

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO HELEN PACE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a hardworking woman from my district. Helen Pace has recently retired from Berthod Motors in Glenwood Springs, Colorado after 38 years of service. I join with my colleagues here today in recognizing Helen's dedication and continuous service before this body of Congress.

Helen first started working for Berthod Motors back on October 15, 1965. Back then, Louie and Aline Berthod were the owners of this Glenwood Springs automotive landmark, which was then located in the Tamarack Building on the corner of 10th and Grand Avenue.

Along with her husband Cecil, Helen has played a significant role in establishing the Berthod Motors tradition. Cecil began employment with Berthod in the equipment division back in 1957 and went to work alongside his wife Helen from 1965 until his own retirement in 1994. Helen's career at Berthod began as a warranty clerk, eventually taking over accounts receivable and becoming office manager. Together, Cecil and Helen Pace devoted nearly 75 years of continuous service and commitment to the customers of Berthod Motors. In retirement, Helen plans to make good use of her new Buick Century, already planning a road trip with her husband in the car that she received as a retirement gift.

Mr. Speaker, it is increasingly rare these days that one person would spend close to 40 years devoted to a job they loved. Helen Pace has committed the last 38 years of her life serving the customers of Berthod Motors, a commitment that should not go unrecognized. I join with my colleagues here today in wishing Helen and her husband Cecil joy in their well-deserved retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OBERLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this year, the Oberlin, Ohio, Fire Department celebrates its 150th anniversary. Established in 1853, today the department boasts a staff of 30, state-of-the-art equipment, safety and educational programming, and professional recognition. The community has celebrated the sesquicentennial with a parade, summertime events, a traditional firefighter competition featuring an old-fashioned bucket brigade, hose race, and water ball contest, displays and an open house, and culminating in a special dinner this fall.

The mission of the Oberlin Fire Department is "To proudly protect lives and property by providing prompt, skillful, cost-effective protection and life safety services." It is routinely recognized for successfully meeting this mission with the prestigious yearly Life Safety Achievement Award. It serves the 10,000 people of Oberlin and New Russia Township in northeast Ohio with emergency responses, college fire safety courses, school and community educational services, and fire prevention efforts.

For a century and a half, ordinary men and women have conducted themselves with extraordinary bravery as they skillfully guarded the safety of their fellow citizens in Oberlin. I am proud and humbled to represent these fine people, and join with the community in a resounding "thank you!"

TRIBUTE TO OPEN SPACE PROTECTION IN GRAND COUNTY, CO

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Middle Park Land Trust and the Denver Water Department for their efforts in creating an outstanding conservation easement for Colorado's citizens in Grand County, Colorado.

Open space in Grand County and the rest of our state is coming under increasing pressure because of the rapid expansion of Colorado's population. In response, Grand County's elected officials and citizens partnered together to begin a 7-year odyssey to protect and preserve the open ranges, meadows and ridges in the Fraser Valley. Through a series of deed restrictions, conservation easements and open space development, more than 20,000 acres of land are now under some form of protection from development in Grand County.

The Denver Water Department was encouraged to "donate" properties they owned because of the efforts of Grand County citizens to raise approximately \$6,000 in funds to help cover some of the costs related to monitoring lands in perpetuity and to provide funds to pay legal fees in case the easement is questioned in court.

The Colorado General Assembly partnered in this historic easement by passing legislation that changed tax deductions to tax credits and increasing the value of allowable easements from \$100,000 to \$260,000, thus encouraging the development of multiple land trusts across the state.

Road and trail easements are now being developed to connect the towns of Fraser and Winter Park while protecting connecting routes and surrounding lands. Once again, citizens in the county, Fraser's local library and county officials have been encouraged in their efforts by the historic conservation easement crafted by Grand County citizens.

The Middle Park Land Trust has had its most successful and productive year. I applaud their innovative conservation efforts and encourage more partnerships like this, not only in Colorado's pristine mountain counties, but throughout the country as we seek to preserve our Nation's beautiful lands for now and for generations to come. Present and future generations will be thankful for the foresight in preserving some of the landscapes such as these in Grand County that inspire, enhance wildlife and recreational opportunities.

I have attached a copy of a local newspaper story about this important effort.

[From the Winter Park Manifest Oct. 29, 2003]

MEADOWS ARE OPEN FOREVER

(By Harry Williamson)

As you take your drive into the Fraser Valley this week, check out the meadows on the west side of Highway 40 just south of Tabernash.

Ignoring a couple of dilapidated, ancient cabins way back in the trees, there's not a spec of building to be seen. It's just horses and the occasional coyote moving among the sagebrush.

And that's the sight you're going to see forever—never a house, never businesses bordering the highway—thanks to a deal finalized by the county, the Middle Park Land Trust and the Denver Water Department.

Completing seven years of work, a conservation easement has been signed that protects the 514 acres, part of the old Stadelman Ranch, from any type of development ever taking place.

In addition, the approximately 300 acres on the east side of the highway is also protected by deed restrictions signed by the landowners that prohibits any building in those meadows. The only land that is not removed from possible future building is the approximately 160 acres at the far north end, just before Tabernash, which is owned by the city of Arvada.

And, the approximately 45 acres of meadow in the Hidden River Ranch subdivision, located just north of the meadows on the west side of the highway is also removed from development by a deed restriction.

So what you see today in those meadows, is pretty much what you're always going to get.

"In all of our surveys concerning what land local residents wanted to see protected, these meadows were always very high on the list," said Cindy Southway, Land Trust director.

The easement on the west side meadows was signed between Denver Water and the county, which was assisted by the Land Trust in developing the agreement.

Denver Water also owns the slightly more than 900 acres atop the ridge further west of the meadows, heavily-treed land that the agency likely plans to sell for development.

Commissioner James Newberry said that under the agreement a developer would be able to use the meadows as a portion of the open space required to develop the remainder of the land under the county's Rural Land Use Process, which requires at least 66 percent open space. This type of land development was developed by the county in 1999 as a way to maintain the rural character of the county.

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