

Murfreesboro, Tennessee that called upon area schools to research alternative fuels.

Not only did these inventive students and educators take it upon themselves to develop their own bio-diesel, the Family and Consumer Science class is looking at ways to make soap from the glycerin that settles to the bottom of the mixture as it develops. There are plans to market the soap as a fundraiser for the school if efforts to make it are successful.

I applaud the actions of these students and the encouragement they are getting from their teachers. These students are receiving life lessons and skills they will be able to keep with them forever. They will not only be passing along these lessons to family and friends, these students are poised to go on to great things in the field of alternative/renewable energies.

There is no quick solution to the rising cost of fuel due to current demands and the lack of infrastructure to support renewable and alternative fuels. The long term solution will be in our ability to commit and invest in the development of these fuels. These young adults have taken this to heart and are to be commended for promoting this practice.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM
"BILL" WRIGHT

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of William V. "Bill" Wright, who for over 57 years contributed immensely to the people of Southern Nevada in a variety of roles both civically and professionally. As a result of his commitment to his fellow Nevadans, the Clark County School District Board of Trustees named a new elementary school in his memory and honor.

Bill was born in Corsicana, Texas in 1917 and he was raised in Illinois. He attended the University of Missouri where he earned a degree in journalism. Prior to his move to Las Vegas with his wife, Annelle, he began his professional journalism career as an advertising salesman at The Peoria Star in Peoria, Illinois.

After his move to Las Vegas, Bill joined the Las Vegas Review-Journal as a member of the staff. He was promoted to advertising director in 1945 and served in this capacity until 1966 when he was appointed to the position of general manager. During his tenure as general manager of the Las Vegas Review-Journal, Bill was responsible for many of the important milestones in the development and growth of the newspaper. He oversaw the newspaper's circulation increase from 48,273 to 89,079 subscribers, which allowed it to claim the title of being the largest daily newspaper in the state of Nevada. He was also responsible for the construction of the newspaper's facilities on Bonanza Road and the modernization of the newspaper printing process from molten lead-typography to computerized typesetting.

As general manager of the Las Vegas Review-Journal, Bill was committed to the idea that its readers should understand how the news stories impacted their lives and insisted that the articles included information on how it would impact the Las Vegas community.

In addition to his many successes and achievements with his professional career, Bill was also passionate about history and was an adamant collector. As a result of his interests in history and his pride for Nevada, Bill became involved with many civic organizations such as the Nevada Historical Society and the Nevada State Museum. He served in several leadership positions and was both a member of the board of trustees and also chairman of the board for 14 years. In 1980, the University of Nevada Las Vegas honored him with the Distinguished Nevadan Award for his many years of service to his state. He was also honored by the Nevada State Press Association with the Silver Makeup Rule Award and inducted into the Nevada Newspaper Hall of Fame.

Unfortunately, Annelle, his wife passed away in 1977 but Bill remained general manager of the newspaper until 1981. Bill was active with his civic organizations and projects until his passing in 1998 at the age of 80 years old. Bill and his wife were survived by 4 children, 6 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren with many of them residing in Southern Nevada.

Madam Speaker, William V. "Bill" Wright was an outstanding Nevadan whose commitment to civic and community organizations has made a profound difference in our state. I thank the Clark County School District for honoring Bill Wright's memory by naming a school after him and I congratulate his family on this special occasion.

HONORING MATTHEW W.
PLUMMER

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, below is a narrative for the RECORD by Mr. Matthew W. Plummer, an original Tuskegee Airman.

In September 1937 when I arrived at Tuskegee the Nation was busily engaged in attaining the Nation's goal in building a fleet of 50,000 airplanes to counter the Axis's warlike threats to our European Allies. I was from San Antonio, Texas where there was located several air fields; in fact I was born adjacent to one of them. The earliest I can remember was making my own airplanes imagining flying myself. It was not long after arriving in Tuskegee I met other boys who were similarly interested. We decided on our own to form a flying club where we could get together and talk about flying.

The next year we were contacted by the school officials seeking the club's help locating an airfield where two visitors could land. They were C. Alfred Anderson, the pilot, and Dr. Forsyth, who were returning from a visit to the Caribbean islands. I informed them of an airport owned by the Sheltons where they could land. The Sheltons owned an ice house in downtown Tuskegee and were in the process of building an airplane I sometimes visited after school.

The information I provided the school officials was helpful and they appointed me as the flying guests' host during their stay in Tuskegee. The height of my enthusiasm was when "Chief" Anderson took me up for a ride over campus. I will always remember that short flight; it was a WacoUP47 4 place cabin craft.

It was not long after the Anderson-Forsyth visit the discontent by a growing voice of citizens demanding inclusion of blacks in programs involving government expenditures was heard by Washington officials. In response to this demand Tuskegee was invited to the hearings along with other black schools offering higher education. It has been reported along with other testimony Tuskegee officials proudly announced there already existed on its campus students anxious to learn aviation citing the existence of an aviation club. It is reasonable to assume that the existence of the flying club constituted one of the factors that inspired the faculty to obtain CPT programs which were the predecessor to the military training facility.

I was in the second class of students enrolled in the civilian pilot training program. After completion of that program I was hired as an instructor for U.S. Army cadets training at Tuskegee. I volunteered for the Armed services, but deferred from active duty due to my position as an instructor.

One of the rewards of being an instructor was the feeling of modesty upon meeting an old student who expresses his admiration for the initial days of teaching lessons on the skill of flying! Consistently they are gracious in thanking us for the assistance in learning the skill of handling an airplane.

A TRIBUTE TO ROYCE O.
CHAPMAN

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. Royce O. Chapman. Mr. Chapman has been an integral part of my operations for more than a decade. He managed my Fairbanks campaign office during the 1992 election and since then Royce has run my Fairbanks District Office. He has been a truly tireless public servant, helping me, the people of Fairbanks and the whole of Alaska.

Royce was born March 4, 1951 in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. He spent his early years in the small farming community of Johnstown, Colorado and graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1969. He attended Western State College of Colorado in Gunnison, Colorado in 1969-1970. After leaving college, Royce started work for Great Western Sugar Company in Johnstown until entering the United States Air Force in April of 1971.

Royce has two brothers: Rodney who lives in Wisconsin, and David in Colorado; and a sister Jana who lives in Oregon. Royce has been married to the former Carolyn Warman since September 2, 1971. They have two adult daughters, Shannon and Stacie, and four grandchildren: Justin, age 10 and Shane, age 7 who live in Seattle, Washington; and Meghan, age 7 and Ryan, age 4 who live in Tok, Alaska.

Royce's public service started in the Air Force. He spent the majority of his time in the Air Force as a Public Affairs Specialist and Technician working in the community relations, internal information, and public information sections. He was also the editor of several base newspapers; along with this he wrote many articles for publication in civilian newspapers and magazines.

Royce served for 20 years with assignments in Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota; Davis-