

Or course, it is people, not buildings, that really form a community, and the people of Allen have been clearly successful in that regard. Without local family heroes—the Breretons, the Allens, the Pollitts, the Messicks, the Huffingtons, the Twilleys, the Polks, the Duttons, the Fileds, and the Malones, to name but a few—Allen surely couldn't have survived its 300 years.

The people of Allen not only helped to develop a thriving village, but also shared their talents with greater Maryland. From within Allen's boundaries have grown community and regional leaders, sports heroes, and successful business entrepreneurs; Allen's people have served Maryland for centuries. In fact, Allen's citizens began establishing and building a community before the birth of the United States.

Allen is a true American village. It represents community, tradition, heritage and permanence. Peppered with historic buildings, Allen's pride in its history is evident, a history I honor today. Allen, however, is much more than its history; it is a thriving residential village with strong leadership and an active community. Contributing to the strength of Allen's community spirit are the Lion's Club, a Volunteer Fire Company, the Historical Society and the Asbury and Friendship United Methodist Churches. These organizations preserve history while moving Allen forward into its third century.

Allen is certainly one of Maryland's hidden treasures, so please join me in recognizing and celebrating the history of Maryland's charming Village of Allen in this, its 300th year.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS HISPANIC RECOGNITION AWARDS

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 26, 2002*

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, on July 26, the Southeastern Massachusetts Hispanic Recognition Awards Committee, Incorporated will hold their third annual award ceremony. I am delighted to extend my congratulations to committee chairman Emilio Cruz, co-chair Johnny Arellano, and committee members Jose Perez, Carlos Arellano and Jose Rodriguez, Bernice Diaz, Reubeca Rivera, Glenda Izaguirre and Gladys Medina.

Hispanic Recognition Awards are given to people who have worked for the betterment of the Hispanic population in Southeastern Massachusetts, in ways that benefit not simply those in the Hispanic community, but the broader community of which they are an integral part. America—and Southeastern Massachusetts—benefit enormously from the various cultures which come together to form our nation, simultaneously unifying on important national concerns, and contributing culturally, socially and economically through the preservation of their various heritages within this unified national framework. The Hispanic community is growing in numbers in Southeastern Massachusetts, and is taking its place along other ethnic communities that have contributed so much to our area. I am delighted to extend

recognition to the winners of this year's awards. They are:

Mr. Luis Bayanilla—For his outstanding work and support to the Latino Community of Southeastern Massachusetts.

Ms. Abigail Ramirez—For her outstanding work and support to the Latino Community of Southeastern Massachusetts.

Mr. Angel Urena—For his outstanding work and support to the Latino Community of Southeastern Massachusetts.

Festival Herencia Hispana, Inc.—For their efforts in keeping the Latino Culture alive in Southeastern Massachusetts.

Ms. Aracelys Rodriguez—For her efforts and support to the Latino Community and her dedicated work as an education professional.

Ms. Norma Collazo Porcha—For her efforts and support to the Latino Community and her dedicated work as an education professional.

Mr. Adrian C. Pina—For his dedicated work as a role model and achievement as a College Student.

Kids Against Drugs—For their efforts in providing education to the New Bedford Community about drugs and their dedication to philanthropic causes.

Dennison Memorial—For their commitment and support to the Latino Community and the Community at large of New Bedford, Massachusetts.

Boys and Girls Club—For their commitment and support of the Latino Community and the community at large of New Bedford, Massachusetts.

Mr. Raymond Patnaude—For his support to the Latino Community of New Bedford, Massachusetts.

Dr. Alvaro Lopez—For his support to the Latino Community and his expertise in the medical field.

Mr. Dennis Halls—For his support and commitment to the Latino Community.

Rev. Hector Correa—For his years of service and commitment to the Latino Community.

Ms. Bernice Diaz—For her support and dedication to the Latino Community of New Bedford.

Mr. Speaker I believe that both the award recipients and the committee that has pulled this event together deserve our thanks for their hard work on behalf of the best of American ideals. And I have chosen to share this with my colleagues because I believe it is such an excellent example of how a community can deal with both the challenge and promise of diversity.

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IN HONOR OF THE MOSES AND AARON FOUNDATION

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 26, 2002*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Moses and Aaron Foundation for its commitment to special children and their families. I recognize with gratitude the Foundation's significant and enduring humanitarian efforts and applaud all those who have given of themselves to fulfill its mission.

The Moses and Aaron Foundation "Special Fund for Children" is dedicated to assisting children with disabilities and their families with a wide range of programs including social,

physical, financial and wheelchair assistance, as well as counseling and guidance.

It also provides scholarship funding to educational institutions, collects, purchases, and distributes clothing for children in need, and remembers them with presents at holiday time or when they are hospitalized. This past year, the Foundation provided hundred of toys to the children of New York City's Police and Fire Department's fallen heroes.

In cooperation with Bally Fitness Centers and under the direction of its President Rabbi Yaacov Kaploun, and Executive Vice President Yehuda Kaploun, the Foundation has been able to establish 22 physical fitness and therapy centers and has arranged for sound and musical equipment in other institutions.

In conjunction with Downtown Film Productions, The Moses and Aaron Foundation produced "Chazak—A Testament of Strength", an award winning documentary highlighting the effect of music on special children. This monumental documentary serves as a vehicle to sensitize and educate the entire community on the needs of its special and outstanding citizens.

On Saturday night, July 20, 2002 at the Monticello Raceway in Monticello, New York, the Moses and Aaron Foundation under the Honorary Chairmanship of Nobel Laureate Eli Weisel, will sponsor its sixth Summer "Chazak—Strength" Concert paying tribute to special children. The guests of honor will be the special children, some of whom will perform with the entertainers on stage. A tribute will also be held in memory of the fallen heroes of the September 11th attack on the World Trade Center.

The corporate and individual sponsors of the Moses and Aaron Foundation include Mr. David Buntzman, Mr. Jonathan Fleisig, Mr. Robert Gans, Mrs. Richard Gans, Mr. Avi and Dr. Laura Greenbaum, Mr. and Mrs. David Hirsch, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Rennert, Mr. Charles Rosenay, Dr. Steven Stowe, and Mr. Eli Rothman. I recognize the late Phyllis Cohen for her support of the Foundation, contributing to the improvement in the quality of life of special children.

I also recognize the support given to the Moses and Aaron Foundation by Steve and Shirley Slesinger, who have brought happiness and smiles to the faces of millions of America's youth by bringing Winnie the Pooh and other characters to the screen and printed world, with particular credit to Shirley Slesinger Lasswell for creating and cultivating one of the best loved bear in history.

The Moses and Aaron Foundation was founded in memory of Rabbi Dr. Maurice I. Hecht and Aaron Kaploun, both of whom led lives of exemplary community service. It is in this sentiment of communal dedication that the Moses and Aaron Foundation has devoted itself to serving the needs of a unique group in the community.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the Moses and Aaron Foundation. Their work has truly made a difference in the lives of thousands.

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN CALIFORNIA AND MATSUYAMA, JAPAN

### HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2002

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, for over twenty years the City of Sacramento, California and Matsuyama, Japan have shared a special relationship as sister cities. This partnership has given birth to cultural exchanges that have enriched the lives of the residents in both cities. A new art exhibition that will be unveiled on July 6, 2002, is a testimony to this ongoing relationship.

The Miura Museum of Art in Matsuyama will unveil the "Serene Beauty: Lucie Rie Retrospective" exhibit to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the artist's birth. The exhibit features the work of Lucie Rie, one of the most outstanding potters of the 20th-century and a major influence on the world of ceramic art. The exhibit of Lucie Rie's exceptional ceramic work at the Miura Museum of Art in Matsuyama is only the second showing of her work in Japan.

This exhibit would have not been possible without the partnership with Sacramento residents who loaned the museum a large portion of the exhibit that will be displayed. Additionally, the museum has invited residents of Sacramento to participate in the exhibit opening and panel discussion honoring Lucie Rie and her passion for creating ceramic art.

I would like to commend each of participants who have loaned pieces from their collection in order to share their appreciation of art with the residents of Japan. The sister city partnership has developed into a friendship which complements the diverse background of the residents of Sacramento and Matsuyama and I look forward to the continued exchange of cultural treasures between our two cities.

HONORING RUFINA A. HERNANDEZ, ESQ.

### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2002

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the splendid efforts and notable accomplishments of an extraordinary woman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize this outstanding community leader for her exceptional record of civic leadership and invaluable service. It is to commend this outstanding citizen that I rise to honor Rufina A. Hernandez, Esq.

Ms. Hernandez has amassed a distinguished record of leadership and service to our community. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from the University of New Mexico and her Juris Doctorate from the Georgetown University Law Center. Ms. Hernandez practiced law for eight years at the Legal Aid Society of Denver specializing in Family Law, Public Utility Regulation and Consumer Protection. She served as the Executive Director of the State Bar of New Mexico and was previously the Assistant Dean for

Student Affairs at the University of Denver College of Law.

Presently, Ms. Hernandez is the Executive Director of the Latin American Research and Service Agency (LARASA), a preeminent community based non-profit organization dedicated to improving the health, education and self sufficiency of Colorado's Latino community. Under her leadership, LARASA has made a tremendous impact on our city and state by increasing awareness about issues affecting the Latino community and developing effective public policies and programs to address those issues. Ms. Hernandez has been a powerful advocate for change. Through her leadership, LARASA continues to bring tangible benefits to our community through the Center for Community and Behavioral Health, Centro de la Familia—the Latino Public Policy Center, the Data Resource Center and through the Proyecto Educar and Amigos de la Comunidad programs that increase cultural competency and Latino involvement in our schools.

Ms. Hernandez serves on the National Center for Law and Education Board of Directors, the Women's Lobby Board, the Colorado Association of Non Profit Organizations, the Child Health Advocates Board of Directors and the Governor's Utility Consumer Advisory Board. She co-chairs the Latino Jewish Coalition and the Latino Campaign for Education and also serves on the Mayor's Latino Advisory Council.

It comes as no surprise that Ms. Hernandez' commitment and service has earned her several awards including the American Jewish Committee Professional Award, the National Council of LARASA Special Advocacy Award, the American Jurisprudence Award for Academic Achievement, and the University of Denver Outstanding Staff Award.

While we are saddened that Ms. Hernandez will be leaving our community for a position with the National Education Association, I am confident that her leadership, skill and experience will be of great benefit to the cause of public education in our country.

Please join me in commending Rufina Hernandez, Esq. It is the strong leadership she exhibits on a daily basis that continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all Americans.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF TONY AND MURIEL MANSOUR

### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2002

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two dear friends, Tony and Muriel Mansour, who will join with family and friends this Saturday, June 29th to celebrate their fifty years of marriage. My wife, Gayle, and I want to add our congratulations to Tony and Muriel on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

I have known the Mansour family since I was growing up on the east side of Flint, Michigan. The Mansour's lived one street over from the Kildee's, and the Mansour and Kildee children played together.

Mr. Speaker, both Tony and Muriel have been active members of our community in the

City of Flint and Genesee County for many years. Tony was a distinguished attorney for many years before being elected Genesee County Circuit Judge in 1968. He served with great distinction until he retired from the bench. In addition to resuming his successful law practice, Tony has been active in the Flint Rotary Club, being elected Club President in 1996. Tony is a past President of the Men's Club at Flint Holy Rosary Catholic Church and of the Knights of Columbus in Davison, Michigan. Tony has also been a leader in Flint's large and diverse Arab-American community, helping to found the Arab-American Heritage Council.

Muriel has been active in her own right. She has served as president of Heartbeat of Flint, as well as president of the Flint chapter of the American Business Women's Association. Muriel has also served on numerous community organization boards including the Children's Museum of Flint, the Catholic Social Services, the Genesee County Bar Auxiliary, the Flint Osteopathic Hospital Auxiliary, and Allegro (the volunteers for the Flint Institute of Music). For the past eight years, Muriel has worked as a volunteer at the Genesee-Lapeer Chapter of the Red Cross.

Mr. Speaker, the City of Flint and Genesee County is a much better place in which to live due to the efforts of Tony and Muriel Mansour. Gayle and I value them as dear friends and wish them well on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary.

A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT WUSSLER FOR 19 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE RED CROSS

### HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2002

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to commend Robert Wussler for his 19 years of public service with the San Bernardino County Chapter of the American Red Cross. Under his leadership, the Red Cross chapter has quadrupled its budget and modernized its efforts to better serve the citizens of the Inland Empire.

Mr. Wussler began his tenure in 1983 as the accountant for the chapter in San Bernardino County, which is the main population center of my home district. After serving in that capacity for seven years, he became the chief executive officer of the newly created Inland Empire Chapter in 1990.

Since that time, the chapter has grown its budget from \$300,000 to more than \$1.2 million, and increased its staff from seven to 15 professional employees. At the same time, he has reduced the chapter's dependency on United Way funding from 83 percent in the 1980s to 5 percent today. The chapter is now computerized, centralized and very well organized, thanks to Mr. Wussler's efforts. It recently received a \$1 million gift from a special donor.

The improvement of the San Bernardino Chapter under Mr. Wussler's direction was recognized by the American Red Cross headquarters. Two decades ago, the chapter was considered near the bottom among chapters across the country. It is now ranked among the 100 best of 1,125 nationally. Mr. Wussler