

1916, Mr. Uhlmann died February 7, 1996 having contributed his generosity and kindness to our community throughout those years. Mr. Uhlmann always will be remembered as a renaissance man with a bright mind and warm heart. His principal in life defined his every action: what is hateful to you, do not do unto others.

A talented and highly successful businessman, Mr. Uhlmann spent 50 years as a member of the Kansas City Board of Trade, where he began his career as a grain trader in 1938. He was president in 1960–61. After serving our Nation during World War II, Mr. Uhlmann rejoined Uhlmann Grain Co. Later, he was vice-president of Midland Flour Milling Co. before buying control of Standard Milling Co. with his father and brother, Paul, in 1951. The name was changed to the Uhlmann Co. in 1981. He served as president, chairman, and chairman emeritus.

Mr. Uhlmann was a trail blazer for Jewish Kansas Citians. He was often the first Jewish person appointed to boards or accepted into business and social clubs in Kansas City, opening the door for others who would follow. Mr. Uhlmann encouraged many Kansas City businesses to hire their first Jewish employee. Mr. Uhlmann was also committed to opening doors for other minorities. He was a voice for tolerance who spoke quietly, but effectively. Many families and individuals of all backgrounds have been touched by Mr. Uhlmann's sincere interest in helping others. One son recalls a winter day when he watched from a window as his father gave a stranger outside the coat he was wearing. When queried, Mr. Uhlmann explained that the man had just lost his job, was down on his luck, and needed the coat far more than he did.

Mr. Uhlmann's energy and generosity will have a lasting effect on our community. He was a founding member of Friends of the Zoo, president of the Friends of Art, a trustee of Children's Mercy Hospital, Rockhurst College and a contributing member of many other civic, religious, cultural and educational institutions.

His unique blend of humor and intellect led to opportunities as a radio commentator and columnist. His love of life was displayed through numerous hobbies; reading, gardening, cooking, golfing, fishing, and horseback riding. Longtime friend Henry Bloch of H&R Block said that Mr. Uhlmann often served lunches in his office and that it was an honor to be invited. These lunches were an opportunity for lively exchange of ideas and commentary on key issues and a chance to experience Mr. Uhlmann's culinary talent. Mr. Uhlmann took up painting at age 74 and won awards for his work. Mr. Uhlmann left this world with a lifetime of exhilarating experiences unmatched by most people.

His most lasting legacy is his family. Mr. Uhlmann said he knew when he met his wife, Helen Jane, 57 years ago that they would marry. Theirs was a marriage of unconditional love, loyalty, and fun that makes most enviable. In the written memorial Mr. Uhlmann wrote of Helen Jane: "I sit here with tears in my eyes thinking how close we have been and what a beautiful life we have had . . . When I found out about my cancer, her love, concern, encouragement and high spirits that she put on for my benefit have made it possible for me to go on." Pat and Helen Jane's three children, Patricia Rich, John and Robert,

are the pride of his life. While Pat also adored his seven grandchildren he loved all children. He enjoyed telling wonderful stories and he had a way of bringing out the child in all of us.

Pat Uhlmann has been an inspiration in my life and has enriched the people of Kansas City in ways few individuals have ever achieved. He will indeed be missed.

REOPENING OF THE SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 1996

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the revival of the San Diego Symphony Orchestra on March 15, 1996. Two months ago, the orchestra was silenced—and there appeared to be little hope for its restoration.

The orchestra's reawakening was the result of generous gifts from the Price Charities and the Jacobs Family Trust, an outburst of support from the community as a whole, and most of all from the musicians of the San Diego Symphony. Not only did each musician forgo more than \$2,700 in lost salary, but their work and dedication to their institution inspired community support.

Although not all of my constituents attend the San Diego Symphony, even those who stay at home made very clear their belief that San Diego needs a great professional orchestra. Every major metropolitan area in this country has such an institution at the heart of its musical life. San Diego Symphony Orchestra musicians teach our children how to play musical instruments and provide our children's first exposure to serious music. Symphony musicians play for other artistic institutions in the community, such as opera and ballet companies, and perform in our schools, churches, and synagogues, making all of them shine with their professionalism. And the symphony brings our downtown to life at night providing lifeblood to many businesses.

The San Diego Symphony Orchestra is as important to our community's health as are the Chargers, the Padres, first-rate hospitals, and our major institutions of learning. The San Diego Symphony has not only provided San Diego with great music, but has brought great musicians to live in our community and, through its internationally recognized recordings, has let the world know that San Diego is not only a great place to visit, but is one of America's great cities.

That is why I have consistently fought for support of the arts. The arts are a vital part of the American adventure and a major American industry. Support for the arts not only enriches us spiritually; it is a wonderful investment in our economy and in our children. In this era of global competition, in no area do we compete more effectively than in the arts.

Let us hope that the generosity of the Jacobs Family Trust and the Price Charities and the dedication, generosity, and solidarity of the musicians will allow the San Diego Symphony to serve all the residents of the San Diego area for many more decades of excellence.

RESOLUTION ON TAIWAN ILL-CONCEIVED AND ILL-TIMED

HON. DAVID E. SKAGGS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 1996

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, when the House voted on House Concurrent Resolution 148 concerning the defense of Taiwan I voted "present." This was the first time since I came to Congress that I voted this way on final passage of a piece of legislation. I want to explain why I did so.

This measure should never have been brought to the floor of the House of Representatives for a vote in the first place. Both the timing and the content of the resolution could only create new doubts in the minds of people on both sides of the Taiwan Straits about a crucial aspect of American foreign policy. And creating new doubts inherently creates new dangers. That, at a time when our objective ought to be to defuse a situation that's already complicated and dangerous.

What do I mean? Well, a vote in favor sends a dangerous and confusing message about the extent of the American commitment to defend Taiwan. It would encourage those in Taiwan who want to push for independence, leading them to believe the United States would intervene if China reacted militarily. A vote against, however, sends the wrong message to China, giving the Beijing Government the mistaken impression that the Congress is not united in its condemnation of China's recent aggressive attitude and behavior.

Either a "yes" or a "no" was contrary to the interests of my country, so I voted "present."

The distinguished chairman of the International Relations Committee, Mr. GILMAN, has said that the resolution is meant to be a reaffirmation of current policy concerning United States relations with China and Taiwan as set forth in the Taiwan Relations Act [TRA]. Unfortunately, the resolution includes a commitment that does not appear in the TRA. Paragraph 7 states that the United States should "assist in defending them (Taiwan) against invasion, missile attack, or blockade by the People's Republic of China." This language could confuse China and Taiwan by giving the appearance that the United States has ratcheted up our commitment to the defense of Taiwan.

What is our policy toward Taiwan?

For 24 years under six Presidents we have followed a one-China policy. This policy was set out in three communiques and was enacted into law as the TRA. It has been and continues to be the policy of the United States that any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means is of grave concern to the United States. The TRA specifies that the United States "will make available to Taiwan such defense articles and defense services as may be necessary to enable Taiwan to maintain a sufficient defense capability."

This Congress and the American people are united in their opposition to attempts by the Government of China to bully and coerce the people of Taiwan. The President has said that the United States will promptly meet our obligation under the TRA to respond to any threat to Taiwan's security.

A resolution reiterating our commitment to a peaceful resolution of differences across the

Taiwan Straits would have been a helpful measure. But this resolution is different, and potentially seriously destabilizing. It can be read to imply a very significant change in policy, a change with extremely problematic consequences. It can be read to give the impression of a division between the President and the Congress. It is an irresponsible piece of legislation that should never have come up.

RECOGNIZING THE 240th BIRTHDAY OF AARON BURR

HON. RICHARD BURR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 1996

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, February 6 marked the 240th birthday of Aaron Burr, who was born in 1756. Aaron Burr had no direct descendants, but many of us in the Burr family are collaterally related. And during this year marking Aaron Burr's 240th birthday, I would like to take this opportunity to share with my colleagues some of the positive contributions Aaron Burr made to our great Nation.

Aaron Burr was a colonel in the Revolutionary War and was the third Vice President of the United States. He was born in Newark, NJ, and graduated from Princeton with the highest academic record yet achieved. His father, Rev. Aaron Burr, Sr., and grandfather, Rev. Jonathan Edwards, were the second and third presidents of Princeton. Aaron Burr participated in the 600 mile winter march on the fort at Quebec as an aide to General Montgomery. During the assault, Montgomery was mortally wounded and Burr attempted to carry the man to safety. Burr also served on Gen. George Washington's staff and spent the winter of 1778 at Valley Forge. Assignment took him to the Hudson Valley and several skirmishes with the enemy. He distinguished himself in New Jersey at the Battle of Monmouth on June 28, 1778.

Following the Revolutionary War, Aaron Burr practiced law in New York City and pursued an interest in politics. After serving in the New York State Legislature and the U.S. Senate, he ran on the Republican ticket for the Presidency with Thomas Jefferson. While it was intended that Jefferson would be President and Burr Vice President, the Electoral College's initial vote resulted in a tie vote between the two men. The election was then thrown into the House of Representatives, which eventually elected Jefferson as President and Burr as his Vice President.

Aaron Burr's finest accomplishment during his tenure as Vice President occurred during the impeachment trial of Supreme Court Associate Justice Samuel Chase. In 1804, Jefferson was incensed at the Federalist-dominated judiciary. He feared that it would nullify an act of Congress by declaring the act unconstitutional and thereby subverting the will of the people. As Vice President, Aaron Burr presided over the impeachment trial that began on February 4, 1805, with the Jeffersonians hoping that Burr would lean their way. Aaron Burr, however, acted impartially and Chase was acquitted on all counts. The newspapers of both parties agreed that although the trial began as a political inquest, it ended as a memorable example of judicial procedure at its best. One of the papers reported that Burr

conducted the trial "with the dignity and impartiality of an angel, but with the rigor of the devil."

I would like to thank the Aaron Burr Association, which is dedicated to presenting a more balanced view of our third Vice President, for their assistance in providing research for this account of Aaron Burr's contributions to our young Nation.

SALUTE TO ALEXANDER MELESHKA

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 1996

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Alexander Meleshka, one of my constituents from Farmingdale, NY, and a proud veteran of our "Crusade in Europe." Serving with the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Division, Mr. Meleshka saw combat in France. His unit, the 3rd Battalion of the 15th Infantry Regiment, became involved in a particularly fierce battle in October 1944, while seizing a bridge over the Mortagne River.

In the fight to take the bridge before the enemy could demolish it, Mr. Meleshka distinguished himself under fire. The first man in his unit across the bridge, Mr. Meleshka was taken prisoner by the Germans and transported to Stalag 7.

At Stalag 7, Mr. Meleshka, who spoke Russian and several other languages, was moved by the plight of the camp's 150 or so Russian prisoners. Abandoned by their own nation's brutal Communist dictator and subject to inhumane treatment dictated by the racist policies of their Nazi captors, the Russian prisoners faced slow death.

Throughout his captivity, Mr. Meleshka regularly risked severe punishment and even death to assist the Russians. By smuggling small portions of food to our captive allies, Mr. Meleshka certainly saved lives. His behavior exemplified the American ideas of doing the right thing, standing up for the underdog, and coming to the aid of a friend in need. His actions demonstrated what the war was all about.

Some 50 years after the end of World War II, Mr. Meleshka was recognized for his bravery and humanity by Russian President Boris Yeltsin when he was awarded the Gold Commemorative Medal of the 50th Anniversary of Victory in the Great Patriotic War. Mr. Speaker, I believe that our Nation should also recognize Mr. Meleshka for his deeds. He is truly an American hero.

TRIBUTE TO LILLIAN MAE BRECKEL

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 1996

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a loyal Democrat and community volunteer, Lillian Mae Breckel of Tyler, TX, who died recently at the age of 92. She devoted a lifetime of service to the causes she embraced—particularly the Smith

County Democratic Party and her church—and she leaves behind a legacy of accomplishment and a loving family.

Mrs. Breckel was an active member of the Smith County Democrats. She served on the party's membership committee, was an alternate delegate to State conventions, and was a member of the Women's Democratic Organization. She believed so completely in the democratic process that she was willing to place her name on the ballot, running for State representative from District IV and as a candidate for the Tyler City Council and mayor. It is testimony to her devotion that officers of the Smith County Democratic Party served as honorary pallbearers at her funeral.

She also was devoted to her church. She helped organize Trinity Baptist Church, York Baptist Church, and Dill City First Baptist Church. She was church pianist for each of these churches, taught Sunday School, and also served as chairman of the finance committee of the Smith County Baptist Association.

Her community involvement extended to other worthwhile causes. She served on the volunteer council for Denton State School and served as past-president of the American Businesswomen's Association, past oracle of Royal Neighbors of America, and past noble grand of Tyler Rebekah Lodge 142.

Wherever she volunteered her talents, Mrs. Breckel's presence was felt—and will be missed. Most of all, her pride and happiness came from her family—some of whom visited with me and Mary Ellen in our Rockwall home. She is survived by her son, Henry Austin Breckel of Dallas; daughter and son-in-law, Kathlea and Richard Florey of Tyler; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of her family and many friends who loved her, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying our last respects to this outstanding citizen—Lillian Mae Breckel.

TRIBUTE TO A GREAT TEXAS WOMAN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 1996

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in a tribute to a woman who has made a career out of championing women's issues. At age 76, Ms. Louise Raggio, who still practices law full-time at her firm, Raggio & Raggio in Dallas, is known as the Lone Star State's First Lady of women's legal rights.

In the 1950s, attorney Raggio fought to allow women to serve on juries. In the 1960s she led a group of legal experts in crafting the Texas Marital Property Act of 1967 that gave married women equal rights to control property and conduct business. With the success of that law, Mrs. Raggio helped pave the way for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and other national women's rights legislation. A decade later, she helped write the Texas Family Code of 1979, the world's first fully codified set of family laws.

Mrs. Raggio has also achieved many firsts in her 40-year career, including being the first woman prosecutor for Dallas County, first women director of the State Bar of Texas, first