

individuals like Ralph Lazo, giving a voice to those who were wronged in the past. Let us all remember, that the fight for justice for Japanese internees is one that is being fought by the entire community regardless of their ethnicity. We must all "Stand Up for Justice."

Mr. Speaker, let us renew our resolve to build a better future for our community as we dedicate ourselves to remembering how we compromised liberty in the past. Doing so will help us to guard it more closely in the future. As we commemorate the Day of Remembrance, we must pass H. Res. 56, in support of Japanese-American, German-American, and Italian American communities in their recognizing of this historical day. I also look forward to working with my colleagues to pass the Wartime Parity and Justice Act of 2003.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE GIRL SCOUTS OF RED RIVER VALLEY

##### HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Girl Scout Council of Red River Valley.

With more than 3.8 million members, the Girl Scouts have served as one of the finest organizations dedicated solely to girls. For over 90 years, the Girl Scouts have instilled leadership skills and strong values, while helping girls realize their true potential and self worth.

The Girl Scout Council of Red River Valley comprises 13 counties in northeast Texas and southeast Oklahoma. These include Bryan, Choctaw, McCurtain, and Pushmataha Counties in Oklahoma and Camp, Delta, Fannin, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus Counties in Texas.

Over 2,500 girls are able to participate in year-round activities offered by the Red River Valley Council. These activities foster skills in business, communication, the environment, the humanities, science, sports, and personal health. Programs offered during the school year include the Engineering for Girls Club which gives 4th through 8th graders the opportunity to participate in activities relating to science, math, technology, and engineering. During the summer, girls can learn traditional outdoor skills at Camp Gambill, a 54-acre facility located in Sumner, TX.

Mr. Speaker, as the Girl Scout Council of Red River Valley continues to grow and expand, I want to commend the council for its tireless work expanding opportunities for our girls in east Texas.

#### TRIBUTE TO MS. IRIS FERNANDEZ

##### HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise during this month of March, which has been designated Women's History Month, to pay tribute to Ms. Iris Fernandez, a phenomenal woman who has devoted her life to enhancing the lives of others.

Iris, a native of Puerto Rico moved to New York at the age of 18. While attending college in New York she began serving her community as a youth advocate by helping children with their schoolwork. Later, as a parent, Iris continued advocating for children's education as a school board member. She chaired the District 7 School Boards Facilities where she brought together the Parks Department, the Department of Education Facilities and CPB No. 1 to build speed bumps around the school where speeding cars were a concern. In addition she orchestrated the building of a fence around P.S. 49 which potentially saved the lives of many children as it once prevented a man with a gun from entering the school premises.

Mr. Speaker, Iris has a long history of service to her community. She is the President and Founder of the Community Enhancement Organization which serves to create new initiatives to help families move from welfare to work and serves to help community residents find decent apartments or become home owners. If that is not enough, she also created the Youth Advisory Council to address the issues that the youth in her organization face on a daily basis. Ms. Fernandez has also demonstrated that she is a capable business woman. In 1989 she became a financial officer for a home care agency named P.R.H.A.S., Inc. During her fourteen years of service she was instrumental in moving their revenue from \$7 million to an impressive \$14 million. The works of this young woman has not gone unnoticed. In 2002, her community elected her to serve as Assembly Female District Leader for the 84th district.

Mr. Speaker, for her willingness to go beyond the call of duty in service to her community, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this remarkable woman.

#### HONORING HERBERT KURZ ON HIS 84TH BIRTHDAY

##### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the many family and friends who have gathered to extend my very best wishes to a man whose lifetime of accomplishments are a true reflection of what a business and community leader should be—Herbert Kurz—as he celebrates his 84th birthday.

He has dedicated both his professional and personal life to the betterment of his community and to the promotion of equality for all Americans. Herb once told me his faith was in human beings and he has spent a lifetime honoring that faith. His success, both as a businessman and activist, has been based on this mantra and through his good work he has made a real difference in the lives of many.

Chairman and CEO of Presidential Life Insurance Company of Nyack, New York, Herb has combined a shrewd business sense and responsible business conscience to make his business successful and achieve national renown. Honored at the White House Conference on Corporate Citizenship in 1996, Presidential Life has long been known for its commitment to hiring both women and minori-

ties. When he started his business forty years ago, Herb made it a practice to give the first chance at a position to a qualified minority person. In a time when women and minorities had difficulty in securing a place in the business world, Herb opened the doors of opportunity to hundreds—a practice which he continues today.

In addition to his role in building a business that is open-minded in its employment and conservative in its protection of its shareholders investments, Herb's true passion has been as a community leader and social activist.

It is a passion that began in his teenage years when he helped organize a union of hotel and restaurant workers in the Catskills and was re-invigorated upon his return from his service in the United States Air Force during World War II when a very personal experience changed his life.

Herb's uncle, Frederic Ewen, was a popular professor of English at Brooklyn College. Professor Ewen's commitment to the freedom of thought, as well as his political activism during the 1930s, led to his becoming a victim of the academic witch-hunts of the McCarthy Era. When he refused to cooperate with the House UnAmerican Activities Committee in 1952, Professor Ewen was forced to resign his position and was subsequently blacklisted. It was his uncle's tragic experience that led Herb to become one of our nation's leading philanthropists in support of civil liberties. In fact, just four years ago, he established the Frederic Ewen Academic Freedom Collection at New York University. The collection, the first of its kind in the United States, focuses on the rights of teachers and research workers to investigate their subjects of expertise without fear of reprimand or dismissal and the right to provide students and the entire academic community with knowledge and information pertaining to any controversial social, economic, or political issue without interference or penalty.

Herb has spent over half his life making a difference in the lives of others. Whether supporting the arts, speaking out against bigotry, enhancing a community hospital for the entire community, or channeling his anger at government corruption into electoral action, Herb's compassion and leadership have left an indelible mark on his community and our nation. For his endless contributions and uncompromising spirit, I am proud to stand today to join his wife, Edythe; his children, Leonard and Ellen; his grandchildren Tommy and Sophie, family and friends to pay tribute to my dear friend, Herbert Kurz. Happy 84th birthday!

#### HONORING THOMAS PFINGSTEN

##### HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas Pfingsten, Library Director at Portland State University.

Mr. Pfingsten is retiring after 24 years of dedicated service to Portland State University and to Oregon. I join with his colleagues at PSU, those in the Oregon University System, and his friends in the City of Portland in recognizing him for his leadership, his commitment

to providing educational opportunities to students, and his work with PSU to help this important institution grow into a national model of an urban university.

Tom Pfingsten has served at Portland State University since 1980. During that time, the Millar Library has steadily increased its collections holdings from 650,000 volumes in 1980 to the present day 1.3 million volumes.

In addition, during Tom's tenure, there were three major library improvements: (1) an expanded and improved library building that is both functional and architecturally stunning; (2) a major reorganization of the way in which the library internally functions including the creation of a new research and learning center; and (3) a transition from paper systems to electronic media in nearly all aspects of library organization, communication, and presentation to students and faculty. All of these accomplishments have been most impressive due to the fact that his era at Portland State has been one of great financial challenges.

Tom's modest, self-effacing style obscures a canny ability to find money for important projects and to spend it prudently and effectively. He has been a tremendous and tireless advocate for the Millar Library and his efforts, and those of his fine staff, have allowed it to keep pace with Oregon's fastest growing, and now largest, university.

In an atmosphere of constant fiscal challenge, Tom Pfingsten and the Millar Library—like Portland State University itself—have triumphed over adversity and provided high quality service to our students, faculty and community.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored that I have had the opportunity to work with and know Tom Pfingsten. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing him and his family the best as he enters a much-deserved retirement after a job well done.

#### TRIBUTE TO MS. MARTHA WATFORD

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise during this month of March, which has been designated Women's History Month, to pay tribute to Ms. Martha Watford, an incredible woman who has dedicated most her life to the service of others.

For 38 years, Martha has been an active member of the community. She has served as parent, staff and currently Executive Director of the La Peninsula Community Organization. Serving over one thousand families annually, it is one of the largest community based organizations in the South Bronx. In her position as Executive Director, she has been responsible for expanding what was once a two room operation to what is now a facility with six centers and 33 classrooms. This new facility is due to open in September 2004 and will aptly be named the Martha Watford Center.

Mr. Speaker, Martha is always eager to incorporate new initiatives into the program in order ensure that the families and children that her organization serves are given every opportunity to achieve all that they possibly can. As a result of her unyielding commitment to her

community, Martha was the recipient of the Robin Hood Foundation Heroes Award in 1996. She leads her staff by demonstrating unfailing strength and passion in serving the families of our community.

For her commitment to the families of our community, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this remarkable woman.

#### CONGRATULATING COMMON THREADS AWARD WINNERS

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Susan Cohen, Parry Mead Murray, Margo Souza and Barbara Vineyard, the recipients of the 2004 Sacramento Valley Common Threads Award. This award is presented to women in agriculture who have made a remarkable contribution to their community through volunteer work and philanthropy.

Susan Cohen has been involved in numerous agricultural activities throughout her life. Since 1989, she has held the position of the Solano County Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights & Measures. She serves as a key part of the regulatory system that promotes and protects California's \$28 billion agricultural industry. Susan was Monterey County's Senior Deputy Agricultural Commissioner in the Salinas Valley, where she started out as a Produce Inspector and worked her way up to a wide variety of regulatory inspections. She also administered the county Agricultural Advisory Committee, appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and became a point person for minor crop pesticide regulations.

Parry Mead Murray has been active in the grape industry for over 20 years. She served as Mead Ranch Vineyard Manager for 22 years and assisted with the conservation easement placed on the property. Parry currently sits as board member of the Napa Valley Grape Growers Association. She serves as Vice President of the Giles W. & Elise G. Mead Foundation, whose contributions go toward conservation and resource management issues. Parry is also a committee member of the Archer Taylor Preserve Land Trust of Napa County, a committee that targets the planning and implementation of long-term property management for one of the oldest and largest strands of Redwood trees.

Margo Souza has been dedicated to the dairy industry her entire life. She has spent the past 20 years as a successful manager in all facets of dairy farming. Margo played a key role in securing a \$100,000 grant from the Buy California initiative to place milk vending machines in selected high schools. She was chair of the Western United Dairymen's 2003 Convention, the year of their biggest trade show ever. Margo also served as the first woman president for the Growers Harvesting Committee in 1996. In addition, she has had several professional appointments that include the California Agriculture and Water Committee in 1999, the California Milk Advisory Board since 1997, and the Western United Dairymen since 1994, among others.

Barbara Vineyard has been an active leader of 4-H for 47 years. She was on the 4-H

County Council serving as president, secretary, and area coordinator. Barbara has chaired many County and Regional events and served on the Regional and State Leaders Councils, as well as director of the California 4-H Foundation. She is chairman of the Mt. Pleasant Hall Committee and assists with fundraisers for the community hall, which is owned by the Placer County Farm Bureau. Barbara also helped form the Placer County Farm Bureau Young People's organization which she remains active in today.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the 2004 Sacramento Valley Common Threads Award winners. These women have shown outstanding involvement, not only in agriculture, but also in strengthening their respective communities. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing these honorees a bright future and continued success.

#### REMEMBERING AND HONORING MR. ENZO "TONY" MUSOLINO

**HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 9, 2004*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to remember and honor an outstanding citizen, Mr. Enzo "Tony" Musolino from Granite Bay, California, who passed away on Wednesday, February 25, 2004, after a year-long bout with leukemia. He was 73 years old.

Tony was born in Brooklyn, New York, on July 15, 1930. The only child of Ernesto and Carmela Musolino, he moved to San Francisco with his family in 1940, marking the beginning of his life in Northern California.

In 1952, Tony began a life-long career in the real estate profession. He was a real estate agent, builder, and mortgage broker working throughout the Bay Area, starting in San Francisco and expanding into the Santa Clara and San Jose areas. However, in January 1976, he moved his family to Granite Bay, then a rural community in the beautiful foothills of Placer County. As it turned out, his family was among the first of many people who have migrated from the Bay Area to the greater Sacramento region. Tony's vision for his new home helped transform the community into what it is today.

Tony envisioned the development of custom homes on large lots surrounded by open natural spaces. His residential accomplishments included the development of Hidden Lakes Estates, Shelborne Estates, and the premier neighborhood of Los Lagos. He also succeeded in commercial development ventures in Washington State, the greater Sacramento area, and California's Great Central Valley. Nevertheless, he will likely be best remembered for his exclusive residential developments in Granite Bay.

Mr. Speaker, Tony, who had been semi-retired for several years, turned the management of the family business over to his children to enjoy other aspects of life. He took pleasure in several hobbies, including golf and weight training. As the son of Italian immigrants, he relished his heritage, retaining fluency in the Italian language and passion for authentic Italian cuisine. He even found enjoyment in collecting Italian sports cars, including several Maseratis and a Ferrari.