

record to reflect that had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 295, 296, 297, and 298.

Further, I was unavoidably absent from this chamber on Monday, July 22, 2002 and I would like the record to show that had I been present in this chamber, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 324 and 325.

I was also unavoidably delayed on Thursday, July 25, 2002. I would like the record to show that had I been present in this chamber, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 347.

TRIBUTE TO TEXICO, NEW MEXICO  
ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 26, 2002*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Texico, New Mexico, as its citizens celebrate their centennial anniversary this month. Texico is a small community on the New Mexico-Texas border. It is known for its rich history and abounding sense of community, which has, over the years, sustained the town's traditional values, superb educational standards, intellectual strengths and high quality of life in Curry County.

I want to offer my sincere congratulations to Mayor Jerry Cunningham and all the residents of Texico on this happy occasion. On Saturday, July 27th, 2002, Texico, New Mexico, will celebrate its 100th anniversary. A parade beginning in Texico and ending in Farwell, Texas, its twin city, will lead citizens to Farwell Park, where craft shows, food booths, and class reunions will commemorate "Border Town Days." I know how excited everyone is about this special event.

Texico is located in what has been described as the "Golden Spread." This southwestern edge of the Great Plains is filled with the spirit of pioneers, who faced excitement, adventure, hardship, hope, fulfillment, disappointment, sadness and happiness as they moved West. Those that chose to found Texico gave the town the distinction of being the oldest community in Curry County.

In 1902, settlers moved into the area after railroad officials were considering Texico as a possible site for a railroad cutoff to Belen. The federal government and the New Mexico territorial government passed homestead laws in an effort to settle the eastern region of New Mexico. Soon settlers swarmed the area, and on either side of a muddy street, buildings soon formed a line of merchant shops and pioneer stops. Rooms for over-night visitors were quite reasonable—only twenty-five cents per night or \$1.40 per week. Harry's Café offered the best steaks, lamb-chops, fresh oysters, and eggs in town, and after dinner the dancing hall offered entertainment.

The bank ranked as the most important institution, but close behind was the Cozy Cottage Hotel. The hotel served as Texico's only two-story building, which was very distinct. A church was later built, along with a one-room schoolhouse, to which students would ride their mules every morning. By 1925, the graduating class had increased to nine students.

Today, Mayor Jerry Cunningham governs a total of about 1,065 citizens. The true charm of Texico is the fact that not much has

changed in its 100-year existence. People have come and gone and businesses have opened and closed; but the warmth, friendliness and character have remained intact. Agriculture and its support services have always been the backbone of the community, and the wholesome rural nature has been preserved. The citizens of Texico, and Curry County in general, should be very proud of that status.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, with all the historical grandeur Texico boasts, we have great reason to celebrate today. Accordingly, I extend my warmest congratulations to my friends in Texico on its 100th Anniversary. Texico most certainly has distinguished itself through its historical and social presence, and I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding 100 years of excellence.

RECOGNIZING DAVID C. DARLING  
FOR HIS THIRTY-ONE YEARS OF  
LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 26, 2002*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David C. Darling as he retires from the St. Helena Police Department. Officer Darling has spent the last thirty-one years of his career serving the people of St. Helena, California.

As a native of St. Helena, I can attest to the strong embodiment of law enforcement, that David provides on a daily basis. His dynamic experience also includes stints as a Campus Police Officer at Napa College and a Police Reserve Officer for the City of Calistoga. As an officer for the St. Helena Police Department, he was recognized as St. Helena's Police Officer of the Year in 1987. David has served as the President of the St. Helena Police Officers Association for more than ten years and also served as the President of the Napa County Peace Officers Association.

In addition to these many accomplishments, Officer David Darling has built a reputation as being reliable and truly dedicated to his work. He often served as acting sergeant and shift supervisor. Officer Darling could be called on for any assignment. He made a name for himself in his relentless and noble campaign against drunk driving. For many years Officer David Darling was the uncontested champion of removing drunk drivers from our streets and securing their convictions. He was dedicated to the cause well before it was taken up as a public campaign.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize David C. Darling for his tremendous work for the people of the Napa Valley. He is a true asset to our community, and I speak on behalf of the people of St. Helena when I thank Officer David C. Darling for his service.

LEGISLATION TO CREATE A 2,800-  
ACRE PARK IN JOHNSON COUNTY

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 26, 2002*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, on April 22, 2002, I introduced legislation in celebration of

Earth Day that would create a 2,800-acre park in Johnson County on the former site of the Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant. Senator PAT ROBERTS has truly been a leader on this issue by inserting the language from our bills (S. 2107/H.R. 4544) into the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003. As the House and Senate go to conference to mitigate the differences between our two bills, I would like to strongly encourage the conferees to keep this important language in the final authorization bill.

I have been working on this issue since I was sworn into office in January 1999. Johnson County has experienced rapid growth in recent years making it even more important that we set aside areas for parks and nature preserves now, before they are developed. The transfer would expand the borders of the 850-acre Kill Creek Park in Olathe, which opened last year.

The greatest gift we can give to future generations is acres and acres of local parks and nature trails. I have four grandchildren; I would love nothing more than to be able to take them to play in the parks like the one this authorization language would create. By transferring this land from the federal government to local control, we'll continue to add to our local system of parks and recreation areas.

TRIBUTE TO LT. GEN. P.K.  
CARLTON UPON HIS RETIREMENT  
FROM THE UNITED  
STATES AIR FORCE

**HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 26, 2002*

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to pay tribute to Lieutenant General Paul K. Carlton, Jr., Surgeon General of the Air Force, on the occasion of his retirement.

On December 1, 2002, General Carlton will end 37 years of extraordinary military service. A distinguished graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1969, General Carlton completed medical school at the University of Colorado and launched a spectacular career as an Air Force surgeon.

I have personally come to know General Carlton since he was commander of Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. Then, as now, Wilford Hall Medical Center is a major presence in our community. Under his leadership and support, the 311th Medical Systems Wing at Brooks AFB has become a worldwide leader in research, development and training for bioterrorism surveillance, detection, and response. The Air Force medical professionals in San Antonio have been active leaders in that city's remarkable successes in developing a disaster response plan.

Over the last 2 years as Surgeon General, General Carlton has revolutionized the Air Force Medical Service's readiness mission to fully reflect the Air Force doctrine of shape, respond, and prepare. This has not been an easy undertaking—as with any change, it means upsetting the status quo. General Carlton's leadership and perseverance has prevailed, giving the United States Air Force, and this country, a medical response second to none. The light, lean, mobile medical capability that General Carlton championed has literally brought state-of-the-art medical care to