

a major contributor to the arts community in Missouri and a friend of mine who is retiring after 40 years as founder and Artistic Leader of the Lyric Opera of Kansas City. He also organized The Kansas City Symphony and has served as its Artistic Director.

In addition to his position with the Lyric Opera of Kansas City, he is Festival Director and Principal Conductor at the Sunflower Music Festival as well as founder and serving as Artistic Director of the Buzzards Bay Musicfest. Mr. Patterson also is credited for founding the Missouri River Festival of the Arts in Boonville, Missouri. He has appeared as guest conductor in opera and concert engagements in Mexico City, London, New York, Seattle, Cincinnati, and Sacramento.

Mr. Patterson has spent his career enriching Kansas City with his talent and vision. He is a graduate of the Conservatory of Music at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He helped establish the Middle-America Opera Apprentice Program in conjunction with the Conservatory. The Apprentice Program is designed to prepare exceptional young singers for a professional operatic career. The Program continues to gain national recognition for its commitment to aspiring artists.

As a trailblazer in the arts community, Mr. Patterson has served on the Advisory panels for the National Endowment for the Arts and the Missouri Arts Council, as a consultant to the Ford foundation, and on the Board of Directors of OPERA America. He has received numerous awards and honors including the Alumni Achievement Award, the Dean's Awards, the nationally prestigious Conductor's Award from the Alice M. Ditson Fund of Columbia University, and the W.F. Yates Medalion from William Jewell College. In 1996, Mr. Patterson was honored at the OPERA America 25th Anniversary Conference for his years of service.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Russell Patterson for his commitment to our community's future artists and his service in music in Kansas City. I wish he and his lovely wife Terri well in all of their future endeavors, and hope we can enjoy some tennis at the Cape.

RETIRED CITIZENS MONTH IN ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Governor Fob James in recognition of Western Hills of North Alabama Advantage for Relocation and Retirement during Retired Citizens Month in Alabama.

North Alabama is home to a significant number of retired citizens. Due to the beautiful natural environment and pleasant weather, people find North Alabama a comfortable place to retire. I commend the people at Western Hills for being fine ambassadors of the State of Alabama and improving the quality of life for all in our State.

I would like to insert into the RECORD the Governor's proclamation in recognition of Retired Citizens Month in Alabama.

Whereas, the Western Hills of North Alabama Advantage for Relocation and Retirement

is dedicated to the development of a positive image of North Alabama; and

Whereas, the Western Hills of North Alabama for Relocation and Retirement promotes community activities, recreational opportunities, historical sites, and many other unique attractions that are indigenous to North Alabama so that more of the nation's retirees will want to relocate to our great state during their retirement years; and

Whereas, retirees carry tremendous importance to the State of Alabama, contributing greatly to our employment, economic prosperity, and international trade relations; and

Whereas, retirees not only contribute to our State through financial means but through their sharing of a lifetime of experience and knowledge that can be passed down to our younger generations of Alabamians; and

Whereas, the State of Alabama supports the Western Hills of North Alabama Advantage for Relocation and Retirement for its efforts to increase the numbers of retirees that relocate to our state:

Now therefore I, Fob James, Jr., Governor of the State of Alabama, do hereby proclaim June 1998 as Retired Citizens Month in Alabama, to further show our State's appreciation for the retired population.

March 18, 1998.

Mr. Speaker, join me in recognizing June as Retired Citizens Month in Alabama.

IN HONOR OF RUTH R. CRONE

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ruth R. Crone's outstanding leadership on the occasion of her retirement from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG). For thirty years, she has helped guide the Washington region through an era of tremendous growth and change.

As the Executive Director, Ruth was responsible for the overall administration of COG as well as supervising the development and implementation of COG's policies and programs. She served as the Director of Human Resources and Public Safety from 1980 to 1988, and as the Director of the Department of Human Resources from 1972 to 1980.

The Council of Governments, founded in 1957, is an independent, non-profit association composed of the eighteen local governments in the Washington metropolitan area. The COG develops and implements programs in response to regional concerns such as growth, transportation, air and water quality, child care, crime, and economic development.

Ruth also serves as the Executive Vice President of the Center for Public Administration and Service, board member of the D.C. Agenda Support Corporation, ex-officio board member of the Greater Washington Board of Trade, and editor for the Regionalist, the publication of the National Association of Regional Councils. She is a frequent speaker at area universities and association meetings, has appeared on local and national radio and television talk shows and news programs, and has testified before numerous Congressional committees.

Prior to joining COG in 1969, Ruth worked as a planner with the Northeastern Illinois

Planning Commission in Chicago and the Baltimore Department of Housing and Community Development, and as a health planner with the Public Health Federation of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Ruth has been honored many times for her contributions to public service and for her successful career. Her awards include the National Public Service Award from the American Society for Public Administration and the National Academy for Public Administration, the 1998 Alumni Achievement Award from Muhlenberg College, and the International City/County Management Association's Professional Development Award. Washingtonian magazine named her one of the region's most influential leaders in 1992, and one of the region's most powerful women in 1994 and 1997.

Ruth received her undergraduate degree in sociology from Muhlenberg College and obtained her Master's Degree in Community Planning from the University of Cincinnati.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Ruth on her outstanding career and many achievements. Her leadership at the Council of Governments will be missed, but her accomplishments never forgotten. The groundwork Ruth has laid will continue to sow the seeds of success for the metropolitan region.

DRED SCOTT COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE BILL

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation authorizing the U.S. Park Service to install a plaque to commemorate the Dred Scott decision at the Old Courthouse in St. Louis, Missouri.

The Old Courthouse is part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (JNEM) which was created by Congress to commemorate and illustrate many of the historic events which occurred during this nation's westward expansion. The purpose of JNEM is to foster an awareness and understanding of those who settled the vast frontier region west of the Mississippi River.

In keeping with its mission to commemorate the significant occurrences in the westward expansion of the United States, this legislation authorizes the National Park Service to install a plaque advising visitors that the Dred Scott case was tried at this Courthouse and enlightening them to the debate over slavery that was launched by the landmark Supreme Court ruling in the 1857 case of Dred Scott v. Sandford.

Dred Scott, a slave who sought his freedom on the basis that he had lived in free territory, lost his case and his appeal to the Supreme Court. He did not live to see the end of slavery. However, by fighting for his freedom, Dred Scott made a great contribution to this nation. Historians consider the Dred Scott decision to be among the key events that triggered the Civil War. In it, the Supreme Court ruled that slaves could not be citizens of the United States and could not sue in federal courts. But the Supreme Court did not stop here. In an effort to put an end to the debate over slavery, under the leadership of Chief

Justice Taney from the slave state of Maryland, the Supreme Court stated that since a slave was private property, a slave could be taken into the territories and held there—regardless of what Congress or the territorial legislatures ruled. The Supreme Court effectively declared unconstitutional the already repealed but still honored Missouri Compromise which forbade slavery north of 36° 30'.

The Dred Scott ruling did not put to rest the debate over slavery. Instead, the Supreme Court, in *Dred Scott v. Sanford*, acerbated the tensions between the foes of slavery and the Southern slave holders. Abolitionists challenged the Supreme Court's authority to rule on slavery in the territories while Southerners were incensed by their contempt for the Court's ruling. The bitterness between the North and the South over the issue of slavery intensified in the wake of the Dred Scott decision and four years later the Civil War erupted.

Mr. Speaker, Dred Scott was a slave whose courage helped to forever change the course of this nation's history. Those who visit the Old Courthouse in the City of St. Louis will benefit from a public plaque commemorating his fight for freedom.

HONORING CENTURYTEL AND
MOTOROLA'S COMMITMENT TO
THE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIO-
LENCE

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, domestic violence is a very serious crime that affects families and communities throughout the nation. That is why I am very pleased to congratulate CenturyTel and Motorola for their Wireless Alliance for Safe Families initiative that will be announced on June 30, 1998 in Lansing, Michigan.

It is estimated that over four million women each year are abused by their husbands or partners, with many victims of abuse struggling to rebuild their lives because of fear.

CenturyTel and Motorola are teaming up in Michigan to provide an extraordinary service for victims of domestic abuse. Through the use of cellular phones donated by Motorola and local cellular service contributed by CenturyTel, Michigan will now have a program which gives victims of domestic violence access to cellular phones in case an emergency develops.

This program will be a very important part of giving countless domestic victims and their families a new sense of security in their daily lives. Without the strong commitment of CenturyTel and Motorola this service would not be possible.

The work of CenturyTel and Motorola is an important local symbol of what can be accomplished through partnerships between the public and private sectors. I applaud the commitment CenturyTel and Motorola have shown regarding the critical issue of domestic violence and I am proud to join in supporting this new initiative in Michigan.

FORCED CLOSURE OF CENTER FOR
VICTIMS OF TORTURE IN TURKEY

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow marks the observance of United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.

As Co-Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, I am particularly disturbed by the recent forced closure of the Diyarbakir Representation Office by Turkish Authorities. The Office had just opened by the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey on June 13, 1998, with the aim of assisting victims of torture in the southeastern region of Turkey. The Foundation operates similar treatment and rehabilitation centers in Ankara, Izmir, Istanbul, and Adana. Since 1990, these centers have assisted over 3,000 torture victims and have gained national and international respect. The unwarranted closure of the Diyarbakir center by the authorities only four days after it opened is but the latest form of harassment directed against those seeking to provide professional help to victims of torture in Turkey.

I call upon the Government of Turkey to stop its campaign of harassment and intimidation of human rights non-governmental organizations, including the Human Rights Foundation. If Prime Minister Yilmaz is serious about ending torture in Turkey, Mr. Speaker, he should redirect the resources of the state to vigorously prosecute those responsible for acts of torture.

COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF
THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGI-
NEERS

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, 100 years ago, Captain J.J. Meyler led a small group from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to construct a breakwater in San Pedro Bay. From this initial project, the Corps of Engineers helped develop and maintain what is now the busiest port in the United States and the largest port complex in the Western Hemisphere. These unsung heroes helped make Southern California an engine of economic growth for the entire Nation. Their designs and efforts have provided protection to the residents and businesses of this area for the past century.

The construction of the San Pedro breakwater led to a new period of sustained growth for the Los Angeles-Long Branch area. The Port of Long Beach is now the busiest port in the Nation and—if they were combined—the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach would be the largest port complex in the Western Hemisphere. This work led to the establishment of rail links tying Southern California first to San Francisco, and then to the rest of the Nation. It also served as the foundation for the development of industry which would put Los Angeles and the surrounding communities at the forefront of the American economic expansion.

Although the Corps of Engineers has been intimately involved in the ever increasing capacity of the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, it has provided—much as it has for the entire Nation—numerous other benefits to Southern California. The Corps has constructed flood control channels and shoreline protection to provide a safer place to live and work for millions of people. The Corps built barracks, medical facilities, headquarters, and other important structures that served hundreds of thousands of servicemen at military bases throughout the State during the First and Second World Wars, the Korean War, the Vietnam war, and the cold war with the Soviet Union.

Over time, the national role of the Corps of Engineers in regulatory policy has allowed the Corps to play a broader role in California. The Corps provides valuable assistance in evaluating requests for construction around navigable waters and in the protection of wetlands. The Corps works to maintain safe areas for commercial and recreational boating, including access for passenger service to Catalina Island.

The people of Southern California—and the Nation—owe much to the Corps of Engineers for their dedicated service, hard work, and benefits they provide for all of us. For more than two centuries, the Corps of engineers has served to preserve and protect this Nation. I want to congratulate the men and women of the Corps for their many achievements throughout this country and overseas, and to give particular thanks to the members of the Corps for their 100 years of service to Southern California. Happy anniversary.

REVEREND ROBERT O. SIMPSON: A
POINT-OF-LIGHT FOR ALL AMER-
ICANS

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I pay tribute to an exceptionally dedicated and benevolent spiritual leader—the Reverend Robert O. Simpson. Reverend Simpson will be honored on Saturday, June 27, 1998 at a gala concert celebrating his 25th anniversary of service to Janes United Methodist Church. Reverend Robert O. Simpson is a great Point-of-Light who has changed the face of Janes United Methodist Church through his moral guidance and unwavering commitment to the community.

"Rev. Bob," as he is affectionately called by his parishioners, was appointed as minister of Janes United Methodist Church on July 1, 1973. During his tenure Reverend Simpson has seen significant change in the church. Through it all, one thing remains the same—his enduring dedication to the church and its members. His commitment to the mission of outreach has brought several distinguished men and women to join the church. Since 1973, under the ministry of Reverend Simpson, the active membership of the Janes United Methodist Church has tripled.

Reverend Simpson's greatest challenge as pastor was the rebuilding of Janes United Methodist Church following the November 10, 1984 fire that destroyed the 100 year old building. Through his dynamic leadership, the