

As a State Trooper, Diane has made it her life's work to protect and defend human dignity and the quality of life for our citizens. Many people, myself included, have greatly benefited from her experience and leadership. This extends to the community as well, where Diane is a proud member of St. James Catholic Church in Mason, and serves as a Kindergarten Religion Education teacher.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the accomplishments and career of Diane Garrison. I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to join me in congratulating her for her unwavering commitment to justice, and wishing her well in her retirement as well as all her future endeavors.

RETIREMENT TRIBUTE TO JUDY
HART

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to recognize Judy Hart who is retiring after a 27-year career with the National Park Service.

Judy Hart is the first superintendent of Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, California. The legislation creating the new national park was signed by the President October 24, 2000, and Ms. Hart began as Superintendent on January 15, 2001. Prior to becoming Superintendent Judy coordinated the study for the new park. Judy has been instrumental in moving the Rosie the Riveter National Park from concept to reality. She is the latest in a long list of remarkable women whose contributions here have shaped American history. She has devoted the last 4 years of her career to laying the foundation for a National Park that is not only a part of Richmond's unique heritage, but that also symbolizes a national effort to recognize the women whose important Home Front contributions helped win World War II and also changed the way our Nation thinks about civil rights, child care, health care and labor rights. Judy has skillfully brought together a large group of partners to make this effort a success. The challenges Judy has faced and the obstacles she has overcome are even more remarkable because, as a "partnership park," all of the land and buildings are owned by entities other than the National Park Service, and the federal funds available for start-up are limited. Working with a number of grants, volunteers and her public and private donors, Judy will turn over to her successor a sound structure on which to build.

Her accomplishments at RRNP include the following: overseeing the implementation of the General Management Plan process which she also is coordinating with the City of Richmond's general plan amendment; worked with the Port of Richmond to open Shipyard #3 to visitors; worked on the National Register nominations for all structures but one within the Park; and developed Phases one and two for oral histories of home front workers. Over 9,000 Rosies have contacted the Park to share their names and short stories. After connecting with the Park, over 2,000 Rosies have written out the whole story of their home front

adventures, up to 55 typed pages from one Rosie. Over 2,000 Rosies have donated their precious mementos, treasured for over 50 years, and now delivered to the safekeeping of the Park.

Her career in the Park Service spans 27 years. Prior to moving to California for this new position, Ms. Hart worked for 12 years in the Washington, D.C. headquarters. She was the first National Program Coordinator for the National Heritage Areas which are partnership areas privately owned and managed in cooperation with the NPS. Previous to that Ms. Hart developed the Conservation Study Institute, now operated in partnership with the University of Vermont and the new Marsh Billings National Historical Park in Woodstock, Vermont. Ms. Hart served in the Washington Office of Legislation for 6 years, supporting the creation of Petroglyphs National Monument, Marsh Billings National Historical Park, the Mary McLeod Bethune National Historic Site, and Manzanar National Historic Site, as well as many other park units.

Ms. Hart lived for 6 years in Seneca Falls, NY, and was the first superintendent of the Women's Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, after suggesting the idea, working on the study and working on the legislation. Prior to that Ms. Hart worked on park legislation out of the Regional office in Boston, MA.

Prior to her career with the Park Service, Ms. Hart worked for the Boston Redevelopment Authority, City of Boston, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as Director of the Bureau of Relocation. She also worked for the Federal Highway Administration on Environmental Impact Statement reviews.

She began her career in publishing at Little, Brown and Company, and as a company newsletter editor for the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company, both in Boston. Her graduate degree is in English Literature from Cornell University, and her graduate degree is a Master of Arts in law from Goddard College in Vermont.

Mr. Speaker, because of Ms. Hart's many contributions to preserving and interpreting our Nation's history, it is proper for us, and it is my honor, to recognize her today.

HONORING LYNN VICTOR OF
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lynn Victor of Santa Rosa, California, who retires after a remarkable 30-year career of creative and innovative work to improve the lives of low-income Americans.

Beginning at the Community Action Council of San Joaquin County in the 1970s, Lynn created innovative solutions to the needs of low-income communities. As energy costs rose, she helped to develop and then administered the nation's first home weatherization programs funded by state regulated utility companies. Based on its great success, regulated utility companies in 22 states now provide weatherization services to millions of their low-income customers around the Nation. These programs not only help disadvantaged families

reduce their energy costs, they also conserve energy for America, helping toward energy self-sufficiency and reduced dependence on foreign oil.

Lynn then went on to design the Nation's first education program to help low-income and non-English speaking communities understand the deregulation of the telephone industry, enabling them to obtain and keep vital telephone service at the lowest possible cost. She designed a program to help millions of low-income people understand the privacy and security implications of new telephone technology. In this effort, she created education materials in 32 languages and Braille so that, for the first time, major telephone companies were able to reach California's huge immigrant populations through community action agencies, domestic violence shelters and other community based organizations. Once again, this program became a model for utility companies throughout the nation to understand and address the needs of their hard-to-reach customers and bring them important consumer protection information.

Lynn's work has always featured collaborations with Community Action Agencies (CAAs) our Nation's network of over 1,000 anti-poverty agencies that serve millions of low-income Americans. CAA's operate Head Start, Energy Assistance Programs, Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and other services that reach millions of disadvantaged Americans. For the past 4 years, Lynn has worked as Executive Director of the California/Nevada Community Action Partnership, helping this two state association of CAAs address the causes and symptoms of poverty in their communities.

An immigrant born in England, Lynn grew up in New Zealand, arriving in America in 1963. As a single parent of Michael, Elizabeth and Kristina Victor, Lynn had many hardships to face with no family to turn to. However, she found her new family in her community.

Mr. Speaker, as innovator, organizer and inspiration, this remarkable woman exemplifies the spirit of American immigrants who contribute so much to the vibrancy of our Nation. She is leaving her post having set a new standard for all who will follow after her, and she has put into place programs that will serve the neediest of us well in the future. Thank you, Lynn.

THANKING DOLLY SEELMEYER
FOR HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement in December 2004, we rise to thank Ms. Dolly Seelmeyer for over 32 years of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Dolly began her career in government in 1972 in a "temporary 6-week position" in the Office of Photography. She followed that with being hired as the first female Photographer for the House of Representatives. Her passionate customer service, organizational knowledge and resourcefulness benefited six Speakers of the House, and more than 4,000 Members of Congress over three decades. Some say Dolly, herself, is an institution within

the Office of Photography. Dolly has displayed great passion for her work and dedicated herself to ensuring the needs of her customers were met with great enthusiasm.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Dolly for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Dolly many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
JOHN R. FECHKO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of John R. Fechko, devoted husband, father, friend, public servant and United States Veteran. Mr. Fechko's commitment to the safety of the residents of Seven Hills defined his 35 years of outstanding public service as a police officer, S.W.A.T. team member, and as Seven Hills Chief of Police for the past 20 years.

Mr. Fechko was a 1964 graduate of Parma Senior High School. Following graduation, he served in Vietnam with the United States Marine Corps. In 1969, he joined the Seven Hills Police Department as a patrol officer. Mr. Fechko was promoted to sergeant in 1981, and in June of 1984, he was instated as Police Chief of Seven Hills.

Mr. Fechko's dedication to his career extended beyond the borders of Seven Hills. He was always willing to help an individual, family or neighboring community in need. He handed down his safety experience and expertise to cadets in training at the Cleveland Police Academy—a role he held for 31 years. Additionally, Mr. Fechko was a lead initiator of the Tri-City task force. This vital program focused on educating residents about key safety community issues, including gang activity, intervention of at-risk youths, and juvenile crime prevention.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, gratitude and remembrance of Mr. John R. Fechko. As police officer and Police Chief of the Village of Seven Hills, Mr. Fechko dedicated his professional life to the safety of his officers and the security and safety of the entire Seven Hills community. I extend my deepest condolences to his beloved wife, Suzanne; his beloved son, Craig; his sister, Diane; and also to his extended family and many friends. His legacy of protecting others will live on within the hearts and memories of his family, friends, and the public he so faithfully served, today and for all time.

COMMENDING THE SAN MATEO
COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CANINE
UNIT FOR EXCELLENT
COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to recognize the tireless work of

the forty-four year old San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Canine Unit, as it continues to serve the people of San Mateo County. As the longest running canine unit in the state of California, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Canine Unit is the only such unit in San Mateo County to provide full time patrol coverage, twenty-four hours a day, seven days per week.

The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Canine Unit was founded by Sergeant Bill Sweeney in 1961 with the purchase of three German shepherd dogs. Since its meager beginnings, the Canine Unit currently maintains twelve highly trained canine teams, which have various specialties. Each canine is trained in and performs general patrol practices such as obedience, handler protection and suspect searches. These canine teams are also assigned to and trained in expert detection of narcotics, tracking and explosives.

Over four decades of service, the Canine Unit has located hundreds of wanted felony suspects, uncovered tons of narcotics, and performed numerous explosive detection sweeps for United States' presidents, Senators, Representatives and foreign dignitaries.

In addition to protecting the citizens of San Mateo County, the Canine Unit also performs an average of thirty canine demonstrations per year for community and church groups, and middle and elementary schools. I became acquainted with this excellent Unit and its myriad accomplishments and abilities at one of these superb demonstrations.

On October 16, 2004, in conjunction with the public opening of "Art that Speaks for Homeless Pets," an art exhibit by animal rights activist and artist Cyrus Mejia, and photographer Clay Myers, at the San Mateo County History Museum, my wife Annette and I had the pleasure of attending one of these demonstrations. The Canine Unit brought five impressively trained German Shepherds to illustrate the precision and professionalism with which both the canines and their officers carry out explosive and narcotic detection.

I'd like to recognize the capabilities of the five teams that successfully entertained and educated the attendees:

Deputy Andy Armando and K9 Ando
Deputy Rod Larmour and K9 Abe
Deputy Todd Finato and K9 Vito
Deputy Keith James and K9 Haus
Deputy Sean O'Donnell and K9 Colt.

While I am an adamant animal lover and animal rights activist in my own right, indisputably, I was not the only spectator captivated by the animals discipline and sweetness. Indeed, all individuals in attendance were astonished and delighted to see the work of these loyal, well-trained canines and their equally dedicated officers.

According to Sergeant Mark M. Duri, Bomb Technician and Canine Trainer, the goal of these demonstrations is to educate the public of the great service the twelve canine and handler teams provide for San Mateo County. Moreover, the demonstration also functions to educate younger school children on the dangers of drug abuse and entanglement.

It is with gratitude to the long standing quality of service and protection provided for the residents of San Mateo County, that I sincerely commend the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Canine Unit's continued excellence.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LIBERTY
AMENDMENT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Liberty Amendment, which repeals the 16th Amendment, thus paving the way for real change in the way government collects and spends the people's hard-earned money. The Liberty Amendment also explicitly forbids the federal government from performing any action not explicitly authorized by the United States Constitution.

The 16th Amendment gives the federal government a direct claim on the lives of American citizens by enabling Congress to levy a direct income tax on individuals. Until the passage of the 16th amendment, the Supreme Court had consistently held that Congress had no power to impose an income tax.

Income taxes are responsible for the transformation of the federal government from one of limited powers into a vast leviathan whose tentacles reach into almost every aspect of American life. Thanks to the income tax, today the federal government routinely invades our privacy, and penalizes our every endeavor.

The Founding Fathers realized that "the power to tax is the power to destroy," which is why they did not give the federal government the power to impose an income tax. Needless to say, the Founders would be horrified to know that Americans today give more than a third of their income to the federal government.

Income taxes not only diminish liberty, they retard economic growth by discouraging work and production. Our current tax system also forces Americans to waste valuable time and money on compliance with an ever-more complex tax code. The increased interest in flat-tax and national sales tax proposals, as well as the increasing number of small businesses that question the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) "withholding" system provides further proof that America is tired of the labyrinthine tax code. Americans are also increasingly fed up with an IRS that continues to ride roughshod over their civil liberties, despite recent "pro-taxpayer" reforms.

Mr. Speaker, America survived and prospered for 140 years without an income tax, and with a federal government that generally adhered to strictly constitutional functions, operating with modest excise revenues. The income tax opened the door to the era (and errors) of Big Government. I hope my colleagues will help close that door by cosponsoring the Liberty Amendment.

BILL TO PERMIT BETTY DICK TO
CONTINUE USE OF HER HOME IN
GRAND COUNTY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing a bill to permit Ms. Betty Dick to continue her use and occupancy of a house located within Rocky Mountain National