

sold at local stores and Guam schools began receiving half-pints of milk for lunch programs.

On February 12, 1951, International Dairy Supply Company was issued a Guam business license and, by 1955, the company was producing a thousand gallons of milk a day for civilian consumption. At the time, the staff consisted of 11 production personnel, 5 maintenance staffers and 3 drivers. In 1961, the Blue Seal milk trademark was replaced with the familiar "F" logo denoting Blue Seal's relationship with the parent company, Foremost Dairies. By 1965, Foremost Dairies had become the company's sole shareholder.

In the 1960's, milk, vanilla ice cream, and Coca-Cola were Foremost's bestsellers on Guam and in the Northern Marianas. As consumer lifestyles became more active and sophisticated, Foremost catered to local tastes. Through the years, low-fat skimmed products, Diet Coke, fat-free milk, yogurt and Crystal Clear Drinking Water have found popularity among island consumers.

From a handful of employees in the 1950's, Foremost Foods and Coca-Cola Beverage Company, Guam, now employs a full time staff which mans two 8-hour shifts at their state-of-the-art plant in Upper Tumon. In addition, a technical staff supervises and maintains equipment 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Under the capable direction of Paul Boon, who became the company's president 7 years ago, Foremost has continued a tradition of dedication and support for its employees. Veteran employees can attest to the company's concerns towards its workers through their training and development programs and their salary and benefits packages.

Over the years, Foremost has also been an active supporter of community programs, activities and events. The company has supplied products to numerous races and tournaments. It sponsors major events, such as the prestigious Asian Professional Golf Association Tournament, and provides corporate encouragement to community endeavors, such as Sanctuary Inc., the American Cancer Society, Goodwill Industries of Guam, Inc., and the Guam Chapter of the American Red Cross. However, the cooperative spirit between Foremost and the community is best demonstrated in times of contingency, such as typhoons. During such times, Foremost employees switch to round-the-clock production preparing basic supplies, such as ice and water, in order to meet the needs of island residents.

For the past 50 years, Guam and the Northern Marianas have enjoyed quality products provided by Foremost Foods. On behalf of the people of Guam, I commend the company for its contribution to our community and our economy. I congratulate Foremost Foods and join them in celebrating their 50-year anniversary on Guam. I hope that the next 50 years would bring continued success to Foremost Foods and its employees.

At this point, I would like to submit, for the RECORD, the names of veteran employees who, through the years, have made great contributions towards the success of the company.

33 Years: Narciso M. Ibit, Production Supervisor; 31 Years: Eduardo G. Merto, Dairy Specialist II; 27 Years: Hermie L. Loria, Production Supervisor; 26 Years: Benjamin M. Peralta, Engineering Technician I; Danilo E. Tucio, Dairy Specialist III; 25 Years: Joseph E. Collado, Chief Engineer; Arturo Hippolito, Dairy Specialist II; Marcelo Carlos, Jr., CSR

Crystal Clear; Luis Gonzales, Production Manager; Carlos Nucum, Engineering Technician II; Bartolome Andres Dairy Specialist II; Efren Silva, Engineering Tech I; Tommy Sangalang, Dairy Specialist II; Teodor Agsalud, Warehouse Specialist II; 24 Years: Natalio I. Esperosa, Dairy Specialist I; Mateo D. Ulanday, Dairy Route Sales Representative; Cerilio Danila, Dairy Specialist III; Jose Ferrer, Dairy Route Sales Representative; 23 Years: Rodolfo De Guzman, Dairy Specialist II; Leo Bustillo, Warehouse Specialist II; Augusto Perez, Engineering Technician III; Luther Umayam, Auto Mechanic I; Alberto Valencia, Engineering Technician I; 22 Years: Manuel Alvarez, Crystal Clear Supervisor; Jose Agahan, Warehouse Specialist II; 20 Years: Romualdo Dela Cruz, Engineering Leadman IV; 19 Years: Federico Ventura, Preseller (Dairy); Erlo Torres, Dairy Specialist II; 15 Years: Reynaldo Dimla, Engineering Clerk; Samuel Agsalud, Dairy Specialist III; 14 Years: Rogelio Almeria, Auto Mechanic II; 13 Years: Zaldy Ponce, Warehouse Specialist II; Benson Ayson, Dairy Route Sales Representative; Rodolfo Paulino, QA Manager; Luzviminda Fellone, Lab Technician II; Elmer Escalera, Dairy Specialist II; Eddie Salonga, Dairy Route Sales Representative; 12 Years: John Panaguiton, Dairy Route Sales Representative; Eloison Galang, Coke Vending Sales Representative; Antonio Pehipol, Dairy Specialist IV; Amante Velasco, Dairy Specialist III; Roger Tiong, Dairy Route Sales Representative; Salvador Tarape, Dairy Route Sales Representative; 11 Years: Gil David, Warehouse Specialist II; Jose Canovas, Preseller (Dairy); Edgar Llarenas, Coke Technician III; Joveneil Eugenio, Lab Technician I.

EX-OFFENDER VOTING RIGHTS ACT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, in Post-Civil War America, Congress passed the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution to give African Americans the right to vote and to participate meaningfully in the governance of this country. While 22 African-Americans were elected to Congress in the following years, the promise of these amendments was destroyed by Jim Crow laws. After decades of struggle, the sacrifices of nonviolent civil rights protesters spurred Congress to approve the Voting Rights Act in 1965. The passage of the Voting Rights Act was perhaps the most important victory won by the Civil Rights Movement led by the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. All of these efforts were made with the recognition that the franchise is critical to the ultimate emancipation of the African American people.

Unfortunately, as we approach the first national election of the new millennium, we are confronted with another challenge to the enfranchisement of millions of African-Americans. Mr. Speaker, there is simply no justification for the disenfranchisement of almost 3 million Americans who served their sentences for the commission of a felony crime. Let me repeat that point: over 3 million Americans have lost their right to vote even after they have paid their debt to society. Mr. Speaker, this issue is of great concern to my commu-

nity, which already suffered so much from the so-called "war on drugs."

The war on drugs is perhaps the single most "effective" tool in disenfranchising millions of African Americans since Jim Crow. Between 1985 and 1995, there was a 707% increase in the number of African Americans in state prison for a drug offense, compared to a 306 percent increase for whites over the same period. In addition, since the advent in 1986 of mandatory minimum sentences for drug related offenses, the number of African Americans in prison on drug-related offenses has exploded. In fact, despite evidence that African Americans and Caucasians use drugs at roughly the same rate, African Americans have been especially hard hit by mandatory minimum sentences: African Americans comprise about 13 percent of the United States' population, 15 percent of drug users, and 17 percent of cocaine users. However, thanks to the war on drugs being targeted against our communities, African Americans account for 33 percent of all federal drug convictions, 57 percent of Federal cocaine convictions and a staggering 84 percent of all federal crack cocaine convictions. Once convicted, these individuals often lose their right to vote for life.

The result? The combined effect of the war on drugs and mandatory minimum sentences being targeted at African Americans and other minorities is that these groups are losing their right to vote at staggering rates. That's why I come here today, to join my colleagues in demanding passage on vital legislation to make all persons released from prison automatically eligible to vote in federal elections. This, Mr. Speaker, is a necessary step in restoring the franchise to those Americans who have already suffered so much.

IN RECOGNITION OF MANUEL D. MAYERSON

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Manuel D. Mayerson, who will be honored at the Second Annual Circle of Life Awards Dinner in Cincinnati on October 5, 2000.

The Circle of Life Awards Dinner raises awareness about the severity of brain injury and honors leaders like Manuel for their work in helping young people with disabilities. Brain injury is the most frequent cause of disability and death among children and adolescents in the United States. Each year, over 1 million children sustain injuries with more than 30,000 suffering a serious permanent disability.

Manuel's interest in helping children and others with disabilities began about 10 years ago when he was approached by several organizations about the problems of infant brain injuries caused by shaking. Manuel then decided to form the Family Violence Coalition, which focuses on programs to prevent child abuse.

Most recently and through Manuel's support, the Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children at Children's Hospital Medical Center of Cincinnati was founded to help prevent, identify and treat child abuse and neglect.

Manuel also serves as a trustee at Children's Hospital. Outside the Hospital, he has been instrumental in establishing programs like the Inclusion Network, which works to increase acceptance of the disabled, and other important human service programs that help people to overcome limiting conditions.

Manuel continues to serve on a number of boards including: the Cincinnati Children's Hospital; Hebrew Union College; Contem-

porary Arts Center; Cincinnati Art Museum; and the Freestore/Foodbank. In addition, the Mayerson Foundation, supported by Manuel and his wife, Rhoda, has been most generous to causes that improve the lives of children, people with disabilities, and to community institutions aimed at preserving cultural heritage.

Manuel and Rhoda have three children: Neil, Fred, and Arlene. In addition to the many influences in Manuel's life, Arlene, a civil lib-

erties attorney and one of the architects of the Americans with Disabilities Act, has had a significant impact in shaping his commitment to helping those with disabilities.

All of us in the Cincinnati area congratulate Manuel for his outstanding leadership, service and commitment to improving the lives of others.