

were awarded the Business of the Year by the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce. John himself has served in the board of the Wells Fargo Trust Board, and is a former Rotarian. John is supported by his wife Angie, and their two adult children Leslie and Jay.

Both Angie and John went to Mesa State College and actively give back to their alma mater by providing scholarships, supporting projects, and have been intimately involved in the planning of the Moss Performing Arts Center. In addition to the restaurant business and college philanthropy, John and Angie also are involved in real estate, ranching, and farming that feed their enthusiasm for the outdoors. They are stewards of the land who have been awarded the Colorado Division of Wildlife's Landowner of the Year award in the past, and currently maintain a seventy-acre conservation project along the Colorado River.

Mr. Speaker, John and Angie Moss are strong, dedicated individuals who have served their community for over 20 years and I am honored to stand here before this body and recognize the efforts of two such selfless and benevolent people. Thanks for all your hard work over the years John and Angie, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

NORTHERN RIO GRANDE  
NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 6, 2004*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 211, which includes language to establish the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area. I am pleased to have sponsored H.R. 505, companion legislation to S. 211 as introduced and passed in the Senate. That version of the Senate legislation only provided for establishment of the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area. The bill before us today, however, includes an additional 100 pages of legislative language pertaining to other heritage area designations. Nevertheless I am pleased that we will be moving one step closer to making the Northern Rio Grande Heritage area a reality.

The establishment of the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area is a citizen-driven effort to protect the remaining significant resources representative of the Spanish and Pueblo colonial era in north-central New Mexico. The bill identifies the northern New Mexico counties of Rio Arriba, Santa Fe and Taos as a National Heritage Area—an elite designation from Congress reserved for areas regarded as a significant resource.

Northern New Mexico boasts many sites of historic and cultural significance. Our state is a blend of pueblo and Hispanic cultures, making it a very unique and special place in our country. This legislation would identify many of the sites that tell northern New Mexico's story, help preserve them and, in the process, allow them to be more thoroughly enjoyed by New Mexicans and visitors to our state. Preservation would directly lead to economic development of this area through enhanced tourism.

The legislation creates a non-profit corporation governed by a 15 to 25 member board of trustees charged with developing a manage-

ment plan for the heritage area. The board will consist of representatives from the state, affected counties, tribes, cities and others. The corporation's plan would consist of recommendations for identifying, conserving and preserving cultural, historical and natural resources within the heritage area, along with strategies to promote tourism of the region's natural and cultural assets.

The Northern Rio Grande Heritage Area is supported by the city of Española, the city of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, Rio Arriba County, Taos County, La Jicarita Enterprise Community, the Chimayo Cultural Preservation Association, and the Eight Northern Pueblos. I urge my colleagues to join me and these communities and organizations in support of this legislation by voting for its passage today.

TRIBUTE TO COBB COUNTY BOARD  
OF REALTORS

**HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 7, 2004*

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to pay tribute to the Cobb County Board of Realtors on the occasion of their fiftieth anniversary.

Originally founded by a handful of local brokers, the Cobb County Board of Realtors has grown with its county to become one of Georgia's largest Boards of Real Estate Professionals.

Board members subscribe to a strict code of ethics as prescribed by the National Association of Realtors. Their members participate in the Realtors Political Action Committee, and the Board is active in Federal, State and local public affairs.

Many individuals and organizations have contributed to the dynamic growth of Cobb County, but none have contributed more than the Cobb County Board of Realtors.

Homeownership is the cornerstone of America's strength, and in Cobb County homeowners have no greater advocate than the Cobb County Board of Realtors.

I am pleased to commend the Realtors of Cobb County on this, the fiftieth anniversary of their Board, and wish them continued success and prosperity.

HONORING ROBERT R. SIMMONS,  
JR.

**HON. JIM DAVIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 7, 2004*

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Robert R. Simmons, Jr., a dedicated servant to the Temple Terrace community, who sadly lost his battle with cancer last week.

A North Carolina native, Bob served in World War II and attended North Carolina State University. A few years after their wedding, Bob and his wife, Ann, made Temple Terrace their home, and Bob began building his business, R.R. Simmons Construction Corporation, in Tampa. He was among the first in his trade to employ Design/Build and Tilt-Up

Wall construction, and throughout his career, Bob was highly regarded within the construction industry.

However, Bob may be best remembered for his contributions to the Temple Terrace community. Bob was a founding member of the Temple Terrace Presbyterian Church, an early member of the Temple Terrace Chamber of Commerce and active in the Lions Club and Sertoma Club.

Many will recall Bob's service on Temple Terrace community boards and his dedicated support for local historic preservation projects. Bob helped local 4-H students on animal and agriculture projects, championed a tree planting program for the community golf course and pushed for pine bore beetle infestation and eradication efforts to protect and save Temple Terrace's pine trees.

On behalf of the entire Tampa Bay community I would like to thank Bob Simmons for his leadership and service and extend my deepest sympathy to his loved ones.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KAREN  
PAULSON

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 7, 2004*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize an outstanding individual who for many years has selflessly served the interests of the people of my Congressional District and the State of Colorado. Karen Paulson has served as my Executive Assistant and Office Manager since 1998, and I am proud to bring attention to her accomplishments here today before this body of Congress and this Nation.

Karen has been an unwavering servant to Colorado for many years. She began her career of public service as the Clerk of the Colorado State House of Representatives, where Karen took on the administrative responsibilities of the Colorado General Assembly. Her duties there led to a position as the Executive Assistant to the Colorado Republican Party, where she was instrumental in efforts to recruit high quality candidates for public office in Colorado. In 1992, Karen served as the Executive Assistant to the Majority Leader of the Colorado House of Representatives, cultivating close working relationships with local, state, and federal officials.

Karen's experience with policy and procedure made her a perfect candidate for Executive Assistant in my Washington, DC office. She is a soft-spoken, dependable, kind and intelligent individual whose work ethic is strong. Karen's diligent guidance and tireless commitment have really set the tone for my Washington office over the last six years.

The adoring mother of two, Karen lovingly displays pictures of her sons Greg and Carl in her office, and beams with news of their latest exploits. Karen also serves as the "den mother" to her extended family—my Washington staff—always remembering their birthdays with a card, a cake and a smile. I cannot count the number of times that I have seen Karen go out of her way to brighten someone's day with a kind word or a sympathetic embrace. I have learned a lot in the twelve years since I first came to Congress, and Karen Paulson has demonstrated to me the true meaning of the phrase "public servant."