

the studio to record an album, "Regalo de Alma," that is due for release Aug. 5 on Sony Discos. That same month, her 2002 album, "La Negra Tiene Tumbao," won the Grammy Award for best salsa album. In March, the Telemundo network broadcast a live concert tribute to Ms. Cruz, in which she performed alongside other Latin stars, including Marc Anthony, to raise money for the Celia Cruz Foundation for Hispanic students to study music. It will give its first five grants on her birthday this year, Oct. 21.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TOM
HARTNEY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and memory of a dedicated community member in my state, Tom Hartney of Durango, Colorado. Tom passed away recently at the age of 72 and as his family mourns their loss, I would like to take this moment to pay tribute to his life and accomplishments here today.

Tom grew up in the Midwest, graduating from Northwestern University in Illinois. He married his wife Shelly in 1956 and they began their life together in Michigan. The couple eventually moved to Durango in 1979 and fell in love with their new surroundings. Tom became involved in the Durango Community, beginning with his membership in the local Rotary Club. He spent his time raising and contributing money to the college scholarship fund, and serving as the club historian. When not helping the Rotary Club, Tom helped the community youth by coaching in the Babe Ruth Baseball League. Tom provided his players with a role model, as a coach they could look up to and admire.

One of Tom's greatest contributions was the time he spent serving on the Durango School Board. Tom served there for five years, spending one year as its President. Even after his retirement, Tom stayed involved with the school system, spending time consulting and advising the new members and committees.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Tom Hartney. Tom was a solid contributor to his community and his nation, and I am grateful for his service. My thoughts and prayers go out to Tom's family and friends during their time of loss.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, H.R. 2673:

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my concern about proposed cuts to

conservation, energy, rural development and research program funding in this year's Agriculture Appropriations Bill. I realize this year has been especially difficult in light of the need for funding cuts. However, there are a number of programs that I feel are critical, including the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Conservation Security Program, the Wetland Reserve Program, and the Renewable Energy Systems, Energy Efficiency Grants and Value-Added Agricultural Product Market Development Grant Programs.

Passage of the 2002 Farm Bill was a bipartisan victory for conservation, renewable energy and rural America. It contained landmark conservation, renewable energy, research, and rural development programs. The bill authorized nearly \$3 billion for USDA conservation programs in FY 2004, including for funding for working lands incentives programs like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Conservation Security Program. However, the FY 2004 Agriculture Appropriations Bill would reduce these critical programs.

By providing funding for working lands programs like EQIP and CSP in the 2002 Farm Bill, Congress dramatically increased funds to help farmers manage working lands to produce food, while also enhancing water quality and wildlife habitat. EQIP shares the cost of a broad range of land management practices that help the environment, includes more efficient use of fertilizers and pesticides, and promotes innovative technologies for manure management. CSP is a new program that will link conservation payments to gradually increasing levels of performance. Overall, these programs will provide farmers the tools and incentives they need to meet major environmental challenges.

In addition, farmers have offered to restore more than 600,000 acres of lost wetlands by enrolling farmland into the Wetlands Reserve Program and restoring them. The Agriculture Appropriations Bill proposes to cut, rather than increase, funding for the Wetlands Reserve Program, which provides perpetual easements on farmland land and wetland restoration funds, this significantly reducing the benefits of the program.

The Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Improvements Program [(Sec. 9006) of the Energy Title] and the Value-Added Agricultural Market Product Development Grants Program [(Sec. 6401) of the Rural Development Title] were designed to spur the growth of renewable energy within the agricultural sector. Unfortunately, the House Appropriations Agriculture bill eliminates mandatory spending for both programs.

Congress provided \$23 million a year in mandatory funds under section 9006 of the Farm Bill to provide grants, loans, and loan guarantees to farmers, ranchers, and rural small businesses for the development of renewable energy projects and energy efficiency improvements. Sec. 9006 will help farmers save money by lowering their energy costs through efficiency improvements, and by enabling them to produce some of their own on-farm power. It also provides farmers the seed money needed to develop and market their renewable energy resources. This funding was embraced by the administration and both houses of Congress. However, today's bill only provides only \$3 million in discretionary funding for section 9006.

The Value-Added Agricultural Product Market Development Grant program, under Sec.

6401 of the Farm Bill, provided \$40 million a year in mandatory funding. The program was created to spur development of new uses for agricultural products, and the 2002 Farm Bill amended the program to include renewable energy. [The House Agriculture Appropriations Bill only provides \$13 million in discretionary funding for Rural Cooperative Development Grants. Of this amount \$4,000,000 is for value-added market development grants.]

Empowering America's farmers to produce clean, renewable energy is critical if we ever hope to achieve energy independence. By integrating renewable energy development initiatives throughout the Farm Bill, America's farmers can receive the support they need to develop their renewable energy resources, including bioenergy, wind, solar, and geothermal.

The environmental and geopolitical risks associated with continued dependence on foreign oil are simply unsustainable. Dependence on fossil fuels has affected public health and our environment and unnecessarily diverted American dollars abroad when they could be kept at home. Long term, the United States must develop realistic alternatives to dependence on fossil fuels and these funds will enable us to begin sooner rather than later. American farmers are fully capable of and want to become part of a long-term solution to ending this harmful dependence. And, they can do so knowing that renewable energy production represents new income streams for their farms.

Protecting funding for projects like those listed above is crucial because they represent a first step toward enlisting the help of the agricultural sector in a quest toward energy independence. I hope that as we complete the FY 2004 appropriations process we can enhance the funding for these innovative programs.

A TRIBUTE TO CELIA CRUZ

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today, the Latin music world mourns the passing of "The Queen of Salsa", "La Reina de la Salsa", Celia Cruz, who passed away 43 years and one day after she left her homeland, Cuba, for the United States. I am honored to recall how Celia Cruz, the world-renowned performer, and I crossed paths at different moments. She sang at my first victory party, celebrating my win as the first Cuban-American woman to win a seat in Congress in a special election in 1989. She accompanied me to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, when I went to visit the Cuban rafters detained on our base, to see for myself their living conditions and physical well-being. I will never forget how she kissed the ground when our plane landed and how she sang that day to the Cubans held there with the passion and love of a true native who has been presented the chance of standing on her native soil, even though poignantly, it was on our base, after so many years. She was also a friend to the Republican Party, performing at the 2000 Republican convention in Philadelphia, where President George W. Bush accepted the nomination to the presidency.

In her long career, Celia Cruz never forgot the country of her birth, evoking Cuba in every performance, but never returning to her homeland. She was a political exile who never returned to Cuba, not even when her father died, denied entry by Fidel Castro, who was still angry at her defection many years before. When Fidel Castro came to power in 1959, Celia was the lead singer of La Sonora Matancera, Cuba's most popular orchestra. The group headlined Havana's world-famous Tropicana nightclub and casino and toured the United States and Central and South America. La Sonora Matancera's fame and frequent tours provided them an escape route, by pretending they were going on another tour, never returning to Cuba.

I am honored to be here today to talk about a music legend. She recorded more than 70 albums, many of them gold and platinum records, and received twelve Grammy nominations, winning for the first time in 1989. Celia was honored with stars and street sections in some of the most well-known avenues of the world. Hollywood gave her a star on the Walk of Fame in 1987. Miami's Calle Ocho was named "Celia Cruz Way" and presented her with a star, an honor she has received in other cities such as San José, Costa Rica and the Plaza Galería in Mexico City, Mexico. She received many awards and distinctions, which include a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Smithsonian Institution, the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the Hispanic Heritage Awards, and in 1994, she received in the White House the highest honor the United States can bestow on an artist: the National Endowment for the Arts.

Celia Cruz was a musical icon that made Cuban music known beyond our national borders while touching different generations. Lovers of Latin music worldwide embraced her style and boundless energy on the stage as they enjoyed her contagious music and rhythms. For the Cuban American exile community, she was the link between young Cuban Americans and their parents' generation, making Cuba a reality to the younger generation by providing them with the music that entertained their parents and their grandparents.

Celia's fondest dream never became a reality: the opportunity of returning to a free and democratic Cuba. This woman who sang for presidents and heads of state worldwide simply wanted to return one day to the country she had known. She hoped to one day perform again in the land of her birth, and to utter her signature catch phrase "Azucar" to her fellow Cubans. She left us before her dream became a reality, but I say "Azucar" in her honor and in her memory.

Celia, I know that you can hear us this evening. We love you and your music will continue to live in our hearts. We will never forget you. I promise you, Celia, that I will continue to work tirelessly in the U.S. Congress for your dream of a free and democratic Cuba. At that time, the Cuban people will once again be able to enjoy your music filled with rich, Cuban rhythms and Afro beats "en libertad"—in freedom. May you rest in peace, Celia!

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EDWARD
ATENCIO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to recognize the devoted service that Edward Atencio has provided to the students of his hometown in San Luis, Colorado. Edward is retiring from Centennial High School after having served as Athletic Director for the last 31 years. I commend him for the positive impact that he has had upon so many young individuals in my district.

Edward moved to the San Luis Valley as a small child with his parents and two brothers. He graduated from Adams State College in 1968 with a Bachelor's degree in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation in 1968. He proceeded to obtain a Master's degree from Adams State College four years later and ultimately obtained his Type D administrator certificate at Western State College. Edward's qualifications as Athletic Director also include advanced coursework at the University of Colorado, Colorado State University, and the University of Northern Colorado.

Edward's first endeavor after joining the Centennial faculty was to build a track facility in order to create a track and field team. Edward's dedication to his students has persisted over the past 35 years, teaching close to 4,600 students and coaching approximately 1,400 student athletes over the course of his career. Dating back to 1978, Edward has received 40 distinguished awards in addition to his nominations for Colorado Prep Coach of the Year and Colorado Teacher of the Year. While Edward is grateful for the personal recognition he has received, he most appreciates the gratitude that he receives from his former students and athletes. Given his invitation to return as a substitute teacher, Edward's involvement with Centennial High School will likely continue even after his formal retirement as Athletic Director position.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to recognize Edward's achievements and laudable record of public service before you today. Individuals like Edward embody the dedication and commitment necessary to impart strong values to future generations and allow them the opportunity to succeed. I commend Edward for his long and prolific career and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

SO FAR ACROSS THE SHORES

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I present a writing by Albert Carey Caswell, one of our Capitol historians, dedicated to the United Kingdom—in honor of Tony Blair's address to the joint session of Congress.

To send our fine sons and daughters off to die, off to death and war to there throughout the ages, to share such pain, such grief, such death and gore . . . as together we've endured mothers & fathers, sisters & brothers,

husbands & wives the more . . . who've lost such loves, oh what a burden bore.

For we are such fine friends . . . so very far across the shores as here so lies in time, now etched in history adorned, such a great tribute to our love . . . as has so endured lies such a bond from so very far across the shores, with such unity as woven . . . all throughout time all the more.

For from these two great nations . . . as there would so rise a love and kinship, such that wars would not let despise, that even time and distance . . . still could not deny as a true and fine meeting of the minds . . . as a uniting of brothers and sisters . . . as there bringing such tears to eyes.

For once upon a time . . . from this the great land of kings and queens of so divine came colonies, from far across the seas . . . with such splendid people, with such great dreams, so very fine and with this journey came, a great revolution of the same . . . as a bond dissolved and wars so intervened in time.

And as then, throughout the many years as again . . . such a cherished bond, as so formed here . . . as such a splendid reconciliation, as so appeared and throughout war worlds & evils endured, together as friends, to this world we've stood as one so very clear.

For from this great land has come, such cherished gifts to us among as our father, our true beloved son . . . one George Washington, who to this nation his heart has sung and another such splendid gift . . . that of "hope" by a man named "Bob" . . . whose America's heart has forever rung.

And to this very day, as spreads so far across the way ingrained within our very hearts, lies the United Kingdom . . . for whom we all so pray who have so over the many decades, made our Nation shine in so many ways, into this promised land we see today.

And as the years so pass within our hearts we ask, that this fine bond which we've so made . . . shall to ever last for this our great love & friendship which has so evolved . . . recorded now in history, has forever stood steadfast.

Now as such fine friends, so very far across the shores as so lies such a bond, as one for all and all for one . . . into our love as poured . . . as lies there forever more across the high seas & distant shores, a blessing to two countries . . . within one another this love shall endure.

HONORING THE DETROIT HISTORICAL
MUSEUM'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN CONYERS, Jr.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Detroit Historical Museum on the occasion of the museum's 75th anniversary. The museum, along with Historic Fort Wayne, the Dossin Great Lakes Museum and the Detroit Historical Society, comprise the Detroit Historical Museums and Society, and I commend them on the wonderful job they have done chronicling Detroit's three-hundred year history.

The idea of recording the city's history through museums developed in 1914, when historian Clarence M. Burton donated his extensive collection of historical papers to the Detroit Public Library. The donation of these