

Since 1904, the Sun changed names several times and altered its size and publishing schedule, but it has always been located in the City of San Fernando, the birthplace of the Valley. Also, it has always remained dedicated to informed, thoughtful and fair coverage of the issues most relevant to the lives of the residents of the northeast SFV. As the population of the San Fernando Valley grew—and more of its readers were Spanish-speaking, the newspaper began to publish a Spanish language insert, named *El Sol*.

During the last century, the Sun has been an integral part of the history of the San Fernando Valley. In 1911, it actively advocated for San Fernando city-hood. Irrespective of the various owners, the Sun has continued the high journalism standards and moral philosophy set forth by the original owner, Herbert W. Brooks. Since 2001, the new owners—Severyn and Martha Diaz Aszkenazy—have maintained these exemplary standards. They wisely brought in Diana Martinez (formally with KFWB and LA Media) to direct the editorial content. The staff won the “Best Investigative News” Award from New California Media in 2003 and recognition of its news service to the community from the University of Southern California in 2004.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me today in paying tribute to everyone associated with the San Fernando Sun on this important anniversary. We wish owners, management and staff of the newspaper 100 more years of success.

#### RECOGNIZING TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

##### HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 8, 2004*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 23 million Taiwanese on their 93rd National “Double-Tenth” Day, which will take place on October 10, 2004.

On October 10, 1911, the Republican Revolution broke out and brought the end of China's Qing dynasty. Ninety-three years later Taiwan continues to prosper. It is the 15th largest economy in the world and has the 4th largest information hardware and semiconductor industries in the world.

This year Taiwan proudly rebounded from an election-eve shooting incident that resulted in a post-election dispute ongoing for several months. But, as the strong democracy it is, Taiwan resolved the situation in a peaceful manner and domestic stability remains.

Today I congratulate Taiwan and commend the Taiwanese for their commitment and dedication to the universal principles of human freedom and dignity.

#### HONORING MISTY DEMICHAEL

##### HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 8, 2004*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Misty DeMichael of Newark, Ohio and commemorate her assistance and outstanding

volunteer service through the Salvation Army. Ms. DeMichael was the recipient of the first-ever Salvation Army and Dallas Cowboys National Youth Service Award presented on September 21, 2004 at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. Additionally, for her benevolent services, Ms. DeMichael received a \$10,000 scholarship for her college education donated by Dallas Cowboys Owner and General Manager, Jerry Jones. The service provided by Ms. DeMichael over the past 6 years that she has been volunteering has been immeasurable.

I would like to share one example of Ms. DeMichael's hard work and dedication. In 2001 Ms. DeMichael created a computer database called “The Clearing House”. The Clearing House helps to keep track of assistance given to needy families in Licking County, Ohio during the holidays so that social service agencies may distribute their aid proportionately. Ms. DeMichael continues to serve the Licking County Salvation Army while attending nearby Otterbein College, and still dedicates extra hours during the holiday season.

Once again, I would like to congratulate Ms. DeMichael for her service through the Salvation Army. Hard work, dedication, and commitment like that exhibited by Ms. DeMichael continues to give me faith that our country's future is in good hands.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE PONCE DE LEON DISCOVERY OF FLORIDA QUINCENTENNIAL COMMISSION ACT

##### HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 8, 2004*

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to establish a commission to plan the quincentenary commemoration of the discovery and colonization of Florida.

In 2013, our Nation will celebrate the 500th anniversary of Juan Ponce de Leon's landing on the east coast of Florida. As important an event as this is to America's history and heritage, I believe it is appropriate we commemorate this occasion. Such an event will serve to inform, educate, and remind the people of Florida, this Nation, and even the world of the importance and significance of Ponce de Leon's discovery and exploration.

Accordingly, the bill I introduce today establishes a commission composed of twelve members to plan, coordinate, and conduct the commemoration of the historic discovery of Florida.

Mr. Speaker, Florida's proud history begins with an explorer sailing through the Bahamas in 1513. As if touched by the hand of God, three ships commanded by Ponce de Leon were swept westward by winds and currents through the New Providence Channel and into the Florida Current. Historians believe Ponce de Leon landed at what is the present location of the city of St. Augustine.

Ponce de Leon's landing is significant to national and world history because it began what would become the establishment of the oldest permanent European settlement on the North American continent. St. Augustine was founded 42 years before the English colony at

Jamestown, Virginia, and 55 years before the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock in Massachusetts.

As a child, I remember learning of Ponce de Leon's fascinating voyage and Florida explorations. To this day, this remarkable moment in history inspires children across our great Nation. Our young people continue to learn of Ponce de Leon's epic voyages and his quest for the ever-elusive Fountain of Youth.

Spanish heritage is still reflected in local architecture and historic resources and attractions in the center of the old part of the city. For instance, the Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, constructed between 1672 and 1695, represents the oldest remaining European fortification in the continental United States. It is prominently located on the Matanzas River directly across the road from the Spanish Quarter of St. Augustine.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the consideration given to this legislation and this important part of the United States history. All Americans should enjoy the celebration of this historical moment.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO REBECCA FRANK

##### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 8, 2004*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to Rebecca Frank from Grand Junction, Colorado. Rebecca has dedicated her career to representing and informing the people of her county and the State of Colorado in her capacity with the Grand Junction Sentinel and the Colorado Division of Wildlife. I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing her tremendous service and achievements before this body of Congress and this Nation.

Rebecca Frank served as the News Editor for the Grand Junction Sentinel where she has always performed her job with excellence and integrity, keeping the people of Grand Junction well informed of community, state, and world events. In 1985, she decided to expand her interests and left the paper to join the Colorado Division of Wildlife Commission in 1985. Currently she represents the Northwest District Colorado where she served as Chairwoman in 1987 and 1988. In addition to her duties, at the Division of Wildlife Commission, Rebecca has given several hours of her time to Grand Junction's business community. She has served as a member of the Mesa County Economic Development Council, the Grand Junction Planning Commission and both the Grand Junction and Mesa County Riverfront Commissions. She also served on the board the Grand Junction United Way and currently volunteers with Catholic Charities.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Rebecca Frank for her exceptional service to the people of Grand Junction and Colorado. She has dedicated her life to bettering her community, and it is with great pleasure that I recognize her today before this body of Congress and this Nation. Thanks for your service, Rebecca, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SHERMAN INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOL DISTRICT'S READING RECOV-  
ERY PROGRAM

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 8, 2004*

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize Sherman Independent School District's Reading Recovery program.

In 2001, President George W. Bush signed a landmark law, the No Child Left Behind Act, which stresses academic achievement for all students and includes more accountability for student results. The Sherman Independent School District's Reading Recovery program meets and exceeds the standards and guidelines of that law. Reading Recovery is a highly effective, short-term intervention involving one-on-one tutoring for low-achieving first graders. Students receive a half-hour lesson each school day for 12 to 20 weeks with a specially trained Reading Recovery teacher. As soon as students demonstrate that they can read within the average range of their classmates, their lessons are discontinued.

Sherman's Reading Recovery program is a big success. At the Reading Recovery site located at Crutchfield Elementary School, students who completed the program passed the TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) test by a rate of 92 percent last year. The gains made by these students are truly impressive—they had higher text reading gains than their peers, had low levels of placement in special education classes, and had high levels of advancement to the next grade level.

Reading Recovery is precisely the kind of program our schools need to advance the goals of the No Child Left Behind law. Research issued by the U.S. Department of Education finds that students tutored according to the Reading Recovery model read more proficiently than 75 percent of their untutored peers. This program is a valuable part of a comprehensive literacy plan and supplements good classroom teaching.

On behalf of the students, teachers, and administrators of the Sherman Independent School District's Reading Recovery program, I want to take this opportunity in the House of Representatives to commend their successful efforts to leave no child behind.

HONORING LIEUTENANT CHARLES  
REINHARDT

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 8, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Charles Reinhardt for his years of dedicated service and unwavering commitment to the police force and the people of Union City. He is being honored today, October 8, 2004, at a retirement party in Union City, New Jersey.

From an early age, Lieutenant Reinhardt took an interest in military and police work. At the age of 18, he became one of the youngest officers in the history of the Union City Police Department when he joined the force as a po-

lice special. Three years later, he was sworn in as an official police officer. As an officer, he worked in a variety of areas, including traffic, crime prevention, community policing, and patrol. His tireless work and solid leadership skills earned him the rank of Lieutenant, also serving for a short time as the unit's commander and as a supervisor. He became one of the first Hispanic police sergeants in Union City and was the first Puerto Rican Lieutenant on the force.

Known for his attendance of community events, Lieutenant Reinhardt made great efforts to reach out to the citizens of Union City, particularly the Hispanic community. His passion and hard work have been acknowledged by numerous groups, including the American Federation of Police, the American Law Enforcement Officers Association, the Hispanic Law Enforcement Officers Association of Hudson County, the Union City Police Department, and the American Police Hall of Fame.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Lieutenant Charles Reinhardt for almost three decades of selfless service to Union City and its residents. The passion and commitment he demonstrated throughout his career and for his community made him an important member of the police force.

TRIBUTE TO WES KEUSDER ON  
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIRE-  
MENT AS PRESIDENT OF THE  
BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIA-  
TION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 8, 2004*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Wes Keusder, who has been a dedicated, strong and effective voice for the principles and ideals of California's building community during his years as a member and leader of the Building Industry Association of Southern California (BIA/SC). Riverside County and all of southern California has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Wes is one of these individuals. On November 5, 2004, Wes will be honored by BIA at their 38th Annual Awards and Installation Dinner.

Wes Keusder is a third generation home builder in California and has worked for over twenty years to make homeownership a reality for thousands of California's families. Wes followed in the footsteps of his father, Walter Keusder Jr., and grandfather, Walter Keusder, by serving as President of BIA/SC as well as participating in the California Building Industry Association and the National Association of Home Builders. Wes has demonstrated exemplary leadership and service to the building industry by serving as the President of the BIA Riverside County Chapter in 2001 and 2002. Additionally, Wes served as a Director of the Building Industry Legal Defense Fund, whose mission is to defend the rights of home and property owners.

Homeownership is an American dream, and housing is a community asset which strengthens the fabric of neighborhoods. Wes has worked tirelessly to ensure that thousands of

Californians can make that dream a reality. His passion and service for homeownership has improved Riverside and all of Southern California. Wes Keusder has earned my many thanks and I wish him great success in all his future endeavors.

PENSION FAIRNESS ACT OF 2004

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 8, 2004*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced the Pension Fairness Act to bring some equity to bear between corporate executives and rank-and-file workers when those executives seek to dump underfunded workers' pension plans onto the Federal Government or cut older workers' pensions through an unfair cash balance plan conversion.

Far too often, we hear of cases where executives demand concessions from their workers when the business struggles and, at the same time, sweeten their own pension and deferred compensation deals. It's past time that executives understand that the pension promises made to their workers are sacred. It's past time that executives understand that a breach of those promises carries consequences. Employees cannot be asked to absorb the full brunt of bankruptcy by having their pension plans terminated and dropped on the Federal Government. Executives should share in that pain.

When companies terminate their underfunded pension plans, the federally established Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) takes over those liabilities. Today, the PBGC suffers from a \$10 billion deficit. Already in bankruptcy, United Airlines, which recently defied the law and stopped making legally-required contributions to its pension plans, would add \$6.4 billion to the PBGC's obligations if the company terminates its plans. United's workers and retirees would lose \$1.9 billion in earned pension benefits. US Airways has asked a bankruptcy court for permission to skip a \$110 million contribution to its pension plans, due last month. Plan terminations at these companies would pose serious threats not just to the retirement security of their employees but to the retirement security of other airlines' employees and to the ongoing solvency of the PBGC. When executives are faced with the choice between terminating or saving company pension plans they also should have a stake in that choice.

In recent years, we have seen companies break their pension promises by converting their traditional pension plans into cash balance plans. Many of these conversions do wonders for a company's books—to the great delight of executives and directors—but end up cutting older workers' pension benefits. Many of these conversions have given workers no choice between the cash balance and traditional pension plans. Just last year, a court found that the cash balance conversion at IBM, which all employees were forced to take, would result in a 47 percent reduction in older workers' pensions. The Government Accountability Office found similar losses of up to 50 percent of older workers' promised pensions.