

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MARY McCLYMONT OF INTERACTION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to Ms. Mary E. McClymont, the current President and CEO of InterAction, the largest alliance of U.S.-based, international development and humanitarian nongovernmental organizations. InterAction's members range from large organizations like CARE, Save the Children, Catholic Relief Services, and World Vision, to smaller organizations such as the International Medical Corps which is based in my own home state of California.

After four years of tireless service to the humanitarian community, Mary is relinquishing the helm of InterAction. She will be deeply missed not only by the many NGOs that InterAction serves but also by many of us in Congress who have come to rely on her and InterAction as advocates of humanitarian, human rights, and development concerns. Her knowledge, commitment, and professionalism have established InterAction as a leading resource of information and expertise on a myriad of issues ranging from Iraq and Afghanistan to the Millennium Challenge Account.

InterAction also has grown tremendously under Mary's leadership, nearly doubling its operating budget and expanding its membership. Additionally, Mary launched the Global Partnership for Effective Assistance—a multiyear advocacy campaign to help save lives and build self-sufficiency in poor countries by increasing the amount of development and humanitarian assistance, improving the effectiveness of foreign aid, and fostering international partnerships.

Leading an organization as large and diverse as InterAction during these tumultuous times requires an individual of tremendous fortitude, integrity, and dedication. Mary undoubtedly has excelled in meeting that challenge.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a great pleasure for me and the Democratic staff of the International Relations Committee to work closely on a wide range of issues with InterAction and with Mary. I want to commend her for her outstanding service and commitment to improving the effectiveness of our nation's humanitarian and development assistance. And I want to extend our best wishes to her as she leaves the presidency of InterAction.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF HORACE H. HEYMANN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th birthday of Horace H. Heymann.

Horace was born a citizen of Germany in 1915, and grew up beneath the rising specter of Nazism. Fearing that they would become victims of the Holocaust, he and his family separated in 1932 and fled from their native country. Horace made the journey to the United States, where he found his family safe in their adopted nation.

Horace served his new homeland with fierce loyalty, enlisting in the Navy upon the United States' entry into World War II. After serving honorably in the Sea Bees Battalion, he returned to his Hollis Hills, Queens County, New York home and began his most significant work, that of raising a family.

At the age of 90, Horace is a proud father, grandfather, and United States veteran. His life is a shining example of the emblematic vision of hope that America inspires in the persecuted, and of the powerful influence a loving father has on his children and his children's children.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of three generations of Americans, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to please join me in honoring Horace H. Heymann as he celebrates his 90th birthday.

IN HONOR OF GRACIA MOLINA DE PICK ON HER 75TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate Gracia Molina de Pick. Gracia celebrates her 75th birthday on March 28, 2005. I am honored to have this opportunity to pay tribute to an exceptional community leader. Gracia is a mother, a daughter, a leader, and most of all, a beloved friend.

San Diegans will honor Gracia at the Centro Cultural de la Raza's International Women's Day. Her friends, family, and supporters will join together to salute her for her selfless and steady dedication to advancing women's causes and improving our community.

Her life story is a great adventure where she fought historic socio-political battles. She battled for obtaining women's suffrage in Mexico. In the United States, she fought for women's equality and acceptance in the workplace. She worked to promote the participation of women and people of color in the democratic process.

Gracia is the people's activist. She has dedicated countless hours to improving the quality of life for women and people of color. Many leaders in San Diego will tell you that she leads by example and is quick to take people under her wing. Gracia is a proud founder of the first Chicano and Chicana studies program at Mesa Community College. In 2002, she was inducted into the San Diego Women's Hall of Fame. She is a mentor, advocate, grassroots activist, and teacher.

I have always appreciated the kind advice she has provided me over the years.

I wish to congratulate Gracia Molina de Pick for her untiring work on behalf of women, minorities, and our community at-large.

HONORING THE WORDS OF JOHN JACKSON

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to honor the words of John Jackson, a steelworker from Warren, Ohio. I am proud to claim him as my constituent.

I AM AN AMERICAN STEEL MILL

I was born over 100 years ago.

I am a true American.

I survived the depression.

I have lived through wars.

I sweated.

I poured ton after ton out for you.

When called upon I answered.

At wartime I served my country.

I served it true.

I worked 24 hours a day 7 days a week for you.

Never stopping, never slowing down.

Never asking for anything in return.

I have supplied you with the materials to build

Planes, trains, ships, cars, and whatever you asked of me.

I have helped make you the super power that you are.

I have made you feel proud, safe, secure, and superior to other nations.

I have given people their way of life.

I have taken away life from people.

Do You Know Who I Am?

I Am An American Steel Mill

I have helped you when called upon.

I have supported you through good times

And bad times.

Now I am asking you this great country of ours

Think what life would be like if I die

Think how safe, proud, secure you would feel if I die.

The cries for help are all across the country.

The same country I helped build.

The same country I helped become strong.

Please don't let me die.

Serve me as I have served you.

IN HONOR OF PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Providence High School for 50 years of outstanding dedication to education and the community.

Providence High School opened as an all girls Catholic High School in Burbank, California, in September 1955. Principal, Sister

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Maria Theresa, Sister Isabella, and Sister Esther administrated at the new school which then had its first class of 81 students. The first school building was completed on November 2, 1955. The first class of students graduated in 1959. By 1960, the number of students swelled to 495. The staff continued to grow and formed a young, enthusiastic group who worked tirelessly to attain the highest standards, not only in the academic field, but also in athletics, music and other extracurricular activities. Identifying the need for values-based education for all young people, Providence began welcoming young men, as well as women, to the school in 1974.

Sr. Lucille Dean became the school's principal in 1986. Providence continued in the next few years to build on the tradition of excellence. Providence High School has received recognition throughout its history for its academic achievement. It was designated a Blue Ribbon School in 1997 and received accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges in 1996. In 2001, the school opened the Fritz B. Burns Student Activity Center featuring a state-of-the-art gymnasium, weight room, exercise room, boys and girls locker rooms, and conference center. Providence has a proud history of carrying out its unique mission of education. The school continually strives for academic excellence and the total development of the individual.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in congratulating Providence High School for 50 years of exemplary public service, and for its immense commitment to educating young people of all cultural and economic backgrounds for academic achievement, compassionate service, ethical standards, Christian leadership, global awareness, and life-long learning.

TOM AND MARY ELLEN CODY
HONORED BY JUVENILE DIABETES
RESEARCH FOUNDATION AS
2005 CINCIANNATIANS OF THE
YEAR

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tom and Mary Ellen Cody, friends and constituents who on April 30, 2005 will be named 2005 Cincinnatians of the Year by the Cincinnati Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International. Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International is the central resource for information about type 1 juvenile diabetes, and raises funds to support research to find a cure for diabetes.

Tom and Mary Ellen are being honored for their extraordinary service to the Cincinnati community. They have been active members since they moved to our area in 1982, when Tom joined Federated Department Stores, Inc. Currently, Tom is vice chair of Federated with responsibility for legal and human resources, internal audit, external affairs, and the company's philanthropic activities. Prior to joining Federated, Tom was with Pan American World Airways, Inc. He serves on the Boards of Trustees of Xavier University, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Life Center, and the National Conference

for Community and Justice. In addition, he is a past chair of United Way of Cincinnati and the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce Board of Trustees. A native of New York City, Tom received a B.A. from Maryknoll College and a J.D. from St. John's University School of Law.

Mary Ellen is a member of the boards of Dominican Community Services, 4Cs (Community Coordinated Child Care), Dress for Success Cincinnati, and Friends of the University of Cincinnati College—Conservatory of Music (CCM). She attended the College of Mount Saint Joseph.

The Codys have 4 children: Thomas, Jr., Mark, Anne, and Amy, and 7 grandchildren.

All of us in the greater Cincinnati area congratulate the Codys on their extraordinary community service, and on receiving this prestigious honor.

FREEDOM FOR JOSÉ DANIEL FERRER GARCÍA

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about José Daniel Ferrer García, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Ferrer García is the regional coordinator for the Christian Liberation Movement in the province of Santiago. He is a peaceful pro-democracy activist who believes in the cause of freedom for the men and women of Cuba. Because of his steadfast belief in human liberty, and his constant work to bring freedom to an island enslaved by the nightmare that is the Castro regime, Mr. Ferrer García has been a constant target of the dictatorship.

According to Amnesty International, Mr. Ferrer García has been harassed and detained numerous times for his pro-democracy activism. In January 2002, he was forced from a bus and beaten by the tyrant's thugs because of his activities and ideals. In March 2003, as part of Castro's heinous crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy activists, Mr. Ferrer García was arrested. Subsequently, in a sham trial, he was sentenced to 25 years in the totalitarian gulag.

While confined in the inhuman horror of Castro's gulag, Mr. Ferrer García has been the constant target of abuse. According to the Department of State's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2004:

On January 1, José Daniel Ferrer García reported serving 45 days in a punishment cell for protesting the suspension of correspondence and the delivery of food and medical supplies from his family. He did not receive food or water during the first 3 days of his confinement and slept on a cement floor. Authorities confiscated his Bible and prohibited any contact with other prisoners.

The same Country Report describes the true horrors of a punishment cell: "Prisoners sometimes were held in 'punishment cells,' which usually were located in the basement of a prison, with continuous semi dark conditions, no available water, and a hole for a toilet." This is in addition to the grotesque depravity of the gulag that also includes beatings, isolation, denial of medical treatment to detainees and sexual abuse.

Mr. Ferrer García is a brilliant example of the heroism of the Cuban people. No matter how intense the repression, no matter how horrifically brutal the consequences of a dignified struggle for liberty, the totalitarian gulags are full of men and women of all backgrounds and ages who represent the best of the Cuban nation. Thousands languish in the gulag because, like Mr. Ferrer García, they refuse to accept the tyrannical dictatorship in Cuba today.

Mr. Speaker, we must speak out and act against this abominable disregard for human rights, human dignity, and human freedom just 90 miles from our shore. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of José Daniel Ferrer García and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF WEST BRANCH

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a community in my district that is celebrating its 100th anniversary as a city. Tomorrow, the residents of West Branch, Michigan celebrate this great milestone.

The land that is now West Branch began as a timber town in 1875, blessed with a mixture of soft and hardwoods. As many timber towns dissolved with the depleting timber supply, the early community leaders of West Branch had the foresight to replenish the forests through a conservation plan funded through a timely oil boom that contributed greatly to the economy.

Located on the Michigan's largest railroad line, West Branch is roughly halfway between the southern State line and the Mackinac Bridge. Three old Native American Chippewa Trails that convened in West Branch transformed into what is now known as highways, M-76, M-30 and M-55 making that area a major hub for the increasing transportation.

It was in 1905 that the State of Michigan recognized West Branch for 30 years of solid growth by granting them incorporation as a City. The State further noted that the area's escalating commerce in the farm industry also attributed to the cause for incorporation. Agriculture, still today, remains the area's largest economic resource.

Through the years, the community has dramatically evolved. In the 1930s and 40s West Branch grew its recreational attractions by establishing Trout Festivals and Alpine Ski facilities as well as promoting its suitability for hunting, fishing and agriculture. In the 1950s and 60s the City focused on highway and land development that brought the most famous highway in the state, I-75, directly through their emerging community. During the 70s, 80s and 90s the city experienced an economic boom and acquired two industrial parks. One of the parks was bestowed a "smiley-face" water tower, which is now the trademark of the City. The other, eventually became home to Tolfree Memorial Hospital, West Branch Regional Medical Center and the state-of-the art Seaton Cancer Center.

The West Branch of today, with a population of 1,924, serves as the County seat for Ogemaw County. This fast growing community's expanding commerce, with its own Community Airport and bustling outdoor shopping