

the population becomes older this will become more important. Fifty-eight percent of people over eighty-years-old suffer from physical impairments. This legislation will allow people to age in place. In 2000 there were 30.5 million people between 65–84 years old. This number will grow to 47 million by 2020. Today over 4.3 million are over 85 by 2020 this number is projected to grow to 6.8 million. Fifty eight percent of people over eighty years old are physically impaired.

Homes that meet visitability standards are essential for people with disabilities, and sensible because 3 out of 10 people will face a disability before they are 67, and practical if you want to invite a friend or a family member over for dinner who is disabled. I am looking forward to working with my colleagues to pass this legislation, the Inclusive Home Design Act into law.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES Z.
HERNANDEZ

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the accomplishments, devout commitment, and exceptional service of James Z. Hernandez.

James is a remarkable individual who has devoted his life to helping people throughout his community. His proactive approach and passionate spirit render him a vital resource and beloved community member. His innovative drug and alcohol prevention programs have triggered a domino effect of initiatives that can only be described as pure genius rooted in deep concern for others.

James witnessed the devastating effects of drug and alcohol abuse that had been plaguing families and communities and understood the magnitude of the problem. Being the passionate spirit that he is, it comes to no surprise that he was a pivotal force in bringing access to culture-specific substance abuse prevention and treatment services to America's Spanish-speaking population. On a crusade to further his cause, James took the issue to the political arena and became involved with legislation affecting Latino youth and adults. He collaborated with government agencies and elected officials to bring much needed attention to drug and alcohol abuse within his Latino community. I had the pleasure of working with James, on groundbreaking legislation while I served in the California State Assembly. AB 1784, The Alcohol and Drug Treatment For Adolescents Act, was the first legislation of its kind to provide assistance to youth with drug problems. The legislation became law and set precedent for other youth rehabilitation programs. James has consistently focused on finding ways to help curb the rapidly growing rate of drug dependent Latinos. His work in this field has been tremendous in paving the way to for a drug-free tomorrow.

In 2001, his credentials and expertise led him to become an appointed member of the Los Angeles County Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Commission. Throughout his career, James has demonstrated his effectiveness in addressing the problem and finding a solution.

James is now the Executive Director of the California Hispanic Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Inc.(CHCADA), which maintains over 20 substance abuse prevention and treatment contracts throughout Los Angeles, Orange, Sacramento, and Solano counties.

It is only appropriate that James receive praise from so many as he approaches 30 years of devoting his life to serving others. His ardent work in the field of drug and substance abuse deserves to be commended. It is because of his relentless persistence and astounding vision that a multitude of preventative services exists. Throughout counties in California, individuals with addiction problems can receive professional assistance in fighting a crippling disease. His life's work means so much to so many people. And, in the words of Jackie Robinson, "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives."

And so Mr. Speaker, I submit this commendation of James Z. Hernandez to be included in the archives of the history of this great nation, for individuals like James are what make this nation great. His life represents hope for countless people across California who have confronted the perils of drug and alcohol abuse and can now be comforted with hope.

HONORING SHERIFF CHARLES C.
PLUMMER

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to honor Alameda County Sheriff, Charles Plummer for 50 years of exemplary law enforcement service.

Sheriff Plummer's law enforcement career began in 1952 as a patrolman for the Berkeley Police Department. He was appointed to Operations Commander during the "People's Park" uprising in 1969 and coordinated the activities of 2,500 National Guardsmen and 750 mutual aid officers. Charles eventually rose through the ranks to become Acting Chief in 1974.

In 1976, Charles Plummer was appointed Chief of Police for the Hayward Police Department. He obtained accreditation for the Hayward Police Department for excellence in police standards and procedures, the first police agency west of the Mississippi to do so and ninth in the nation. As Chief of Police, Charles' dedicated hard work and commitment led to the institution of many successful and worthwhile programs such as the Youth and Family Service Bureau; ComputerAided Dispatch System; Traffic Bureau; Crime Analysis Bureau; Stay-In-School Program; Traffic School; Crime Prevention Program and the Community Access Team.

Charles Plummer was elected and sworn in as Alameda County Sheriff in 1987. Since then, he has run unopposed and has been re-elected four times. Sheriff Plummer's most recent accomplishments include establishing contracting for medical services, the most cost-effective method of delivering first-rate medical care to inmates; developing three

year contracts for security services with AC Transit District, Peralta College District and Oakland Airport; researching, developing, and implementing the Electronic Monitoring Program for minimum security inmates; and opening a state-of-the-art Office of Emergency Services building.

Sheriff Plummer is a graduate of the FBI Academy, the National Executive Institute and the University of San Francisco where he earned his Bachelors Degree in public service.

Sheriff Plummer's leadership and commitment to public service are inspiring to all of us. We ask Congress to join us and the constituents of the Ninth and Thirteenth Congressional Districts as we congratulate Sheriff Plummer on a tremendous 50 year career and wish him another 50 years to come.

HONORING MORRIS COTTINGHAM

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Morris W. Cottingham for his decades-long commitment to democracy and good citizenship. I want to thank Mr. Cottingham, known affectionately to his many friends as "Morrie", for his many years of service to the Democratic Party and the contributions he has made to so many Coloradans. He reminds us of the importance of citizen participation in the democratic process and of how one person can make a big difference in their local community, their state, and their nation.

Morrie's 70-some years have been involved in politics from the beginning. Although raised in a Republican household, he realized early on that his politics were quite different than those of his parents. In the 1930's, when Franklin Roosevelt rode a train through his parent's farm, Morrie remembers being impressed and inspired by Roosevelt's Democratic message. He will be the first to tell you that one of his most significant and motivating pieces of memorabilia is a Chicago Tribune with a headline that reads, "Dewey defeats Truman." In every election since then, Morrie has poured blood, sweat, and tears into helping Democratic candidates win office.

He is a veritable institution in Boulder County politics, having served in nearly every position from Precinct Committee Person to the Second Congressional District Presidential Elector in 1996 and 2000. For the Party, Morrie has done everything from fundraising at bingo games to playing for the Mighty Dems softball team. He has often said of himself that one would be hard-pressed to find someone to the left of him on political issues. Those who know Boulder County, know that that is quite a statement.

Morrie's presence as a volunteer during campaigns could turn potentially stressful and chaotic events into smoothly functioning and enjoyable experiences. During a 1996 campaign, when over a hundred people needed supplies of yard signs for distribution, Morrie personally delivered thousands of signs to them within two days. He helped set the standard of excellence and volunteerism in the Boulder County Democratic Party, and his dedication is unequalled.