

a young woman who has served as my first nominee to the House Page program. She is a resident of the Fifth District of Missouri, which I am honored to represent.

On July 5, 2009, Ms. Allen began her Page duties. This Saturday, August 1, 2009, Ms. Allen will return to her home town of Lee's Summit, Missouri with a wealth of knowledge that she learned as a participant in the House Page Program which I hope she will share with her family and friends.

Ms. Allen is a student at Blue Springs South High School in Blue Springs, Missouri. She is a member of the cross country team, track and field team, Young Democrats and most importantly a member of the National Honor Society. Ms. Allen is also a member of the St. James United Methodist Church Youth Group in Kansas City, Missouri.

It has been my pleasure to have Ms. Allen as a House Page. She has represented the Fifth District of Missouri well.

Madam Speaker, please join me in expressing our appreciation to Abigail, as well as all the other Pages that have served in this chamber, for they are truly the future leaders of our country.

FOOD SAFETY ENHANCEMENT ACT
OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2749, the Food Safety Enhancement Act. This bill makes drastic changes to our nation's food safety laws that will affect every farmer and rancher in the United States. However, Mr. Speaker, the extent of these changes is unknown, because the full text of this bill was not yet available to Members until the day before the vote.

Our Nation has the safest food supply in the world, Mr. Speaker, and that is because our growers and processors work hard to provide quality products to consumers. While the circumstances surrounding recent food safety violations must be addressed, in nearly every case, these were violations of existing laws and standards. It is imperative that Congress does not rush to use these incidents as an excuse to unnecessarily and dramatically expand federal regulation of our producers and processors.

This is a better bill than the one that came out of the Energy and Commerce Committee. Yet, I am still concerned about the broad authority this legislation gives to the Food and Drug Administration to regulate on-farm practices for our fruit and vegetable growers. If this bill is signed into law, the FDA will for the first time have the explicit authority to regulate the way produce is grown and harvested.

I am also concerned, Mr. Speaker, with the significant financial burden that the new traceability and record-keeping requirement will have on America's small farmers and agriculture processors. This bill would allow FDA to charge huge fines for even minor paperwork violations that could put smaller operations out of business.

Also of note, is the broad quarantine authority that this bill gives to FDA. While I recognize

the need to quarantine the source of food-borne illnesses, this bill would allow the FDA to quarantine wide geographic areas where the source may exist. We know that the FDA can make mistakes over the origin of an outbreak, and this provision could cause devastating economic impacts to growers and processors who have done absolutely nothing wrong.

Agriculture is the number one industry in Washington State. Creating jobs and growing our economy is dependent upon supporting our farmers and ranchers—not passing legislation that could put them out of business.

I have heard some of my colleagues say that we can rely on the Senate to address the flaws in this bill. I believe that the House of Representatives owes it to our growers and processors to take the time to do this right, and not rely on the Senate to fix our mistakes.

IN HONOR OF BILLY POST

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Billy Post, a remarkable American who died last Sunday after nearly 89 years in Big Sur. He was a renaissance man, who both helped build Big Sur into one of the planet's premier visitor destinations, and preserve its wild landscapes, vibrant community, and unique history. But over and above all of his life's accomplishments, he stood out as a profoundly humble and gentle man with a keen sense of old fashioned sense of courtesy and manners. All of us who had the pleasure of meeting Billy came away awed by this man of history.

Billy Post was born in Big Sur before the highway was built that connected Big Sur to Carmel. His great-grandfather, William Brainard Post, came from Connecticut as one of the first American settlers of Big Sur in the 1860s. His great-grandmother, Anselma Onesimo, was a native Costanoan from Carmel Valley. I once heard Billy tell the story that his great grandmother's great grandmother had seen the first Spanish ships to approach the Monterey Bay and thought they were giant white birds. Billy Post grew up on his family's original homestead ranch, rising every morning at 4:00 to tend livestock and milk cows before heading to school. He attended UC Davis for a time but WWII cut short his dreams of becoming a veterinarian. Billy joined the Marine Corps and spent time in the Pacific at Okinawa, Saipan, Tinian, and was one of the first Americans to see Nagasaki following the atomic bomb attack.

Once Billy Post returned home he helped build the Rancho Sierra Mar cafe and campground that his family ran on the ranch. He also worked many years for Caltrans as a highway electrician, paying close attention to the natural world around him, the wild creatures and plants and especially horses. He combined these passions by offering pack trips on horseback into Big Sur's wilderness backcountry. He married in his mid thirties and had two daughters named Gayle and Rebecca. His marriage later ended and he raised his two daughters as a single father. In 1969, Billy married Luci Lee, the love of his life and

mother of two daughters from a previous relationship. Together, they built a life with their four girls, and eventually moved into a new house on the Ranch nearby.

Over the years, it grew difficult to hold onto the old style of ranching. In the early 1980s, Billy and Luci entertained the idea of converting the ranch into a full service inn that would preserve the integrity of his family's ranch and the region's history. A handshake and a glass of Jack Daniels sealed the deal. Since Billy Post had operated heavy machinery almost all his life and could fix just about anything, he did much of the initial grading work for the new Inn. Opened in 1992, the Post Ranch Inn has developed into one of the top spa resorts in the world known particularly for its innovative architecture that embraces the dramatic beauty of its coastal Big Sur setting. Much of this grew from Billy Post's own personal vision. To the end of his life, he remained a regular fixture around the Ranch grounds, making it a point to join guests at breakfast at the Inn's Sierra Mar restaurant several times a week to share lore about Big Sur's land and people.

He was preceded in death by his daughter Nancy Downing. He is survived by his beloved wife Luci, three daughters, Linda J. Lee, Gayle Forster, and Rebecca Post; seven grandchildren, Pamela Patterson, Gregory Paley, Anna Vargas, Gabriel Forster, and Richard, Shane and Daniel Forster; and seven great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I would like to extend our nation's deep gratitude for Billy Post's brave service to the United States Marine Corps, and to his own community. I know I speak for every Member of Congress in offering our condolences to Luci, his three surviving daughters, his seven grandchildren, and all Post family members and friends upon this great loss.

“WHAT HAPPENED TO MEDICAL
CHARITY OF YEARS PAST?”

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

[From the Marietta Daily Journal, July 28, 2009]

WHAT HAPPENED TO MEDICAL CHARITY OF
YEARS PAST?

(By Cecil Toole, MD (Ret.))

Re Bill Kinney column, “Cobb's sick getting well, thanks to Good Samaritan,” July 19 MDJ

In 1961 or 1962, I met the original “Good Samaritans” of Marietta and Cobb County, when I joined their group as a visiting resident in obstetrics from Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta. All of them were on the staff of a forgotten Kennestone Hospital in Marietta, where they conducted many free pre-natal clinics, free medicines for eligible patients, and free deliveries for those same patients in a hospital that agreed to not charge “clinic patients” for hospital service.

Those mysterious and economically foolish services were done by charitable doctors such as Dr. Meaders, Dr. Reilly, Drs. George and Murl Hagood, Dr. Remer Clark, Dr. Colquitt, Dr. Mussara, Dr. Pete Inglis, Dr. Mainor, Dr. Parker, Dr. W.H. Perkinson, Dr. Looper, Dr. Clingbell, Dr. Stafford, Dr.