

In addition to her community activism, Rose Kennedy, together with her husband Robert, brought a sense of family to eighteen children: four adopted and fourteen fostered. She explained, "These kids needed love and that was about all we had to give them."

The oldest of six children, Rosalie Kennedy spent her entire life in her North Toledo neighborhood. After marriage, she and her husband were involved in veterans' organizations-heading up the Toledo chapter of the DAV in the 1950's—in addition to neighborhood groups. She worked with the Northriver Development Corporation and the Economic Opportunity and Planning Association. Civic-minded as well, Rose served for many years as her precinct's Democratic committeewoman. Rounding out her community and civic responsibilities, she also served her faith as Secretary to her church, Salem Lutheran Church.

In spite of her family and community demands, Rose found time to enjoy her hobbies of crochet and crossword puzzles and reading. She was an ordinary woman who accomplished extraordinary feats. To her husband, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, we extend our heartfelt sympathy. Rose Kennedy lived life large, and her actions left a lasting legacy. We will miss her earnest resolve, her unrelenting dedication, and the loving gift she gave of herself.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, because my flight, United Airlines #950 was cancelled due to mechanical problems, I was absent from votes on February 3rd. Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea" on rollcall vote Nos. 12, 13 and 14.

HONORING THE NORTHERN CIRCLE INDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority (NCIHA) as it celebrates its 25th Anniversary.

The NCIHA is the Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE) for eight federally recognized Indian Tribes in Northern California. Originally created in 1980, the NCIHA is a valuable asset to Butte, Colusa, Lake, Mendocino and Sonoma Counties, providing safe and sanitary housing for low and moderate-income Native American families. The NCIHA is governed by a twenty member Board of Commissioners and staffed by 17 dedicated employees.

Over its 25-year history, the NCIHA has built 324 housing units in nine locations, directing \$60 million in construction planning and development programs. The organization manages an additional 232 housing units located in seven reservation communities. The NCIHA also administers a down payment as-

sistance home ownership program, rental subsidy programs, housing rehabilitation and replacement services for member tribes.

In addition to these services, the NCIHA has worked to develop a Community Housing Development Organization to access state funding and increase housing opportunities for Native Americans. The NCIHA is sharing valuable resources and providing technical support with the newly formed United Native Housing Development Corporation to help assure its success.

Mr. Speaker, the accomplishments of the NCIHA are recognized by many, most notably by the Office of Native American Programs, who awarded the NCIHA a Certificate of Excellence in 2000 and declared the organization one of the best of its kind. With the support of both the federal government and private foundations, the NCIHA is committed to the establishment of healthy communities for the Native Americans it serves. In addition to constructing and managing sufficient housing, NCIHA builds infrastructure including roads, water and sanitation facilities, and electric services.

Mr. Speaker, for its commitment to serving the Native American population of Northern California, it is appropriate that we honor the employees and board of the Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority as they recognize their 25th anniversary.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE ELMO B. HUNTER

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of the Honorable Elmo B. Hunter of Kansas City, MO.

Judge Hunter earned his law degree from the University of Missouri in 1938. He went on to post-graduate work at the University of Michigan. Judge Hunter served his country in World War II with the United States Army, working in military intelligence. When he came home he joined the law firm of Sabree, Shook, Hardy & Hunter in Kansas City.

Judge Hunter served on the bench as a state circuit judge from 1951 to 1957 and moved on to serve as a state appeals judge in that year. He remained in this post until 1965, when President Lyndon Johnson appointed him to the federal bench.

In recognition for his service, Judge Hunter was awarded the Edward J. Devitt Distinguished Service to Justice Award in 1987. He was also the recipient of the American Judicature Society's Distinguished Service Award and served as the society's chairman and president. In 1991, the American Judicature Society saw fit to found the Elmo B. Hunter Citizens Center for Judicial Selection. The center researches nonpartisan, merit-based judicial selections, sponsors national forums, monitors state judicial reform projects and educates international visitors on the U.S. judicial selection process.

Mr. Speaker, Elmo Hunter was a valuable member of the judiciary and a credit to his profession. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife, Shirley; his daughter

Nancy; and all of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF SAM MAMULA

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Sam Mamula of Breckenridge, Colorado for his exemplary public service.

Mr. Mamula has proven his dedication to Breckenridge. He has held a variety of local government positions during his residency, including 8 years on the town planning commission and 8 years on the town council before becoming Breckenridge's mayor.

The citizens of Breckenridge have benefited greatly from Mr. Mamula's dedicated leadership. Specifically, Mr. Mamula has taken leadership roles in Breckenridge's use of biodiesel in its diesel municipal vehicles which is reducing pollution in Colorado.

Mr. Mamula has also been a tireless advocate for affordable housing in Summit County and was recognized nationally when Breckenridge won an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Award for Smart Growth Achievement in the built projects category for the Wellington Neighborhood affordable housing project. This project included a cooperative partnership among the town of Breckenridge, Summit County, the Environmental Protection Agency, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and a private developer.

The dedication, enthusiasm and activism with which Mr. Mamula has pursued his work deserves our most sincere thanks. Thus, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Sam Mamula for his service and many contributions to his community. He is much appreciated.

For the benefit of our colleagues, I am attaching a copy of a recent story about Mr. Mamula that appeared in the Summit Daily News.

[From the Summit Daily News, Jan. 28, 2004]

MAMULA TO END A POLITICAL ERA

We have to admit it. We are big Sam Mamula fans. Nobody is sorer than we are that the Breckenridge mayor is stepping down after one term as hizzoner.

Mamula is a quote machine without peer, except for County Commissioner Tom Long. In this business, we like that.

The thing about Mamula is that he always makes a point. We like that even better.

Usually, his point is about the quality of life in the greater Breckenridge area. With Mamula at the top spot in town, locals knew they had somebody battling for the soul of the Summit.

We say that with due apologies to The Summit Foundation, which considers itself the "Soul of the Summit," and with good reason.

But the battle for soul—quality of life—is really fought in the trenches of planning commissions and town councils where hundreds of small decisions add up to something ugly if somebody isn't on guard.

Ironically, one of Mamula's biggest achievements on behalf of the town and taxpayers will occur after he's left office—the huge open space purchase of the B&B Mines property in the Golden Horseshoe.

The deal is scheduled to close in June.

Mamula spent eight years on the town planning commission and eight years on the town council before ascending to mayor. It was a good run.

"It was a tough decision. I stalled to the last minute," said the reluctant retiree who needs to spend more time with his convalescing wife.

"I really like being mayor. I liked being on the town council and I liked being on the planning commission. It really has been a labor of love for me rather than a carrying out of duties," he added.

Mamula called it "fulfilling" to work with a "great town council and staff."

"With a town manager like Tim Gagen, being mayor is 'relatively simple, frankly,'" Mamula said.

Mamula vows to stay involved in the town but promised not to become a "town council observer."

"There has got to be something I can cut out of this whole thing that someone is going to let me do," he added.

We hope so, too.

RECOGNIZING THE 93D BIRTHDAY OF RONALD REAGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, on Friday we celebrate the 93d birthday of Ronald Reagan and I rise again to recognize his efforts to renew the American spirit and to spread freedom around the world. Ronald Reagan once stated that, "The leadership of the free world was thrust upon us two centuries ago in that little hall of Philadelphia. In the days following World War II, when the economic strength and power of America was all that stood between the world and the return to the dark ages, Pope Pius XII said, 'The American people have a great genius for splendid and unselfish actions. Into the hands of America God has placed the destinies of an afflicted mankind.'" Reagan further stated that, "We are indeed, and we are today, the last best hope of man on earth." As we face many challenges today, the words of our 40th President still ring true. As we mark his birthday, we should remember his dream of creating a better, safer world and reaffirm that this Nation must continue to show the courage and persistence to turn that dream into a reality and provide hope for all those who do not have freedom.

HAPPY 109TH BIRTHDAY, ARMINTA LESTARJETTE ULRICH

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a very special woman, Arminta Lestarjette Ulrich, known simply by the name "Mint" to her friends. Mint will be celebrating her 109th birthday on February 21. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge this important milestone in her long and fruitful life.

Mint has had the gift of living through three centuries in this great Nation—one can only

imagine the many changes she has witnessed. She is a living time capsule, a treasure to us. By sharing her memories and experiences with us, we can learn more about ourselves and our Nation. Mint gives us strength in knowing where we came from and hope of who we can become.

Her full, rich life began in Cotulla, Texas in 1895. She was one of eleven children: five sisters and five brothers. The stories she tells of her youth allow us to vicariously experience life in the foreign land of South Texas as it was during the early part of the 20th century. For instance, Mint is often heard recounting how she used to ride atop a horse as it swam across the Nueces River. Or, how she used to travel by wagon to Kerrville, Texas, a journey that lasted two to three days. Today, this trip would take roughly three hours by car to complete.

Mint moved to San Antonio in 1915 where she began work as a switchboard operator for the Missouri Pacific Railroad. She worked with Missouri Pacific until her retirement. During her career, Arminta developed lasting friendships with workers all over the switchboard system.

One of the most enduring relationships she developed was with a young man who worked for the Southern Pacific Railroad—his name was Arthur Frederick Ulrich. Arthur grew to love Mint, but she was already engaged. However, like most young men suffering the pangs of love, Arthur was not dissuaded. He called her everyday and told her, "I'll get you yet". This persistence, coupled with her interest in his striking good looks and unquenchable high-spiritedness, made Arthur's prediction come true.

Mr. and Mrs. Ulrich were married on April 11, 1929 and did not have any children. Sadly, Arthur passed away in 1983, just six days before what would have been their 54th wedding anniversary. Their relationship was strong and serves as an example of the joy that a marriage can be if it is full of true friendship and love.

Mint has attributed her longevity to the use of "One-A-Day" vitamins and her lasting good looks to daily use of "Oil of Olay". I am suspicious, though, that her secret to long life and happiness also involves her sense of humor, positive attitude, and commitment to friends and family.

I am proud to count myself among those who have had the opportunity to know and learn from Mint. Her joy of living and her humanity have helped her to become an enduring spirit that continues to spread joy to those who know her. I wish her many blessings and the very best for her 109th birthday.

CONGRATULATING STEARNS COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AS MINNESOTA'S OUTSTANDING SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF THE YEAR

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Administrator Dennis Fuchs, the staff and board of supervisors,

and all the residents of Stearns County, Minnesota, on Stearns County's recognition as Minnesota's Outstanding Soil and Water Conservation District of the Year.

Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District has been very active in protecting natural resources for all to enjoy. The District has been successful in developing programs to assist landowners with such conservation practices as soil erosion prevention, animal waste storage, wildlife habitat preservation, and lakeshed management.

This award is based on a number of factors including program participation, training for staff and supervisors, and increased involvement in Minnesota's Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts work to better manage our precious natural resources.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all Minnesotans I would like to congratulate Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District on receiving this recognition and thank them for their commitment to conservation.

HONORING OBIE SNIDER

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Obie Snider, an extraordinary man who passed away on the night of December 18, 2003. After enlightening the lives of those around him for seventy-seven years, the memories of his generosity and genuine care for others have served to comfort those who knew him best, as well as the community which benefitted tremendously from his numerous contributions.

As a pillar of strength within his community of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, Mr. Snider was a role model and leader who was admired for his loyalty to God, his family, and his comrades. With the help of his vision and guidance the East Freedom Chapel was founded, and it was under that roof that he became director of Young Life in the 1950s. Mr. Snider remained a devoted Christian throughout his life, and that piety translated into his every action. In addition to being a Sunday school teacher, he was the chairman of Truth and Praise, a publisher of hymnals, and the chairman of the Christian Workers Fellowship Fund of Kansas, among other things.

After graduating from Replogle High School in 1943, Mr. Snider's experiences in college prepared him for the enriched life he would lead. Two years after marrying Mary Ann Gilbert on June 1, 1948, he graduated from Penn State University. Grounded by a strong marriage and a solid education, Mr. Snider established Singing Brook Farms and eventually became a trustee of his alma mater, a position that lasted 21 years. His appointment to Trustee Chairman in 1985 marked the first time that an agriculturalist filled the role, and in the years following he was named a distinguished alumnus and received the status of trustee emeritus in July of 2000. Mr. Snider dedicated a large portion of his time to the improvement of the university and succeeded in administering numerous changes throughout the system. Without Obie Snider's influence and vision, Penn State University would not be the renowned institution of higher learning that it is today.