

vote No. 466, on the Watt Amendment to the Pledge Protection Act, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 467, on final passage of the Pledge Protection Act, "aye"; rollcall vote No. 468, on the Adoption Tax Guarantee Relief Act, "aye"; rollcall vote No. 469, on Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 785, "aye"; rollcall vote No. 470, on Ordering the Previous Question on the Conference Report for the All American Tax Relief Act, "aye"; rollcall vote No. 471, on Agreeing to the Resolution, "aye"; and rollcall vote No. 472, on Final Passage of the All-American Tax Relief Act, "aye."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHIEF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE CHARLES BUSS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to recognize Charles Buss for his exemplary service as Chief District Court Judge for Mesa County, Colorado. For over 27 years, Judge Buss has served the people of Mesa County, and Colorado, with honor and distinction. I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing his commitment and dedication to our justice system.

Charles began his career as a private practice attorney before being appointed to the Mesa County Court by Governor Richard Lamm in 1977. In 1987, he was appointed Chief Judge where he was responsible for overseeing the Twenty-First Judicial District's administrative, budget, and personnel decisions during a time when the local caseload more than doubled. Judge Buss was also instrumental in the modernization of the district by bringing computer automation to the court system, and encouraging the construction of a new Justice Center.

As a community leader, Judge Buss served on the Colorado Juvenile Justice Council for 15 years. He was also a member of the Mesa County Partners' board and the Mesa County Community Corrections board. Currently, he is serving as a chairman of a court reform committee regarding dependency and neglect.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Judge Charles Buss before this body of Congress and this Nation today. Judge Buss was an excellent trial judge and his dedication to the people of Mesa County, Colorado and the Justice System will be missed. It is a great pleasure to recognize his efforts and I wish him all the best in his retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE ROYAL GORGE SUSPENSION BRIDGE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to a Colorado landmark, the Royal Gorge Bridge. Canon City is celebrating the Bridge's 75th anniversary this year, and I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing this tremendous engineering achievement before this body of Congress and this Nation.

Construction began on the Royal Gorge Bridge on June 5, 1929 and was completed in less than six months with no loss of life. Built using more than 100 tons of Colorado produced steel and 1,300 wooded planks, the bridge spans a record breaking 1,053 feet above the floor of the gorge. Since being dedicated on December 6, 1929, the bridge has seen more than 20 million visitors and has been the location for movie and commercial filming, and various recreational activities. Today the bridge is the center piece of a sprawling 360 acre theme park bordering the Arkansas River.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Royal Gorge Bridge. The bridge is a symbol of American ingenuity and engineering, and has served the State of Colorado for over three quarters of a century. It is with great pleasure that I recognize this landmark before this body of Congress and this nation today.

A SALUTE TO MR. DONALD R. MANUEL

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to recognize my constituent, Mr. Donald R. Manuel, of Herndon, Virginia, on the occasion of his retirement after almost four decades of service to the United States Army.

Mr. Manuel received his commission as a second lieutenant, Field Artillery, in 1964 and quickly demonstrated expertise during his service at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and the U.S. Army Engineer Supply Center in St. Louis, Missouri.

In 1968, Mr. Manuel began his career as a United States Army civilian employee as program manager for Value Engineering, Methods and Standards, and Commercial Activities. In 1980, he obtained the position of assistant for General Engineering in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Housing). Mr. Manuel has become the Army's primary policy contact dealing with base closure and realignment actions.

Throughout his career, Mr. Manuel has provided outstanding leadership, advice and sound professional judgment on significant issues before Congress and the Army. His counsel was invaluable to Army leaders and members of Congress as policy implications were considered.

It is my pleasure to honor Mr. Manuel's distinguished record of public service and dedication to the United States Army. He has been a truly exceptional career civil servant and will be missed by the United States Army.

RECOGNIZING THE 175TH BIRTHDAY OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, IL

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like my colleagues to join me in honoring one of

the oldest and most historical communities in southwestern Illinois. The City of Chester is one hundred and seventy-five years old.

The town of Chester, also the county seat of Randolph County, traces its origins to its location as a river community along the bluffs of the Mississippi River. The river serves as the community's western boundary and has long been a critical part of Chester's history, development and growth.

The founding of Chester is traced to an early settler named Samuel Smith. Smith became associated with a small settlement otherwise known as Smith's landing, due to its proximity to a river ferry crossing and supporting business. In the summer of 1829 however, Smith erected a dwelling, established a ferry and began construction of a mill. His wife, a native of Chester, England, was named Jane Thomas. Thomas originally came to Illinois with the Swanwick family and bestowed the name of her home town on this new and growing settlement. Smith kept a hotel and ferried passengers across the river on a flatboat.

Chester's chief commodity back then was castor oil which was used as a lubricant; however Castor oil lost its importance as the petroleum industry developed. In production of this oil, Chester had the advantage over other surrounding communities in the region such as Pinckneyville and Frankfort, who also had castor oil presses, because of its close proximity to river transportation. Castor oil shipments from Chester were made to St. Louis, Philadelphia, New Orleans, and as far away as England. In 1830, Chester increased in size and an iron foundry, machine shop and several large stores were constructed on the riverfront. Steamboats did a brisk business at Chester.

In 1837, Nathan Cole began operating a small sawmill with a corn-grinding attachment. A few years later he converted this enterprise into a flourmill which became the Cole Milling Company, otherwise known as present day Con Agra. Cole Milling made use of one of the first electric generators, allowing its surplus power to be utilized for power to operate Chester's street lights. Chester actually became one of the first communities in the state to have electric street lights, even prior to their use in Chicago.

Samuel Clemens, otherwise known as Mark Twain, was a pilot on the Mississippi from 1857 to the Civil War and on several occasions stopped at Chester at the Cliff House, which was a river hotel.

In 1832-33, a cholera epidemic swept through the community which took many lives. South of the present site of the Con Agra Mill, a few stones on a hillside mark the burying place of those who died of the epidemic.

The Illinois State Penitentiary at Menard had its beginning during the Civil War when it was a repository for Confederate prisoners being transported to the Federal Prison on the Alton, Illinois riverfront. The original brick building is still standing inside the prison's yards.

After the capitol moved from Kaskaskia to Vandalia and later Springfield, Illinois the region had a disastrous flood in 1844. When the Randolph county seat was moved from Kaskaskia to Chester, records were stored in a schoolhouse which was the temporary courthouse until a new one was completed in 1848. The stone annex, now the Archives Building, was built in 1863 and serves today as a museum for Randolph County history. The new