

WALL STREET AT A GLANCE

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 +31.38 ▲ **NASDAQ** 2,140.46
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Musgrave opens office on Main

Congresswoman is first to set up shop in Longmont

By **Anthony Lane**

The Daily Times-Call

LONGMONT — Greeting visitors to her new Main Street office Friday, Longmont's representative in the U.S. House lamented the passing of an era in which she could simply read letters from her constituents.

Because of security precautions arising from anthrax-infested letters mailed to Washington, Rep. Marilyn Musgrave said, mail arrives brittle and yellow after delays of up to six weeks.

"It's frustrating," the Republican from Fort Morgan said. "That's why it helps to have an office like this."

A steady stream of constituents, city leaders and neighbors stopped in at Musgrave's new office at 380 Main St. during a Friday afternoon open house.

The office is the fifth Musgrave has opened in the sprawling 4th Congres-

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in Longmont, a city with a population of roughly 70,000.

"Wow," Musgrave remarked at the number. "I think that warrants (this) office."

Aaron Smith, who will be staffing the office, said he looks forward to helping area residents communicate with their representative and deal with the sometimes-complex problems that come up related to social security and other programs.

"You uncover the rock, then it just keeps going and going," he said.

Musgrave said Smith and other constituent advocates can help out by "cutting through the bureaucratic red tape for people."

Musgrave now has branch offices in Loveland, Greeley, Sterling and Las Animas.

Ken Briggs, a mortgage broker with

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Times-Call photo by Kristy Ann Mann

U.S. Rep. Marilyn Musgrave, R-Fort Morgan, talks with a constituent advocate Aaron Smith during the open house Friday for her new office location at 380 Main St. in Longmont.

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an office in Musgrave's new building, said he is pleased that Longmont residents will now have more access to their representative.

"I think it's great," he said. "She'll be able to keep in touch with more of the people."

Briggs said he supports Musgrave on a number of issues, including her sponsorship last year of the Federal Marriage Amendment, a constitutional amendment that would define marriage as a union between a man and a woman.

He already has been in the habit of writing to his representative, Briggs said, but the proximity of her new office to his own creates a new risk.

"I hope it doesn't make me bothersome to them," he said.

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