

COMMENDING LACASA ON ITS 1997-98 PROGRAM YEAR

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Latin American Community Alliance for Support and Assistance of Northwest Indiana, Inc. [LACASA], its Adult Education Learners, its Head Start Students, and its Agency Volunteers, on the achievements earned during the 1997-98 program year.

LACASA is dedicated to serving the Hispanic residents of northwest Indiana, who experience difficulty in obtaining needed social and educational services. Some quality services which the organization offers include: an adult education program, geared toward students at all levels; a Head Start program, which provides training in parenting skills, and an opportunity for parents to become empowered in the education of their children; and Access Assistance, a program stressing job search and person and community leadership preparation. Currently, LACASA is working to develop additional programs meant to improve the quality of life for northwest Indiana's Hispanic population. For those in need, LACASA hopes to provide transportation services to its programs, as well as to agencies where its clients are referred. The organization would also like to establish health stations in an effort to assist families in understanding their basic health needs and inform them about how to access the existing health care system. Finally, LACASA hopes to expand its services to the elderly by familiarizing them with in-home care options to prevent unnecessary institutionalization.

Students who have participated in LACASA's 1997-98 Adult Education Learners Program include: Juan Luis Alvarado, Juan Manuel Alvarado, Maria C. Alvarez, Maria Magdalena Alvarez, Armando Arellano, Lesly I. Arellano, Maria Z. Avila, Patricia A. Avila, Alejandra Ayala, Maria Barajas, Joseph Bialorucki, Barry D. Billingshley, Enrique Camacho, Jesus Camacho, Carmen Maria Carrillo, Phung S. Choi, Maria I. Concepcion, Filomeno Contreras, Juan L. Contreras, Gladys M. Coronado, Hiram D. Crespo, Maria L. Cuba, Efrain Delcid, Maria Margarita Delreal, Agustin Diaz, Carmen Flores, Eduardo Garcia, Galdino Garcia, Nestor Garcia, Patricia E. Garcia, Roman Garza, Jose Luis Gonzalez, Magdalena Gonzalez, Sonda D. Gooch, Mary Guerrero, Herhsy Gunn, Carmen Haro, Patricia A. Hayden, Carlos Hermosa, Juan Hernandez, Maria Herrera, George Howard, Alicia Huizar, Vicente Huizar, Matha Ann James, Hermila Lopez, Herminia Lopez, Luis Lopez, Charlean Mack, Luz M. Magana, Maria A. Magana, Marilu Maldonado, Ana Rosa Martinez, Erick J. Martinez, Georgina C. Martinez, Guadalupe G. Martinez, Miguel A. Martinez, Flavia Maya, Lisa M. Medina, Maria Merlos, Urbano Merlos, Egan Morgan, Fidel Nava, Gerardo Nunez, Ruben Ordonez, Alma Rosa Ortiz, Isabel Paz, Carmen Perez, Maribel Ponce, Marcos Juan Puebla, Mase T. Reed, Luis Eduardo Rivera, Danetta M. Robinson, Caridad Rodriguez, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Jose Mario Rodriguez, Nancy Rodriguez, Roberto Rodriguez, Zuleima Rodriguez, Jose L. Rojas, Omayra Rosario, Griselda Salas, Fermin

Sanchez, Maria Santos, Juan M. Soto, Mary Soto, Warren G. Strange, Arthur K. Thomas, Jheaneth Thomas Ernesto Tinoco, Michael Torres, Teresa Torres, Teresa Tril, Katrina D. Triplett, Charleane Vaughn, Lourdes Vazquez, Jose Vera, Ramon Villanueva, and Guadalupe M. Zurita.

The 1997-98 LACASA Head Start Program participants include: Jessica Acevedo, Yahaira Aguayo, Emilio Flores, Cinthia Garcia, Casandra Guerrero, Harlene Haro, Anneliese Hartonian, Saul Hernandez, Henry James, Yarelis Nieves, Heracio Herrera, Tabitha Pearson, Marissa Perez, Amanda Ramos, Alfonso Rodriguez, Javier Torres, Kristian Torres, Zuleyka Chavez, Crystal Cuadra, Enrique Cuanetti, Selena Flores, Stefanos Glinos, Rosa Hernandez, Fabian Herrera, John Jacquez, Marcus James, Alejandro Herrera, Maria Martinez, Sabrina Millsap, Mathew Ortiz, Jeffrey Perez, Abimael Ramos, Christopher Salgado, Michael Walker, Alberto Irizarry, and Kayla Cheek.

LACASA Agency Volunteers for 1997-98 include: Mary Belle Ang, Kysha Amour-Porter, Amy Abrego, John Breckenridge, Janis Breckenridge, Terrance Martinez, Ray Acevedo, Manuel A. Roman, Carmen Fuentes, Marilu Maladonado, Maria Cuba, Georgina Martinez, Eloisa Vizcarra, Rosa Magana, Fannie Torres, Mr. Maldonado, Nelson Flores, Nora Valtierra, Samantha Long, Erica Ocasio, Dylon Long, Betty Magana, Luz Magana, Gladys Reyes, Juan Luis Alvarado, Aurora Glinos, Zuleima Rodriguez, Gabriel Magana, Jr., Albina Venegas, Jennifer Ash, James Ash, Helen Williams, Manuel Alvarez, Elena Hernandez, Stanly Garlarki, and Pat Garlarki.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the LACASA Adult Education Learners, Head Start Students, and Agency Volunteers for their dedication to the pursuit of education. I would also like to congratulate LACASA for its continuing efforts to preserve the Hispanic culture, while improving the quality of life for the Hispanic residents of northwest Indiana.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on May 5, 1997, through May 7, 1997, I was officially traveling with the President on his first state visit to Mexico and was therefore unable to vote during four rollcall votes. This includes two rollcall votes, numbered 103 and 104 on H.R. 2, the Housing Opportunity and Responsibility Act; one rollcall vote numbered 108 on the Boehlert amendment to H.R. 478; and one rollcall vote numbered 109 on House Resolution 143, providing for consideration of H.R. 3, a juvenile justice bill.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall votes numbered 103, 104, and 108. I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote numbered 109.

TRIBUTE TO EDWIN OHKI

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding and courageous individual, Edwin Ohki. The death of Mr. Ohki on October 23, 1996, was a sad day for all of Sonoma County, where he was a longtime resident.

Born in Livingston, CA, in 1923, Ed and his family were placed in a Japanese internment camp when World War II began. After being forced to live in the camp for over a year, Ed volunteered for the U.S. Army, even though as a Japanese-American he was offered combat duty only.

Ed joined the famed 442d Infantry Battalion, the most decorated unit in U.S. Army history. During combat in Italy, he was injured and then returned to the United States to spend over four painful months in the hospital. Ed was awarded the Purple Heart for his actions. Despite his heroism and being honorably discharged from the Army, Ed was sent back to an internment camp.

After the war, Ed returned to California and graduated from the University of California, Davis. He moved to Santa Rosa, in 1951, where he later joined his family's landscape business. Ed also served as secretary of the Sonoma County Landscape Gardeners Association.

Ed was very active with the First United Methodist Church of Santa Rosa, and the local Buddhist community. In addition, he served as president of the Sonoma County Japanese-American Citizen League. Ed will forever be remembered as a bridge builder—as someone who reached out to people of all racial and religious backgrounds.

Mr. Speaker, Ed Ohki served his country and his community well. He consistently extended himself on behalf of many people for a variety of important causes. Our Nation owes a great deal of gratitude to him for his tireless efforts. I extend my deepest sympathies to his wife, Anne, and their family. He will be missed by all.

A MAN OF COURAGE, AN
INSPIRATION FOR MANKIND

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take a moment today to remind my colleagues of the heroic struggle being waged by Wei Jingsheng.

Wei has spent all but one of the past 18 years in Chinese prisons, jailed for the crime of advocating political democracy. Released briefly in 1993, as China sought to tidy up its public image in an effort to win the 2000 Olympic Games for Beijing, Wei was re-arrested in 1994, only days after meeting with the United States Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, and sentenced to 14 additional years in prison. Today, he languishes in jail while his health deteriorates. His requests for urgent medical attention have gone unanswered.

Mr. Speaker, I am a friend of China. I support the Clinton administration's policy of engagement with China. I believed that American interests are best served by a policy that seeks to draw China into the international community.

But, Mr. Speaker, even those of us who advocate friendly ties with China are deeply offended by China's treatment of its own citizens. And in this respect unfortunately, Wei Jingsheng is only one of many Chinese who have been imprisoned unjustly.

Mr. Speaker, I wish today to join my colleagues who have asked the Chinese leaders to release Wei Jingsheng. To halt their campaign of repression against their own people. To respect the promises of their own laws and constitution. And to live up to the glory of their country's past by joining the rest of the civilized world in recognizing that a nation's true greatness is measured by how that nation's government treats its dissenters.

ON JONATHAN W. HODGES'
ATTAINMENT OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jonathan W. Hodges of Avon Lake, Oh, who will be honored this month for his recent attainment of Eagle Scout.

The attainment of Eagle Scout is a high and rare honor requiring years of dedication to self-improvement, hard work and the community. Each Eagle Scout must earn 21 merit badges, twelve of which are required, including badges in: lifesaving; first aid; citizenship in the community; citizenship in the nation; citizenship in the world; personal management of time and money; family life; environmental science; and camping.

In addition to acquiring and proving proficiency in those and other skills, an Eagle Scout must hold leadership positions within the troop where he learns to earn the respect and hear the criticism of those he leads.

The Eagle Scout must live by the Scouting Law, which holds that he must be trustworthy, loyal, brave, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, clean, and reverent.

And the Eagle Scout must complete an Eagle Scout Project, which he must plan, finance, and evaluate on his own. It is no wonder that only two percent of all boys entering scouting achieve this rank.

My fellow colleagues, let us join Boy Scouts of America Troop 41 in recognizing and praising Jonathan for his achievement.

TRIBUTE TO DON FONTANA

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take a few moments to acknowledge Don Fontana, an outstanding leader in the mental health community from the Third District of Tennessee. Don recently retired as chief executive officer of Volunteer Behavioral Health

Care System. His contributions to this organization and to the community and State, are many.

I'd like to highlight just a fraction of Don's accomplishments. It was with great vision as the CEO of Johnson Mental Health Center, that Don saw the future and the necessity for community mental health centers to meet the challenges of managed care.

Under Don's leadership, several community mental health centers joined together and the Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System was created. Today, the center consists of Johnson Mental Health Center, Hiwassee Mental Health Center, and Plateau Mental Health System.

Don has served not once, but twice as the president of the Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations, as well as a task force member for Children's Services. He has extended behavioral health care services to 27 counties within Tennessee. In addition, one of the most notable contributions he has made is the establishment of safe, supervised housing for severely mentally ill adults where 75 of our community members live.

Mr. Fontana's commitment to affordable mental health services for those who could not otherwise afford them has made him a giant in the mental health community. His extraordinary service and commitment of 19 years will be missed, but because of his leadership and guidance the programs he has established in our community will continue.

Personally, I worked with Don years ago as a volunteer member of the advisory board of the Joe Johnson Mental Health Center. I know first hand of his true commitment to those in need.

I am proud to have the opportunity to publicly acknowledge Don Fontana's fine service in the mental health field and wish him well in the future.

MARCH FOR JESUS DAY

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for the upcoming nationwide "March for Jesus Day." This event on May 17, 1997, will provide more evidence that America is returning to the values of belief in God and family that have made our country great. Last year church related groups and congregations in over 600 cities in the United States and 170 nations participated in the march. In Joplin, MO, almost 70 area congregations of different denominations representing 18 communities from the 4-State region will march together and in other southwest Missouri towns and cities Christians will step forward on this day.

This Nation was founded upon Judeo-Christian principles that our country should continue to recognize and hold high. I am reminded of John 13:34 where Jesus said "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." The March for Jesus is truly an opportunity to show others the love which Christ modeled for us. Our Nation needs to be shown the love and grace of Christ Jesus. For too long, we have been will-

ing to neglect the necessity of spiritual fulfillment and today we see the overwhelming consequences of such actions with families separated by divorce, drug use accelerating rapidly in our society, and juvenile crime out of control.

As the Christian community gathers to March for Jesus it can truly be an example of others of the change He has made in our own lives and the lives of our families and friends. We need to live the command Jesus gave us in the book of Matthew where He said, "Love your neighbor as yourself." What a great opportunity as Christians gather together to march to remember in our daily lives to show others Jesus and his love. It is important that we not forget to display the love of Christ to our neighbors by helping them in times of need.

Christians should be guided by the words of the Apostle Paul where in II Timothy 1:7-12 he says,

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, who has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day.

The March for Jesus is an excellent opportunity to testify to others about Jesus as families walk their city streets with fellow believers of all denominations. I am encouraged as Christians unite together to take an active role in their witness to others.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIR
HEARING ACT

HON. HARRIS W. FAWELL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. FAWELL. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Fair Hearing Act, legislation which will require the National Labor Relations Board [NLRB] to conduct hearings to determine the appropriateness of bargaining units in cases where a labor organization attempts to organize employees at one or more facilities of a multifacility employer and where there is no agreement as to the appropriate bargaining unit.

As many Members know, our attention was drawn to this issue by the NLRB's proposed rulemaking of several years ago announcing the Board's intention to impose a rule on the appropriateness of single location bargaining units that would have applied to virtually every industry. That proposal would have extended to all employers, except for those in the specifically excluded utility industry, construction industry and seagoing crews in the maritime industry. Fortunately, the NLRB was prevented from pursuing this disruptive rulemaking