

service on behalf of his brothers and sisters with the United Auto Workers.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO CLYDE LEWIS

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. McHUGH. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Clyde Lewis of Plattsburgh, NY, one of the most outstanding patriots of the 24th District of New York and perhaps our Nation.

The residents of northern New York and leaders throughout the Air Force know Mr. Lewis as the Father of Plattsburgh Air Force Base. Mr. Lewis was instrumental in bringing the Air Force to Plattsburgh and over the years helped make Plattsburgh Air Force Base the best of the best. He has also helped the community endure the recent closing of Plattsburgh Air Force Base with grace, pride, and dignity.

Mr. Lewis formed the original Air Base Liaison Commission in July 1952. Its purpose was to represent Plattsburgh and help establish an Air Force based in the area. The commission succeeded in bringing the air base to Plattsburgh and on January 29, 1954, groundbreaking ceremonies were held. While the Air Base Liaison Commission changed its name to the Air Base Liaison Committee in 1958, its duties and firm support of the Air Force did not change. As chairman of the commission and committee, Mr. Lewis committed steadfast support for the men and women of the Air Force and their mission at Plattsburgh.

Mr. Lewis understood that Plattsburgh Air Force Base would be key to a strong national defense and that support from the community would be crucial to the success of the mission as well. Mr. Lewis, himself, had a long and distinguished career in the military. During World War II, he enlisted in the Army Air Force and was appointed an aviation cadet. He earned his wings and was commissioned in March 1943 and served two tours less one mission with the 401st Bomb Group of the 8th Air Force. Mr. Lewis served successively as a flight commander, operations officer and B-17 squadron commander.

Mr. Lewis received numerous honors throughout his military career, including the Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with seven oak leaf clusters, the Distinguished Unit Citation with one oak leaf cluster, France's Croix de Guerre with palm and the European Theater of Operations Campaign Medal with six battle stars.

Mr. Lewis has also been involved in numerous civic activities and professional organizations. In 1948 the New York Chamber of Commerce honored him as Outstanding Young Man of the Year and in 1949 he was named National Commander in Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the first World War II veteran to serve in that position. He continues to be active in the VFW on the national level. He served as chairman of the Plattsburgh Air Base Liaison Commission from 1952 to 1959 and from 1959 on, he served as chairman of the Air Base Liaison Committee. In 1975 Mr. Lewis participated in the National Security

Forum, Air War College and in 1978 the Department of Defense Joint Civilian Orientation Conference. He is a member of the Elks Club, Knights of Columbus and the U.S. Strategic Institute and Defense Orientation Conference. He is also a member of the Clinton County, New York State and American Bar Associations.

Mr. Speaker, Clyde Lewis is an inspiration to every American. He is a true leader and an example to each and every one of us of what can be accomplished with persistence, faith and dedication. And for all that he has done, and will continue to do, we owe him a great debt of gratitude.

HONORING AMERICAN LEGION
TONY F. SOZA POST 41

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the American Legion Tony F. Soza Post 41 in Phoenix, AZ, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and its history of service to the community. Since its original pledge at the inception of Post 41, originally named Thunderbird Post 41, to serve the disabled, the distressed, the widowed, and the orphaned, it has dutifully served those groups and far exceeded its mission. Post 41 has gone on to fund services and charities and provide a home for many organizations. It also has helped organize projects for the betterment of the Phoenix community.

In October 1945, Post 41 was organized with a membership of only 16 dedicated veterans. Largely, the founding group was of Hispanic descent due to geographical and cultural circumstances. By November of that year, it received its charter. The post's first Commander, Ray Martinez, soon asked some prominent citizens to serve as an advisory committee and began lobbying for the property to build the post's home. Soon, construction of the post was finished and, with patriotism and dedication in their hearts and souls, the group moved on to other goals.

They saw a great need for a baby clinic and in 1948, they set out to build one. It was the first baby clinic in the community. Post 41 also made commitments to children and youth programs like high school Oratorical competitions, baseball, Boys State, scholarship and school awards, Scouting, flag education, emergency assistance, and community service. They made holiday baskets for needy families and took on a city bond campaign to fund parks and recreation programs to help combat juvenile delinquency.

And the post continued to grow. In 1957, it constructed the Rhonda Room, exclusively for members, which quickly became a popular gathering place for veterans and their families and friends. In 1961, it dedicated the Frank Fuentes Hall, a spacious hall with a separate bar and stage. The post also became a local meeting place for other organizations such as the Unit 41 Women's Auxiliary, the Airborne Luciano Maldonado Chapter, the American GI Forum, and the Vietnam Veterans organization.

In 1990, the post built a new kitchen, dining room, and auxiliary quarters and since then,

remodeling and new additions have enhanced the building and its services to its membership of more than 1,000 veterans.

Throughout its history, Post 41 has undertaken huge and numerous tasks and accomplished them proudly. The organization has earned prestige and honor over the decades and earned an unparalleled reputation in the annals of American Legion history throughout the State of Arizona. Although most of its founding fathers have gone the way of old soldiers, they have left behind a strong inspiration that proudly drives the current members in their ongoing mission to serve their community.

I am proud of the accomplishments of the American Legion Tony F. Soza Post 41 and for these reasons I hope that my colleagues join me today in wishing the post the very best in its continued service to veterans and the community.

MAKING CHILDREN'S DREAMS
COME TRUE

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out on behalf of a truly wonderful organization, the Children's Wish Foundation International. I cannot think of a cause more noble than the desire to grant a wish to a fatally ill child. We all look back on our childhood, reminiscing over happy, sad, and exciting events that helped shape the individuals we are today.

There are thousands of children who never reach their 18th birthday; they never have the opportunity to look back on their childhood. Often times their only memories are of chemotherapy, doctor visits, and hospital stays. The Children's Wish Foundation gives these children something to look forward to, a dream come true, a special event or gift to brighten their days.

The tragic loss of our innocent youth is not restricted to the United States alone. Many countries around the globe are coping with the loss of their children. The Children's Wish Foundation would like to recognize the courage of these young children and the volunteers who help make their dreams come true by designating November 26 to December 2 as International Children's Wish Week.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage this body to provide its full support for this endeavor. It is unfortunate to lose a life at such a young age, one full of promise and potential; but even sadder when an opportunity to bring a smile and a special memory to one of these children is missed.

I am blessed with two healthy boys. Not all parents are so fortunate. I know that if there was one specific wish my child dreamed of, I would do everything in my power to make sure that wish came true. The Children's Wish Foundation International assists parents in fulfilling a dream, no matter how large or small, from buying pink hair ribbons for a little girl who is waiting for her hair to grow back after chemotherapy or sending a little boy to Disney Land to meet Mickey Mouse.

I would like to commend the Children's Wish Foundation on its heartwarming work on behalf of those children and families who need it

most. I am certain that the memories made through the granting of each child's unique wish will be ones the families hold close to their hearts for the rest of their lives.

TRIBUTE TO SUE SELLORS FINLEY

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to a pillar in my community, Sue Sellors Finley, of Corpus Christi, TX, who died far too soon at the age of only 57.

It is often said that the measure of one's life is noted in the number of lives they influence. If that is the case, the measure of Sue Finley's life is enormous—and her legacy of enriching the lives of young artists in the Coastal Bend is abundant. For more than a decade, Sue worked at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi enhancing the lives of students in the drama department. She literally built up the drama department at Del Mar—set by set, play by play, and class by class.

Under her stewardship, Del Mar had the first season of theater in over two decades, beginning in 1986. The next year, she accepted a full time teaching position as an assistant professor and coordinator of drama. She left us a host of achievements to enjoy and by which to remember her. She founded the Del Mar Mime Crew in 1977, in addition to the annual summer Shakespeare Fest.

In 1986, the college decided to build a new fine arts center and Sue led a delegation of architects to leading theaters across the United States to obtain design ideas. The result of her efforts is the Nell Tribble Bartlett Theater at Del Mar University. The University recently established a scholarship in her honor, the Sue Sellors Finley Endowed Theater Arts Scholarship, created with a \$50,000 anonymous donation, making it the largest endowment in drama at the college. This scholarship is a fitting legacy to Sue's love of dramatic arts.

In the course of her short but very full life, Sue's vast array of accomplishments and talent gained great notoriety. In the 1960's, she was renowned in Dallas for her work in "Little Mary Sunshine," and was awarded the Dallas Entertainment Award for best comedienne. She won a Sammy award for best actress for her performance in "Legendary Ladies of Texas," a one-woman, original production. Just this year, she was awarded the YMCA Careers Award honoring her years as a pioneering educator, director, and actress.

Easily, her best and proudest productions are her children, Valerie and Buck. She is survived by her children and her husband, George, who shared her victories and her humor. Mr. Speaker, my community has lost an artistic giant, and I ask that you join me in commemorating her accomplishments here today.

SENSE OF HOUSE RELATING TO DEPLOYMENT OF ARMED FORCES IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

SPEECH OF

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 1995

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, as an original cosponsor, I rise in strong support of the resolution regarding the commitment of United States ground forces as a precondition to peace in Bosnia.

Two weeks ago, Secretaries Perry and Christopher as well as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs testified before the International Relations Committee as part of their effort to consult with the Congress on this difficult issue of Bosnia.

Much to my surprise, all of the witnesses seemed to suggest that no peace agreement between the Serbs and the Moslems would be possible unless the United States agreed to send ground forces to the region.

To me, this was nothing short of international political blackmail and suggested that the warring parties were more interested in guaranteeing that U.S. soldiers would be sent into harm's way than they were in securing a lasting peace agreement.

It comes as no surprise that I share the strong skepticism and opposition of many of my colleagues in the Congress with respect to the commitment of United States ground forces to Bosnia. But to suggest that only the commitment of United States Forces to the area can guarantee a peace agreement is dubious at best. If we fail to send those forces will the Moslems and Serbs begin shooting again?

While I do not share the administration's position and do support this resolution today, I do appreciate the dilemma the administration faces as a full partner in the NATO alliance and the responsibilities which come with that partnership.

To me, however, there is absolutely no domestic political or military advantage to sending American troops into harm's way in Bosnia. Make no mistake, this is dangerous territory and lives could well be lost no matter what is written on the eventual peace agreement. If anyone thinks Bosnia will somehow be less dangerous if an agreement is reached they need only recall our experience in Somalia where the warlords were not nearly as organized or well armed.

This resolution before us today is very simple. It says that a peace agreement between the Serbs and the Moslems should not be conditioned on whether the United States will send troops into the region or not.

Peace in Bosnia must come because the two sides want to end the killing and to allow their citizens to resume a normal and risk free life. Peace should come to the region whether the forces helping to implement the agreement come from Britain, France, Germany, or the United States.

I urge a yes vote on the resolution.

ESSAY BY JOSHUA BARRETT GREEN

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with the Members of the House the experience of one recent graduate of the House Page Program. I include the essay at this point in the RECORD.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

(By Joshua Barrett Green)

During the summer of 1995, I had the honor of serving as a page in the United States House of Representatives. This unique experience provided me with an unparalleled opportunity to live in a community of my peers and work in the paradigm of democratic government. Through the valuable friendships I made and the many debates I witnessed, I gained an understanding of America's diversity, a definite respect for our government, and, indeed, a sense of clarity in my own ambitions.

The Congress of the United States is representative in structure to ensure that the diversity of American society is reflected in its government. Just as diversity is evident in the representatives, so too was that same diversity evident in my fellow pages. Issues, such as farmers' subsidies, illegal immigration, and teen pregnancy, to which I had previously given no thought, suddenly became real to me through the concerns of my new friends who brought together the views of their respective communities and, collectively, the diverse views of this nation.

One common misconception regarding modern day politicians relates to their work ethic: they are considered to be lazy. I learned, quite to the contrary, that they are extremely hardworking. One specific example can be found through examination of the Congressional Record for June 28, 1995: this verbatim account of Congressional activity does not record the conclusion of daily business. In fact, there was no conclusion. The House was in session from 9:00 A.M., June 28, until 9:00 P.M., June 29: thirty-six hours straight. Being one of the two pages responsible for the bell system which alerts Congressmen of votes, I was required to be present for the first twenty-four hours. In the debates of that grueling night, I recognized a beauty in the American political system: Congressmen who collectively respect the institution of representation, through their integrity, serve to ensure that each individual will be heard.

Despite friends' predictions of my disillusionment with modern government through my witnessing of back-room political dealings, I was, in fact, impressed by the dignity of public service. What most believe to be corrupting of principles in government, I now recognize as the compromise of individual interests for those of the common good. I am now, thus, firmly committed to service through government, and I plan to be a leader in the government of future generations.

Though representatives are transient as they are voted in and out of office, Congress is not. For two hundred years, Congress has been the center of America's democratic system of government and, despite the rampant skepticism which pervades today's society, the United States House of Representatives retains its nobility of character and preserves the diversity of the American people. By seizing the opportunity to explore the government from within as a page, I learned about this country, I learned about democracy, and I learned about myself.