

cover the cost of the \$48,000 elevator and some of the remodeling. His ranch home now has wide, sloping concrete walks from his front and back doors that draw him outside even on wintry days. His basement quarters feature a bathroom with a roll-in shower, a toilet with double grab bars and electronic sensing devices, kitchen cabinets that accommodate his wheelchair, and appliances installed so that he can reach into them from his wheelchair.

But he ran out of money to remodel the bathroom on the main floor and widen the hallways. The new elevator sits little used. The home for his MS friends hasn't happened, and Schneider rents out the first floor to an able-bodied tenant.

His correspondence with the state Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has convinced him that the state would try to make him comply with elaborate licensure and certification rules for what it calls his "residential facility."

"If the health care bureaucracy isn't attuned to working with people with disabilities, it doesn't matter what the words of the law are," he said.

Recently, Schneider hired two exercise therapists, who came to his house for several weeks of half-hour sessions. They had him do reps with four-pound weights on his good right arm, and worked with his left arm and legs as well, under the theory that repeated movement might invigorate his damaged nervous system.

Schneider also has his longtime personal attendants help him do stretching exercises with his left arm to keep the muscles from permanently contracting. During one visit, he grimaced as attendant Oretha Solee slowly pulled his extended arm out and behind his back.

"That's good, that's enough," he whispered.

Someday, Schneider says, there may be a medical breakthrough in MS, and he wants to remain as limber as he can be. In the meantime, he receives calls from health care bureaucrats who want to update their records and ask if he still has MS. Yes, he tells them, and he recounts the conversations with sardonic resignation. He has learned to live with it.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
MATER DEI SCHOOL'S 6-B CLASS

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, the 6-B class of Mater Dei School and their teacher, Mr. Jim Geimer, are hereby named honorary citizens of Ohio on February 13, 2003; and

Whereas, Mr. Deimer should be commended for allowing his students the oppor-

tunity to expand their knowledge about Ohio and the rest of the United States of America; and

Whereas, Mater Dei School's sixth graders will learn about the Great State of Ohio from a report given by Kyle Soltesz; and

Whereas, Kyle Soltesz has worked diligently and thoroughly on his report, researching and learning about the State of Ohio;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in honoring Kyle Soltesz and his 6-B class of Mater Dei School.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES OF
THE HOUSES TO THE FAMILIES
OF THE CREW OF THE SPACE
SHUTTLE "COLUMBIA"

SPEECH OF

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the mark of any great civilization can be measured by those who are willing to put their lives at risk for the advancement of their people. And with this in mind, Mr. Speaker, I rise with a grieving heart to commemorate the seven lives lost on the shuttle *Columbia*. Not since the *Challenger* tragedy in '86 has America known this sort of loss. In an age where space flight has become second nature, we forget the untold peril that these men and women face with each mission. Bound by bravery and the faith in their mission, these heroes took on risks for the betterment of mankind. These men and women, America and Israel's elite, sought more than personal success, they braved the skies for the greater good, representing the world's strongest space program. But as we grieve the loss of the *Columbia's* crew, earth's men and women will continue answering the call, placing the mantel of space exploration over their shoulders. I wish to extend my deepest sympathies to the families of the crewmembers; in our prayers and in our hearts, the men and women of the *Columbia* will never be forgotten.

HONORING G. RICHARD JUDD

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Richard Judd for his devotion and

his dedication to public power and the residents of Utah. Mr. Judd has led the development and success of the Utah Municipal Power Agency (UMPA) and has set the benchmark for the level of service and professionalism that residents living in public power communities in Utah have come to expect. At the end of this year, Richard Judd will retire as General Manager of UMPA and his presence will be sorely missed.

Since 1970, Mr. Judd has played a key role in the development of public power throughout Utah. He started his career with Bountiful City Power in 1970, where he was trained and certified as a Journeyman Electric Utility Lineman and later promoted to crew supervisor. While at Bountiful City Power, Mr. Judd also served as the Employees' Association President.

In 1980, Mr. Judd became the Power Department Supervisor at Nephi City Power. There he was given the responsibility of creating a new department. He hired staff, established policies and procedures, and coordinated all improvements to the city's power system.

While at Nephi City Power, Mr. Judd served in the organization and development of the Utah Municipal Power Agency, a joint action agency for six public power cities in Utah. He was made General Manager of the agency in 1987.

Under the direction of Mr. Judd, UMPA set the standard for public power agencies in providing efficient service, a stable power supply, and a commitment to its member cities. During the recent energy crisis that plagued western states, UMPA members were the only utilities in the state and the greater western region that did not raise retail rates as a result of the outrageous market prices.

Through committee testimony and service on energy task forces, Mr. Judd has provided expert knowledge to the Utah State Legislature and the Governor of Utah.

As an unselfish supporter of public power, Mr. Judd has distinguished himself throughout his career as a devoted employee, an innovator, and a skillful leader.

Therefore, I am proud to join with his many colleagues in extending my praise and congratulations to Richard Judd for his dedicated service to public power communities throughout the great state of Utah. I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.