

to the development of our community and our country.

Since becoming a resident of the Valley, over 20 years ago, Dale has continually strived to make his home and community a better place to live. He sacrifices his personal time, energy, and money so that others may benefit. At one point he was involved with 22 local organizations simultaneously.

His children Joel and Angela have been a tremendous inspiration to him giving him the desire to ensure that their lives, and the lives of other children, can be as fulfilling as possible. He is an active member of A.Y.S.O. as a Division Manager, Treasurer, coach, and even referee. In addition, he has also taken an active role in their education, having served as past President of the Portola Middle School Booster Club, Vice-President of the Wilbur Avenue Elementary School Booster Club, President of the Reseda High School PTSA, and Treasurer of Parents for Public Schools.

Dale has also played an active role in the business community. A certified public accountant, Dale has been a partner with Sandler, Powell, Jacobs & Berlin since 1988. A member of the Tarzana Chamber for many years Dale has been serving as their President since 1997 where he has focused on expanding membership, encouraging activism, and serving the community. We are fortunate that he is being reinstalled as President of the Tarzana chamber for yet another year.

When he does have free time Dale enjoys Civil War Reenacting with his wife Bobbe, of 27 years, and the rest of his family. He is Treasurer of the Fort Tejon Historical Association and spent last summer participating in a reenactment of the Battle of Gettysburg at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Mohandas Gandhi once said that "You find yourself by losing yourself in service to your fellow man, your God and country." I cannot think of a more fitting tribute to Dale. Thanks to his leadership, courage, and dedication, our community is an ideal place to raise a family, start a business, or become involved in community activities.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Dale Jacobs for all of his contributions to our community.

A TRIBUTE TO VAHAN TEKEYAN AND TO THE TEKEYAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Vahan Tekeyan on the 120th anniversary of his birth and to the Tekeyan Cultural Association.

Vahan Tekeyan was born in Constantinople, Turkey in 1878. He gained prominence as one of the most celebrated poets in Armenian history. Tekeyan is credited with contributing to saving the Armenian language through his vast writings. It is said that he gave poetry a melody all its own. Tekeyan is recognized both as a poet of the people and as a poet's poet. He courageously met and conquered numerous challenges during his lifetime. Vahan Tekeyan died in Cairo, Egypt at the age of 67.

The Tekeyan Cultural Association was founded in Beirut, Lebanon in 1947 by Profes-

sor Parounag Thomasian, Kersan Aharonian and Harchia Setrakian, Esq. The association is headquartered in Watertown, MA and has chapters throughout the United States as well as in Armenia, Canada, France, Egypt, Argentina, Belgium and Greece. During the Armenian genocide of 1915–1923, the Fresno Chapter of the Tekeyan Cultural Association significantly contributed to the welfare and support of orphans.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Vahan Tekeyan on the 120th anniversary of his birth and to the Tekeyan Cultural Association Fresno Chapter. Their dedication to preserving Armenian heritage and their significant support of numerous noble causes is to be commended. I invite my colleagues to join me in this recognition.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER MICHIGAN STATE REPRESENTATIVE ALLEN L. LOWE

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute today to Allen Lowe, a former representative to the Michigan House of Representatives from the 105th Representative District, which includes five counties in my congressional district.

First elected to the House in 1992, Allen Lowe has just concluded his service in that body because of the Michigan term limits law. This law was enacted at the will of the voters of Michigan, but I have to confess that in this case I believe the law has turned our office a dedicated public servant who was deeply concerned about the welfare of his constituents.

I know that Allen traveled extensively throughout his district, because I pride myself on returning to my district each week to participate in community events, and many times I found Allen attending the same events.

Allen Lowe was a legislator with deep convictions, and although I did not always agree with his position on issues, I have always had the greatest respect for the way in which he presented and defended these convictions. Like myself, Allen was a graduate of Cooley Law School. Like myself, he was a pro-life legislator. And like myself, he was not afraid to challenge Michigan's governor on issues that he believed would be detrimental to his northern Michigan constituents, despite that fact that Allen and the governor were members of the same political party.

Allen brought to his job a broad involvement in community issues. He has been a teacher and school administrator, and he involved himself in activities and organizations that served his Michigan district, including the Michigan Farm Bureau, the Camp Grayling Conservation Club, and the Friends of Hartwick Pines.

I will miss doing parades with him, debating issues, and, as always, working with him on issues of importance to his state representative district.

I believe the people of the 105th Representative District were well-served by Allen Lowe.

IN MEMORY OF MARY COOPER STRINGER

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable lady, and constituent of mine from the Third District, Mrs. Mary Cooper Stringer, who passed away on Friday January 15, 1999, in Forest, Mississippi, following a short illness. The Mississippi State Senate adjourned January 18, 1999, in her honor.

Mrs. Stringer, along with her husband Robert P. "Bob" Stringer, lived in the Forest community for the past 40 years and was actively involved in community and local affairs. She was a graduate of Mississippi State College for Women, a member of the Eastern Star, and worked for the Pentagon after graduating from college.

When not doting on her husband, Mrs. Stringer was cheering and backing her favorite team, the Mississippi State Bulldogs and striving to make her hometown the best it could be. Mrs. Stringer's first love was her husband Bob, their two daughters, Jean and Anne and their two sons, Robert and Johnny, along with their 13 grandchildren and one great grandson.

Mrs. Stringer was a very astute businesswoman and a close friend of my predecessor Congressman G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery. She was very helpful and active in the planning of the Annual Montgomery Hunters Stew which Bob hosted for Congressman Montgomery each January, for the past 22 years. Mr. Stringer served on the Forest Board of Alderman for four terms before his retirement in June 1997.

The legacy that Mrs. Stringer leaves behind will be very hard to emulate. She was a much admired lady. I extend my sympathy to her husband "Bob", and other family members while expressing my appreciation and that of every citizen of the 3rd District for her life of service.

A TRIBUTE TO FRED STARRH

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my friends in Kern County who share a mutual goal of improving educational opportunities in our schools, as we honor one of our finest friends, Fred Starrh, a man devoted to helping his neighbors, a man always willing to do the hard work, a man who pride in his country is visible to everyone he meets. Tonight we honor one aspect of this man's accomplishment—his achievements and commitment to thousands of Kern County high school students during his tenure as a trustee of the Kern High School District.

As a trustee and Past President, Fred Starrh has devoted a tremendous amount of time and effort to preparing Kern County's children for their future. Those who have worked with Fred know he puts his all into every project he takes on. His service on the

Board of Trustees is a testament to his character and devotion to all the families in Kern County who have sent their children to Kern high schools. Fred Starrh served us all well by watching over the myriad issues that come before those entrusted with the management of the education provided to our kids during the critically important four years of high school study.

I know people from all over the United States who rely on Fred Starrh's advice and counsel. Fred has friends everywhere, and years of working together make me honored to be included among them. Few people are as dedicated and as much fun to work with as we all know Fred Starrh to be.

RECOGNITION OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize national and local efforts in vocational education and career preparation training. I commend the American Vocational Association for designating February 14–20, as Vocational Education Week. The over 14 million students and 26,000 institutions that are dedicated to betterment through career education deserve our recognition and support throughout the year.

Regional occupation programs in my district and throughout the country provide students with stronger skills and increased learning opportunities. They enhance both the education and employment prospects of our young people and help build a strong, well-trained workforce.

Vocational education makes a proven difference in lives of students who might not otherwise have access to targeted education and skills training. It opens doors to opportunities for productive futures. I am proud of the work done in my community, and I would like to recognize the hard-working students and dedicated staff in the Inland Empire who make vocational education a success. They are to be commended for their role in strengthening both individual lives and our community as a whole.

SALINAS VALLEY MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM—HELP- ING TO LEAD CHINA TO BETTER HEALTH CARE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform you and all our House colleagues of the magnificent contributions to international health care by the Salinas Valley Memorial Health Care System (SVMH). Through the efforts of SVMH, two cities in China, Kunming in the Province of Yunnan, and Chengdu in the Province of Sichuan, will receive the best in advanced medical training services and the best high-tech equipment to better serve the Health care needs of the Chinese people.

SVMH has long been on the cutting edge of technology in Health care services. Located in Salinas in my Central California Coast district, SVMH has developed state-of-the-art heart and cardiac health services. It works in tandem with NASA in using high-resolution equipment to uncover the secrets of the human health system. It also has established a long-term Health care facility for senior care that scores high marks by the health care industry.

Because of SVMH's expertise and experience, it has reached out to the international community to help. China, with the largest population on earth and yet some of the most remote and underserved populations, was a key target for assistance. Partnering with Assist International Rotary International Marquette Medical Services, SVMH will send a team of doctors and professional staff to Chengdu, China and Kunming, China today. This international team of hope will—

Donate and install \$1 million worth of high-tech medical equipment in the Yunnan Red Cross Hospital in Kunming and The First Medical School, The First University Hospital, West China University of Medical Sciences in Chengdu;

Educate and train the medical staff of both hospitals on the latest technologies and practices utilized by our physicians in the treatment of heart-related illnesses and procedures;

Interact with the citizenry of the community in order to demonstrate American willingness to share high tech medical information and technology.

This partnership, Mr. Speaker, is important for a number of reasons. First, it is critical to recognize that despite all other political machinations between the U.S. and China, there is one very important issue upon which leaders of both countries agree: that Health care is essential to quality of life. In that regard, SVMH, the Rotary International, Assist International and Marquette Medical Services have served as ambassadors extraordinaire to unify our two countries.

Second, this partnership is important because through the efforts of SVMH and others, we are establishing a firm working relationship with our Chinese counterparts—one that will indirectly benefit the relationship between the U.S. and China, but that will also directly benefit the Chinese people through the delivery of more and better Health care services. In this regard, the Yunnan Red Cross Hospital and the West China University of Medical Sciences deserve special recognition and praise for their commitment to improve Health care practices and their dedication to the pursuit of new knowledge in the field of medicine.

Mr. Speaker, and Members of the House, I urge you today to stand in honor of the Salinas Valley Memorial Health Care System and their partners in international Health care, the Yunnan Red Cross Hospital, the West China University of Medical Sciences, Assist International, Rotary International and Marquette Medical Services. They deserve our praise, they deserve our support and most of all, they deserve the chance to make this partnership a success so people can live well.

TRIBUTE TO BOB LIVINGSTON, REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE FIRST DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to a colleague who has built a fine legacy of accomplishment as an adept and effective legislator—and leader—of this institution in which we all are honored to serve. BOB LIVINGSTON's leaving leaves a void that is not easily filled, as his colleagues from Louisiana have attested tonight. I wish BOB and Bonnie all the best as they embark on their new life, and am certain that BOB will continue to contribute to the public interest in the future.

BOB, you will definitely be missed here, and as you leave Congress, you should take pride in your record of accomplishment for the State of Louisiana and the Nation. Good luck to you.

LACKAWANNA VALLEY HERITAGE AREA ACT

HON. DON SHERWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Lackawanna Valley Heritage Area Act. By designating the Lackawanna Valley of Pennsylvania as a National Heritage Area, this important legislation would ensure the conservation of its significant natural, historic and cultural resources. The Lackawanna Valley was the first heritage area designated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and is a nationally significant historic area as documented in the U.S. Department of Interior's Register of Historic Places, Multiple Property Documentation Submittal of the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission (1996).

For every federal dollar provided over the last decade, the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority—which oversees the Valley's historical and cultural resources—has leveraged ten dollars in State, local and private sector funds to finance preservation activities. The Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority would continue to foster these important relationships with all levels of government, the private sector and local communities.

The Valley represents the development of anthracite coal, one of North America's greatest natural resources. From early in the 19th century, Pennsylvania's coal provided an extraordinary source of energy which fueled America's economic growth for over a hundred years. At the center of the world's most productive anthracite field, the Lackawanna Valley witnessed the inception, spectacular growth and eventual deterioration of an industry which led us to unparalleled prosperity.

The Valley's current mix of ethnicity, its combination of dense urban areas and isolated settlements, and the desolate remains of coal mines surrounded by beautiful countryside are a microcosm of our legacy from the industrial revolution. As these contrasts illustrate, the industrial era was not without human