

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that I voted for that historic civil rights bill. I am proud of the work Congress and the Administration has done in the past 40 years to guarantee equal rights to all Americans. I ask that you and all of my colleagues rise to join me in commemorating the anniversary of this remarkable event.

HONORING WEY AND SUE CHEN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to a pair of selfless community servants and dedicated parents, Wey and Sue Chen of Greeley, Colorado. As active members of the Colorado community, they are this year's recipients of the Excellence in Parenting Award presented by the National Parents Day Council. I would like to join with the Colorado community in honoring the Chens and their commitment.

The Excellence in Parenting Award is a unique tribute, honoring immigrants who, as parents, demonstrate exemplary leadership and parenting skills. The Chens are deserving recipients; after arriving in the U.S. from China, they have worked hard to create new lives for their children in America. They frequently volunteer at their children's schools, and have become involved in a variety of Chinese-American organizations. The couple has raised two wonderful children, Elisa and Davis, who are a testament to their hard work and dedication as parents. Davis is currently enrolled at the University of Colorado at Boulder, and Elisa is enrolled at the University of Northern Colorado. They serve as examples to their fellow classmates by practicing the lessons that were passed on to them by their parents.

Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues here today in applauding the Chen's civic-mindedness, family values, and in recognizing this prestigious honor. This recognition to the Chen's for the work they do in their community is long overdue, and I am proud to bring their achievements to the attention of this body of Congress today. Congratulations and thanks again for your many years of hard work and your inspiring dedication to your two children.

HEAD START, H.R. 2210

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues from the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Congressional Black Caucus to oppose H.R. 2210, which the leadership in the House of Representatives will bring to the floor this week.

Since the beginning of the program, Head Start has provided the foundation for low-income working families. Upon this foundation, thousands of adults throughout South Texas have overcome tremendous obstacles to break the cycle of family poverty and become productive citizens. Without the solid base pro-

vided by Head Start, the children and families in the 21st Century will have a much harder time trying to get a start on education, nutrition habits, and other simple health care and educational needs.

In South Texas, we have a long and successful relationship with Head Start. In my district alone, Head Start serves nearly 4,000 kids from birth to 5 years old.

Tonight, I want to share with you stories from people who have used this program so our colleagues will understand precisely what we will be taking away from the children of Texas and other states around the nation if the House passes H.R. 2210.

Cynthia del Angelo—She and her twin sister attended Head Start in 1973. They both own their own daycare centers now. Her mother received all of her education through Head Start, and is now an Education Coordinator. Her father is currently an area manager of a Head Start center. Her husband is a restaurant manager. They both feel that Head Start contributed to their success by instilling in them the confidence that they could achieve anything.

Jose Carrizales—Attended Head Start in 1965 in a small, rural community. Changed him from a shy, skeptical boy into a secure, loving kid with self-confidence. Later, having become a parent of a Head Start child, he was elected President of the Parent Committee, where the leadership skills he gained led him to a 6-year employment as the District Office Manager for Congressman SOLOMON ORTIZ. He now is the Director of Family Services for Head Start in South Texas.

Maricela Vasquez Vitt—Former Head Start student now teaches elementary school in Los Fresnos, Texas. Head Start allowed her to learn English before she started school, and form a strong educational foundation.

Jo Ann Garcia—She and her sister are both Head Start students and are now Registered Nurses. Jo Ann has worked with cancer patients in a major hospital and as Director for a Home Health Provider, and says that neither one is as rewarding for her as working with Head Start kids.

These are the everyday people who have been profoundly affected by the good works of Head Start. These are the sorts of people in the future who will be without similar services and without the foundation now provided by Head Start.

TRIBUTE TO TONY MOREY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to a truly talented artist from my district, Tony Morey of Grand Junction, Colorado. Tony has painted a variety of murals throughout the community, helping businesses gain notoriety while brightening up our buildings and streets. Tony's murals are more than just advertisements for local businesses; they are works of art that I am proud to speak about today.

Tony began his art career early in life and began working for a sign company after high school graduation. He shortly realized he wanted to expand his art career, so he began

to paint murals. Eventually finding his way to Grand Junction, Tony has continued with his murals, decorating buildings with advertisements for local businesses. Tony will soon begin work on his second mural at the Bottle Shop, where his work has been credited with an increase in business. Some of Tony's most recognizable work includes murals for Mesa Pawn and the Eagle Lodge.

Tony's ambitions are leading him to experimenting with work on traditional canvas. He hopes to someday display his art in a show, exhibiting the hard work and dedication he puts into every painting. I have no doubt that, with Tony's diligence, we will soon see his paintings on display across the country.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to pay tribute to the accomplishments of Tony Morey. His artwork brings happiness to the streets of Grand Junction while providing businesses with a cheap, effective advertising technique. I look forward to the advancement of Tony's career and I wish him the best with his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, INC., ON BEING AWARDED THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE BY THE NATIONAL COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my heartiest congratulations to Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO) on being one of the four agencies nationwide to be awarded the "Award for Excellence in Community Action" by the National Community Action Partnership.

This prestigious and coveted award is given to Community Action Agencies that demonstrate their excellence through many programs that improve communities and help people change their lives. I have long known that MEO is one of the best Community Action Agencies in the nation and this award at long last recognizes this fact. MEO's innovative efforts have transformed Maui County residents' lives and have had a lasting impact on the entire community.

I would like to especially recognize MEO's Executive Director, Gladys Baisa, for her commitment to excellence and to the people of Maui County. This award is indicative of Gladys' leadership and also a testament to the staff she has surrounded herself with. I am proud to work closely with Gladys and MEO to make Maui County and the State of Hawaii a better place.

Mahalo nui loa to the MEO board and all of its great staff. Keep up the good work and always know that it is truly appreciated.

TRIBUTE TO DEAN GRAY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I stand before you today to pay

tribute to the life and passing of Dean Gray, a resident of Grand Junction, Colorado. For three years Dean volunteered at KAFM radio, a station that showcased his musical passion, jazz. Dean's hard work and dedication to KAFM made him a popular presence at the station, as he provided exemplary leadership and friendship to the other employees. I am honored to speak of the accomplishments of Dean before this body of Congress and this nation here today.

Dean and his wife Jean moved to the Grand Junction area 10 years ago, relocating from the jazz-rich city of Chicago. Chicago provided an ideal atmosphere for jazz connoisseurs, offering a variety of clubs, concerts, and musicians that are based in that area. The couple's passion for jazz grew, and when they arrived in Grand Junction, they immediately tuned to KAFM Community Radio. As a retired member of the community, Dean wanted to expand his involvement in the jazz world. This passion for music led Dean to volunteer as a programmer for KAFM, and his hard work and dedication landed him his own show on Sunday mornings. Dean was an instant hit; he was happiest when listeners called in, telling him how much they enjoyed the show. The station appreciated Dean's dedication so much that he was recently honored with a party and plaque thanking him for his hard work at the station.

Mr. Speaker, I am saddened by the loss of such a kind and caring individual. Dean's commitment, compassion, and hard work garnered him respect at KAFM, and it is for those very qualities that I bring his life to the attention of my colleagues here today. My thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of Dean Gray.

HONORING ROBERT AND MARGUERITE STEELE AS "PARENTS OF THE YEAR"

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Robert and Marguerite Steele who reside in Xenia, Ohio in the 7th Congressional District, who have received the "Parents of the Year" Award for 2003 by the National Parents' Day Council.

Mr. and Mrs. Steele have worked very hard to be both responsible parents to their children, while helping the larger "family" of the local community.

Robert Steele has served in the military and is active with the local American Legion. Through his work with the Legion, the couple has instituted community programs for the less fortunate, where area children can participate in life-enhancing and educational activities. The Steeles' outreach efforts have helped bring about better cooperation and understanding between racial groups in the community.

This honor exemplifies Robert and Marguerite's commitment to strengthening the concept of family, which we Americans value above virtually all other things. Their community work and involvement in the lives their own children are ample justification for this award.

As the Congressman who represents Xenia, Ohio in the U.S. House of Representatives, I

offer my sincere congratulations to Robert and Marguerite Steele for this achievement. It is an honor to recognize their outstanding leadership and the exemplary character they have shown as parents.

TRIBUTE TO GLADYS McBEE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to the passing of a woman from my district who spent a lifetime in the service of others. Gladys McBee of Durango, Colorado recently passed away, and as her friends and loved ones mourn their loss, I would like to recognize a few of her many achievements here today.

Born in La Plata in 1917, Gladys settled in Durango where she became well known in the community for her enthusiastic involvement in numerous causes. She helped establish the Durango and LaPlata Senior Center and spent 20 years working with seniors at the San Juan Area Agency on Aging. As a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the League of Women Voters, Gladys helped foster patriotism and educate others of our nation's unique heritage. She continued these efforts through numerous articles about the Constitution and Bill of Rights for her local newspaper, the Durango Herald. Many people in Durango also knew Gladys for her extensive involvement in water issues and the Animas Museum, Durango's only history museum.

Mr. Speaker, Gladys McBee continually worked to improve the lives of others, and she is certainly deserving of praise before this body today. She is survived by her sister Aileen, son Douglas, grandson Teddy and other extended family members. Our thoughts are with them during their time of bereavement. To her family, friends, and the many people in the community who knew her, Gladys McBee will be deeply missed.

RAUL RIVERO MUST NOT DIE IN CASTRO'S PRISONS

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Raul Rivero is the dean of independent journalism in Cuba, having founded in 1995 Cuba Press, a news agency for independent journalists in Cuba. Mr. Rivero is also a world acclaimed poet and writer. His articles have appeared in publications such as The Chicago Tribune and The Washington Post. He has been recognized by such prestigious organizations as Reporters Without Borders. However, in totalitarian Cuba, Mr. Rivero is banned from publishing. In fact, the Castro regime is so threatened by Mr. Rivero's writing that in March Castro sent his thugs to his home to arrest him and 75 other dissidents and subsequently sentenced Mr. Rivero to 20 years in prison.

In 1991 Mr. Rivero, along with 10 other intellectuals, signed a petition to the Castro re-

gime calling for the liberation of all prisoners of conscience. Of the 10 signatories Mr. Rivero is the only one still living in Cuba and now finds himself in Castro's gulag for simply daring to write in his own country. Mr. Rivero must not die in Castro's prisons. Mr. Rivero and all political prisoners must be liberated now!

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2691) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment offered by my friend from Colorado, MARK UDALL.

My colleagues, the reason we have so many funding limitation amendments to this bill is not because of the actions of Chairman TAYLOR and the Appropriations Committee in general. It's because the congressional leadership has abdicated its institutional obligations to carry out its oversight responsibilities. And, nowhere is this abdication of responsibility more prominent than in the arena of the environment.

I can understand from some in the west that the federal government owns too much land and that these states should have the first right of refusal. But let's redefine who exactly the federal government is. It's the people of the United States and it's their land. The stewardship responsibilities for these lands, these national parks, wildlife refuges, national forests, monuments and wilderness areas are the federal government's in accordance with the laws this institution has adopted in the name of all Americans and with their support. But when an administration disregards a moratorium directed by Congress and proceeds to use an obscure reinterpretation of an arcane mining law to carve up by roads some of America's great treasured landscapes and scenic lands, it has gone too far.

Earlier this year, the Department of Interior amended an existing rule to facilitate right-of-way claims under Revised Statute 2477 (RS 2477), a long ago repealed provision of the Mining Law of 1866. The new regulation will allow any entity to file claims against federal lands, yet the new rule lacks any standard for determining the legitimacy of these claims. As a result of this and other changes, the amended disclaimer rule is being used to establish thousands of new roads potentially through National Parks, Refuges, Forests and Monuments or candidate wilderness sites without even proving any actual need.

You've seen the pictures. Find a footpath, a donkey trail and you can undermine the people's and this nation's expressed desire to protect this land from development and the extraction industry. You say it is not happening, or maybe it is just limited to Utah. Think again.