

award winners for 1995. Their contributions to the Gum Springs community have helped all of the residents of that community. Their steadfast commitment is another example of the strong volunteer spirit which so enriches our country.

MILDRED CHEEK BROWN
CELEBRATES HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JACK FIELDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment today to recognize a very special woman—Mildred Cheek Brown of Brandywine, MD. Mrs. Brown celebrated her 80th birthday on November 15, and I know you and all of my colleagues join with me in sending her and her family our very warmest wishes of friendship on her birthday.

Four years ago, I had the opportunity to stand here on the floor of the House and recognize Mrs. Brown's husband, Horace F. "Buddy" Brown, on the occasion of his 80th birthday. At the time, I considered it a privilege to have the opportunity to recognize Mr. Brown—if only because he had the good sense to marry Mrs. Brown. I consider it just as great a privilege to bring Mrs. Brown's upcoming 80th birthday to the attention of my colleagues.

Mrs. Brown was born in Hillsborough, NC, a small town located near Durham, one of nine children of Thomas and Electa Cheek. In 1937, Mrs. Brown came to the Washington, DC, area seeking employment. She rented a room in a boarding house and enjoyed meeting many of her neighbors. One neighbor in particular—"Buddy" Brown, who maintained a room in a boarding house next door to the then Miss Cheek—enjoyed her company. After a whirlwind 2-month courtship, Miss Cheek made Mr. Brown a very happy man by agreeing to be his wife.

While many marriage counselors contend that long, happy marriages are the result of long courtships, Mr. And Mrs. Brown might disagree. On October 29, they celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary—proving once again that we should listen more closely to our hearts, and less to counselors.

Throughout most of their married life, Mrs. Brown worked as a homemaker—raising her three children, caring for her husband, and making some of the best vegetable soup, chicken and dumplings, and Pennsylvania Dutch filing ever to come out of a kitchen. In 1965, with her children grown, she went to work fulltime as a bookkeeper for Western Auto, a position she held until she retired in 1980.

For a portion of her life, Mrs. Brown suffered health problems. She survived three bouts of tuberculosis, which required two extended stays at Glen Dale Sanatorium in addition to one prolonged recovery period at her home. But as anyone who knows her knows, Mrs. Brown is a tender women who can be tough when necessary—such as when confronting a threat to her health. In a battle between tuberculosis and Mrs. Brown, the disease didn't have a chance.

Since her retirement, Mrs. Brown has remained extremely active in her church, Im-

manuel United Methodist, where she has served as president of the United Methodist Women chapter, and on many church committees. She has also enjoyed spending time with her husband at their home in Brandywine, where they have lived for the past 25 years.

The Brown household is often the scene of many happy family gatherings at which several generations of family members join together. Those family members include Mrs. Brown's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Expected to join Mrs. Brown for her 80th birthday and her children: Frank Brown of Greensboro, NC, and his wife, Sue; Vicki Peckham of Washington, DC, and her husband, Arnold Levine; and Robin Bridges of Churchton, MD.

Also expected are Mrs. Brown's grandchildren—Frank Spasoff and his wife Anne; Chris Brown; Vicky Hawks and her husband Brad; and Emily and Andrew Bridges—as well as her great-grandchildren—Nick and Drew Hawks and Sean Spasoff. Another great-grandson is due in January.

Mr. Speaker, in this age when commitment is not as common as it once was, the 58-year marriage of Mildred and "Buddy" Brown remind all of us of its enduring value. In this age when love for others is often regarded as less important than love of oneself, Mrs. Brown's legacy of caring for her husband, her children, her extended family and her neighbors inspires all of us. And in this age when many proclaim that America's religious tradition is dying, Mrs. Brown's long and distinguished service to her church and its members—particularly its less fortunate members—proves that Christian faith and values are still alive and well.

Mr. Speaker, please join with me in wishing Mrs. Mildred Cheek Brown of Brandywine, MD, a very happy 80th birthday and continued good health. And let us all wish her husband and her family many, many more kettles of Mrs. Brown's delicious vegetable soup.

FOUR WOMEN WHO MADE A
DIFFERENCE

HON. DAN SCHAEFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize four women who have played a vital role in the operation of Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in Aurora, CO: Mrs. Lorenza Manresa, Col. Suiko Kumagai, Col. Rita Geis, and Sister Michael Mary Eagan.

Fitzsimons serves nearly one million beneficiaries in a 12-State area and is on the 1995 base closure list. This hospital's long history of care for our Nation's military personnel is exemplified in these four women, all of whom still live—and serve—in the community they served with such dedication. I salute them and offer here a brief description of each woman's selfless contributions.

MRS. LORENZA MANRESA

Mrs. Manresa was born in the Philippines, where she began her nursing career. During World War II, she was attending to patients in a Philippine hospital when the Japanese burst into her ward as part of their invasion of that country. After becoming an American citizen following the war, she served with compassion

as a nurse at Fitzsimons for over two decades.

COL. SUIKO KUMAGAI

Col. Kumagai, known to her friends as "Sue," is a Denver native whose long experience includes serving as head of the 901-C medical school at Fitzsimons. Fluent in Japanese, Col. Kumagai taught Japanese personnel English during the Korean war so that they could care for wounded Americans in Osaka.

COL. RITA GEIS

Upon her retirement from active duty during the Vietnam war, Col. Geis was the chief nurse at Fitzsimons, capping 33 years of service to this country's military personnel. Col. Geis is now the historian for the Retired Officers Association and pursues numerous charitable activities. She has been honored by the Denver Archbishop Stafford for her contributions to charity work in the local community.

SISTER MICHAEL MARY EAGAN

Sister Michael Mary has been a nun for 50 years and is celebrating her Golden Jubilee this year. Her experiences reflect a tireless record of service. She is in charge of program development for the Catholic Archdiocese of Denver and is responsible for the Colorado SHARE program, which now boasts of over 200 sites throughout the State. Sister Michael Mary was principal of Cathedral High School in Denver and was the first director of the Aurora Housing Authority. It was at her initiative that the Fletcher Gardens senior housing center was built. She served on the Lowry Air Force Base redevelopment board and plans on contributing her time and talents to the redevelopment of Fitzsimons.

TWO OF OUR MOST BELOVED
TREASURES

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to provide environmental relief to the Nation by saving two of our greatest national treasures: the Everglades and the Florida Bay. The Florida Everglades is a unique region that enjoys a broad area of subtropical freshwater wetlands, which nourish the tropical marine environment of coastal bays and estuaries. If you travel on the water between the Florida Bay and the Everglades, you will be overwhelmed by the blue-green color of the water. Wildlife has flourished in the Everglades and Florida Bay areas, allowing people to enjoy their unspoiled beauty and profit from its generosity. Unfortunately, the Everglades is the most threatened U.S. national park, and the Florida Bay's lush seagrass meadows are dying as a result of the polluted water dumped into the Everglades by sugar growers. Three acres of Everglades' wetlands die everyday. Clearly, it is time to restore the Everglades-Florida Bay ecosystem for the benefit of the whole Nation.

Let me be clear that the first step in ensuring that the Everglades continues to be one of the Nation's beautiful national parks should be to end the U.S. Sugar Program. If sugar growers were forced to compete in the open market, approximately 20 percent of artificially profitable Everglades agricultural area [EAA]