

colonel. Mr. Booth is well respected nationally for his insights into law enforcement and the role law enforcement officers play in protecting our homeland. Throughout his career he has displayed rigorous intellect and sound judgment.

For these reasons and more, I would like to extend the warmest best wishes to Lt. Col. Joseph Booth on this special day.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF BISHOP DAVID COPELAND

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bishop David M. Copeland for his dedicated ministry to the people of San Antonio.

David Copeland is a native of Buffalo, New York, and received his early spiritual training in the Baptist Church. He completed his undergraduate education at the State University of New York at Brockport, where he received his bachelor's degree in Sociology and Speech Communications. He earned his Master of Divinity in Church Administration at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia. He was baptized into the Church of God in Christ at the age of 18, and was called to the ministry in 1969.

Bishop Copeland was the founding Pastor of the Good Shepherd Church of God in Christ in Atlanta, Georgia, as well as serving as the Chaplain and Deputy Sheriff of Dekalb County, Georgia. He has a history of taking on especially challenging ministries; he and his wife were the first active duty African American couple in the United States Air Force Chaplaincy, and he is a board member of the Fellowship of Inner City Word of Faith Ministries (FICWFM).

Bishop Copeland currently serves as the Senior Pastor of the New Creation Christian Fellowship of San Antonio, Texas. His church has grown and thrived under his leadership, purchasing new facilities and increasing its membership. His 35 years of ministry have changed countless lives for the better, and have strengthened all of the communities in which he has lived and worked.

Bishop Copeland is a blessing to the people of Texas, and I am proud to have the opportunity to thank him today.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER J. RUDDER

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2005

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Walter J. Rudder, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools of the Burlington County Institute of Technology (BCIT), who is retiring after 16 years of meritorious service to the community.

A veteran of the United States Marine Corps Reserve, Dr. Rudder has served the students of Burlington County for 38 years.

A teacher of fourth, fifth and sixth grades reading and mathematics in the Philadelphia,

Pennsylvania public schools, Walt moved to the Pemberton Borough School District as Chief School Administrator. Maple Shade Township then welcomed him as Assistant Superintendent and School Business Administrator, followed by service to the students of Northern Burlington County Regional High School District, with his career culminating at BCIT.

Dr. Rudder also contributed to the education field by training prospective educators as an Adjunct Instructor and Visiting Assistant Professor at the College of New Jersey, Southern Illinois University and Fairleigh Dickinson University.

At the helm during expansion projects at both the Medford and Westampton Campuses of BCIT, Dr. Rudder enhanced the adult-school program offerings, strengthened district admission policy and instituted a dress code, while seeing his district gain 600 students during his tenure.

While he plans to become more active as a professor at Fairleigh Dickinson, he also plans to play golf, travel and spend more time with his wife, Pat, and his family.

I and all those whose lives he has touched these many years wish health, happiness and dreams come true in his retirement.

RECOGNITION OF THE CENTENNIAL
OF THE VILLAGE OF
BECKEMEYER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2005

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial of the Village of Beckemeyer.

On this date, 100 years ago, April 14, 1905, the Village of Beckemeyer officially filed their charter to no longer be known as Buxton, but to, from then on out, go by the name of Beckemeyer.

Buxton was a way station on the Ohio and Mississippi railroad, and was situated four miles west of the county seat of Carlyle. It was laid out in lots by Zophar Case in 1866, and named Buxton in honor of Harvey P. Buxton, an attorney for the railroad, who lived in Carlyle.

On February 24th, 1905, voters rushed to the polls in a momentous vote that carried an overwhelming majority of 53 to 12, laying the official groundwork for the renaming. Many people at the time were worried that the vote would not hold because the vote was apparently held on an official holiday. That was a question for the lawyers to decide.

The vote held steady and the village was organized on this day 100 years ago by Mr. August Beckemeyer and many other prominent citizens of that place. Now and into the future, it will be known as the Village of Beckemeyer.

Here's to the Village of Beckemeyer and all who reside there.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO RODOLFO
"CORKY" GONZALES AND HIS
LIFETIME FIGHT FOR JUSTICE
AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2005

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, the Latino community lost a great leader this week. I rise today to pay tribute to Corky Gonzales, a man of principle and passion. He was a man who spent a lifetime working for equal opportunity for all Americans. At the same time, he taught us to take pride in our heritage and to remember our roots as we worked to achieve equality in mainstream society.

Corky was the youngest of 8 children. He was raised in the Denver barrio, where medical facilities were closed to Mexican migrant workers such as his parents, and opportunities were few and far between.

As a child though, he grew up listening to his father's accounts of the Mexican revolution. Having learned from those lessons of fighting for your principles, Gonzales literally fought his way out of poverty. The tough, wily man made his way into the boxing ring, and he worked his way up to become a national champion boxer. He was the first Latino inducted into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame.

But Corky was also a lifelong poet, a man who understood the power of language. He taught us that words could inspire action and create real change. His epic poem, "Yo Soy Joaquin" was an inspiration to many. It captured the struggle of a community fighting for equality, fighting to break free of poverty, and fighting to create new opportunities without losing the heritage that helps shape our identity.

I shed the tears of anguish
as I see my children disappear
behind the shroud of mediocrity,
never to look back to remember me.
I am Joaquin.
I must fight
and win this struggle
for my sons, and they
must know from me
who I am.

Corky's words called for Latinos to unite for social justice and end discrimination, to demand just treatment. It is because of his leadership in the last 30 years that today we all enjoy a more inclusive society.

Corky will live on in more than memory—he lives on in our hearts, our identity, and the strength he gave us as a community.

REYNALDO G. GARZA AND
FILEMON B. VELA UNITED
STATES COURTHOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 13, 2005

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 483, a bill to rename the courthouse in Brownsville, Texas as the Reynaldo Garza and the Filemon B. Vela courthouse.

Filemon Vela was born in Harlingen, Texas in 1935. He served as state district judge in Texas for Cameron and Willacy counties in 1975 until he was appointed as a federal judge by President Jimmy Carter in 1980. He served until 2000 when he retired.

Filemon Vela was a strong advocate of education because of his father's strong belief in education. As one of nine children he believed that he would not finish high school, but when his mother died his father motivated him to continue his education. He graduated from Harlingen High School and then went to University of Texas Austin. After serving in the U.S. Army Filemon Vela went to St. Mary's Law school and Doctor of Jurisprudence in 1962. Throughout his career he taped more than 200 radio programs urging children to stay in school and promoting literacy programs.

Reynaldo Garza was the first Mexican-American federal judge in the U.S. when he was appointed by President John F. Kennedy in 1961 to the South Texas bench. In 1979, President Jimmy Carter appointed him to the U.S. Court of Appeals, making him the first Mexican-American appointed to that court. He served his lifetime appointment in Brownsville, Texas.

Reynaldo Garza contributed many things to the Hispanic community, he was the first Mexican American elected to the Brownsville school board, and he worked with the League of United Latin American Citizens to improve the civil rights of Mexican Americans in Texas.

The lifetime accomplishments of both of these men are truly inspirational to us all. By naming the courthouse in Brownsville after them we recognize not only their contribution to the judicial community, but also to the city of Brownsville.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL DR. THOMAS W. TRAVIS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brigadier General Dr. Thomas W. Travis for his dedication to public service.

Brigadier General Dr. Thomas W. Travis is commander of the 311th Human Systems Wing of the Brooks City Base in the great State of Texas. Serving as both a command pilot and chief flight surgeon, he believes strongly that the human being is the real key to developing capable armed forces.

A distinguished graduate of numerous schools and universities, he has earned a Bachelor of Science, a Master of Science degree in physiology, a Doctor of Medicine degree from the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences School of Medicine, a Master of Science degree in public health, and a Master of Science degree in national resource strategy. His ongoing dedication to knowledge and learning has helped to make the 311th Human Systems Wing, located in Brooks City Base, the excellent unit it is today.

Brigadier General Travis is the recipient of numerous awards and decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal, the

Air Force Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Combat Readiness Medal, and the Air Force Recognition Ribbon.

I am proud to honor the many accomplishments and awards of Brigadier General Dr. Thomas W. Travis. His service sets a strong example for all of those who serve under his guidance.

HONORING 35 YEARS OF HISTORY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2005

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Spanish American Federal Credit Union, in the Town of Dover, in Morris County, New Jersey, a vibrant community I am proud to represent. On April 17, 2005, the Spanish American Federal Credit Union is celebrating its 35th Anniversary.

For 35 years, the Spanish American Federal Credit Union has lived up to its purpose by providing basic financial services to its members. The board of directors and administration of the credit union made a commitment in 1998 to improve the quality and delivery of the services provided. To that end, the credit union has made large investments in employee development, a new location and technology.

The credit union's employees are prepared to meet the demands of a growing, more diverse membership that requires top-quality service and commitment. The staff at the Dover, NJ, Spanish American Federal Credit Union maintains a high degree of professionalism and continues to strive for member service excellence. During recent months, the credit union has also made use of technological advances in order to provide its member-owners with better services.

After 30 years, the Dover, NJ, Spanish American Federal Credit Union still follows its purpose faithfully and proudly.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of the Spanish American Federal Credit Union on the celebration of its 35 years serving Morris County.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DUE PROCESS AND ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS RESTORATION ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Due Process and Economic Competitiveness Restoration Act, which repeals Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Passed in the hysterical atmosphere surrounding the Enron and WorldCom bankruptcies, Sarbanes-Oxley was rushed into law by a Congress more concerned with doing something than with doing the right thing. Today, American businesses, workers, and investors are suffering as a result of Congress's eagerness to appear "tough on corporate crime." Sarbanes-Oxley imposes costly new regulations on the financial serv-

ices industry. These regulations are damaging America's capital markets by providing an incentive for small U.S. firms and foreign firms to deregister from U.S. stock exchanges. According to a study by the prestigious Wharton Business School, the number of American companies deregistering from public stock exchanges nearly tripled the year after Sarbanes-Oxley became law, while the New York Stock Exchange had only 10 new foreign listings in all of 2004.

The post-Sarbanes-Oxley reluctance of small businesses and foreign firms to register on American stock exchanges is easily understood when one considers the costs this act imposes on businesses. According to a survey by Kron/Ferry International, Sarbanes-Oxley has cost Fortune 500 companies an average of \$5.1 million in compliance expenses in 2004, while a study by the law firm of Foley and Lardner found that the act has increased the cost associated with being a publicly held company by 130 percent.

Many of the major problems with Sarbanes-Oxley stem from Section 404 that requires that a Chief Executive Officer certify the accuracy of financial statements and that a company's outside auditors must "attest to" the soundness of the internal controls used in preparing the statements. The Public Company Accounting Oversight Board defines internal controls as "controls over all significant accounts and disclosures in the financial statements." According to John Berlau, Warren Brookes Fellow at the Competitive Enterprise Institute, the definition of internal controls is so broad that a CEO could possibly be found liable for not using the latest version of Windows! Financial analysts have identified Section 404 as the major reason why American corporations are hoarding cash instead of investing it in new ventures.

Journalist Robert Novak, in his column of April 7, said that, "[f]or more than a year, CEOs and CFOs have been telling me that 404 is a costly nightmare" and "ask nearly any business executive to name the biggest menace facing corporate America, and the answer is apt to be number 404 . . . a dagger aimed at the heart of the economy."

Compounding the damage done to the economy by Sarbanes-Oxley is the harm the act does to constitutional liberties and due process. CEOs and CFOs can be held criminally liable, and subjected to up to 25 years in prison, for inadvertent errors. Laws criminalizing honest mistakes done with no intent to defraud are more typical of police states than free societies. I hope those who consider themselves "civil libertarians" will recognize the danger of imprisoning any citizens for inadvertent mistakes, put aside any prejudice against private businesses, and join my efforts to repel Section 404.

Nowhere in the United States Constitution is the federal government given the authority to regulate the accounting standards of private corporations. These questions are to be resolved by private contracts between a company and its shareholders and by state and local regulations. I would remind my colleagues who are skeptical of the ability of markets and local law enforcement to protect against fraud that the market passed judgment on Enron, in the form of declining stock prices, before Congress even held the first hearing on the matter. My colleagues should also keep in mind that certain state attorneys general have