

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS MAJESTY, KING BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ'S ACCESSION TO THE THRONE

### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 12, 1996*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on June 9, 1996, citizens of Thailand celebrated the 50th anniversary of the accession to the throne of His Majesty, King Bhumibol Adulyadej. This is a joyous moment for the people of Thailand and the people of the United States join with them on this special auspicious occasion.

The King is a good friend of the United States. He permitted Thailand to be the most supportive nation in the region throughout the Vietnam war. He always makes sure that Thailand is a tremendous refuge for people fleeing repressive governments in the region.

The King has underscored that Thailand is a democracy in an otherwise undemocratic region. His tact, intelligence, and grace has enabled Thailand to grow and prosper. He is in constant touch with his people and he travels regularly throughout Thailand.

The King was born 68 years ago here in the United States and he is the world's longest serving living monarch. He is known as the "working king" because of his extensive travels throughout Thailand and the 2,000 projects in Thailand that he initiated.

Because of his diligent work, Thailand is a beacon of hope and serves as an example for other nations in the region.

Accordingly, I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing His Majesty, King Bhumibol Adulyadej's a long, healthy, and prosperous life on this auspicious occasion of the 50th anniversary of his accession to the throne.

### STOP ATTACK ON CALIFORNIA AVOCADO JOBS

### HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 12, 1996*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, as we consider the fiscal year 1997 Agriculture Appropriations Act, I want to take this opportunity to inform my colleagues of another Clinton administration attack on California agricultural jobs. Six thousand American avocado growers and 21,000 avocado industry workers are in danger of losing their livelihood should the USDA implement its proposed plan to modify the quarantine on Mexican Hass avocados. The quarantine was placed in 1914 to protect our avocado crops from Mexican pests and fruit flies.

During a trip to Mexico City, USDA Secretary Dan Glickman spoke about lifting the current ban. He continues to tell me that he is "absolutely committed to a sound, well-founded, science-based decision on this proposal." This is what I expect from the USDA. However, Secretary Glickman continues to ignore the warnings of independent scientists at the University of California Riverside and elsewhere that infestation of pests from Mexico is very likely if the quarantine is lifted. The USDA believes that Mexico can handle their serious

pest problem. But, science has proven that Mexico has failed for years to destroy pests. NAFTA specifically left the quarantine intact because our Government knows that Mexican pests would devastate American avocados. The University of California Center for Exotic Pest Research released an important report based on their studies, entitled "Risks of Exotic Pest Introductions from Importation of Fresh Mexican Hass Avocados into the United States." Secretary Glickman must carefully consider the results of this report before a final rule is made.

Mexican pest-infested avocados have already been smuggled across our border. On January 5, 1996, the U.S. Customs Service confiscated and destroyed 3,337 pounds of Mexican Hass avocados at the Olay Mesa commercial facility in San Diego County. The driver, who had previously been arrested for the same offense, admitted to similar smuggling activities in recent months. Although U.S. Customs officials thought they were seizing a truck loaded with drugs, they definitely touched on a problem of significant concern to California's avocado growing region.

It is evident that the USDA proposal will only harm our country. I encourage my colleagues to give me a call, should any of you have questions about this plan to destroy the crops and lives of American avocado growers and workers. We must stop this attack against California jobs.

### HONORING THE SMITHVILLE- DEKALB COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD

### HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 12, 1996*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Smithville-DeKalb County Rescue Squad. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that should disaster strike, we know that our friends and neighbors are there to help.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a member of the rescue squad. Rescue squad members undergo a training series over a 4- to 6-month period which includes instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation [CPR], vehicle extrication, emergency driving, and rescue orientation. In addition to this training, rescue squad members also meet monthly to address business concerns as well as hear guest speakers.

Rescue squad members are volunteers. They receive no pay for what they do. What also makes their service especially outstanding is that the organizations themselves receive no funding. They receive no funding from the city, the county, or the Federal Government.

Rescue squads are funded in the same spirit of community voluntarism which moves them to serve. Family, friends, and neighbors pitch in at bake sales, road blocks, and fish fries to help those who sacrifice their time for the benefit of the whole community.

Committing such an amount of spare time and energy to a job so emotionally and physically taxing requires a sense of devotion and duty for which we are all grateful.

GILBERT DE LA ROSA HONORED FOR LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO CITY OF PICO RIVERA

### HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 12, 1996*

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to a friend of mine, the Honorable Gilbert "Gil" De La Rosa, Pico Rivera City Councilman. On Saturday, June 8, 1996, the board of directors of the Intercommunity Blind Center will recognize Gil for his many years of dedicated service to the city by honoring him with its Distinguished Leadership Award.

Gil served on the Pico Rivera City Council from 1982 to 1990. He served as mayor in 1986, and is currently mayor pro-tempore. He was elected again to the council in 1994.

He also was elected to the El Rancho Unified School District Board of Education in 1966, and was reelected to this position four times, serving until 1982. He was appointed to a management skills team to represent the California School Boards Association, and advised districts throughout the State on good management techniques. Gil was elected president of the Mexican-American School Boards Association in 1981, and was appointed by the National School Boards President to a 10 person task force that developed an investment procedure for school districts throughout the United States.

Gil is an active member of the Pico Rivera Lions Club, and served as its president in 1984-85. His extensive work with the St. Francis of Xavier Holy Name Society, and the Beverly Hospital Foundation, on whose board he has served for 16 years, are well known and respected throughout the community. His involvement in the community also includes membership on the board of directors of the Pico Rivera Redevelopment Agency, and the Pico Rivera Housing Assistance Agency; he also serves with the League of California Cities Environmental Quality Committee, the United Way Board, Pico Rivera Transportation Committee, and is a member of the Southeast Mosquito Abatement District.

Gil has received three gubernatorial appointments as a probate referee, and has been honored as a life member of the California Parents and Teachers Association. He is a member and now serves as immediate past president of the Intercommunity Blind Center. Gil is a veteran of the U.S. Army, having served in WWII. He and his lovely wife, Sylvia, live in Pico Rivera.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the Honorable Gilbert De La Rosa for his many years of selfless service to the Intercommunity Blind Center, the city of Pico Rivera, and to our Nation.

### A TRIBUTE TO LESTER OLINGER

### HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 12, 1996*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Lester

Olinger, a highly esteemed teacher who has taught U.S. history at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School for more than 35 years. As he retires this year, he leaves behind generations of students who would never have had such an exceptional appreciation and understanding of American history were it not for Lester Olinger.

At Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, his teaching style was legendary. Students knew that they would not leave his classroom without enhancing their knowledge of the history of their country. As a result, Mr. Olinger's students were known to have some of the highest test results in the Nation. He also taught advanced placement classes on U.S. history and American government.

As well as being an exceptional teacher, Lester Olinger gave time to a variety of clubs. A sponsor of both the frisbee and the ski teams, he could always be depended upon to cheer Bethesda-Chevy Chase's athletes to success.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to salute a phenomenal teacher, Lester Olinger.

#### LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE THE LMA PROCESS

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 12, 1996*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to address a serious flaw in the rules governing local marketing agreements for television stations.

Current FCC rules allow television stations to enter into what are called "local marketing agreements", or LMA's. An LMA allows a television station or other entity to manage programming, sales, and operations at another station.

For troubled stations, the LMA can provide needed assistance to maintain both their operations and independence. However, as they have become more frequent, so have they become broader and more comprehensive in their scope.

Strangely, although FCC rules are clear with respect to TV station ownership—owing two stations in the same market is illegal—they are extremely vague with respect to television LMA's.

For example, current FCC regulations do not take into account the size of a local marketing agreement, the amount of operations managed through an LMA, or the size of the media market affected. Nor do they require prior notice or public comment from the communities that might be impacted.

My own community has been affected by this ambiguity in FCC rules. Recently, two local stations in Monterey, CA reached a local marketing agreement which affected a sizeable portion of the programming and operations of one of the stations. No prior notice was given or required; no public input was requested; and there were no studies or consideration of the possible impact, positive or negative, of the LMA on the region.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, this is a growing problem. Although radio LMA's account for the majority of such agreements, the expanding number of consolidations and mergers in the

television industry have put greater economic pressures on small stations. LMA's have become an increasingly attractive alternative to bankruptcy—but also, for some, a useful loophole in the duopoly laws.

My bill will resolve this problem by extending the more exact and time-tested LMA rules for radio to television as well. As for radio, television LMA's affecting 15 percent or less of broadcast time on a station would not require prior notice or approval by the FCC. However, more comprehensive LMA's would require prior notice and public comment before the FCC could approve them. Such approval would have to be made on the basis of public interest, convenience, and necessity.

My bill will resolve the current ambiguity in FCC rules—ambiguity which leaves the LMA process open to broad interpretation, and makes no allowance for the needs, interests, or concerns of local communities. Making LMA rules clear and fair will benefit the station owners who benefit from these agreements, as well as television viewers and local communities affected by them.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

#### A POEM OF REMEMBRANCE

**HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 12, 1996*

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Memorial Day has just passed, but we should always hold in our hearts the memory of those who came before us offering their service to our country. They made many a sacrifice, none small, some ultimate, for the greatness of our Nation.

My constituent, Mr. Curt Perdelwitz, a retired U.S. Air Force Master Sergeant, has written a very poignant poem to remind us of our obligation to honor their memory. The poem, "We Remember," which I will include following my remarks, was selected as the Editor's Choice by the National Library of Poetry and published in the "Path Not Taken." I commend it to my colleagues and all Americans as a constant reminder of the great price we pay to defend freedom throughout the world.

#### WE REMEMBER

(By Curt W. Perdelwitz)

The guns of the battle are now silent,  
The cries of the wounded no longer are heard  
The fields at Verdun and Bastogne are now peaceful,

Antietam and the Hue are history remembered.

Inchon and Desert Storm but memories of conflicts,

Iwo Jima and Guadalcanal are part of our lore.

But, for those whose blood turned battle-fields red,

And those who now rest in Valhalla,  
We, on this day, offer this prayer:—  
Oh Father in heaven! Lord of all living things!

Bestow on Your lowly human mortals  
The wisdom and strength to lay aside  
Our greed, and power, and desire for material things.

Awake within us, the sights of those crosses  
en row,

Remind us of the souls who rest beneath—  
those

Who gave their lives for us who now remain.  
It is for us to keep alive their spirits and hopes

For those freedoms that shall never die.

Grant us the ability to keep the faith and our promises

To those who gave so much to us who now survive.

#### TRIBUTE TO FIFTH DISTRICT BOY SCOUTS

**HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 12, 1996*

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the achievements of several Boy Scouts from my district. Eric Jordan and Kevin Engbretson were recently recognized in a National Court of Honor Ceremony, and Travis Passey received his Eagle Scout Award, joining his five brothers in receiving this honor.

In the early morning of February 19, 1994, Scout Eric Jordan, of Walla Walla, WA, awoke to find his bedroom filled with smoke. Eric shared the bedroom with his younger brother Kristopher, and heard him gasping from the dense smoke. Crawling along the floor, Eric found his brother's electric blanket burning and the younger boy unconscious. He dragged Kristopher from the room and closed the bedroom door to suffocate the fire. For his quick thinking in averting the potential tragedy, Eric was awarded the National Heroism Medal.

On May 27, 1994, Scot Kevin Engbretson, also of Walla Walla, was on a field trip with his seventh grade class at Charbonneau State Park. When one of his classmates was playfully pushed off a dock into the Snake River, and it became apparent that she could not swim, Kevin quickly waded into the river and towed the girl to safety. For his efforts in rescuing his classmate, Kevin was awarded the National Certificate of Merit.

Travis Passey, of Cheney, WA, recently earned his Eagle Scout Award for organizing a project that raised funds for area libraries. Travis deserves recognition for his service, but equally deserving are his five brothers: Jared, Ryan Nathan, Allan, and David. Each of Glenn and Joan Passey's six sons have earned the rank of Eagle Scout, and I would like to congratulate this family's accomplishment. The young men honored their father's guidance over the years with a flag flown over the Capitol, and I think the accompanying certificate precisely summarizes their appreciation for his support. The certificate read, "Your six Eagles Scouts sons honor you for your dedication, inspiration and love."

Mr. Speaker, I feel privileged to recognize the achievements of these young men. I was a Life Scout, and I know of the significant personal dedication that is required of Boy Scouts. The lessons learned in Scouting are of great personal benefit but as these men have demonstrated, our families and communities are even greater beneficiaries. Eric Jordan and Kevin Engbretson calmly reacted to crises that could have become tragedies. Travis, Jared, Ryan, Nathan, Allan, and David Passey, through their service as Eagle Scouts, have contributed lasting community service projects. I am proud of the contributions that