Health and Housing established The Ana Pereira Memorial Endowment Fund 416 West 127th Street, New York New York 10027. From deep in the heart of Harlem to the Banks of the South Bronx, Ana will be missed but never forgotten.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KAREN KNISLEY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Karen Knisley for her 30 years of service to the Boulder City Hospital and for her being granted Emeritus Board Member Status to the hospital.

Karen was born in California to Ray L. Knisley, a Nevada Legislator, and Florence Richardson Knisley. At a young age she moved to Beowawe, Nevada and has spent the majority of her life in the state. Karen has held a variety of jobs beginning with her early years; she voluntarily worked with the Boulder City Fire Department and later she was hired by Boulder City Hospital to work in Radiology. Karen has also been active in a variety of community service projects and was active in many organizations. She has served as both a corresponding Secretary and Trustee for the Boulder City Library, as well as on the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce. Karen has also served as a member of the Boulder City Long Range Planning Committee as Chairman of the ByLaws Committee, and was a Boulder City Hospital Trustee and Co-Chairman. Karen retired from Boulder City Hospital's Board of Trustees in December 2005.

Karen has served her community continuously throughout her life and Boulder City Hospital has been privileged to benefit from her knowledge and service for the past thirty years. For her years of dedicated service, Karen was recently granted Emeritus Board Member Status to Boulder City Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Karen Knisley for years of service to the Boulder City Hospital and the Boulder City community. Her efforts in both professional and private life are to be commended, and we all thank her for her service.

TRIBUTE TO NORMAN AND MARILYN SCHEFFEL

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two great Americans, Norman and Marlyn Scheffel of Parker, Colorado. Norman and Marlyn are long-time champions of public involvement in the democratic process.

Norman and Marlyn have attended precinct caucuses ever since they moved to Parker, in 1973. Norman currently serves as a district captain overseeing five precincts.

The Scheffel's have always been active in the community. Marlyn has volunteered with Bible studies and has run programs to watch children so that mothers could have a day off.

The Scheffel's decades of dedication to grassroots politics is so legendary that they were the focus of a recent news story in the Rocky Mountain News.

Americans should look at Norman and Marlyn as examples of how everyday Americans should be engaged in the political process. I thank them for their commitment to America and wish them all the best in the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL PAYDAY LOAN CONSUMER PROTECTION AMENDMENTS OF 2006

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Federal Payday Loan Consumer Protection Amendments of 2006. This legislation prohibits federally insured institutions from engaging in high-cost payday loans and expands protections for consumers in connection with making these loans by uninsured entities.

It is well known that payday lending is a rapidly expanding form of high-cost, short-term credit. Studies indicate that the average annual percentage rate on payday loans ranges from 390 to 780 percent for a two-week loan. Let me repeat that: the average annual percentage rate on payday loans ranges from 390 to 780 percent. Additionally, typical payday loan customers take out between eight and twelve loans per year from a single lender.

I believe lending that fails to assess a borrowers ability to repay, that requires consumers to write checks on insufficient funds and that encourages perpetual debt is unacceptable. However, many of the laws pertaining to payday lenders are dealt with at the State level. One area, however, where the Federal Government has an important role to play is with what are known as "rent-a-banks." Rent-a-banks are banks that partner with payday lenders to make single-payment and installment loans. These arrangements are designed to allow payday lenders to evade small loan laws in their respective States.

As such, my bill prohibits insured financial institutions from making payday loans, either directly or indirectly. It prohibits them from making loans to other lenders so that they can, in turn, make, refinance, or extend payday loans. In addition to prohibiting rent-a-banks, my legislation seeks to ensure that those individuals who choose to take out a loan with a high interest rate know that they are doing so. Consumers should be aware that they are borrowing with an unusually high interest rate. My legislation requires the Federal Reserve System to conduct a study to determine the most effective way to require all credit applications that have an annual percentage rate higher than thirty-six percent to include a high-interest warning label.

Last year, despite my opposition, Congress passed the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act, which only addressed the personal responsibility of debtors. While I fully concede that individuals must take greater responsibility for their debt, I also feel that the lending industry should be held accountable for targeting those individuals who are unable to pay off their debts. We must address both irresponsible borrowers and lenders to stop the cycle of debt that has enveloped many Americans.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

HONORING ALAN SELTZER FOR 17 YEARS OF SERVICE TO SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant and friend, Alan Seltzer, upon his retirement from Santa Barbara County.

Alan has served the people of Santa Barbara County well during his employment in the County Counsel's office, where he most recently served as Chief Assistant County Counsel. During his tenure with the county, Alan Seltzer worked on a multitude of issues and projects but he managed to carve time out of his busy schedule to have some fun. Mr. Seltzer served as pitcher for the Air Pollution Control District's softball team in a fiercely competitive adult softball league in Santa Barbara. At one point, he dressed up as a charcoal briquette for Santa Barbara's quirky and offbeat Summer Solstice parade.

His enthusiasm for the job and for the County of Santa Barbara is what makes Alan such an effective attorney. He has worked tirelessly on endangered species issues, which are plentiful on the Central Coast, including the establishment of open space conservation areas. He has been an extremely successful facilitator in bringing all stakeholders together to find solutions on many tough issues. One especially important focus for Alan was the regulation of development of the Gaviota coast, a pristine coastal region of open space north of Santa Barbara. Mr. Seltzer also worked on collaborative efforts to save native oak trees in the Santa Ynez valley, in addition to spending a great deal of time trying to save wetlands throughout Santa Barbara county.

I am pleased to honor Alan Seltzer for all of his hard work on issues that are important to so many of us on the Central Coast. His dedication to environmental protection and sound land use policy are exemplary and deserving of recognition. Alan, I wish you the best in the future and thank you for your service to this community.

J.K. GALBRAITH'S TOWERING SPIRIT

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the recent death of John Kenneth Galbraith brought to a close one of the truly great careers in both the intellectual and political history of our country. As an economist, as a teacher, as a writer, as a creative public official, and drawing on all of these and more, as a tough-minded and effective activist for social justice, John Kenneth Galbraith made enormous contributions to the quality of life in America.