

The 4-H program began as a series of clubs for boys and girls in rural America. The 4-H taught young people a variety of skills related to farming by using a learning-by-doing strategy. The program has grown tremendously in scope and today encompasses a broad range of subjects, but hands-on learning remains at the center of the 4-H.

Another constant for the 4-H is the organization's continued commitment to the 4-H's in its name—Head, Heart, Hands and Health. For 100 years this organization has provided opportunities for thousands of young people in my district and my state and to millions across the country. The 4-H teaches young people the importance of learning, kindness, a healthy lifestyle and helping one's neighbors. Those are great characteristics to instill in our young people.

In my state of Connecticut, New London County's 4-H camp was founded in 1947 on 24.5 acres, in Franklin, as an education and recreational facility. The camp is open to any and all youth ages 16 to 17, and campers do not have to be members of the 4-H to attend. The camp provides these young people with an experience in group living in the great outdoors. Through a wide variety of activities that focus on self-development, environmental awareness and a concern for safety and health, campers develop a greater understanding of themselves, others and the world around them.

The Middlesex County 4-H camp was established in 1962, on 90 acres in Moodus. This educational/recreational facility offers a mixture of traditional camping and innovative programs for young people. A variety of camp sessions offer programs for children between the ages of 7 and 14 and a Teen Camp is available for youths ages 13 to 16. From traditional sports to horsemanship to archery and creative arts, the camp achieves its mission to strengthen and uplift the youth's social, mental and physical development.

The Windham-Tolland 4-H camp has served families since 1954. Located in Pomfret Center, the camp's 270 acres contains woodlands, cabins, recreational areas and a beautiful lake. Campers enjoy a variety of sports, arts and crafts, woodworking, canoeing and campouts. Like all 4-H camps, the staff at Windham-Tolland focuses on fostering leadership skills, enhancing self-esteem and increasing each camper's individual potential.

In Connecticut, and across our nation, the 4-H continues to exemplify the very best of our youth and of America. I am pleased to wish them a Happy 100th Birthday.

TRIBUTE TO THE JET PROPULSION LABORATORY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to honor the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, located in California's 27th Congressional District, and pay tribute to for the enormous success of the Voyager Mission. On September 7, 2002, JPL will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Voyager Mission—one of America's most successful space exploration endeavors.

In the summer of 1977, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory launched twin spacecrafts, Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 on a mission to conduct close-up studies of Jupiter and Saturn, Saturn's rings and the larger moons of the two planets. In order to accomplish this mission, the spacecraft were built to last five years, but as the mission went on, and with the successful achievement of all of its objectives, the additional studies of the two outermost giant planets, Uranus and Neptune, proved possible. Thus, their two planet mission became four and their five year lifetime expectancy has stretched to 25 years and more.

At the final completion of their mission, Voyager 1 and 2 will have explored all the giant outer planets of our solar system, 48 of their moons, and the unique systems of rings and magnetic fields those planets possess. Currently, the two Voyagers are headed towards the outer boundary of the solar system at a speed that would move them from New York to Los Angeles in less than four minutes. They are in search of the heliopause—the region where the Sun's influence gives way to interstellar space. The heliopause has never been reached by any spacecraft; the Voyagers may be the first to pass through this region, which is thought to exist somewhere from 5 to 14 billion miles from the Sun.

The accomplishments of the Voyager Mission are a testament to 25 years of excellence by the staff at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. From the scientists that worked on the mission in 1977 to today's mission specialists, JPL staff has shepherded Voyager to the farthest reaches of our solar system and in the process Voyager has unlocked mysteries that have revolutionized the science of planetary astronomy.

I ask all Members to please join me in congratulating the Jet Propulsion Laboratory on the 25th Anniversary of the Voyager Mission. It stands as a shining example of American ingenuity and our commitment to exploring and understanding the far reaches of our solar system.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE DURINKA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of George "Bullwinkle" Durinka, for his outstanding service to our country both as a soldier and as a veteran. For the 2002–2003 year, Mr. Durinka has been selected to be the State of Ohio Commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Mr. Durinka joined the V.F.W. in 1968 following subsequent tours in Vietnam from 1968 to 1970. While overseas, he demonstrated his patriotism by earning, among others, the Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the National Defense Medal, for his honorable service as a fuel specialist in the US Air Force.

Currently serving his post as Judge Advocate of the Lake Erie VFW Post 1974, from 1990 to 1994, Mr. Durinka was elected Post Commander and was named an All-State Post Commander. In 1995, he was elected District 7 Commander, serving as the Athlete-of-the-year Chairman, the POW/MIA chairman, and

the Color Guard. At the national level, Mr. Durinka has served as a member of the National VFW MIA/POW Committee, the National Veterans Service Resolutions Committee, the National Youth Development and Recognition Committee, and the National Veterans Employment Committee.

Outside of the V.F.W., Mr. Durinka is employed by J.G.D. Associates, working as a civil engineering draftsman. Mr. Durinka enjoys training in the Martial Arts. Author of a 1985 Martial Arts book, and since 1979 the Chief Martial Arts instructor for the Western Campus of the Cuyahoga Community College, Mr. Durinka is a 4th Degree blackbelt in Tae-Kwan-Do. A family man, Mr. Durinka has the full support of his wonderful wife Judy, and the love of his two daughters, Kelly and Michelle.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in tribute to George Durinka for his exemplary record of service, and for his unrivaled dedication to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, May his upcoming opportunity to serve as State Commander prove to be an incredible and memorable part of his career serving the both the V.F.W. and America in general.

HONORING SRI LANKA PRIME MINISTER RANIL WICKREMESINGHE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to express my warm regards towards the Honorable Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka. His visit this week to the United States, the first visit by a Sri Lankan leader since a civil war broke out 19 years ago, confirmed that Sri Lanka is a valued friend and partner of the United States and an important ally in the campaign against international terrorism. The United States and Sri Lanka have enjoyed a strong friendship based on common values such as democracy and religious freedom.

For the past 19 years, there has been civil strife between the Government of Sri Lanka and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) that has unfortunately cost an estimated 65,000 lives and displaced an estimated 1,000,000 lives. In a breakthrough brokered by Norway, the Government of Sri Lanka and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), an agreement on a cease-fire was signed by both parties and went into effect February 23, 2002.

These peace talks are set to begin in August in Thailand and at this time, I would like to commend the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka for his great effort to steer his country towards peace talks and for working on resolving the current conflict at the negotiating table with LTTE leader, Velupillai Prabhakaran. I applaud the Prime Minister's belief that a comprehensive and lasting peace solution is a priority and I support his denunciation of all political violence and acts of terrorism in Sri Lanka.

During talks this week between President Bush and Prime Minister Wickremesinghe, the Prime Minister emphasized that consistent U.S. diplomacy and international assistance will be critical in ensuring peace in Sri Lanka. In addition, the Prime Minister requested expansion of a military training program and improved economic ties between the U.S. and Sri Lanka.

As the founder and co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Sri Lanka and Sri Lankan Americans, I would like to express my willingness for the U.S. to play a constructive role in supporting the peace process. In addition, I plan to encourage the Bush administration to take the steps necessary to support Sri Lanka during the peace process and to take the steps necessary to strengthen ties between the U.S. and Sri Lanka.

Mr. Speaker, I am encouraged by the leadership and dedication to peace so clearly exemplified by Prime Minister Wickremesinghe. I am pleased that his visit to the U.S. was a success and it is now time for the U.S. to proceed and actively support peace and reparation in Sri Lanka.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to show my strong support for National Night Out. This year, over 30 million people in 9,700 communities in all 50 states will celebrate National Night Out. Each year, National Night Out is our nation's night to say no to crime and help take back and preserve the safety of our neighborhoods.

In 1984, the Executive Director of The National Association of Town Watch, Matt A. Peskin, introduced National Night Out. Searching for a way to heighten the awareness and strengthen participation in local anti-crime efforts, Mr. Peskin believed that a high profile, high-impact crime prevention event was needed.

In the first year of the event, over 2.5 million Americans in 400 communities across 32 states participated by turning on their porch lights. Today, while the front porch vigil remains a custom, National Night Out now includes block parties, cookouts, parades, festivals, neighborhood walks, safety fairs, rallies and safety meetings. This year's event will prove to be a bigger success than ever and I am pleased to announce that many of the communities of California's 27th Congressional District will be proud participants.

The communities of my district will call on their residents to participate in this national show of solidarity. Whether it is through large gatherings, community walks, small neighborhood vigils or a lighted porch light, the residents of the 27th District have always made a commitment to safe neighborhoods and streets.

Such an evening proves an opportune time to celebrate and thank our local police and fire departments. The men and women of these departments spend each day helping to ensure our safety and it is only with their help that we will be able to ensure the long-term safety of our children and our neighborhoods. On this night in particular, they deserve our respect and our praise for their dedication to serving all of us.

It is with all this in mind, that I ask all Members to join me in their strong support of National Night Out—America's night to support safe neighborhoods and safe communities.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF TEN YEARS OF INCORPORATION FOR THE TOWN OF AWENDAW, SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, small towns are God's little wonders and today I would like to recognize the small town of Awendaw in my district. Awendaw is known as the "land of the Seewee Indians." It has a rich history that included a visit from the 1st President of the United States, George Washington while on a southern tour in 1791. During the 16th century, records show four Indian tribes that inhabited the land—the Samp, Santee, Seewee and the Wando. Agriculture was their way of life. In 1670, English colonists came to South Carolina at Port Royal in Beaufort. They traveled down the coast until they sighted what is now called Bull's Bay. They were captivated by the beauty of the unspoiled beaches, tall trees and dense forest. As the colonists approached the shore, Indians were waiting with bows and arrows. But the crew yelled out an Indian calling "Appada" meaning peace and the Indians withdrew their bows and welcomed them to shore. The Indians shared their food and the English colonists gave them goods such as, knives, beads and tobacco. Auendaugh-bough was the name of the settlement when the English colonists arrived but the name was later shortened to Awendaw.

Awendaw is a special place. The arms of nature surrounds it and radiates its beauty. The Cape Romain Wildlife Refuge, the Francis Marion Forest and the Santee Coastal reserve create a natural wall of protection around the area. Hunting and fishing are still a means of getting food just as it was for the Seewee Indians.

The Churches of the Awendaw community are a "testimony of their faith." The Ocean Grove (formerly Pine Grove), Mt. Nebo A.M.E., Ocean Grove United Methodists and First Seewee Missionary Baptist are all historical churches that play a significant role in the lives of the people who live there.

In November 1988, the people of Awendaw began its fight to become a town. For four years, the people gathered once a month at the Old Porcher Elementary School to plan, organize and share information with the people. There were many hurdles set before the people of Awendaw by the Justice Department. In 1989, Hurricane Hugo interrupted the process, but it was resumed in 1990. The Awendaw community made two unsuccessful attempts to incorporate. Finally, after the third try, the Secretary of State granted a certificate of Incorporation on May 15, 1992. On August 18, 1992, the town of Awendaw elected its first mayor the Rev. William H. Alston. The first town council were Mrs. Jewel Cohen, Mrs. Miriam Green, the Rev. Bryant McNeal and Mr. Lewis Porcher (deceased).

This year the town of Awendaw will celebrate ten years of incorporation. The town has grown from 175 to over 1000 in population. Over the last seven years, the town of Awendaw has become famous for its annual Blue Crab Festival. This grand celebration brings thousands of people from neighboring communities to share in the festivities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues would join me in a salute to one of God's little wonders, the Town of Awendaw, South Carolina. "Thank God for small towns and the people who live in them."

PROJECT VARELA

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to once again draw attention to important developments in Fidel Castro's continued oppression of the Cuban people.

Needless to say, this summer has proved to be a memorable one for Fidel Castro.

It began on Friday, May 10, when over 11,000 citizens of Cuba took a courageous stand and petitioned the Cuban National Assembly to hold a nationwide referendum vote on guarantees of human rights and civil liberties. Named for the 19th-century priest and Cuban independence hero, Padre Felix Varela, the Varela Project was the first-ever peaceful challenge to Castro's four-decade long control of the island. Varela received no funding or support from foreign organizations or foreign governments and is a grassroots effort by the Cuban people to call on their government to provide them with internationally accepted standards of human and civil rights.

In an attempt to negate the effects of Varela, Castro scrambled to respond. Exactly one month to the day that Varela was delivered to the Assembly, Castro and his regime organized mass demonstrations all over Cuba in a sign of so called "support" for Cuba's socialist form of government. Castro began his own petition effort that asks members of the Cuban National Assembly to adopt an amendment to the Cuban constitution that stipulates that Cuba is a "socialist state of workers, independent and sovereign, organized with all and for the good of all, as a unified democratic republic, for the enjoyment of political liberty, social justice, individual and collective well-being and human solidarity." Castro has supposedly "obtained" the signatures of approximately 98% of Cuba's voting population.

However, Castro's poorly veiled attempt to erase the impact of the Varela Project has only backfired. As we near the middle of summer, Castro continues to strong-arm Cuban citizens into signing his petition, and word of the Varela Project continues to spread. Oswaldo Paya, Varela's organizer, continues to collect signatures and continues to garner the world's attention for his efforts.

It is critical that we continue to draw attention to and commend the efforts of Paya, his fellow organizers and all those who have signed Project Varela. Castro cannot continue to hide behind his forced petition and continue to ignore Project Varela. If Castro is so assured of his having the support of the Cuban people, then he must schedule a referendum on Varela's reforms and allow the true voices of the Cuban people to be heard.