

and Gloria Flores, who for over fifty years have provided a valued service to their Salt Creek, Colorado, community. The Flores are the proud owners of Flores Grocery and Gift Shop, a business they started in the late 1950's that is well known for providing authentic Mexican products in their region.

The Flores invested their entire life savings to start their Mexican-style grocery, with the hope that the profits from the business would one day send their four sons to college. Due to their hard work, the store has grown into a thriving business and is considered a staple of the local business community. Today, people drive from all over the region to purchase authentic Mexican products and sample Gloria's delicious baked goods.

Mr. Speaker, Gloria and Baudelio Flores are two wonderful people living the American Dream. Through their business acumen, hard work, and dedication to excellence, all four of the Flores children were provided the opportunity to graduate from college and today enjoy successful careers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Gloria and Baudelio for their service to their community and congratulate them on remaining dedicated to achieving their goals and dreams. Their efforts have enriched the lives of their children and the Salt Creek community.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE CIVIL AIR PATROL

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support and appreciation for the Civil Air Patrol. In December 1, 1941, just before the attack on Pearl Harbor, in the great tradition of American volunteering and patriotism, civilian aviators and watchers organized the Civil Air Patrol to help protect our borders. During World War II, they attacked 57 submarines and sunk 2 in addition to diligent reporting of suspicious sightings. In recognition of their contribution to the war effort, President Roosevelt declared the Civil Air Patrol an auxiliary of the Air Force.

The Civil Air Patrol represents what is great about America. Volunteers come together to assist each other in defending our homeland. The government did not direct them, but they cooperated with the government to help all Americans.

The Civil Air Patrol has three missions. It assists with Emergency Response throughout the country. The Michigan Wing flew more mission hours than any other Great Lakes wing. Second, it works with students to teach aerospace science and aviation. The Michigan Wing was given an award by the National Civil Air Patrol headquarters for the best aerospace education program in the Great Lakes.

And third, it trains Cadets. Today, I met with Lt. Col. Tim Neill and three Michigan Cadets, Cadet Lt. Sean Croff, Cadet 2nd Lt. Holly Growe, and Cadet Captain Teresa Olson, who impressed me with their intelligence and dedication. Like many young people they have a desire to serve their country and understand how they can contribute to our country and to our armed services. And they are learning about aerospace science and aviation. Addi-

tionally, learning discipline and hands on technical experience is excellent.

I applaud these young men and women, and I understand their contributions. When I was in graduate school in Delaware, I was the Squadron Commander in the Civil Air Patrol. As one of the pilots, I flew search and rescue missions and understand the real contribution that Civil Air Patrol makes to our "Homeland Security".

Mr. Speaker, we all thank the leaders and students that give their time for the Civil Air Patrol. They represent the best traditions of America.

NATIONAL PEACE CORPS WEEK

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize National Peace Corps Week which is being celebrated March 1-7 around the country. National Peace Corps Week recognizes the important role the Peace Corps has played over the last 43 years and reaffirms our country's commitment to the mission of the Peace Corps, as vital today as it was over 40 years ago.

The first Peace Corps volunteers were sent to Ghana in 1961. Since then, over 170,000 Peace Corps Volunteers have served in 137 countries to promote the Peace Corps' mission of world peace and friendship.

Last year, the number of individuals applying to serve in the Peace Corps rose by 10 percent. These Americans are eager to serve their nation by acting as teachers, business advisors, information technology consultants, and youth and agriculture workers. These Volunteers transfer life-changing knowledge and skills that are valued by the people of other nations.

Currently, more than 7,500 Volunteers are serving in 71 countries around the world—this is the highest number of Volunteers in the field in 28 years. Today's Peace Corps is more vital than ever, stepping into new countries like East Timor, working in emerging and essential areas and committing more than 1,000 new Volunteers as a part of President Bush's HIV/AIDS Act of 2003. Peace Corps Volunteers continue to help countless individuals who want to build a better life for themselves, their children, and their communities.

National Peace Corps Week recognizes all Peace Corps Volunteers, past and present. I would specifically like to recognize the forty volunteers from my congressional district who are currently serving around the globe. These people and all Peace Corps Volunteers have my gratitude for committing two years of their life to their country and to the spread of democracy through the goals of the Peace Corps.

FREEDOM IN HONG KONG

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, the House Policy Committee met today with a distinguished del-

egation of Hong Kong legislators and advocates of democracy. I would like to briefly report on this meeting.

Last year, the Policy Committee met twice with representatives from Hong Kong:

First, on January 28, 2003, we met with Hong Kong representatives, including journalists, who briefed us on the PRC's efforts to restrict media and intellectual freedoms. Second, on June 5, 2003, we met with a delegation of legislators and human rights advocates. Today's was our third meeting on Hong Kong in the 108th Congress.

The Policy Committee has held approximately 30 meetings in the 108th Congress. The policy-setting organization for the House Majority has devoted fully 10 percent of our meeting time to the cause of freedom for seven million people on the other side of the earth for several reasons:

First, we are the policy-setting organization for the Republican majority. Our party was founded 150 years ago—more accurately, 149 years, 11 months, and two weeks ago—on the simple idea of individual freedom. Republican presidents helped secure freedom for millions of Americans in the Civil War and for millions more around the world in the Cold War. Today, President Bush has naturally made freedom around the world the primary means of securing victory in the war on terrorism. The basis of our party is freedom, and Hong Kong, today, is on freedom's frontier.

Second, the seven million people of Hong Kong represent the best hope for more than a billion others in Asia. It is vitally important to the world that China becomes more like Hong Kong, and not the other way around. Accomplishing that goal would be in the interests of the people of Hong Kong and all of China, and it would be in the interests of the United States and the rest of the world, as a free, democratic, and prosperous China would be a more stable and friendly neighbor and member of the international community.

One month after our previous meeting, the Hong Kong legislature was scheduled to vote on a PRC-backed law to severely limit free speech and civil liberties in Hong Kong, in the name of punishing "subversion." We and the House International Relations Committee proposed, and the House approved, a resolution in support of freedom in Hong Kong, and against the proposed anti-subversion law. Unprecedented demonstrations by over one-half million people in Hong Kong followed a few days later. The PRC withdrew the so-called anti-subversion legislation it was backing.

While the withdrawal of the so-called anti-subversion bill was good news, the more recent PRC freeze on the consultative process to provide for the popular election of Hong Kong's chief executive in 2007, and of its legislature in 2008, is of grave concern. It is vital to commence this process immediately. China will host the Olympics in 2008. Will the world discover that China has broken its promise? Only if the free world holds China to its commitment, and elections are held in 2007 and 2008, will this global shame be avoided.

Likewise, all the people of Hong Kong—including those who speak out for democracy—must be allowed the freedom to return to travel within China. The refusal of Beijing to grant permission for Chinese patriots in Hong Kong, including many who were born on the mainland, to travel to Beijing is an affront to freedom and to the Olympic spirit.

Mr. Speaker, much work remains to be done for freedom and democracy in Hong Kong and in China. The United States Congress must continue this work.

TRIBUTE TO BOB DIEDRICH

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to pay recognition to a man of my district that has diligently served his community for years. The city of Cortez has honored Mr. Bob Diedrich by selecting him as the 2003 Citizen of the Year. I am honored to rise today and acknowledge his contributions that have prompted this well-deserved award.

Bob's service to his community has included his election to the City Council in 1992, and being selected to serve as the Mayor Pro-Tem of Cortez in 1995. On the city council, Bob facilitated projects to increase the size of the city's park as well as the building of a new police station. Sitting as chairman on the Sanitation Board, Bob worked hard to see the completion of the city's new sewage treatment facility plant. In addition to all of his outstanding work on the City Council, Bob has dedicated himself to working with numerous charitable and civic organizations in his Cortez community.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to a dedicated citizen of Colorado. The time and effort Bob puts into serving his community is admirable and worthy of this recognition.

HONORING JAMES WESLEY "WILLIE" YORK

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James Wesley "Willie" York. Mr. York was a builder, developer, realtor and philanthropist whose creativity and generosity have shaped Raleigh and the State of North Carolina in ways we will appreciate and honor for years to come. He died in Raleigh on March 2, at the age of 91, after an outstanding career that spanned the 20th century.

Long before shopping malls and urban planning became the norm in America, Mr. York took the bold step of developing land that combined multifamily housing and shopping facilities in a community setting. When it opened in 1949, Raleigh's Cameron Village was the first shopping center in the Southeast, and it has flourished through multiple changes in the years since. From that visionary development, Mr. York completed numerous other construction projects that have become landmarks in Raleigh. They include York Industrial Park, the Raleigh Farmers' Market, the Velvet Cloak Inn, Mission Valley Inn and Shopping

Center, and Northgate Shopping Center in Durham.

Mr. York was also a public servant and made numerous contributions in this arena to enhance the public good. As a member of the Raleigh School Board, he became a leader in the peaceful desegregation of the school system. J. W. York Elementary School was named for him in 1965 in recognition of his efforts. From 1976 to 1985, Mr. York brought visionary leadership to the Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority to ensure that it would continue to meet the demands of a growing region. By organizing major bond campaigns, he raised over \$163 million to finance construction of a major runway, additional terminals, and ground transportation. A 1933 graduate of North Carolina State University, Mr. York was also a life-long Wolfpack fan and devoted supporter of that institution. His leadership and generous contributions shaped development of the campus and gave life to the J. C. Raulston Arboretum.

Mr. York is survived by seven children, 13 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. I particularly want to acknowledge the leadership of his son Smedes, who has continued his father's development and philanthropic work. Smedes' tenure as mayor of Raleigh from 1979–83 was a progressive era for our capital city, and he has been a respected voice in many projects before and since.

The Fourth Congressional District and all of North Carolina are more livable places because of Mr. York's vision and gutsy determination to enhance the character of our infrastructure and the life of our communities. His legacy is much more than the bricks and mortar of his buildings; they are visible symbols of his strength and imagination. They will continue to be welcome reminders of his leadership in the years ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THE LATE RAUL JULIA

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker I rise today as a supporter of H. Con. Res. 287 which honors and recognizes the life of the late Raul Julia. This is an honor that is well deserved for a man who dedicated his life not only to the performing arts but also to his community. I want to thank my distinguished colleague Representative GUTIERREZ for bringing this bill to the floor and giving appreciation for a truly outstanding human being.

As an actor alone Raul Julia has made an outstanding contribution to this country. In New York City he obtained roles in Shakespearean plays that were often not given to Hispanic actors. In his 10 years on the Broadway stage he was nominated for four different Tony Awards. We all remember his role as Rafael the fix it man on Sesame Street. His performances were not only memorable but they made a lasting impression on those who watched him. His success made it possible for Hispanic actors to gain greater recognition.

However, to say that Raul Julia was a great actor is only telling half his story. He was a tremendous activist for the elimination of hunger. It is fitting that after his death in 1994, the Hunger Project for which he had been a spokesman changed its name to the Raúl Juliá Ending Hunger Fund. It was his hope that so many Americans and people worldwide who were downtrodden would have a way to bring themselves up. His life and the efforts he made are an example to us all that success is not merely measured in the number of accolades you receive but in the number of people you touch. Raul Julia touched lives around the world, he was not merely content with success on the stage, he wanted to have the kind of success that was truly felt by people.

The Hispanic community is the fastest growing community in America and with role models like Raul Julia the future for these proud people is bright. There are those who might say that a career in the arts is superfluous, but I have to strongly disagree with them. The arts are what inspire us, what allows us to believe that the impossible is possible. Raul Julia fulfilled that vision and more, his work allowed Hispanic actors to gain greater access to the stage. His work for the hungry and in his birth country of Puerto Rico lifted the spirits of so many. While his life was too brief, it was one that was well spent. Our nation needs more men and women of conscience and determination like Raul Julia, I feel confident that this nation's burgeoning Hispanic community will help produce them.

TRIBUTE TO DON ROBINSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to pay tribute to the memory of Don Robinson today. To anyone who has skied the beautiful slopes in Aspen, Colorado, they probably have Don Robinson to thank, and it is his contributions to Colorado skiing that I would like to recognize here today.

Don Robinson was a pioneer in his field, creating many of the ski trails on the Aspen Highlands. For over forty-five years, Don worked on the popular mountain, creating most of the original runs. One of the mountain's hardest trails is his namesake, which is fitting considering the amount of hard work and dedication Don put in to making Aspen's ski slopes some of the best in the world. In addition to creating so many trails, Don was an active member of his church where he enjoyed singing with the Church Choir.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to Don Johnson. Don helped turn a little known town into one of the greatest ski destinations in the world. The Aspen community, the State of Colorado and skiers around the world mourn his passing. My heart goes out to his wife Janet and his family during this difficult time of bereavement.