

delegation held fruitful and mutually informative discussions with congressional leaders, top White House officials, and senior representatives from the Department of Justice, Commerce, Agriculture, the Small Business Administration, and the U.S. Trade Representative's office. The citizens of Santa Maria are facing their challenges creatively and are seizing opportunities boldly.

Mr. Speaker, last evening, the unforgettable aroma of Santa Maria Barbeque danced in the crisp Washington air. The culmination of this extraordinary visit was a dinner that attracted Members of Congress from all over the country. For one night, a corner of Capitol Hill was transformed into Santa Maria. As I celebrated with my constituents and my colleagues, I couldn't help but feel enormous pride to be the Representative of Santa Maria in the U.S. Congress.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PHILTEX

HON. WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special recognition to the Philtex plant, a division of the Phillips Petroleum Co., that is located in Borger, TX. Just last week Philtex, received the first Award for Workforce Excellence from the National Association of Manufacturers.

The award is a direct reflection of the commitment to safety by the employees of Philtex. As a result of a program called [POWER], People Observing Work Eliminating Risk, Philtex has achieved a 65-percent reduction in recorded injuries and most importantly the plant's employees have remained injury-free for over 6 months.

Mr. Speaker, Phillips Petroleum is an important industry for my congressional district and for the entire Texas Panhandle. The employees of this company should be proud of their achievement and Phillips Petroleum should be commended for their efforts to provide a safe work environment and for the commitment to their employees safety.

TRIBUTE TO GOTTLIEB (GEORGE) BORGARDT

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to George Borgardt on the occasion of his 100th birthday. The event will be celebrated on December 15th, 1997.

George Borgardt was born in Leninskoye, Russia, to Gottfried and Maria Neiderquel in 1887. As one of six children, George grew up in a large German family that worked and played on the banks of the mighty Volga river. When George turned 26, he came to Chicago to tour the United States and to visit family. However, the start of World War I kept the Borgardt's from returning to his home.

In 1923 George moved to Fresno to find employment in California's rich fields and booming industries. It was there that George

fell in love with and married a German girl named Amelia Schneider. America's preparation for entrance into World War II placed George's maintenance skills in high demand. Because of this, the two moved to Los Angeles where they were blessed with their son, Gilbert. After the war, George had a successful career with both the Lyons and McDonalds corporations as a food service equipment installer.

After 54 years of marriage, Amelia sadly passed away in 1978. This event brought George back to Fresno where he became very active in the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia. George's retirement and activeness with the society introduced him to a second wife, Yvonne Gates Curran. The two of them have been happily together since 1983.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to the 100th birthday of George Borgardt. Mr. Borgardt's longevity and hard work serve as a model for all Americans. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing George my best wishes for the future.

IN HONOR OF THE SICILIAN CITIZENS CLUB OF BAYONNE'S HONOREE OF THE YEAR FOR 1997: FRANK CARINE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an honored citizen, Mr. Frank Carine, who has served the community of Bayonne and Hudson County for many years. The Sicilian Citizens Club will honor Mr. Carine on October 25, 1997, at the organization's 70th Anniversary Dinner-Dance at Villa Nova in Bayonne, NJ.

Mr. Frank Carine was born in Bayonne where he has lived all his life. He graduated from local schools and attended Mount Saint Mary's College in Emmitsburg, MD, Seton Hall University and St. Peter's College. He also received certification from the University of Wisconsin School of Industrial and Labor Relations. Mr. Carine is a life long parishioner of Our Lady of Assumption Church. He is an Army veteran of the Korean era and resides in Bayonne with his wife, Margaret. He is the son of Lillian and the late Nicholas Carine, and has three children, Frank Jr., Beth Ann Taraba, and Jill Ripp and five grandchildren.

Mr. Carine's professional career included service at the Western Electric in Kearny, where he is an honorary member of Local 1470 IBEW AFL-CIO. He has extensive experience in organized labor, negotiations, and contracts. He is an active member of many local clubs and organizations. Mr. Carine is present leader and past president of the Sicilian Citizens Club of Bayonne, president of the Sons of Italy Del Monte Lodge, a member of the Catholic War Veterans Post 1612, Korean War Veterans, Telephone Pioneers of America, and the Bayonne Columbus Committee. He is currently employed as a special deputy in the office of the Hudson County Register.

It is an honor and a pleasure to be able to recognize the dedicated service of Mr. Frank Carine to his community. Once again, I offer my congratulations to Mr. Carine for being

named Sicilian Citizens Club of Bayonne's "Honoree of the Year" and for offering his time and kindness to those in the community. I am certain that my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to this remarkable gentleman.

TRIBUTE TO RUDOLPH BOLES WELLNITZ

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding native of New Jersey whose years of commitment and service to the agricultural industry in my State have helped New Jersey truly fulfill its claim as the Garden State.

Rudolph Wellnitz was born in 1929 and grew up around agriculture. After assuming ownership of the family business when his father retired, Mr. Willnitz formed Jeffwell Farms in partnership with Walker Gordon. Due to hard work and perseverance, Jeffwell Farms has been a New Jersey State winner of the National Corn Growers Irrigated Corn Yield Contest as well as the New Jersey Soybean Growers Yield Contest. In 1995, Mr. Wellnitz retired as a successful farmer and a great example of what diligence and commitment can accomplish.

Recently, the Middlesex County Fair Association honored Mr. Willnitz as the "Middlesex County Farmer of the Year" an honor well deserved.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation needs to depend on a strong agricultural industry in order to support the needs of the people. Moreover, every nation needs people like Mr. Wellnitz, who go above and beyond the call of duty to serve his country and support growth into the next millennium. Much of the food that each of us sits down to eat every day can be traced back to family-owned farms.

I rise today to congratulate Rudy Wellnitz and his years of hard work to make New Jersey and our Nation a better place.

A TRIBUTE TO BETTY PFAFF

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, today I step on to the House floor to express gratitude to a true public servant for Missouri's Ninth Congressional District—Betty Pfaff. Betty has been working for the people of the Ninth District for the last 20 years. Her last official day was October 2, leaving behind a record of hard work, dedication, and service to others.

Betty began her tenure during former Congressman Harold Volkmer's first campaign for office. After Mr. Volkmer won the seat in 1976, he invited Betty to join his staff. Betty stayed on through the duration of Mr. Volkmer's public service for 19 years and 3 months. Her responsibilities included casework and constituent services. What speaks volumes about Betty's character was her ability to continue to serve the people of Missouri's Ninth District for a newly elected Representative of a different

political party. Her willingness to do so demonstrates her professionalism and stands as a testament that Betty Pfaff was not a servant of politics, but a servant of the people.

Betty possesses a unique knowledge of the District. She is on a first-name basis with many of the constituents in northeast Missouri. She has been a valuable asset to the office of a new Member of Congress. I would not have been able to make the transition as smoothly without her.

Mr. Speaker, you'll be happy to know that now that Betty is retired, she spends her free time as a grandmother to her three grandchildren, John Pfaff and Emily and Andrew Richards. In addition to her important role as grandmother, Betty intends to help her husband, Dwaine, with his business, Hannibal Glass. She also plans to continue her service in the community where she has made her home since 1964 as a volunteer.

The people of Missouri's Ninth District are losing a humble, honorable servant. Betty, on behalf of all of whose lives you have touched, we thank you and wish you a long and happy retirement.

TRIBUTE TO SAMI AND ANNIE
TOTAH

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sami and Annie Totah for their effective leadership and untiring commitment on behalf of many important political, cultural, and religious causes. Their achievements have reverberated throughout the community and have been felt on a local, national and international level.

Sami and Annie are deeply devoted to promoting Jewish heritage, human dignity and a democratic lifestyle throughout the United States, Israel, and Armenia. They have given generously of their time, energy, and knowledge to affect change and progress to better serve human kind.

Annie has dedicated countless hours to promoting ethnic diversity through her work with the United Jewish Appeal Federation, the Armenian General Benevolent Union, the American Sephardic Federation, and other organizations. She has supported the Armenian Assembly of America where she serves as the first female chairperson in its history. She has also received the United Nations Association's certificate of appreciation for outstanding contributions to human rights. Most notable is her role in the Maryland community where she has raised funds, cultural awareness, and political consciousness about issues affecting all people.

Sami has also demonstrated a strong commitment to promoting human rights here and abroad. He has worked as the vice chairman of the Young Leadership Campaign of the United Jewish Appeal Federation. He is responsible for the construction of the first and only Sephardic Synagogue here in our Nation's capital. His presence in the community is a blessing to us all.

Sami and Annie's benevolence and warmth have touched many lives. They have made outstanding efforts on behalf of many philan-

thropic and civic organizations. Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Sami and Annie Totah.

CHAN FAMILY HONORED AS
EARLY PIONEERS OF THE VALLEY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Gordon and Anita Chan, and their family, selected as "Early Pioneers of the Valley" by the Chinese Historical and Cultural Project in San Jose, CA.

I know the Chans well as I have had the pleasure of working with them over the years on matters important to the district I represent in the 105th Congress. Among many other things, the Chan family is being honored for their valuable contribution in the opening of the Museum of Chinese American History in San Jose in 1991, and their continued efforts to establish a traveling exhibit of Chinese American history.

Gordon Chan's grandfather, Chien Lung, came to America in 1880, and became a very successful farmer in the Sacramento Delta area. History books refer to him as the "Chinese Potato King," a prosperous farmer until he was forced to sell his land because of Alien Land Laws in the 1920's. Gordon's father, Ted Chan, started a successful flower-growing business, and served as president of the Chinese Wholesale Flower Market in San Francisco.

Gordon and Anita, who met while attending college, continued working in the flower business, and have expanded into real estate development and restaurant operations.

The Chans have shared their success with others in our community through their many generous contributions to local groups and organizations, and most importantly, they have been an encouragement to others to actively participate in civic affairs. Gordon Chan is legendary in San Jose for his community work, having served on many boards and commissions in our county.

Mr. Speaker, on October 25, 1997, the Chinese Historical and Cultural Project will honor the Chan family as "Early Pioneers of the Valley," at its 10th Anniversary Gala Celebration, the Dragon Ball. I would like to invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in saluting the Chan family as they receive this very distinguished honor.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MS. ODILE
HOWELL

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Odile Howell on the occasion of her 104th birthday. The event was celebrated on September 18, 1997.

Odile Howell was born in the Alsace region of France, in 1893. Leaving France's wine country in 1907, Howell came to Los Angeles

to care for an ill uncle. It was at this time that she fell in love with the United States and decided to become a citizen. In 1922, Howell married her sweetheart, William Sylvester Gallet, a successful painter in southern California. Shortly thereafter, they were blessed with two children, a boy and a girl.

Above all else, Ms. Howell is proud to be an American. Her short time in France gave witness to food shortages and scarcities in other basic human needs that were not present in the United States. Not a day goes by that Howell fails to profess her admiration and reverence for our country.

Although Ms. Howell is still very active, some special needs have moved her from Los Angeles to Mariposa, CA. Specifically, Mariposa places her closer to many of her 9 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. Currently, Howell resides at John C. Freemont Hospital, where she still maintains a shining smile and wonderful sense of humor.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to the 104th birthday of Ms. Odile Howell. Her patriotism and longevity serve as a model for all men and women and should be held in the highest respect. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Ms. Odile Howell our best wishes.

IN HONOR OF THE STATEWIDE
HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF NEW JERSEY'S 7TH
ANNUAL CONVENTION AND EXPO

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey's 7th annual convention and exhibition which is geared toward putting small businesses on the road to success. On October 24, 1997, the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce [SHCC] will host the Annual Expo Trade Show at the Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel in East Rutherford, NJ.

The seventh annual convention and exhibition will recognize the efforts and contributions of business owners, CEO's and other top management from both large and small Hispanic businesses throughout the State. This year's theme and challenge are "Partnering for Success." Among the several innovations and workshops are commercial loan approvals, on-line networking and marketing, maximizing office efficiency through computer technology, business start-up, expansion, and exporting. The SHCC has been integral in New Jersey realizing an 87 percent growth of Hispanic business over the past 10 years. They have also helped generate 128,000 jobs and helped produce \$1.5 million in business alone. It is reassuring to know that organizations like SHCC continue to foster growth and provide leadership to Hispanic businesses as we approach the 21st century.

The SHCC is a voluntary membership network of several Hispanic chambers of commerce and professional business associations across New Jersey and the Philadelphia area. The organization aims to identify and communicate the needs of the Hispanic business