

of National Park Service Water Resources Division. He was instrumental in the successful settlement of park water rights issues in the western United States, and in the continued protection of Yellowstone National Park. In addition, he has held positions at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Surface Mining (OSM), as well as in various environmental consulting firms. His accomplishments have earned him a number of awards, including the U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOT) Superior Service Award (1989), the Stephen Tyng Mather Award for resource conservation given by the National Parks Conservation Association (1995), and the Pacific Northwest Regional Directors Award for Professional Excellence in Natural Resources (2002).

Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased that I had the opportunity to work with Mr. Dan Kimball. I want to offer my sincerest congratulations and heartfelt gratitude to him for all that he has done for the state of Florida and this nation. I wish him the very best on his retirement, and much success in his future pursuits.

CELEBRATING BERNITA PEEPLES

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2014

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Bernita Peeples, the newest honoree of the Yellow Rose of Texas Award for her tremendous legacy as a Texas woman of outstanding volunteer and public service. A pillar of the Belton, TX community, Bernita's life and career is a reflection of hard work, activism, and dedication to bringing news to central Texas.

Lucky enough to know what she wanted her life's work to be since she was a young lady, Bernita started her career as a reporter for The Belton Journal during her senior year of high school. In an age when the average worker stays on the job for just over four years, Bernita has been faithfully reporting to her desk for 80 years! While chronicling stories big and small, as well as producing regular and popular columns, she's seen The Belton Journal's circulation climb tenfold.

The unofficial historian of Belton, Bernita's truly seen it all. A career that began on a 1927 Royal typewriter witnessed the rise of personal computers, the Internet, and social media to transmit the news. While reporting on 13 presidential administrations, WWII, and nearly a century of American advancement and innovation, she's kept her ear to the ground in Belton, never forgetting the community she calls home.

Bernita took breaks from writing and even retired once. But like all who have a calling, she couldn't stay away from her profession and soon returned to journalism. She still has a desk at The Belton Journal office where she writes one feature per week. Even better, she still has the typewriter with which she started her career.

Bernita's work doesn't stop when the paper has gone to the printers. She's involved in many organizations, including the Bell County Historical Commission and 1874 Church Restoration, for which she posed on a motorcycle for a 2010 calendar. She didn't miss a meet-

ing of the Belton Rotary Club for 19 years and she was the first woman to receive the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen award.

The people of Belton and central Texas are lucky to have Bernita Peeples. She's a local treasure and a fitting recipient of the Yellow Rose of Texas Award. I join all who celebrate her enormous contributions to journalism and her beloved community.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR 60TH ANNUAL TUCSON GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2014

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th Annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Show—the largest gem and mineral exhibition in the United States and an event that has set the standard for such shows around the world.

The show, which will be held this year from Feb. 13–16, has been hosted for the past six decades by the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society Inc. The show began as a club show and today is dedicated to presenting extraordinary mineral, gem, fossil, lapidary and jewelry exhibits that provide a rare window into private and museum collections from around the world.

The theme of this year's show is "60 years of Diamonds, Gems, Silver and Gold" and will feature a display of diamonds from the Smithsonian Institution.

As a result of interest generated by this long-running show, dozens of satellite shows have proliferated throughout the Tucson area—bringing with them gems, minerals, fossils, meteorites and other items from around the world. This weeks-long collection of events has become known as the Tucson Gem, Mineral and Fossil Showcase and attracts thousands of participants, enthusiasts and buyers from across the globe.

During the showcase, Tucsonans and visitors find everything from rare diamonds to boxes made of petrified wood. There are dinosaur skeletons, loose stones, jewelry, African art, beads, polished stones, minerals and gifts of every description.

None of this would have happened without the vision and the hard work by members and volunteers of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society Inc., which remains dedicated to promoting the study of earth sciences. I am proud to recognize the organization and its members including President Diane Braswell and Vice President John Callahan. Its other officers are Marilyn Reynolds, Ellen Alexander, Alrene Hibben, Madison Barkley, Mark Marikos, Bob O'Donnell, Mark Ascher and Robert and Elaine Royer. The chairman of this year's show is Paul Harter.

I am proud to recognize the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society Inc. on the occasion of its 60th Annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Show.

IN MEMORY OF HOUSTON COUNTY
ICON GUY PORTER GILLETTE

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Western Music Icon Guy Porter Gillette who is being honored this weekend in Houston County.

Guy left us on September 2nd, but his memory is alive and well. Guy was the son of famed photographer Guy and his wife Doris Gillette. He and his brother, Pipp, co-owned the Camp St. Café & Store where they enjoyed entertaining southeast Texas.

The brothers were raised in Yonkers, New York, but spent their summers at their grandparents' Lovelady ranch. Back in their teens, the brothers had a band called the Roadrunners. Their lead singer was a young woman named Diane Keaton, who later became a movie star. Guy met Diane while studying at The Neighborhood Playhouse School of Theatre in Manhattan, NY and the brothers were known for playing coffee houses in many states, but Texas kept a piece of their hearts.

They inherited their grandparents' Lovelady ranch and shortly after Guy's return to Texas he met Cathi Stas from Wheeler. They married and welcomed daughter, Dorcie in 1995. After fixing up their family homestead, Camp Street in Crockett was their next project. They turned a pool hall and barbershop their grandfather built into a new music venue where they could entertain us with a unique mix of blues, cowboy ballads and Celtic folk songs. One never knew what was on the bill at Camp Street. It could be comedy one minute and vaudeville the next—and audiences loved it.

The awards stacked up for the Gillette Brothers: the Western Heritage Award for Best Traditional Western CD of 2010; two Cowboy Culture Awards; the Wrangler Award for Best Original Composition of 2012 for the song "Tradeoff"; as well as awards for their chuck wagon sourdough biscuits.

While cancer may have silenced Guy's tenor voice just two weeks after his father's passing, Cathi, Dorcie and Pipp have wonderful memories of music, laughter, and love to cherish.

Guy was a bright star that gave so much to Houston County, Texas. He will be missed. God bless Texas.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE WORK OF DR. AMPARO VILLABLANCA AND THE 20TH YEAR OF THE WOMEN'S CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE PROGRAM

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2014

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the work of Dr. Amparo Villablanca, Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of California, Davis, and to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Women's Cardiovascular Medicine Program. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr.