

The Texas Women's University Founders Award was first presented in 1998 to honor organizations and individuals who have supported Texas Women's University. Patsy and Fred Patterson are more than deserving of the Texas Women's University Founders Award and I am honored to represent them in the 26th District of Texas. I am proud to recognize these exceptional individuals who have given so much back to their community.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN TOM LANTOS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I insert in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a statement by former Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Stuart Eizenstat in honor of our late Chairman Tom Lantos.

STATEMENT OF STUART EIZENSTAT

I first met Tom Lantos during the 1976 Jimmy Carter presidential campaign for which I served as policy director, when Tom took a leave of absence from his teaching position in California to volunteer with the campaign. He was a great asset in helping develop our foreign policy, particularly on the Middle East. His brilliance, his intellectual integrity, and honesty made an immediate impression on me.

His Holocaust experience, as a Holocaust survivor, created an indelible link between us. From our first meeting in 1976 throughout his public career, he was a passionate and unwavering supporter of Israel and the need for peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors. He saw Israel as a Jewish State created out of the ashes of the Holocaust and the best guarantor against threats to the Jewish people. During the Clinton Administration, in which I held a number of senior positions including Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State on Holocaust-Era Issues, no Member of Congress was a stronger supporter of my efforts on behalf of the Administration to bring justice to survivors of the Holocaust and to the families of its victims.

Tom was also one of the earliest and strongest supporters in Congress for freedom for Jews in the then Soviet Union.

His Holocaust experience was reflected in a number of additional activities. He was one of the strongest supporters of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, which we created with bipartisan support at the end of the Carter Administration. He was personally responsible for naming the street on which the Museum sits as Raoul Wallenberg Place, named after the person who saved his life and his wife Annette's, following the Nazi occupation of their native Hungary in 1944. He never forgot what Raoul Wallenberg had done for them and for thousands of other Jews, and was an indefatigable champion of trying to get the Soviet Union and later Russia to provide an honest accounting of the circumstances around Wallenberg's death.

His Holocaust experience also taught him the importance of human rights around the world. He was the founder and co-chairman of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, shining a spotlight on human rights violations around the world, most recently in Darfur.

Tom's legacy of support for human rights, his strong opposition to regimes which

threaten western values, the numerous actions he took to strengthen U.S.-Israel relations mark Tom Lantos as one of the most influential and important Members of Congress in our generation. He was a dear friend and a great and good man.

HONORING THE DENTON, TEXAS LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS COUNCIL #4366

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the League of United Latin American Citizens Council #4366 in Denton, Texas. This group is being recognized by Texas Women's University as a 2008 Texas Women's University Founders Award recipient.

The Denton LULAC Council #4366 was established in 1981 under the leadership of charter president Frank Devila and 10 other Denton community leaders. Today, members serve on a number of Denton boards and committees, including the Denton Hispanic Chamber of Commerce as well as the committees for the Cinco de Mayo, Cena en el Barrio and Fiesta on the Square celebrations.

For more than five years, the Denton LULAC Council #4366 has partnered with Texas Women's University to award scholarships to deserving Hispanic students in the North Texas area. Since 2002, the organization has awarded scholarships to 13 Hispanic students at Texas Women's University.

Chancellor of Texas Women's University, Ann Stuart, has said that the university is fortunate to have partners such as Denton LULAC join them in their mission of educating the State's future leaders.

The Texas Women's University Founders Award is presented to honor organizations and individuals who have supported Texas Women's University. I am proud to honor the Denton LULAC Council #4366. This group of dedicated and service-oriented individuals is very deserving of this award, and I am proud to represent these citizens in the 26th Congressional District of Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE TEXAS ACADEMY OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young students of the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science team, one of five finalists in the Junior Engineering Technical Society/AbilityOne National Engineering Design Challenge. The team, coached by Scott Grant, consists of students participating in a two-year program through the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas.

At the final competition, which took place in Washington, DC on February 15 and 16, 2008, the five finalist teams were allowed to present their refined prototypes. The Texas

Academy of Mathematics and Science team's invention was the "Ergonomic Spool Assembly System," or eSAS, which is a table that combines adjustable height and incline to allow workers in wheelchairs to manufacture spools easily.

The eSAS was one of two second place finishers and received the award for "Outstanding Assistive Technology Design." Second place finishers won \$1,500 to go towards their school's sponsoring departments. The team received two other awards for the eSAS, "Best Presentation" and "Best Application of Rehabilitation Engineering Design Principles."

The Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science team was one of 250 teams who initially entered the competition in September of 2007. The annual competition offers high school students an opportunity to improve the lives of people with severe disabilities through assistive technology.

The Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science is an early-admission program that provides an accelerated education for bright, motivated Texas high school students who have demonstrated an interest in pursuing careers in mathematics and science. Students in this two-year program complete a rigorous academic curriculum of college coursework at the University of North Texas.

Madam Speaker, I believe these students should be recognized not only for being participants in this prestigious program, but also for their outstanding accomplishments in the Junior Engineering Technical Society/AbilityOne National Engineering Design Challenge. I am proud to represent these talented and accomplished young men and women in the 26th District of Texas, and I look forward to the positive impact these students will have on the North Texas community.

IN MEMORY OF WAYNE FERGUSON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give tribute to Wayne Ferguson, a former mayor, council member and land developer from the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for his lifelong contributions to his community and to his fellow citizens. Mr. Ferguson passed away at the Medical Center of Lewisville on February 25, 2008.

Mr. Ferguson served on the Lewisville City Council and also as Mayor of Lewisville, Texas in the late 1970s and early 1980s. He went on to serve as the board chairman of the Medical Center of Lewisville, working tirelessly to constantly improve the hospital to meet the needs of the growing community. His never-ending devotion to the city of Lewisville led to his service on multiple other boards and committees, including the city's Tourism Committee and various advisory boards for the Lewisville Police Department. He was a strong supporter of the Lewisville Chamber of Commerce, maintaining close personal and professional relationships with many of the city's leaders. Mr. Ferguson was voted Citizen of the Year in 1989.

Mr. Ferguson has been a constant ally and advocate of the Lewisville Economic Development Foundation. He was extremely influential

during his career as a land developer, helping to make many of Lewisville's economic developments a reality, including the Vista Ridge Mall and the State Highway 121 bypass. In recent years he has become a strong proponent of restoring and revitalizing the city's Old Town. In 2006, the plaza which hosts the Old Town Farmers Market was renamed Wayne Ferguson Plaza by the Lewisville City Council.

About two years ago, Mr. Ferguson developed cancer in his blood cells. He went into remission for a brief period of time after aggressive treatment, but the cancer returned. In an amazing show of solidarity and support for

one of their own, the Lewisville community organized a blood drive for Mr. Ferguson to provide him with much needed blood transfusions to battle the cancer. It is perhaps the most telling testament to his many years of fighting for the best interests of Lewisville. In his time of great need, the city he gave so much to for so many years rose up and gave back to him during his exhausting personal battle.

Described by friends and associates as both the soul of Lewisville and the city's greatest champion, Mr. Ferguson was also a successful rancher and devoted family man. He is survived by his wife, Judy Kay, daughters Aman-

da Kay Ferguson and Brenna Kay DeVoe, brother Tommy Ferguson, and three granddaughters.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today and honor the memory of such a selfless and honorable individual. Wayne Ferguson was a dedicated public servant, and serves as a role model to all citizens. I extend my sincerest sympathies to his family and friends. He will be deeply missed by many, his service will always be greatly appreciated, and the small Texas community of Lewisville will forever be in his debt.