

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MEXICAN AMERICAN OPPORTUNITY FOUNDATION AND THE DEDICATION OF THE DIONICIO MORALES MEXICAN AMERICAN HALL OF FAME

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 5, 2003*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 40th anniversary of the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation (MAOF) and the dedication of the Dionicio Morales Mexican American Hall of Fame.

The Mexican American Opportunity Foundation is the largest Latino social-service agency in the United States, and with the leadership of Mr. Dionicio Morales has helped improve the life of thousands of people through essential services ranging from job training and childcare to naturalization services.

In 1963, the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation offered its services to the community of East Los Angeles. Forty years later, this far-reaching program serves families from our San Diego border through Central California.

In celebrating the 40th anniversary, it is appropriate that the Dionicio Morales Mexican American Hall of Fame is committed to Mr. Morales' desire to have Mexican American leaders and other pacesetters recognized for their contributions and place in history. The Dionicio Morales Mexican American Hall of Fame honors those individuals who made the growth of MAOF possible and other Mexican Americans whose leadership has contributed to the rich culture and history of the United States.

Today, I congratulate the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation for forty years of tireless service to our community and honor the noble efforts of Dionicio Morales.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAN LEMON

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 5, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I rise today to recognize the life and passing of Jan Lemon of Norwood, Colorado. Sadly, Jan passed away in October and, as her family mourns their loss, I would like to pay tribute to her life and the wonderful memories she has left behind.

Jan Lemon was born on November 27, 1960 in Yakima, Washington, where she grew up and graduated High School. After graduating from college in Cheyenne, Wyoming, Jan moved to Ridgway, Colorado, where she made her home and married her husband Dale in 1991. Jan was a Coloradan who loved the land and all the opportunities that our mountains had to offer. She was an avid horsewoman who became a skilled rider, rancher, and roper. She loved spending time with friends and family, and contributed greatly to the quality of life throughout the Norwood community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with earnest respect that I recognize the life and passing of Jan Lemon

before this body of Congress and this nation. I extend my sincere condolences to her parents, Daniel and Marguerite, husband Dale, and daughter Courtney. Jan lived her life to the fullest and was loved and admired throughout the Norwood community. Her loss will be deeply felt and her memory will live on for years to come.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN WELLES

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 5, 2003*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the public service of a fine Coloradan, John Welles, who passed away on December 18, 2002. Mr. Welles had a long and distinguished record of public service to Colorado and he will be dearly missed.

John Welles served as the regional administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency for six years under President Reagan. He was a principled public servant who always worked in a bipartisan manner and in a way that respected those with whom he disagreed.

I had the good fortune to know Mr. Welles when I was the executive director of the Colorado Outward Bound School. Among the many qualities that I admired in John, I will most remember his gentle, wise demeanor. He was a kind and public-spirited man whose good work for Colorado will not soon be forgotten. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to John Welles, a fine public servant and a great Coloradan.

Attached is an article which ran in the Rocky Mountain News on December 20, 2002.

[From the Rocky Mountain News, Dec. 20, 2002]

FORMER EPA AND MUSEUM OFFICIAL JOHN WELLES DIES

(By Erika Gonzalez)

Holly Welles' childhood was filled with an unusual family ritual—each night her father, John, would bring a stack of articles to the dinner table.

"We would go around the table and talk about what we did that day and then he would talk about some key event—something out of a science magazine that he thought was amazing," she said. "Sometimes it was a little much. But he loved to learn and he loved to share."

That zeal for science fueled a remarkable career, including an appointment as regional administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency and a six-year post as executive director of the Denver Museum of Natural History, now the Denver Museum of Nature & Science.

Mr. Welles died Wednesday after a long bout with various illnesses. He was 77. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Jan. 3 at St. John's Cathedral.

Born in Lexington, V.A., Mr. Welles attended Yale university, earning a degree in electrical engineering in 1946. After serving in the U.S. Marine Corps, he returned to the University of Pennsylvania, where he received a master's degree in business.

Mr. Welles began his career in the private sector, but in 1956, he joined the Denver Research Institute at the University of Denver, heading up the institute's Industrial Economics Division.

During a sabbatical from DU in 1971, Mr. Welles took his family to Geneva to help plan the first United Nations Conference on

the Human Environment. "He was always concerned about air pollution and population problems," his daughter Holly explained.

Those interests hit home locally, when Mr. Welles worked with Gov. Richard Lamm on the Front Range Project, a process to protect Colorado's quality of life in the face of rapid population growth. Later, at this EPA post, Mr. Welles helped resolve conflicts concerning the Rocky Mountain Arsenal and Rocky Flats.

Though Mr. Welles also served as vice president of planning and public affairs for the Colorado School of Mines, Holly says her father enjoyed his tenure at the museum most. Under his leadership, the Museum landed one of its most popular traveling exhibits ever, "Ramses II: The Pharaoh and His Time." Mr. Welles also created the permanent Prehistoric Journey exhibit before retiring in 1994.

"He enjoyed discussing scientific elements and he enjoyed engaging and challenging the scientists," said museum board member Chuck Hazelrigg.

Surviving, including his wife, Barbara, are children Ginny Welles of Lincoln, Mass., Deborah Welles of Denver, Barton Welles of Ross, Calif., and Holly Welles of Mill Valley, Calif.; and six grandchildren.

Contributions can be made to the Hemlock Society, P.O. Box 101810, Denver, CO. 80250; and the John Welles Memorial Fund at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, 2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver.

TEACHER TAX CUT ACT AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS TAX RELIEF ACT

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 5, 2003*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce two pieces of legislation that raise the pay of teachers and other educators by cutting their taxes. I am sure that all my colleagues agree that it is long past time to begin treating those who have dedicated their lives to educating America's children with the respect they deserve. Compared to other professionals, educators are underappreciated and underpaid. This must change if America is to have the finest education system in the world!

Quality education is impossible without quality teaching. If we continue to undervalue educators, it will become harder to attract, and keep, good people in the education profession. While educators' pay is primarily a local issue, Congress can, and should, help raise educators' take home pay by reducing educators' taxes.

This is why I am introducing the Teacher Tax Cut Act. This legislation provides every teacher in America with a \$1,000 tax credit. I am also introducing the Professional Educators Tax Relief Act, which extends the \$1,000 tax credit to counselors, librarians, and all school personnel involved in any aspect of the K-12 academic program.

The Teacher Tax Cut Act and the Professional Educators Tax Relief Act increase the salaries of teachers and other education professionals without raising federal expenditures. By raising the take-home pay of professional educators, these bills encourage highly qualified people to enter, and remain in, education. These bills also let America's professional educators know that the American people and the Congress respect their work.