

leading authority on banking information throughout the Carolinas.

Mr. Springs embarked upon his professional career in 1974 as a Field Representative of the Labor Education Advancement Program of the Columbia Urban League in South Carolina. Two years later he became Executive Director of the Greenville Urban League where he remained with the Greenville Urban League for seven years. He later became Assistant Vice President of Community Relations for Southern Bank & Trust in Greenville. Mr. Springs would further advance his career by accepting a similar position with First Union National Bank of South Carolina in 1985.

Serving as a member of the NAACP National Board of Directors, he lead the search to obtain the association's current national president, Kwesi Mfume. Mr. Springs professional affiliations and board appointments, past and present, are reflective of his outstanding service to various communities and include: Channel WTVI Board of Directors which oversees the Charlotte Mecklenburg Public Broadcasting Authority; Charlotte Auditorium-Coliseum Convention Authority Board of Directors; Presidential Administrative Appointee to the US Department of the Treasury Bank Secrecy Advisory Group; Vice Chairman of the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission during my tenure as Commissioner; Chairman, NAACP Special Contribution Fund Board of Trustees, Past President, Founder and Board Member of the Charlotte Chapter of 100 Black Men, Inc.; Board Member of Central Carolina Urban League; National Alliance of Business Southeast Regional Board; Business Policy Review Council; Board of Directors, Carolinas Minority Supplier Development Council Inc.; Past President, Voorhees College National Alumni Association; member, National Urban Bankers Association; Southern Region Board of Directors, Boy Scouts of America; Barber-Scotia College Board of Visitors; Johnson C. Smith University Board of Visitors; Elizabeth City State University Board of Trustees; Florida Memorial College Board of Directors; South Carolina State University Foundations Board of Directors; and Spirit Square, Charlotte, NC, Board of Directors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in honoring Leonard F. Springs II, a personal friend and former employer, for his contributions to the business community, involvements in community revitalization, and overall public service. I sincerely thank Mr. Springs for the dedicated service he has provided to the citizens of South Carolina and the noteworthy contributions he has made to minority business development throughout the nation. I congratulate him on his recognition by the South Carolina Conference of Branches of the NAACP and wish him good luck and God-speed in all of his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE TONY MARTINEZ

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with regret and deep sadness that I rise to honor Tony Martinez, former constituent from Colton, California who passed away on October 4, 2001.

I cannot begin to express how saddened I am by the passing of my friend Tony Martinez. All men die, but not all men really live; we can honestly say that Tony lived. He was a model citizen, community leader, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and an extraordinary man.

Tony Martinez was born in Colton but lived in Redlands for most of his life. Tony was a remarkable example of humanity. He left high school at sixteen to start his own trucking company, and until the day he was drafted to fight in World War II, he hauled fertilizer, fruits, and vegetables from Mexicali to Los Angeles. When Tony returned from the war he moved to East Los Angeles, where he had his first taste of politics.

The California Community Service Organization was in its infancy and Ed Roybal, later to become Congressman and the father of Californian Latino politics, needed good men and women to help fight for Latino civil rights. Tony Martinez jumped headfirst and worked alongside the likes of Ed Roybal and Cesar Chavez to improve the lot in life of the average Latino. In the words of Congressman Ed Roybal, "Tony is a man of great integrity . . . active in community affairs." Tony and Ed knew each other for over forty years and held each other in the highest esteem.

Tony Martinez moved to Redlands in 1952 and since then became a fixture of the community. He worked hard every day to provide to his family and to improve his community. In 1973 he helped save the local Head Start program and soon after dedicated himself to the building of a community senior center. Tony was unyielding and unwavering in his dedication to this dream and his community. Tomorrow, the Redlands Community Center/Senior Nutrition Center will celebrate Tony's life to thank him for his selfless dedication. Although he was defeated three times for Redlands City Council, he never lost his faith in the community or the democratic process. In fact, he was one of the leading voices in a successful ballot measure to create city council wards, after the city council voted to eliminate them.

Thanksgiving is a time of the year for family unity and to thank the blessings God has given us. Predictably, Tony had his own way to thank God for all his blessings; his daughter Anita remembers, "I was seven years old and saw my dad dressed as Santa Claus taking pictures with the local kids and then he would make us all race over to the community center to hand out turkeys to poor families." If Tony was not busy showing the kids at the Boys and Girls Club to box, he was busy with his home-operated charity to fight poverty and hunger—Su Casa de Amistad. Not a single day was ever wasted. Tony used to say, "anyone staying in front of the TV drinking beer is not going to last on this world." Tony Martinez is proof that we can live life to the fullest until our last day. At the age of 82, until the day he died, he worked tirelessly for his community. We will all miss you.

Tony Martinez is survived by his wife Rosa Martinez, five children (Tony, Michael, Rebecca, Maria, and Anita), eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Tony is irreplaceable and we will not live one day without remembering this kind and gentle man.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE COUNTY OF OCONTO

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and honor Wisconsin's Oconto county one of the most naturally beautiful areas of our country. On November 4, the county will celebrate its 150th anniversary.

Oconto has a rich history of Menominee Indian, French and English settlers. The industry of Oconto through its early history changed from fur trading to lumber. In 1848, Wisconsin gained statehood, putting Oconto one step closer to formation. In 1850, census data showed that the region of Oconto held 415 residents. On November 4, 1851 the first election was held to found Oconto County, establishing the county seat in the small mill settlement of Oconto.

In the twentieth century, lumber companies were the largest businesses in the region producing more than 60 million board feet of lumber per year. This lumbering tradition exemplifies the hard working drive and dedication of the people of Oconto.

Through the years Oconto's business and commerce has increased due to the ingenuity and productivity of its citizens. From Oconto to Townsend, Lena to Lakewood, Gillett to Mountain and everywhere in between, we see those characteristics manifesting themselves in the people and progress in Oconto County. Today, educators, doctors, business owners, loggers, and state employees all make up a strong and vibrant Wisconsin community called Oconto.

On this sesquicentennial of the inception of Oconto County, I offer my congratulations to the county and its residents. Oconto is a true representation of our Wisconsin spirit and values in industry, business, and its people.

TRIBUTE TO ANNA MARIA ARIAS

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the memory of an exceptional woman, Anna Maria Arias. On Monday, October 1, 2001, Anna Maria lost a seven-year battle against aplastic anemia and passed away from complications related to a bone marrow transplant procedure at MD Anderson Medical Center in Houston, TX.

Anna Maria Arias was born on July 12, 1960 in San Bernardino, California. She attended San Diego State University but her passion for media and journalism eventually led her to Hawaii Pacific University where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in communications. When she was offered a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Fellowship to Washington, D.C. Anna Maria saw her opportunity. She accepted the CHCI fellowship and was assigned to the Washington, D.C. bureau of CNN where she became part of the production team at CNN's Crossfire program.

As the founder and president of Arias Communications, Anna Maria enjoyed a varied and

accomplished communications career. She worked as a radio news anchor, news-writer, and as a media and campaign organizer for presidential and local candidates at the Democratic National Committee. Anna Maria honed her publishing skills and earned the respect of her peers during her five years as managing editor for Hispanic Magazine. Her editorial direction and keen insight into the issues affecting the Hispanic community were instrumental in making the publication one of the most respected media vehicles in the Hispanic market.

In October of 1994, she launched a brand new, long awaited Hispanic publication and fittingly named it Latina Style Magazine. To this day, the magazine remains the only national publication that is one hundred percent Latina-owned. With a circulation of 150,000 and a readership of more than 600,000, Latina Style Magazine is the first national magazine that covers issues pertinent to the contemporary, professional, Hispanic working-woman from a Latina point of view.

Anna Maria wanted to make Latina Style Magazine not just a medium to express Latina society and culture, but also a source of valuable information to the Latina professional, business owner, and college student to help them succeed in their endeavors. Anna Maria's passion and commitment bore fruit when Latina Style Magazine was selected by the National Association of Hispanic Publications as the Outstanding English or Bilingual Magazine for 1999. During the same year, Anna Maria was honored by the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce with the 1999 Entrepreneur of the Year Award and by the Changing Images in America Foundation with the Entrepreneurship Award.

Everyone who knew Anna Maria will tell you that from her youth, she was one of the most dedicated individuals they had ever met. Once she set her sights on something, there was no stopping her. When family and friends asked why she was choosing to undergo the complicated bone marrow surgery, Anna Maria simply said, "I have to do this, we have important work to do and this thing keeps getting in the way." That was Anna Maria, totally devoted to her work and committed to serving others.

Last Sunday, I attended Anna Maria Arias' memorial mass at the Church of Guadalupe and her burial ceremony at Mt. View Cemetery, in San Bernardino, CA. Her husband Robert Bard and her mother Rita Valenzuela spoke of the tremendous courage and determination of one so young.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to please join me in honoring the life and achievements of a great Latina role model and leader, Anna Maria Arias. She has, by example, inspired generations of young Latinas to reach for their dreams. Her enthusiasm, her zest of life, her caring nature, and love for her family, friends and co-workers will never be forgotten. Anna Maria, amiga querida, dios te llamo y nos dejaste un gran vacio. Adios.

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY PERSONNEL EFFORTS ON SEPTEMBER 11

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of America's public safety and military personnel whose heroic actions at the Pentagon, the World Trade Center and the Pennsylvania site saved countless lives. As the Chairman of the House Armed Services Procurement Subcommittee and the founder of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, I know well the overwhelming situations our civilian and military responders faced. That they persevered in the face of this tragedy is a testament to the dedication of these public servants.

All of these personnel, whether local, state or federal, civilian or military, paid or volunteer, deserve the applause of this body. To highlight their combined efforts I wish to recognize three individuals. Their efforts represent the heroic actions of the thousands who responded to the calls for help on September 11 and throughout the days following the attack.

Volunteer firefighter/paramedic Eric Jones, Army Staff Sgt. Christopher Braman, and Marine Corps Major Dan Pantaleo were featured rescuing a Marine Corps flag from the burning Pentagon on the front pages of newspapers and magazines around the world. It is this image that will remain in our memories as a symbol of American patriotism, unity and strength.

In the days following the publication of their picture, they received many requests for press interviews. They declined each of these requests, because as true public servants, they neither expect nor desire any recognition for their efforts. What few know is that these individuals, through their countless acts of bravery, not only saved the flag, but also many Americans. At 9:40 A.M. on September 11 all three were called by destiny to perform heroic feats. As fire raged through the Pentagon, Mr. Jones, Staff Sgt. Braman, and Major Pantaleo rushed inside. These three men along with all the public safety and military personnel at the scene were responsible for rescuing hundreds of men and women injured by the explosion, the building collapse and burning jet fuel during the first minutes following the attack. After the injured had been saved, they remained on the site for many days to recover the bodies of those who perished.

I salute all Americans who answered the call for help on September 11. I am especially proud to highlight Eric, Christopher and Dan as examples of our public safety and military personnel whose contributions saved thousands from succumbing to the consequences of these terrorist attacks.

THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION THAT WILL AMEND THE TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT

HON. ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of legislation that will amend the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century ("TEA-21") (Pub. L. 105-178) to provide states with flexibility in complying with the minimum penalties for repeat offenders for driving while intoxicated or driving while under the influence (23 U.S.C. § 164). The bill I am sponsoring is based upon recommendations made by the National Association of Governors' Highway and Safety Representatives in their report entitled "Taking the Temperature of TEA-21: An Evaluation and Prescription for Safety."

Under current federal law, the definition of a "repeat intoxicated driver law" includes a 1-year "hard" suspension of the repeat offender's driver's license; impoundment or installation of an ignition interlock system of the individual's motor vehicles; an assessment of the individual's alcohol abuse and treatment; and community service and imprisonment (23 U.S.C. § 164(a)(5)). If a state does not enact a repeat intoxicated driver law compliant with § 164(a)(5), the Department of Transportation transfers 1.5 percent of funds under § 104(b) to § 402.

In my view, there are two reasons why Congress should improve the current law. First, a 1-year "hard" suspension, in many cases, does not sufficiently deter repeat drunk drivers from driving under the influence. While a 1-year suspension looks good on paper, statistics, sting operations, and just plain common-sense reflect the notion that suspended drivers continue to drive illegally on our roads. For example, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that 70 percent of individuals with revoked licenses continue to drive. Second, transferring funds from one transportation account to another may motivate some states to adopt new laws; however, the overall experience since TEA-21 enactment is that many states simply find ways to shift funds within their own accounts.

Accordingly, I am introducing legislation that will require states to continue to enact a 1-year "hard" suspension; however, the suspension may be modified if states mandate the use of an ignition interlock system. My own state of Maryland has proven this policy to be an effective tool in the fight against drunk driving. Further, this legislation reflects my philosophy of providing states with flexibility over laws of public safety.

I encourage all members to join with me in supporting this legislation.

"IN HONOR OF MICHELE KRAGAN BALABAN"

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michele Kragan Balaban for her long