

HONORING TOM MORDUE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the vision and innovation of Mr. Tom Mordue. His efforts as a physical education teacher and principal have greatly impacted and improved the lives of students for over three decades. Tom's sense of humor, combined with his ability to see the big picture, has made his pioneering efforts to integrate diverse groups of students to form a student body soaring to success.

Tom's love of athletics began early. He wrestled all four years of high school and another four years at the University of Illinois, Chicago. In college, Tom established his leadership capacity as captain of the wrestling team. He also demonstrated his ability to successfully weave academics with athletics. At the University of Illinois, Tom participated in two NCAA tournaments and was named an Outstanding College Athlete of America in 1970.

After graduation, Tom went on to the University of Arizona to complete his Masters in Education. There, Tom began his career as a wrestling coach as a Graduate Assistant in the Physical Education program. In his first year, he coached two National place winners.

Tom's superior performance in college and graduate school landed him jobs as a social studies teacher, PE teacher, wrestling, football, and track coach. In each of these positions, Tom sought to make a difference in the lives of students. Rather than remain a passive teacher at the sidelines, Tom actively demonstrated sports skills in class to involve every student.

Mr. Mordue's contributions, however, extend much farther than the gym and classroom. At Northeast Junior High, Tom initiated an adaptive physical education program called Positive PE. In this very successful program, Tom teamed regular students with special education, developmentally and physically disabled students to provide a constructive arena for students to interact and understand one another. Tom was also heavily involved in the Jerry Lewis Telethon and would even personally drive students to the marathons. As a result of his contributions to the disabled community, Tom was named Teacher of the Year by the Association of Retarded Citizens in 1981.

Tom's record of success brought him to the position of assistant principal at Northeast and Westlake Junior High Schools, and later principal and district attendance officer at Eastlake Campus and Vantage Point Campus. In his eleven years at Vantage Point Campus High Plains High School, Tom was a Colorado Association of School Executives' Wright Way Award nominee as well as Colorado Association of School Resource Officers Administrator of the Year.

Despite his various roles in the Colorado education system, one aspect has remained constant in Tom's career: to integrate and involve students and staff in activities that bring the community together. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in expressing our gratitude to Mr. Mordue for his work in the Colorado education system and among the

unique student community at Vantage Point campus.

THE VALUE OF YOUTHBUILD**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year I heard from dismayed leaders of the organization known as YouthBuild, who had learned that funding for this extremely valuable program had been left out of the appropriations bills brought to the House. Because I know of the value of this program, I had several conversations with both Democratic and Republican leaders of the Committee, and I am very gratified that after these discussions and consultations, funding for this program was added to the Treasury, Transportation HUD Bill on the floor of the House, with bipartisan—indeed unanimous—support.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when it has become fashionable to denigrate "government" in general, we too often lose sight of the very valuable services performed by particular government programs. Thoughtless critics of "government" have in my judgment created a mathematical impossibility—a whole that is smaller than the sum of its parts. That is, if we take into account the value of various government programs, we get a result that greatly exceeds in the contribution it makes to our quality of life the view of government's value that we too often hear expressed.

Recently, in the Brockton Enterprise, Courtney Randon wrote an excellent article that illustrates how valuable the YouthBuild program is, and how it has helped achieve a number of goals—giving job skills to young people, and advancing the concept of homeownership for people who would have economic difficulty otherwise in owning a home. The story of Maribel Arce and YouthBuild is an inspiring one, and demonstrates just why it was so important that the House acted as it did to restore funding for this program. I ask that the article be printed here.

[From the Brockton Enterprise, Jul. 1, 2005]

IT'S GREAT BECAUSE IT'S MY HOUSE

(By Courtney Randon)

BROCKTON. Maribel Arce was filled with a mix of emotions as she became a first-time homeowner on Thursday.

"I'm so excited. I still don't believe it," Arce said. "But I'm nervous. It's the first time I'm talking to a big crowd."

That crowd, which included directors, students and sponsors of the Old Colony YMCA's YouthBuild, a program in which students build homes for low-income families who qualify, had gathered to watch Arce accept the keys to her new home.

YouthBuild built the house on Laureston Street, where Arce, her three teenage daughters and her mother will live.

Arce and her family earned the right to purchase the house by graduating from the Brockton Housing Authority's Self Sufficiency program, where she learned money management and savings skills.

"Self Sufficiency is an excellent opportunity," Arce said. "They offer things I wouldn't know if I didn't go."

Maribel, a single mother of her daughters, age 13, 16 and 18, learned that she qualified to purchase the house, valued at about \$260,000,

in March for \$182,500, but she also learned she was not the only candidate.

Two other families were also eligible, and all three were entered into a drawing last month.

"I was a little scared because I knew it wasn't 100 percent or even 50 percent that I'd get the house," Arce said.

When she won, Arce said, "At first I didn't believe it. I didn't believe it when they said my name."

For the next month, until the house was completed, Arce would stop by and visit the house to see the progress.

"Every day I came, three times a day," she said.

Now, she is looking forward to throwing her first party in her new home.

"It's great because it's my house, I don't have to share it with anybody," she said.

Her 16-year-old daughter, also named Maribel, is excited that she gets to decorate her new room the way she wants.

"I want it in all angels. I couldn't paint at the apartment," she said.

The Arces are moving from their three-bedroom apartment on Park Street, where they lived for 10 years.

"We have a big yard now," Arce said. "Our dog will have space outside now."

The younger Maribel Arce said of her mother, "I'm proud of her. I'm so happy we have our own house."

Through the five-year Self Sufficiency program, Arce, who works as an instructor aide at Training Resources of America in Brockton, earned enough money for a down payment on the house and qualified for a bank mortgage.

Cynthia McDonagh, who runs the Self Sufficiency program, said Arce became an exemplary student in the program and McDonagh wants Arce to come back and talk with future classes.

"If they need me, I can talk to them," Arce said. "I think people should take advantage of it. There are so many benefits."

Arce and her family were presented with keys at the ceremony by a graduating student of YouthBuild.

Arce said she was grateful to all the people involved in YouthBuild and all the students that built the house.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF WINFRED "WIN" WYATT ADAMS FOR HIS OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sadness regarding the recent passing of Winfred Wyatt "Win" Adams. Mr. Adams, a devoted public servant, passed away Saturday, June 25, 2005, after a brief illness at age 88.

Born February 1, 1917, in Warren, Arkansas, Mr. Adams served more than twenty year of active duty in the U.S. Armed Services. After enlisting in the Army in 1939, Mr. Adams was deployed overseas to fight in the European Theater of Operations. During his 21 month tour, Mr. Adams served in Rome, Arno, Northern and Southern France, Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central Europe.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Adams spent his last years of active duty in Air Force Intelligence. From 1949 until 1953, Mr. Adams was assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Cairo. In July

of 1952, when Egypt's King Farouk was forced to abdicate by General Abdul Nasser's military coup, Mr. Adams was responsible for helping the King safely flee into exile. After 10 years in the Reserves, Mr. Adams retired from military service as a Chief Warrant Officer.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Adams then held several positions under Governor Ronald Reagan, including Cabinet Secretary, where he facilitated the day-to-day interface of the Governor's office with the various departments of state government. In 1970, Mr. Adams was appointed to the State Water Resources Control Board where he was designated as the Board's Chairman from 1972 until 1976. His nine year tenure was marked by the merging of the State Water Rights Board and the State Water Quality Control Board. It was also a period when the State Board and its subsidiary Regional Water Quality Control Boards accepted delegation of expansive new duties under the 1972 federal Clean Water Act.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Winfred Adams' dedication to public service for nearly four decades makes him an outstanding example of his generation and its abiding commitment to our Nation. It is appropriate that we honor his life and his contributions today.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM BLOCK SR.

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, Summer 2005 brings the passing of an American leader, William Block Sr. A publisher, owner of television stations and an advertising distributor, patron of the arts, philanthropist and community leader, William Block's imprimatur indeed lives large.

Born in New York City on September 20, 1915, a Yale graduate, Class of 1936, and army veteran, William Block Sr settled in Pittsburgh after World War II to run the family's newspaper there. His brother managed the family's Toledo newspaper. Though he was in charge of the Pittsburgh paper, in fact William Block got his start in Toledo, in 1937 at the family's Toledo Blade newspaper. He learned the business through "apprenticeship" by working in a variety of departments, but the war interrupted his pursuit of reporting.

While in Pittsburgh, William Block was an active and engaged publisher, involved in many community groups. A 1983 survey by the Pittsburgh Press listed him as the 14th most influential citizen of Pittsburgh. He received honorary doctoral degrees from Allegheny College, Point Park College, and Washington & Jefferson College. Recognized by the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh and the Health and Welfare Association of Allegheny County, in 1996 William Block was awarded the Ralph D. Casey/Minnesota Award of the Inland Press Association honoring his sixty years in the newspaper business.

William Block promoted and supported fine arts and the symphony. His involvement was deep and commitment pure. He enjoyed music and fine art and was passionate about sharing his enjoyment with the community at large. Kind, civic-minded and concerned with civil rights, noting that "equality of all people is basic to American ideals," William Block cred-

ited his father for instilling a sympathy for people who were disadvantaged and an interest in addressing injustice.

William Block Sr. leaves to this life his loving wife of 61 years, Maxine; his sons William, Jr and Donald; daughters Karen and Barbara; eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren; as well as many extended family and friends. Our sympathy to them all.

An exceptional man of warmth, wit, and insight I was privileged to meet, the life of William Block is best summed up in the words of his son, William Jr., in the preface to his father's memoirs: "The William Block portrayed here is a man who loves his family, a man of broad understanding and diverse interests, chairman of a growing and successful communications corporation, a man dedicated for over half a century to the highest ideals of journalism, a civic-minded and charitable person, and a thoroughly decent human being." Our entire citizenry remains grateful and knows we have been fortunate indeed that his values and talents were applied to build our community, and humanity, forward.

HONORING THE TOWN OF BETHEL,
CONNECTICUT ON ITS 150TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Town of Bethel, Connecticut on marking its 150th Anniversary, on July 16, 2005.

The town of Bethel grew out of an active, well-organized parish in the eastern section of Danbury, Connecticut, officially incorporating into a township in 1855. The word Bethel, which means "House of God", got its name from the General Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut when the parish of Bethel was organized in 1759. The name remained when the parish became a township 150 years ago.

The history of Bethel is almost synonymous with the great showman P.T. Barnum—and, there's no denying that Barnum's presence can still be felt. Although it no longer stands, the Barnum bronze fountain, purchased by P. T. himself in Berlin, Germany for \$7,500 stood in the town center surrounded by hat factories. But the fountain froze often, leading to its own demise. It was finally taken down in 1923. The Doughboy statue replaced the fountain in 1928.

At one time Bethel was mainly a farming community, but beginning in the late 1700s, industrious entrepreneurs and hardworking citizens helped establish a very solid industrial base. Although the town's economy has transformed with time, the hardworking example of those generations is strong today in different businesses.

Despite being overshadowed by the hatting industry in Danbury—from which it tried to break away from in 1759 and was officially incorporated in 1855—Bethel's economy once thrived on hatting. There were more than a dozen hat factories including the largest, the Edwin Short Hat Factory. The Opera House at 184–188 Greenwood Ave., now known as the Opera House cafe and restaurant, once housed a first-floor hat factory in the late

1800s. Hatting remained the town's main enterprise until the late 1960s.

Today the Bethel Educational Park located between Judd Avenue and Plumtrees Road neatly packs in all the town's schools and playing fields. But throughout the town's history, tiny one-room schoolhouses and brick school buildings popped up here and there throughout town. Center School, an elementary school just off Greenwood Avenue in the center of town, opened in 1895 and is now used as town offices. Its twin structure, the Grassy Plain School on Grassy Plain Street is now used as a childcare center. The Plumtrees Schoolhouse, a little red one-room building, still stands on Plumtrees Road at Taylor Road. It was built in 1867 and attended by children in grades one through seven. In the late 1960s, it was no longer used as a school and today is a well-baby clinic.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the generations of hardworking people who have lived and worked in Bethel throughout its history. I rise today to honor Bethel, Connecticut, upon achieving its 150th Anniversary. I applaud the generations of Bethel citizens who have helped this town grow since its founding in 1759, and I commend today's Bethel residents for everything they do to make sure that this great town will continue strongly into the future.

HONORING JERRY REESE FOR 36
YEARS OF DEDICATION TO THE
FOREST SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the distinguished career of Jerry Reese, who recently retired after 36 years of service in Idaho's national forests.

Mr. Reese is a native son of Idaho, having grown up in Idaho Falls before receiving degrees in forestry and range management from the University of Idaho. For the past 11 years, Mr. Reese served as supervisor of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest, which swelled during his tenure to include over three million acres across Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and Utah.

I am pleased that Mr. Reese made it his mission to ensure that his staff remained efficient, courteous, and dedicated while the size and responsibilities of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest grew larger. Under Mr. Reese's supervision, administrative realignments reduced duplication that would have naturally occurred when the Caribou and Targhee National Forests merged. His administrative shuffling allowed the real business of managing the forests to go forth.

Throughout his career, Mr. Reese tempered contentious debate surrounding proposed road closures in and around grizzly habitats. He soothed public frustrations about the relocation of Caribou-Targhee's headquarters from St. Anthony to Idaho Falls. All-terrain vehicles grew in popularity on Mr. Reese's watch, and he learned how to balance public access with conservation. Through the easy decisions and the difficult ones, Mr. Reese kept in mind the long-term interests of the forests he oversaw and the people who use them.