

fund raising events, or helping with White Rock Marathons.

Over the years, For the Love of the Lake has been honored with countless awards and recognized by numerous organizations for their outstanding work. Dallas Observer magazine said, "For the Love of the Lake is easily one of Dallas' best volunteer service organizations," and I could not agree more.

On behalf of all of the people in Dallas, especially those who live in neighborhoods near White Rock Lake, I would like to congratulate the For the Love of the Lake organization and volunteers on their tremendous accomplishment. I would also like to thank them for their continued and valuable service to our community.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EDMUND
CHELEWSKI

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I rise today to recognize the life and passion of Edmund Chelewski of Rifle, Colorado. He will be remembered as a dedicated servant to our nation and an innovative farmer in his community. As his family and community mourn his passing, I would like to take this opportunity to remember the life of this exceptional man.

Edmund was born and raised in Saint Paul, Nebraska. During the Korean War he faithfully served in the United States Army as a member of H Company in the First Infantry Regiment. When he returned from the war he worked as a farmer in Nebraska and Colorado for over two decades. In 1948, he married Doris Price. He and his family moved to the town of Rifle in 1963. His innovativeness thrived in Rifle. He was the first to use an irrigation system on Silt Mesa and he developed farm equipment that he would later patent. One piece of farm equipment that he designed and patented was shared with the world at the 1965 World's Fair. He saw an opportunity in 1972 to get out of farming and open Chelewski Pipe & Supply, but still remained active in cultivating agriculture in his garden whenever he had the time. Edmund was active in the community as a supporter of Future Farmers of America and as a member of the Bookcliff Soil Conservation District.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the life of Edmund Chelewski. He will be remembered in his community for his creativity and inventiveness, his hard work as a farmer, and his commitment as a soldier. My heart goes out to his family and community during this difficult time of bereavement.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS KLESTIL,
PRESIDENT OF AUSTRIA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, Thomas Klestil, President of the Republic of Austria, passed away just two days be-

fore he was to turn over the office of President to his elected successor. President Klestil was a man of distinction whom I knew, admired and considered a friend.

Thomas Klestil was born in Vienna in 1932, the youngest of five children of a tram driver. After completing a doctorate in economics and business in 1957, he entered the Austrian diplomatic service. Some 18 years of his diplomatic career of 35 years was spent in the United States, first as a junior diplomat in Washington and later as Consul General in Los Angeles, Ambassador to the United Nations in New York, and then as Ambassador to the United States here in Washington. I worked with him during the time he served as Ambassador in Washington. Following his election as President, I met with him in Vienna on more than one occasion.

Mr. Speaker, Thomas Klestil was elected to the office of President at a difficult time in Austria's post-World War II history. His predecessor as Austrian President was Kurt Waldheim, former Secretary General of the United Nations. Austria's international reputation was severely damaged by the disclosure that Waldheim had lied about his Nazi military service during World War II.

Klestil played an important role in helping to restore Austria's image, and in acknowledging and taking steps to remedy the ugly taint of Austria's Nazi past. He spoke out numerous times about Austria's complicity with the Nazi regime during World War II, and he expressed sympathy and regret for the victims of the Holocaust. During an official visit to Israel in 1994, he spoke before the Israeli Knesset and reaffirmed a statement made by Chancellor Franz Vranitzky in 1991 acknowledging the responsibility of Austrians in the Holocaust and admitting that Austrians were not only victims, but also active collaborators with Hitler's regime.

Mr. Speaker, although Klestil was elected President as the candidate of the Austrian People's Party, he clashed with the party leader Wolfgang Schossel. He was critical of Schossel's decision to form a coalition government with the far-right Freedom Party of Jörg Haider in 2000. Several months of international diplomatic sanctions against Austria resulted from the formation of that government. Though the role of Austrian President is largely ceremonial and representational, Klestil demonstrated his disapproval of the coalition government with the Freedom Party by publicly exhibiting stern disdain as he ceremonially swore the new government into office.

He later stated in an interview, "The Freedom Party is not a Nazi party, but, unfortunately, the highest officials of this party continue to use a language which disqualifies them for every political office."

President Klestil also played an important role in strengthening Austria's ties with the Central European states emerging from almost half a century of Soviet domination. In 1993, the year after his election, he began convening yearly meetings with the heads of state of these new democracies, which strengthened their ties with Austria and also helped the new governments to strengthen their commitment to democratic principles.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in expressing our most sincere condolences to the family of President Thomas Klestil and to the people of Austria on the death of this principled statesman, who has

done so much to foster positive relations with the United States and to help his country and its people deal with their past.

COMMEMORATING COMPLETION OF
PHASE ONE OF THE JOHN N.
HARDEE AIRPORT EXPRESSWAY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I along with my colleague, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, would like to take this opportunity to commemorate the completion of Phase One of the John N. Hardee Airport Expressway. This will be announced to the people of South Carolina at a ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday, July 10. The completion of this 2.8 mile expressway will provide easy and direct access to the Columbia Metropolitan Airport.

This expressway, which widened Airport Road from Airport Boulevard in Cayce to Platt Springs Road in Springdale, will make a vast difference in the way South Carolinians and visitors commute to the airport. We are looking forward to the next and final phase of the project, which is currently under design and should begin construction in 2006. This will provide for a new four-lane road extending Airport Road to Interstate 26. Coupled with the success of the John N. Hardee Expressway, these two new roadways will reduce traffic and provide direct access to the growing Columbia Metropolitan Airport by passenger and cargo vehicles, removing some 25,000 vehicles each year from the local network surrounding the airport.

We would like to thank the people at the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) for all of their hard work in completing this important project. Mrs. Elizabeth Mabry, Executive Director of SCDOT, and Mr. John Hardee, SCDOT Second District Commissioner for whom the expressway is named, thank you for your tireless dedication in getting this phase of the project completed. This expressway will be helpful to the people of the entire state of South Carolina, and for this you are appreciated.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF DR. BRENDAN GODFREY

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Brendan Godfrey, a great scientist, leader, and friend. As the Deputy Director of the 311th Human Systems Wing at Brooks City-Base, formerly Brooks Air Force Base, since 1998, Dr. Godfrey has served the medical and human system needs of the Air Force and the San Antonio community.

Dr. Godfrey has proven his leadership skills and abilities, to the benefit of Brooks, the Air Force, and the San Antonio community. Dr. Godfrey has been a true partner in the transformation of Brooks from an Air Force base to

the first city-base in the country. He has provided good counsel, creative ideas, and tremendous energy to make this first-ever transition a reality.

Brooks City-Base has greatly benefited from Dr. Godfrey's 30 years of scientific and managerial experience. He has successfully managed large staffs and budgets, and under Dr. Godfrey's direction, Brooks City-Base has increased its productivity and has forged unprecedented community partnerships that

have benefited both Air Force warfighters and the local community.

Dr. Godfrey's accomplishments have distinguished him from his peers, and his colleagues have recognized his leadership skills by naming him the Director of the Air Force Office of Scientific Research. I am happy to congratulate him on this new assignment; however, I know Brooks City-Base and the San Antonio community will miss his valuable service. I am confident that he will continue to

create innovations that will enable the Air Force to better serve its military members and our country.

It is a pleasure to recognize and thank Dr. Godfrey for his many contributions and public service. I ask the Members of the House of Representatives to join me in honoring this gentleman on his promotion as the new Director of the Air Force Office of Scientific Research and wish Dr. Brendan Godfrey and his family all the best.