

one of the beloved leaders of all time. A father, husband, grandfather and dear friend, Norman Miranda was a lifelong resident of East Providence. He was the city's longest serving elected and appointed official; 13 years as a councilman and 18 years with the Zoning Board of Review. Thirty-one years as a public servant, Norman was always passionate about the issues facing his community.

He was the loving father of Loriann and Norman Jr. and a loving husband to Shirley for 46 years. If you were to meet the two, you could easily sense their marriage was one built on love and faith. They worked together as a team to raise a beautiful family that will now carry on his legacy.

Norman's years of dedicated service to his community, speak volumes about his compassion for those in need and his ability to connect with others. He loved Ward 2 like it was an extension of his family and those who lived there loved him back. They knew he could be trusted for he represented the things that mattered most, family and faith.

I had the honor of knowing Norman and his family. I remember when I first ran for Congress he offered me his support and that meant I could count on all of East Providence. I can still see him proudly marching along the many parade routes in the city, smiling and waving at the crowd—most he knew by name. It's an image we all can hold onto, a man who left his mark by symbolizing all that is good and decent. He will be forever missed.

HONORING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the Peace Corps. I would like to thank the over 7,800 volunteers who currently serve overseas for their important work with this organization.

We are in a time when the Peace Corps mission is more vital than ever, and the organization is at a 30-year high in the number of volunteers in the field. The Peace Corps is currently in 69 posts and serving 75 countries across the globe.

I salute the outstanding individuals who serve and have served in the Peace Corps, specifically the sworn-in volunteers whose hometowns are in Texas District 24: Bonnie Barron, Amanda Bass, Christopher Bass, Scott Bennett, Eric Brooke, Jaime Bruner, Susan English, David Fox, Mary Kah, Geoffrey Keogh, Carolyn McGee, Roanne Perry, and Aubrey Weers.

I am proud to represent these men and women who empower people in developing nations and promote the Peace Corps mission of peace and friendship. These volunteers are making major strides to improve the lives of people and communities around the world.

I wish the Peace Corps and its volunteers continued success and perseverance. We are grateful for their contributions to society and dedication to providing assistance where it is needed. May the Peace Corps continue its legacy of service, both at home and abroad.

CONGRATULATIONS TO RICHARD M. DEVOS ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to a native son and community pillar of my hometown, Grand Rapids, MI, Mr. Richard M. DeVos, on the occasion of his 80th birthday on March 4.

Rich has played a leading role in making Grand Rapids a wonderful and vibrant place to live. Rather than keeping the fortune that he and his business partner and lifelong friend, the late Jay VanAndel, built after creating and growing their business, Amway Corporation, Rich and Jay and their families found countless ways to reinvest the fruits of their success back into their community. Just a few of the notable examples are the development of the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, which was the linchpin in the redevelopment of downtown Grand Rapids in the early 1980s, and a donation which led to the construction of DeVos Performance Hall, a world-class performing arts center which is the home of the Grand Rapids Symphony, Opera Grand Rapids and Broadway-class plays and musicals. The hall also is part of the larger DeVos Place Convention Center.

That Rich DeVos is still with us today is nothing short of a miracle. In 1997, he survived a unique heart transplant surgery in which he received the heart of a lung transplant patient, who in turn received a combination heart-lung transplant from the victim of an auto accident. As a result of his experience, Rich now serves as chairman of the speakers' bureau for the United Network for Organ Sharing and has even testified before Congress urging support to make organ donation easier. He and his wife, Helen, also provided funding for the DeVos Children's Hospital, the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, the DeVos Communications Center at Calvin College, the DeVos Center of Grand Valley State University and the Richard and Helen DeVos Fieldhouse at Hope College in Holland, MI.

Today, Rich DeVos is the same vibrant person who was a cheerleader at Grand Rapids Christian High School and who inspired thousands of people to open their own businesses with the help of Amway. Rich has continued his inspirational ways as an author, including "Hope from My Heart: 10 Lessons for Life" and "Compassionate Capitalism." Rich is also the owner of the National Basketball Association's Orlando Magic. DeVos and VanAndel's business, now known as Alticor, continues to be a major employer in West Michigan and throughout the world, with the reins of the business handed over to their children.

Throughout his life and career, Rich DeVos has been guided by his faith in God. This has manifested itself not only in his dedication to his church, but also in the way that he does business, how he works with and cares for his employees, and his involvement in his community. Rich truly is a person who understands the Gospel admonition, "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required." (Luke 12:48).

It is my very special pleasure to wish Rich DeVos a very happy 80th birthday and I urge my colleagues to join me in doing so.

HONORING RICHARD M. DEVOS, SR. UPON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard M. DeVos, Sr. upon the occasion of his 80th birthday on March 4, 2006.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Richard DeVos and his wife, Helen, have been a blessing not only to the Grand Rapids area, but to communities throughout the United States.

He has positively impacted West Michigan through numerous civic and philanthropic contributions since cofounding the Amway Corporation in 1959 with lifelong friend and business partner, the late Jay Van Andel. He has helped to create the DeVos Children's Hospital, the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Services, the DeVos Communications Center at Calvin College, the DeVos Campus of Grand Valley State University, the DeVos Place convention center and the Richard and Helen DeVos Fieldhouse at Hope College.

Mr. DeVos has enhanced the quality of life in Grand Rapids through such generous support for educational, health and cultural initiatives.

Mr. DeVos's contributions are not limited to West Michigan, Mr. Speaker. He has contributed to numerous organizations in Central Florida as well, including the DeVos Sport Business Management Foundation Program at the University of Central Florida and the Orlando Magic Youth Foundation.

He has also touched hundreds of thousands of lives through his inspirational speeches and three books, "Believe!," "Compassionate Capitalism" and "Hope from My Heart."

Mr. Speaker, perhaps most importantly, Mr. DeVos has achieved so much in his life based upon a strong work ethic and an unyielding devotion to faith and family, ideals that we hold in the highest regard in our West Michigan community.

I wish Mr. DeVos all the best as he celebrates such a significant milestone with family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, please let it be known that on this 28th day of February in 2006, that the U.S. House of Representatives acknowledges the contributions and achievements of Mr. DeVos, and may God continue to bless him in the years ahead as he has so benefited the lives of those around him.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. RICHARD M. DEVOS, SR.

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a civic and business leader of Michigan, Mr. Richard M. DeVos, Sr., who will celebrate his 80th birthday this year.

Mr. DeVos cofounded the Amway Corporation, one of the most successful direct selling companies in the world. His efforts have enabled over 3 million people to own independent businesses.

Yet Mr. DeVos's work stretches beyond the realm of business; both he and his wife are

actively involved in philanthropy and charitable work. Their generosity has helped countless individuals both in their hometown of Grand Rapids and across Michigan. Institutions such as the DeVos Children's Hospital, the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, and the DeVos Campus of Grand Valley State University bear witness to their commitment to give back to the community.

Richard DeVos has also written three books that have inspired innovative and entrepreneurial spirits in younger generations. After undergoing a heart transplant in 1997, Mr. DeVos became the chairman of the Speakers Bureau for United Network for Organ Sharing and has worked diligently to deliver his message of perseverance and hope.

Today I rise to thank Richard M. DeVos, Sr. for his lifetime of service and dedication to our community, to congratulate him on his many accomplishments, and to wish him a happy and healthy birthday.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO A MICHIGAN LEADER, RICHARD DEVOS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Richard DeVos, a Michigan citizen who exemplifies the American spirit of entrepreneurship and community leadership.

As Richard DeVos celebrates his 80th birthday, we reflect on his many achievements as the co-founder of Amway Corp. with his life-long friend and business partner, the late Jay Van Andel, as well as his many selfless contributions to his state, community, and fellow citizens.

The author of three books, "Believe!," "Compassionate Capitalism," and "Hope From My Heart: Ten Lessons for Life," Richard also is a public speaker with an international following. After receiving a heart transplant in 1997, he took on the additional responsibility of serving as chairman for the Speakers Bureau for United Network for Organ Sharing.

Richard has owned several professional sports franchises, including the Orlando Magic of the National Basketball Association.

Richard and his wife, Helen, support many hospitals, colleges and universities, arts organizations and Christian causes in their hometown of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and also numerous organizations in their adopted community in Central Florida.

A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, Richard and his wife Helen have raised four children and have 16 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Richard DeVos as, on his 80th birthday, we acknowledge his life-long vision, compassion, and commitment to the American people and his home state of Michigan. Richard DeVos is truly deserving of our respect and admiration.

COMMENDING THE PEACE CORPS ON ITS 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS INCEPTION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend and congratulate the Peace Corps, and its many volunteers, on the 45th Anniversary of its inception. During a 1960 visit to the University of Michigan, then-Senator John F. Kennedy challenged students to not only better themselves academically, but to serve the call of duty and help promote and facilitate peace throughout the globe.

As a result of this proclamation, the Peace Corps was established with the noble goal in mind of promoting peace and friendship between the United States and other countries around the world. If President Kennedy were alive today, he would no doubt look upon the Peace Corps with great pride and admiration for what it has evolved into: a vessel which fosters an in-depth understanding between Americans and the indigenous peoples of the countries in which they serve, helping the rest of us to better understand a plethora of different customs, traditions and ways of life.

Since its founding 45 years ago, more than 182,000 Peace Corps Volunteers have been invited by 138 host countries to help countless individuals who want to build a better life for themselves, their children, and their communities. Whether empowering seemingly helpless people to take control of their own lives, assisting with AIDS relief in poverty-stricken countries, developing greater business opportunities, expanding agriculture development, or—most recently—coming to the rescue of their own countrymen whose entire lives were uprooted by the devastating destruction of Hurricane Katrina, these volunteers provide a faithful service to this great Nation, and they should be proud of their achievement. And we are certainly proud of each and every volunteer and what they represent. In fact, from my own district in Indiana, there are currently 20 volunteers who are giving their time to this country, away from their families, to help strangers make a better life for themselves, and I would personally like to thank my fellow Hoosiers for their commitment.

As we all know, the Peace Corps has made life better for millions of people worldwide, and has enriched the lives of the hundreds of thousands of Americans who have devoted their time, energy and passion into answering the Peace Corps' call to duty. I would respectfully encourage my fellow colleagues to congratulate, commend, and encourage the continued advancement and success of the Peace Corps and all that its volunteers represent.

REMEMBER INTERNMENT OF AMERICANS IN WORLD WAR II

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, on February 19, 1942, President

Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 authorizing the Secretary of War to define military areas in which "the right of any person to enter, remain in or leave shall be subject to whatever restrictions" are deemed "necessary or desirable."

By the spring of 1942, California, Oregon, Washington, and Arizona were designated as military areas.

In May of 1942, Santa Clara Valley Japanese Americans were ordered to "close their affairs promptly, and make their own arrangements for disposal of personal and real property."

Official government fliers were posted around California, Arizona and Washington instructing families to report to various assembly centers with just the bare necessities, leaving behind their homes, their lives, and most personal belongings.

Because permanent camps were not yet built, large community gathering places, such as the Tanforan Racetrack in San Mateo County in Northern California and the Santa Anita Racetrack in Southern California became home to Japanese internees for several months before being moved.

San Francisco Bay Area Japanese Americans were forced to live in horse stables at the Tanforan Racetrack until a permanent camp was built for them.

Eleven thousand Japanese Americans and aliens were evacuated from their homes and incarcerated throughout the duration of the war.

Three thousand of those interned were Japanese Americans from Santa Clara Valley.

By the fall of 1942, most internees were transported to camps far away from home, to internment camps in Arizona, Northern and Central California, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, and even as far away as Arkansas.

Most remained in internment camps until the end of the war—3 long years later.

The horror for Japanese Americans did not end upon their return to Santa Clara County in 1945 at the end of the war. Upon release, approximately 7,000 Japanese Americans moved to Santa Clara Valley.

Most had no shelter, food, money, much less a job.

Some returned to find their homes looted and destroyed.

The San Jose Buddhist Church offered what it could—shelter and hot meals for most families.

In Santa Clara County, the family of Bob Peckham (later to become Federal District Court Judge Bob Peckham) took title to the property of Japanese-American neighbors and was able to preserve property and return it at the end of the internment, so people in our area in some cases were saved the loss of their homes and businesses.

All of this happened before I was born.

But I remember very well learning about it even before it was added to the history textbooks.

My mother was a young woman in 1942. My dad was in the army and she was building airplanes at Douglas Aircraft for the war effort.

She told me about driving past the Tanforan Racetrack and how ashamed and guilty she felt. There were people locked up at the race track—living in horse stables—who she knew had done nothing wrong. People who had been her neighbors had been rounded up suddenly and taken away.