

birthday at her farm in my congressional district.

To visit Miss Buck's farm and the stories that it bears, is also a visit to a quiet memory of the early American experience. This farm, a virtual self-contained world, is both the foundation and legacy of a woman for whom complete self-sufficiency is essential to survival.

Her family's story begins as many American families do. It starts with her great-grandparents, young and hopeful pioneers, who left their Native Germany aboard a ship with hundreds of other immigrants to America. Across the Mississippi River her maternal grandparents, the Henkes, and her paternal great-grandparents, the Bucks, both settled in neighboring communities in rural, southern Illinois.

Rather than fading to lore, as the heritage of many families do, Emma Buck embraced and sustained the life that her great-grandparents began in Monroe County. She still lives in the log cabin that her grandfather built. She still works in the farm that has provided so much for her family's sustenance for so long. This is not a farm transformed by the power of modern technology; rather it is one that honors the rudimentary tools of the past.

Miss Buck remains the sole curator of this farm, which was named a national landmark of our nation. As she has for over 90 years, in accordance with the methodical teaching of her father and grandfather, Emma rises each morning to the tasks at hand. She fixes the split-rail fences, she weeds the gardens, she prunes the trees. Farming has since been left to interested neighbors, but the fields, the tools, and the dedication of her ancestors remain in the Buck Farm's name.

As the 20th Century ends and the beginning of the new millennium approaches, Emma Buck reminds us of our nation's heritage. The advances in technology made each day continue to fortify our nation's capabilities, but it is the individual life stories of simplicity and complete fulfillment, in which our future generations may find inspiration.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Emma Buck, and in doing so honoring our nation's history.

TRIBUTE TO FRESNO ELKS LODGE
#439

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Fresno Elks Lodge as they continue in their 100th year of service. The Fresno Elks Lodge was founded May 12, 1898, and has remained true to the mission of the "Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks," dedicated to responsible and charitable interaction in their communities, and the preservation of American heritage.

Maintaining its emphasis on charity, justice, brotherly love, and fidelity, the order provides millions of dollars in charitable goods and services. It services disabled children through the Elks Major Project by offering scholarships and in-home therapies. It provides active youth programs, veterans assistance programs, community service programs, drug abuse awareness education and alternative activity programs for inner-city youth. Also, the

Elks are second to the Federal Government in providing scholarships to students pursuing a college education.

During times of national crisis such as natural disasters or the bombing of the Federal building in Oklahoma, the Elks are among the first to respond with offers of help both in manpower and money to communities and their families.

Proud of its patriotism, the order is the first to come to the defense of its nation and flag. From building and staffing the first V.A. Hospital in the United States, to helping to restore the Statue of Liberty, Elks continue to guide America forward.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to the Fresno Elks Lodge #439 on occasion of its 100th year of continued service. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Fresno Elks Lodge continued success in their quest to uphold and improve the American community.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HOWARD CAREY:
A GOOD NEIGHBOR

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 1999

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to recognize the 30th anniversary of Dr. Howard Carey's commitment to the Neighborhood House Association and to his role as President and Chief Executive Officer since 1972. Dr. Carey brings more than 35 years of experience in the field of social work, from both administrative and program perspectives, to this leadership position.

Serving more than 300,000 San Diego residents, Neighborhood House is one of the largest non-profit organizations in San Diego, a multi-purpose social welfare agency whose goal is to improve the quality of life of the people served. Since Dr. Carey assumed leadership, Neighborhood House has grown from a budget of \$400,000 and a staff of 35 to the current budget of \$50 million with 800 employees.

Its multitude of services to strengthen families and to assist them in becoming self-sufficient include not only the two for which it is best known—Head Start which reaches 6500 preschoolers in 70 centers and its Food Bank Program which collects and distributes 12 million pounds of food annually—but also housing, counseling, adult day-care centers, emergency food and shelter, an inner city youth-enrichment program, employment training services, health services for the mentally ill and elderly, and a senior citizen service center.

Dr. Carey's motto—being a good neighbor—is emulated by the extended family of employees at Neighborhood House and reaches from the Mexican border to the northern reaches of San Diego County. His legacy is one of excellence. A professional in the best sense of this word, he is a man of honor, strength, and determination. He is dedicated to service and to making life better for his neighbors who are in need.

Dr. Carey is a native of Lexington, Mississippi, a graduate of Atlanta's Morehouse College, and holds graduate degrees from Atlanta University and United States International University. He became enchanted

with San Diego during his four years of military service with the United States Navy and returned with his wife, the former Yvonne Arnold of Newnan, Georgia, a graduate of Spelman College. Dr. Carey and his wife are the parents of two adult children who are themselves graduates of Morehouse and Spelman.

One would think that his service to the community through his work at the Neighborhood House would fill his days. But Dr. Carey's service extends to leadership and participation in many community organizations and local activities. He is Chairman of the Board of Neighborhood National Bank, a San Diego based community bank which spurs development in inner city neighborhoods. He was a founding member of Union Bank of California's Community Advisory Board to advise bank managers on the financial needs of low income and under-served communities.

He has held policy-making and advisory positions at the Neighborhood Development Bank, San Diego Unified School District, United Way, the Minority Relations Committee, the Black Leadership Council, former San Diego Mayor Maureen O'Connor's Black Advisory Committee, a Congressional Black Affairs Subcommittee, the Black-Jewish Dialogue, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the Coalition for Equity, and San Diego County's Child Care Task Force.

Professionally, he has contributed as a Professor at San Diego State University, as Lecturer at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) and at National University of San Diego, and as Instructor for Wooster College in Ohio and at San Diego City College.

His further professional associations include charter membership in LEAD, the National Association of Social Workers, the National Association of Black Social Workers, founding member of the San Diego Chapter of Alpha Pi Phi Fraternity, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Alpha Kappa Delta, Morehouse College Alumni Association (San Diego Chapter), San Diego Dialogue, and the National Conference of Social Welfare.

As impressive as this list is, it does not do justice to Dr. Carey. It is his passion for service that leads him into these activities. He knows that extraordinary measures are sometimes needed to strengthen communities and families, and he is willing to go that extra mile.

Because Dr. Carey and the work of Neighborhood House reaches deep into the hearts and minds of his neighbors and changes lives, his contributions to the community are far-reaching, long lasting and immeasurable. I sincerely appreciate this opportunity to honor Dr. Carey and his many contributions to San Diego during the past three decades.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 1999

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 25, I had the pleasure of hosting President Clinton and Vice-President GORE in my congressional district. This resulted in my missing several votes. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

S. 249, "yea."

H.R. 1833, "yea."
 H. Res. 178 "yea."
 Rollcall vote No. 152, "no."
 Rollcall vote No. 153, "no."
 Rollcall vote No. 154, "no."
 Rollcall vote No. 155, "no."
 Rollcall vote No. 156, "no."
 Rollcall vote No. 157, "no."

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN STEPHEN
 ERIC BENSON OF THE UNITED
 STATES NAVY

HON. OWEN B. PICKETT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 1999

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Captain Stephen Eric Benson, Commanding Officer of Naval Air Station Oceana, who has served in the United States Navy for twenty-five years of faithful duty to his country.

For the past three years, Captain Benson has served as the Commanding Officer of Naval Air Station Oceana Virginia Beach, Virginia located in my congressional district. During his tenure as Commanding Officer, Captain Benson has distinguished himself by his exceptional efforts to establish and improve upon the relationship between the community and the Naval Air Station. It is a testimony to these efforts that as he leaves his post in June of this year, the relationship between the base and the City of Virginia Beach is one of the best in the nation.

The tenacious efforts of Captain Benson to enhance the cooperation with the surrounding community and his goal of serving as a "good neighbor" has not only helped the Navy achieve its mission, but also has made a direct contribution to the goals of the City of Virginia Beach. His open communication policy with both the Mayor of Virginia Beach and with the local congressional delegation has been exemplary and productive for all concerned.

Captain Benson has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for the sailors stationed under his command. New living quarters and recreational improvements have been either built or have been funded. With the assistance of congressional leadership, local political leaders and businesses, a new Barracks for enlisted personnel and a new recreational facility have either been funded or are near completion as he executes his next assignment.

Captain Benson has overseen the movement of ten F/A-18 squadrons and their families to Naval Air Station Oceana from Naval Air Station Cecil Field, Florida. A total of one hundred fifty-six aircraft and nearly nine thousand personnel and dependents have made the transition to their new home in Virginia Beach with minimum impact to operations and family members.

Again enhancing community relations, he has developed and nurtured the local Military Air show into a community affair, aligned with the City of Virginia Beach's Neptune Festival. This event, once known as the NAS Oceana Air Show is now known as the Neptune Festival Air Show. The show has been not only profitable to the Military Welfare and Recreation Fund which has a direct impact on the improvement of quality of life issues for the

sailors at NAS Oceana, but was awarded the Best Military Air Show in North America for 1998 by the International Council of Air Shows. This is a true win-win scenario which has brought recognition to not only the base, but to the community at large.

Captain Benson has personally conducted hundreds of community presentations fostering the best base-community relationships within the Hampton Roads region. He has been lauded by both the Mayor of the City of Virginia Beach and myself for his efforts in working with the local political groups and businesses for the betterment of all concerned.

Under his charge, Naval Air Station Oceana has won two consecutive Environmental Awards in 1998 and 1999 for efforts to maintain the environment on this installation. From these efforts, to rapid response teams for fuel spills, to responses to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) inquiries, NAS Oceana has been praised on all fronts.

Captain Benson is an active member of the Hampton Roads Rotary and the City of Virginia Beach Neptune Festival Committee, further enhancing the cooperation and community leadership between the base and the public at large.

A totally dedicated professional, Captain Benson has set a superior personal example of all military leaders to emulate. His many contributions will continue to be felt for many years to come in the Hampton Roads area. Because of his outstanding and distinguished record of accomplishments, his tenacious efforts to keep the local community informed and his outgoing personality, Captain Benson is truly worthy of recognition. We will surely miss him at Oceana Naval Air Station.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSEPH
 POSEDEL

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to recognize Joseph F. Posedel who is retiring as Business Manager of Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 343 under the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry.

In his 36 years with the union, Mr. Posedel has worked to create a solid foundation for Local 343.

He joined the union in 1963 as a building trades apprentice. He became a trustee for the Trust Fund in 1970. Subsequently, he served as Vice President, President, Business Agent and Apprenticeship Coordinator for the union. In January 1996 he assumed the important leadership position of Business Manager.

As Business Manager, Mr. Posedel successfully negotiated an improved wage package, including health, welfare, and pension benefits, for union members.

Mr. Posedel is a native of the San Francisco Bay area. He grew up in Rodeo and attended St. Mary's High School, graduating in 1955. He also attended St. Mary's College in the same community.

He and his wife, Patricia, have been married for 39 years. They have three children and six grandchildren.

Following his retirement, Mr. Posedel will continue to serve Local 343 as a Trustee of the Trust Fund.

Mr. Speaker, because of Joseph F. Posedel's long and devoted service to Local 343 of the Plumbers and Steamfitters Union, it is fitting and proper to honor him today for his accomplishments, and to wish him well in his retirement.

THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF TAI-
 WANESE PRESIDENT LEE IN OF-
 FICE

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, permit me to take this opportunity to convey to Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui, on the eve of his third anniversary in office, our best wishes and congratulations. Taiwan is very fortunate to have Dr. Lee as its President.

A man of vision, President Lee supports the reunion of Taiwan and mainland China according to the principles of democracy, freedom, and the equitable distribution of wealth. During his tenure in office, he has made every effort to resume the cross Strait dialogue and to maintain peace and security in the Taiwan Strait.

Accordingly, I invite my colleagues to join in extending congratulations and best wishes to President Lee and we look forward to his continuing accomplishments in the coming years.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TEACHER
 EMPOWERMENT ACT

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 1999

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, today I am joining with the distinguished Chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, Mr. GOODLING, Mr. CASTLE, the Speaker of the House, the Majority Leader, Mr. WATTS, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. PRYCE, and other distinguished Members of the House to introduce the Teacher Empowerment Act. This legislation will make a significant and positive impact on how we prepare our Nation's teaching force by providing States and local school districts with needed funding for the provision of high quality teacher training and for the hiring of new teachers, where necessary.

In the development of the Teacher Empowerment Act, we have made every effort to put together a bill that is in the best interests of children, parents, and teachers. We have also tried to include the best elements of teacher training proposals from the Governors, the Administration, and different Members of Congress, on a bipartisan basis. I hope that by the time this legislation is considered by the full House, we will have a bipartisan proposal that will vastly expand training opportunities for our Nation's teachers and increase the achievement of all of our Nation's students. I intend to work closely with Mr. Martinez, the Ranking Democrat Member on the Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education,