

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JOHN KASICH ON HIS RETIRE-
MENT FROM CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my fellow Ohioan and good friend, JOHN KASICH. I used to serve with my colleague from Ohio on the Budget Committee, and I know how difficult it is to put together a budget that moves the country forward in a positive direction and remains responsible to the American taxpayer.

I want to take a minute to go back a few years and look at where we have been, and how far we have come under the leadership of the Chairman of the Budget Committee. After 30 years of Congress recklessly spending more than we take in, American voters demanded a change. In 1995, the Republican majority came to Congress to restore discipline to the budget process.

But before he became Chairman in 1995, the Congressman from Ohio was writing his own balanced budget every year. Back then some of the people who had been in Washington for a while, called it tilting at windmills. But what really was going on was he was building a groundwork for the budget discipline the American people would demand, and Republicans would bring to Congress after we became the majority.

In 1991, Mr. KASICH's balanced budget received 114 votes, and the other 303 votes were for a budget that continued to raid Social Security and pile up debt for our children and grandchildren.

In 1993, he was able to win another 21 votes and his balanced budget received 135 votes, and the other 295 votes were for a budget that continued to raid Social Security and pile up debt for our children and grandchildren.

In 1994, he added 30 more votes, and his balanced budget received 165 votes, and the other 243 were for a budget that continued to raid Social Security and pile up debt for our children and grandchildren.

In 1995, the gentleman from Ohio as Budget Chairman passed a Republican budget by a vote of 238–193.

And in 1997, this Congress and the Administration came together in a bipartisan to write the Balanced Budget Act—which once and for all, ended the raid on Social Security, which ended once and for all, the reckless practice of spending more than we take in, and which finally balanced the budget, and put our country's books in order.

I want to thank the Budget Chairman, on behalf of myself and my colleagues and the constituents in my district and across the country for his service to his country. We are going to miss your expertise, your tenacity, your endless optimism, and your vision of a better America now that you have completed your final budget in the House.

As Ohio's Seventh District Representative to the Congress of the United States, I take this opportunity to join with members of the Ohio delegation and members of the Budget Committee to honor the efforts and the many outstanding achievements of Representative

JOHN KASICH. His many contributions as a member of the House of Representatives and leadership as a valued Committee Chairman will be remembered.

HONORING ROBERTO GARCIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Roberto Garcia, recipient of the Napa County Hispanic Network Lifetime Achievement Award, for his outstanding contributions to the youth of Napa County. He has devoted his life to promoting mutual understanding and respect in our community and is an excellent role model for us all.

Roberto Garcia has placed a high priority on providing much needed positive role models for Latino youth, as well as promoting the importance of learning English and pursuing higher education. Undoubtedly, he is a dedicated educator and community leader. Over the course of his highly successful career, he has worked as a Migrant Education Secondary School Advisor, an "English as a Second Language Instructor" at Napa Valley College and an Outreach Specialist for the Citizenship Project of the Napa County Council for Economic Opportunity. He cares deeply for the problems that face our nation's youth and has worked tirelessly to find long-lasting solutions in the community. To that end, he has helped mediate gang conflicts, including the organization of the largest gang forum in the Napa County.

Our community and our nation have benefited greatly from Roberto Garcia's time, effort, and dedication. He was a cofounder and past president of the Napa County Hispanic Network. Within this organization he founded the Napa County Hispanic Network Scholarship program. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Mexican Cultural Center for the Bay Area, was a past docent of the Napa Valley Museum Hispanic Trunk Presentations and an active member of the Napa County Chicano/Latino Democratic Caucus.

Roberto Garcia's past achievements in his quest to educate the community have been numerous. He has organized many cultural events including the annual "Christmas in Mexico Festival," Spanish Zarzuela Concerts and art exhibits of Yucatan Mexico. He was instrumental in bringing the Mexican Consul to the Napa Valley several times each year to issue documentation and address concerns of the local Mexican population. In addition, he was honored in 1998 by the Napa County Democratic Caucus as the Democrat of the Year.

Roberto Garcia is a devoted father and has been blessed with two daughters, Christina and Lourdes Xochitl, and one granddaughter, Susan Parks.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Roberto Garcia for his dedication and commitment to so many important and worthwhile causes. He has devoted his life to addressing the concerns of the community and specifically the problems facing Latino youth. He has helped foster awareness and understanding, working to bridge gaps between our diverse community. For these rea-

sons, it is necessary that we honor this leader and my good friend for his continuing distinguished service to the people of the Napa Valley and for receiving the NAPA County Hispanic Network Lifetime Achievement Award.

TRIBUTE TO MACON CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE PRESIDENT PAUL R.
NAGLE

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to a great American and Georgian, Paul R. Nagle, who recently retired as president of the Macon, Georgia Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Nagle has been an inspiration to all of us. Appointed as president in 1991, Mr. Nagle has been a leader and public servant that has always given 100 percent to the citizens of Macon.

Mr. Nagle was born in Hominy, Oklahoma, but serving his country and his professional career have taken him around the country. He graduated from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and a major in Marketing. Additionally, he has given his time and energy to many wonderful causes including Robins Air Force Base 21st Century Partnership, the Macon, Georgia 2000 Partnership and the NewTown Macon Board.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the distinct pleasure of working very closely with Mr. Nagle on many projects, including the very important Fall Line Freeway project. I am confident that his superior accomplishments and lasting legacy will continue to be felt in Macon and throughout Middle Georgia.

I will miss working with Mr. Nagle, at the Macon Chamber, but will continue to wish him the best in his new endeavors.

HONORING MR. JOE BARRERA

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today and honor Mr. Joe Barrera, an extraordinary American citizen who served our Nation with honor and bravery during World War II. On November 11, 2000, this Veterans Day, I will proudly present the Purple Heart Medal to Mr. Barrera for his acts of bravery during the War.

Mr. Joe Barrera was born on January 7, 1925 in Los Angeles. He graduated from Polytechnic High School in 1943 and soon after married Rosalie Barrera, his wife of 56 years. On August 9, 1943, he was inducted into the U.S. Army and began his military service.

After four months in basic training, Joe spent 14 months as a TEC 3 Surgical Technician and 14 months as a TEC 3 Medical Aidman receiving a Medical Combat Badge. On December 6, 1944, Mr. Barrera was sent to France for his first experience overseas and served with the Medical Detachment in the

276th Infantry Regiment in the European Theater of Operations for 16 months. During combat, he worked the front lines administering medical treatment to the wounded and performing emergency surgeries. Mr. Berrera carried out his many duties with exemplary courage.

On March 20, 1945, Mr. Barrera was injured and received 2nd degree burns to his eyes from a mine explosion. On April 15, 1946, Joe returned to the United States receiving his Honorable Discharge on May 8, 1946.

Upon return to civilian life, Mr. Barrera owned and operated the Metro Barbershop in Los Angeles near Cal State L.A. from 1948 to 1989, and he and his wife raised four wonderful children. His two daughters, Kathy and Carol, are both happily married and have successful lives. His son John is a Foreman in the Los Angeles County Fire Department. His other son, Joseph, who passed away in 1992, had been employed by Northrop Grumman constructing Stealth Bombers.

After 41 years of running his own business, Joe retired to enjoy a well-deserved leisure life. Today, he continues to be a happy and modest man surrounded by a wonderful family and many friends.

I would like to urge all my House colleagues to join me today in recognition of Mr. Joe Barrera's remarkable service and contribution to our Nation and to offer our personal congratulations as he receives his Purple Heart Medal this Veterans' Day.

FOR THE RELIEF OF PERSIAN GULF EVACUEES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of a bill that unanimously passed the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims and our Full committee. This private relief bill on behalf of 54 families and individuals seeking permanent resident status in the United States has much merit.

These families, known as Persian Gulf evacuees, have lived and worked in this country being evacuated out of Kuwait, at the behest of the United States government, just prior to U.S. Military Intervention in the Iraqi invasion of that country.

Many of these individuals, by order of then President Bush, were evacuated to keep them out of harms way when the United States intervened militarily in Kuwait, and hid them in their homes against Iraqi retaliation. Once here, the majority of the 2,000 evacuees adjusted their own status, often through asylum procedures. These 54 families remained in limbo, facing deportation and loss of work permits in the United States.

The Persian Gulf evacuees, are well educated, English speaking, mostly professional individuals perfectly capable of working and supporting themselves here in the United States without becoming wards of any State in which they have settled.

This action is good for this Congress and for America, and I support its passage.

PUERTO RICO STATUS PLAN

HON. JOSE E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4475, the FY 2001 Department of Transportation appropriations bill, includes provisions which I support that will promote informed self-determination for Puerto Rico. It is historic that Congress has authorized the President to cooperate with the Elections Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to develop a legally valid and politically realistic program to support political status resolution for Puerto Rico. However, it was necessary to ensure that Congress can review the program plan before funding can be expended. Given the powers vested in Congress to determine the ultimate status of Puerto Rico based on a legitimate process of self-determination, the process of Congressional review contemplated by this legislation is entirely fitting and critical to a successful status resolution program.

MR. LUIS P. VILLARREAL

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate Luis P. Villarreal, who received the 2000 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring for his work in developing science education and research programs to assist minority students at the high school and university level. Mr. Villarreal is a professor of molecular biology and biochemistry at the University of California, Irvin (UCI). He was selected as one of ten individual recipients to receive this prestigious award.

Mr. Villarreal began his academic career when he enrolled in a community college to become a medical technologist. Encouraged to continue his education, he went on to complete a four year degree in chemistry and then entered graduate school. As a researcher in biology, Mr. Villarreal is currently doing research on the connection between cervical cancer and viruses. He also manages a million-dollar annual budget for the minority science program at UCI.

One of his greatest accomplishments is to help struggling students achieve success in college, and to encourage them to become scientists. One of his students remarked that he is relaxed, but brilliant and very funny. Through his mentoring program, Mr. Villarreal has guided many under-represented students into the sciences. These students participate in a rigorous academic and research training program that is mentored by faculty members. The program includes paid internships, tutoring, academic advising, faculty seminars and participation at national conferences.

I ask my colleagues to please join with me as we honor Mr. Luis P. Villarreal for his outstanding academic and educational achievements.

HONORING MR. GARTH GARDNER

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today and honor Mr. Garth Gardner, an extraordinary American Citizen who served our Nation with honor and bravery during World War II. On November 11, 2000, this Veterans Day, I will proudly present the Purple Heart Medal to Mr. Gardner for his acts of bravery during WWII.

Mr. Garth Gardner was born on September 25, 1922 in Carbon County, Utah. He graduated from Carbon County High School in 1940 and attended Carbon County Jr. College for two years. At the age of 19, Mr. Gardner enlisted as a cadet in the U.S. Army Air Force. On March 27, 1945, Mr. Gardner departed to New Guinea, where he flew 29 missions against the enemy in a B-24 liberator with a crew of 10 servicemen.

Following his return to the United States, Mr. Gardner was married to Mary Ponti on December 30, 1945. In 1948, Garth graduated from USC, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. Following his graduation, Garth bought a house in Pico Rivera where he and his wife raised their three sons. Mr. Gardner worked for the County of Los Angeles Flood Control District for 25 years and upon retiring from the County in 1976, became a California Probate Referee—a position he has held for the last 26 years.

In March 2001, he will retire from the Pico Rivera City Council after 29 years of service. He has served 8 terms, including his final term, as Mayor. One of his major accomplishments is completing the flood control project, which began in 1991 and will be completed in 2001. This important project begins at the Pacific Ocean and extends 26 miles to the Whittier Narrows Dam and costs \$250 million.

Mr. Gardner will always remain active in his community and continue a life of service. I would like to urge all my House colleagues to join me today in recognition of Mr. Garth Gardner's remarkable service and contribution to our Nation and to offer our personal congratulations as he receives his Purple Heart Medal this Veterans' Day.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. DOMINICK CONDO AND DR. SALVATORE LAPILUSA, "2000 MEN OF THE YEAR"

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Dominick Condo and Dr. Salvatore LaPilusa, who are being honored by the Sicilian Citizens Club as "2000 Men of the Year" at the 73rd annual dinner-dance celebration.

On Saturday, October 28th, two of New Jersey's most talented and dedicated physicians will be honored for their contributions to medicine, to the health of the residents of the City of Bayonne, and to philanthropic causes.

Dr. Dominick Condo, whose parents, Domenico and Rosa Condo immigrated from