

## THE MONTANA FREEMEN

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 1996*

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, we now know that the so-called Freeman in Montana received huge amounts of free money from the Federal Government before they declared that our American Government is un-American. Typical.

Spoil someone who is not in need and he'll be the first to hate you.

These well-heeled welfare recipients, these somewhat citizens have misnamed themselves. They say they are Freeman, whereas in fact they are Freebeemen.

For that matter, after a fair trial they might well be known by this name: Common old fashion criminals with a new twist on resisting arrest.

DORIS WILLIAMS IS A CREDIT TO  
HER PROFESSION

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 1996*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, the only thing better than a job well done is a person who does the job well every time. Many of my constituents in the Fifth Congressional District of Michigan have benefited over the years from the dedicated, professional, and consistently excellent efforts of Doris Williams, the executive director of the Home Builders Association of Saginaw for the past 16½ years. Doris is being feted tomorrow at a retirement event that will only begin to detail the many achievements of her outstanding career.

Nothing is more personal than the decision of building a house. People certainly put their hard-earned dollars into the design and construction of their residence. But more importantly people put their emotions and desires into each structure. As we all know, sometimes those emotions and desires are rewarded with a tremendous facility constructed by true professionals. Yet at other times, those hopes have to be tempered by the reality of what can be done, and at what cost. The National Association of Home Builders works to guarantee that professional standards will be consistently met—not only standards of construction, but also standards of dealing. Local chapters, like the Home Builders Association of Saginaw, put these standards into effect, and professionals like Doris Williams make sure that they are followed.

Doris' influence goes well beyond the Saginaw area as she has been actively involved in the Women's Council of the National Association of Home Builders and a member of the National Association of Home Builders Executive Officers Council. She was recognized just 2 years ago as the Executive Officer of the Year—only the fourth recipient ever of this prestigious award—for her leadership in association management. She also has served as an officer and president of the Michigan Executive Officers Council of the Michigan Association of Home Builders.

And like a true professional, Doris will be sure to leave a legacy of excellence, including

her service as a member of the advisory board for residential construction at Delta College. Her service at Delta is most appropriate given that she was the first female student to ever attend the residential construction classes at Delta.

People who do their jobs well are remembered, appreciated, and missed when they step down. Doris will be all of these, but at least we know she will continue to be available as a consultant to associations who need help with their day-to-day operations.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing Doris Williams well as she enters retirement, and in thanking her for her devoted years of exemplary assistance to building professionals and their clients.

A TRIBUTE TO THE "MINNEHAHA"  
AND HER MANY VOLUNTEERS  
ON THE BOAT'S SECOND MAIDEN  
VOYAGE

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 1996*

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to a unique community which has pulled together in a truly inspiring way to accomplish something remarkable.

On Saturday, May 25, 1996, a dream will be fulfilled and history will be relived.

On that day, a canary yellow, 70-foot-long, 76,000-pound, authentically steampowered craft—the express, or streetcar, boat *Minnehaha*—will once again be officially back on the beautiful and historic waters of Lake Minnetonka in Minnesota, making its maiden voyage from Excelsior to Wayzata.

Mr. Speaker, on Saturday there will be oceanwide smiles on the faces of boaters in a celebrating flotilla of accompanying watercraft and spectators on the shores of Minnesota's most history-steeped lake.

This historic event is the product of 6 years—and 80,000 hours—of hard work by dedicated, committed volunteers organized through the Minnesota Transportation Museum over the last decade and a half. Area children, citizens, and corporations gave \$500,000 to make this dream possible.

On behalf of all the people of our area, State, and Nation, I want to offer my heartfelt thanks and deepest appreciation to all of them for resurrecting part of our history.

Once upon a time, 1906 to be exact, a half dozen of these fast, steam-powered express boats were launched on Lake Minnetonka: *Minnehaha*; *White Bear*; *Hopkins*; *Stillwater*; *Como*; and *Harriet*.

For two decades, these yellow vessels provided not so much a source of pleasure boating as they were the critical transportation of the time to the many communities stretched out across this lake of many bays.

To provide a bit of history, please let me read a brief excerpt from Eric Sayer Peterson's "The Little Yellow Fleet; A History of the Lake Minnetonka Streetcar Boats":

At the turn of the century, Thomas Lowry's renowned Twin City Rapid Transit Company was hard at work carving its own special niche in American history. To provide his patrons with even more services,

Lowry decided to build a fleet of six steamboats to travel the waters of beautiful Lake Minnetonka, complementing his immense electric streetcar line which stretched all the way from Stillwater to the lakeshore at Excelsior, Minnesota. Lake Minnetonka was one of the few places in the world where passengers could transfer from a land-based streetcar and continue their journey in a steamboat that was owned and operated by the parent streetcar company. The unique vessels that Lowry built were the famed Lake Minnetonka streetcar boats.

But time, 20 years, and the Model 'T' brought the demise of this proud fleet. In 1926, the *Minnehaha* filed with red clay roofing tiles and scuttled north of Big Island.

Relocated in 1979 in 70 feet of water at the bottom of Lake Minnetonka and successfully raised to the surface in 1980, the boat then rotted on shore for another 10 years. In fact, less damage occurred to her structure through more than a half century mired in the lake bottom than in the decade up on shore prior to the launch of the restoration effort.

Then the Minnesota Transportation Museum and an energetic legion of volunteers and boat lovers went to work. The *Minnehaha* was lovingly and painstakingly taken apart and pieced back together. The people of our Lake Minnetonka community came forward with original parts from the streetcar boats they had stored in the corners of their homes.

And on Saturday, May 25, 1996, in Excelsior, MN, the culmination of all that hard work will take place. Bands will play. Then the *Minnehaha* will be rechristened and headed for Wayzata and other ports of Lake Minnetonka.

The *Minnehaha* will continue to make those runs now, just as it did in Lake Minnetonka's glory days of the past, all summer long. And for many summers to come.

Rescued from the bottom of Lake Minnetonka, restored lovingly through the boundless generosity of hard-working volunteers, and rechristened with communitywide affection this Saturday, the *Minnehaha* will now be as much a part of our area's future as it has been our past.

For that, and for all the hard work and dedication of so many volunteers, we are eternally grateful.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY  
OF WILKES-BARRE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 1996*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th anniversary of the city of Wilkes-Barre, PA. Tomorrow, May 23, 1996, marks the passing of 125 years since the founding of the city of Wilkes-Barre. I am pleased to have been asked to join Mayor Tom McGroarty in commemorating this event, and I take pride in recognizing Wilkes-Barre's anniversary on the House floor today.

As the city of Wilkes-Barre celebrates its 125th anniversary, its citizens will remember the city's long and historically significant past. City residents will also look to the future when officials seal a time capsule that will remain closed until the 175th anniversary of the city.

The history of Wilkes-Barre begins in 1769 when it was settled by colonists from New