idealist in the powerbroking world of the national capital. If he tilted at windmills, it was only after being sure it was for the good of his own constituents and the country generally.

Like a combination of Don Quixote, St. Augustine, and Vaclav Havel, our friend Walter Capps dreamed a possible dream. He believed that citizens could govern themselves despite deep moral and ideological disagreements. Perhaps felled by the strenuous schedule that belief demanded of him as a citizen-representative, Walt Capps is a reminder to all of us that democracy has no sidelines.

Professor Capps—he took a leave of absence from his university post rather than give it up entirely—had a more personal dream, too. After several terms in Congress, he wanted to return to the University of California at Santa Barbara to teach about democracy.

Democracy, he said, is not something we inherit as a lifeless monument from the past. It is something we create and recreate every day. Or at least that is the challenge.

He will not be able to fulfill that personal dream—to the loss of all of us, but especially to those UCSB students who will know of him only by reputation. My wife and I are immensely grateful that our children, his godchildren, were touched by his life.

But like the image of a flame that lingers in the mind's eye even after the wick has been snuffed, Walter Capps' joyous, hopeful, generous spirit will linger long after his life has gone out.

May he rest in peace. And may the rest of us get to work.

VETERANS DAY IS AMERICA'S DAY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 1997

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend to my colleagues an article that was published in the Charleston Gazette of Charleston WV. The article was written by a constituent of the Third Congressional District of West Virginia and a national vice commander of the American Legion, Mr. Robert Vass, Sr., of Huntington, WV.

I am sure that many of my colleagues spent yesterday the same way that I did, visiting with constituents to celebrate Veterans Day. Entire communities come together on November