

HONORING MR. LENNY  
MARTINELLI OF BOULDER, COLO-  
RADO

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 2004*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Lenny Martinelli of Boulder, Colorado for his exemplary service to the Colorado community.

In 1987, two cities on opposite sides of the world, in countries on opposite sides of the political spectrum, collaborated to bring their respective traditions, culture, and history to one another in a peaceful manner. During a time of great conflict and tension, the cities of Boulder, Colorado, and Dushanbe, Tajikistan, united as the Sister Cities. Over the next three years, dozens of Tajikistani painters, woodcarvers, and ceramicists worked on completing Dushanbe's gift to Boulder, the Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse. The result was a magnificent structure and a wonderful restaurant that offers exquisite cuisine and atmosphere.

The success and beauty of the Teahouse would not have been possible without the leadership and management of Lenny Martinelli. For six years, Lenny has provided the direction, character, and culinary expertise for one of Colorado's most impressive restaurants. As proprietor of the Teahouse, Lenny has been responsible for maintaining the impressive reputation and quality of the Soviet Union's largest gift to the United States.

But Mr. Martinelli's dedication to the Sister Cities reaches beyond the walls of his restaurant. Every year he organizes a community cultural celebration on the Persian New Year of Navrus. He holds annual fundraisers to help finance Dushanbe's Cyber-Cafe, which is Boulder's gift to its sister city. A very positive and talented man, Lenny also is a constant advocate for worldwide unity and global awareness.

Mr. Speaker, the Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse is a world-class facility. Its lovely architecture and artwork make it the largest example of ancient Persian art in the country. Its food is an awesome assimilation of the greatest tastes from across the East. As the name indicates, it has one of the most impressive collections of teas in the world. Adding to the overall excellence of the Teahouse is Mr. Martinelli's great proprietorship which has kept the Teahouse as one of the premiere dining facilities in the Rocky Mountain region.

Through his role in the Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse, Lenny Martinelli has demonstrated the greatest attributes of a global community. I urge my colleague to join me today in honoring him for his accomplishments.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO NICK  
ALCORTA**

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 2004*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to pay tribute to the life

and memory of Nick Alcorta. Nick touched the lives of many in his Basalt, Colorado community, dedicating his time and efforts to teaching the sport of baseball to youths. His tragic death at age thirty-nine is a loss to us all, and as the Basalt community gathers to celebrate the life of such an exceptional person, I would like to take this opportunity to honor a beloved Coloradan.

Nick loved teaching and mentoring children, especially his two boys Dominick and Derek. He was involved in numerous youth sports programs, serving as the recreation director for Basalt from 1997 through 2002, serving as head coach of the Basalt High baseball team, and as assistant coach of the Basalt High girls basketball program. When the town of Basalt was forced to lay off Nick due to a tight budget, Nick volunteered his time for the kids who meant so much to him while their parents rallied at Town Hall to support the man who meant so much to their children.

Mr. Speaker, we are all at a great loss because of Nick Alcorta's passing, but can be comforted in knowing he made a lasting impact as a superb role model for the youth in Basalt. I am deeply honored to bring his life to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation today. My thoughts are with Nick's wife Debbie, his two children, and the entire Basalt community during this difficult time of bereavement.

**EL SALVADOR**

**HON. DANA ROHRBACHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 2004*

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, the result of the election in Spain was a major setback in the War on Terror and is a setback in our relationship with the people of Spain. There is another election, which will be taking place shortly in this our hemisphere, in El Salvador. The communist/FMLN political party derives from the communist guerillas who waged war for years to establish a communist dictatorship in El Salvador. They could win this election in part because of reported covert assistance they are receiving from foreign communists and pro-Castro regimes.

If the communist/FMLN presidential candidate wins, the great spirit of cooperation we have had with El Salvador would be put in jeopardy. The FMLN has promised to immediately open full diplomatic relations with communist Cuba, which is a state sponsor of terrorism. They will do that at the expense of El Salvador's relationship with the United States.

If a new communist/FMLN government in El Salvador acts as it promises to do it could well cause the United States to reconsider its grant of Temporary Protective Status (TPS) to about 400,000 Salvadorans who live there. These citizens of El Salvador living in the U.S. also send about two billion dollars to their home country each year. A hostile communist/FMLN regime in El Salvador would likely lead the United States to reconsider our policies which permit the sending of such a bounty to El Salvador.

It is important for the people of El Salvador to understand that their decision at the polls will have consequences for their future relations with the United States. A victory for the communist/FMLN will most likely open a regrettable gulf between our countries after years of cooperation.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. FRANK W. BALLANCE, JR.**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 2004*

Mr. BALLANCE. Mr. Speaker, due to an emergency, I was not present for Rollcall votes Nos. 48 and 49. Had I been present, on Rollcall vote No. 48, I would have voted "aye"; on Rollcall vote No. 49, I would have voted "aye."

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO SOUTH-  
WESTERN BEVERAGE COMPANY**

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 2004*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the Southwestern Beverage Company's impressive tradition of business excellence and philanthropy in Durango, Colorado. Recently, the Durango Chamber of Commerce recognized the company with the Spirit of Durango award for its history of service to the community. It is with great pride that I congratulate Southwestern Beverage for its well-deserved award, and thank them for their significant contributions to their community.

The Southwestern Beverage legacy began when Arthur Welsh founded the company in 1963. From the beginning, the Welsh family was committed not only to distributing beverages across Southwest Colorado, but also to contributing profits to scholarship and recreation events in the Durango community. The company has sponsored numerous local events, including the Iron Horse Bicycle Classic and the Durango Grand Prix. The Welsh family has always believed that as their business grew, so should their civic responsibility to the community.

Mr. Speaker, the drive the Southwestern Beverage Company and Welsh family have shown in their business and charitable activities have made them true civic leaders in their community. For over forty years, they have left an indelible mark of excellence on the Durango community and the State of Colorado. It is my privilege to pay tribute to the company before this body of Congress and this nation today and congratulate them on receiving the Spirit of Durango award.