

district, Dr. Karen Forsys. The Washington Association of School Administrators recently selected Dr. Forsys, the Northshore School District Superintendent, as Washington State Superintendent, 2000. The Northshore School District is responsible for over 20,000 students in King and Snohomish Counties, and is the eighth largest school district in Washington State.

Dr. Forsys, in her sixth year at Northshore, has served as superintendent in the Clover Park and Riverview School Districts. She obtained her Ph.D. at the University of Arizona and conducted post-graduate work at Columbia University.

The support that Dr. Forsys receives from the teachers, parents, and board members is indeed inspiring. They all recognize Dr. Forsys as an educational leader in her unwavering commitment to the students of Northshore. The deep level of respect and admiration can be seen in the Northshore School District's nomination letter. They write:

. . . Clearly, Karen exemplifies excellence in educational leadership . . . She is steadfast in providing varied learning opportunities, teaching styles and career choices for our students. Karen Forsys personifies our District's mission statement. She truly seeks to strengthen our community through excellence in education.

I am also proud that Dr. Forsys was among the first to champion High Tech Learning Centers (HTLCs) for every high school. Thanks to Dr. Forsys' vision, HTLCs currently prepare high school students for post-secondary education in information technology and for careers in these fields. She clearly recognizes that the students of today must receive a high tech education in order to make them competitive in the global economy of the 21st century. This is particularly important for the 1st Congressional District, home to many exciting and innovative software, electronic, and biotech companies.

I am proud to have school administrators like Dr. Forsys preparing our students for the future, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Forsys as Washington State Superintendent, 2000.

IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE
RUSSELL J. McFATRICH

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of the Honorable Russell J. McFatrigh of Sedalia, MO.

Russell McFatrigh was born May 14, 1923, near Bahner, MO, a son of James H. and Cleo E. Rhodes McFatrigh. He was an active member of his community, generously sharing many of his diverse interests and talents. In 1965-66, he and his wife received the State and County Extension Farm Management Award. Mr. McFatrigh served as Pettis County Commissioner for the Eastern District from 1975 to 1979. He was a board member of many organizations, including the Salvation Army, Production Credit Association, Mid-America Dairyman, Farm and Home Administration, the Children's Therapy Center, Com-

munity Bank, and the County Extension Council. He also was a member of Rotary and was named Rotarian of the Year in 1994 and a Paul Harris Fellow.

Russell McFatrigh was a 4-H leader, a State Fair Statesman, and a member of Sedalia Knife and Fork. He also sang tenor beautifully and was asked to sing at many weddings, funerals, church services and community events. He was a life-long United Methodist Church member and attended the New Bethel United Methodist Church.

I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife of 54 years, Helen Lucille Franklin McFatrigh; his son, Jerry; his two daughters, Carolyn and Mitzzi; his mother, his brother and four sisters, seven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

2000 COLORADO BUSINESS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE, MR. GERALD PHIPPS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an inductee for the 2000 Colorado Business Hall of Fame, Mr. Gerald Phipps.

Jointly produced by the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and Junior Achievement, the Colorado Business Hall of Fame recognizes outstanding Colorado businesses and civic leaders from the past and present, publicizes the contributions of business leaders to our community and promotes the importance and value of the private enterprise system.

From their ownership of the Denver Broncos to the innovation that has preserved the Winter Park ski area, one cannot look at the history of Colorado and not find evidence of the Phipps' brothers outstanding accomplishments and contributions.

Gerald Phipps was born on March 4, 1915, in Denver, Colorado. For generations, the Phipps family has been important to Colorado. Lawrence Phipps, Sr. was a United States Senator and his wife, Margaret Rogers Phipps, was the founder and president of the Denver Symphony.

When Congress declared war on Japan in 1941, Gerald joined the United States Navy. After the war he returned to Colorado. Gerald's construction company, Gerald H. Phipps, Inc., built the Boettcher Conservatory at the Botanic Gardens, the business administration building and general classroom building at the University of Denver, and recently the company has begun work on the new Denver Bronco football stadium.

Gerald and his brother, Allan, purchased the Denver Broncos franchise and turned expenses into revenue. Their purchase was instrumental in keeping the Broncos in Colorado.

They were also very active in the community through civic organizations and boards. Gerald was the first and only non-player member of the Denver Broncos Ring of Fame, president of Gerald H. Phipps, Inc., Colorado College Board of Trustees, Diocese of Colorado Board of Trustees and various hospital projects throughout Colorado.

Sadly, Gerald passed away in August of 1993. Many people have been inspired by the leadership of Gerald Phipps and even more have respected him.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to recognize an inductee of the 2000 Colorado Business Hall of Fame, Mr. Gerald Phipps, a truly great businessman and American.

NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY
MONTH

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the designation of January as "National Biotechnology Month."

Today, Americans are living longer and healthier lives, thanks in part to modern medicine. Death rates from heart disease, cancer, and stroke are going down, and hundreds of new medicines are being developed to combat diseases, including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and arthritis.

Biotechnology not only creates new medicines and treatments, but it also improves the livelihood of individuals and our community at large. More than 212,000 Californians are employed due to biomedical research and development, earning an average salary of \$64,000. They are developing products that generate more than \$4.2 billion in exports. In San Diego, the University of California at San Diego, Scripps Research Institute, and the Salk Institute lend their expertise to and participate in a biotechnology cluster of over 27,000 jobs. In addition, San Diego County is privileged to have hundreds of small start-up biotech companies producing innovative and life-saving drugs, biologics and devices.

Mr. Speaker, as a follow-up to a CALBIO Summit meeting in which Congressman BURR and I participated this past fall, I followed up with many of the biotechnology companies that are members of BIOCUM, San Diego. What I learned from these technology leaders is that Congress must work to assist these companies and enable them to produce these life-saving drugs and devices, while not hindering their growth and innovation.

For example, every company that I met with expressed their frustration with the lack of stability in securing reimbursement from the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA). Not only do these companies have to work their way through the FDA approval process, but after they toil for years and finally receive FDA approval, they then have to begin an often arduous fight with HCFA to receive adequate reimbursement for their products. Mr. Speaker, I have had companies in my district dissolve because they have lost the battle with HCFA, after receiving approval for their products from the FDA. We must address this serious issue and develop a solution to ensure that these companies do not become financially insolvent as a result of bureaucratic delay.

While this is a serious problem faced by the biotech industry, we must also praise their hard work and innovation, which improves all of our lives and the community at large. I commend the biotechnology industry and the