

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOE LAMANTIA,
JR.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Joe LaMantia, Jr., on being the recipient of the Golden Eagle Award from the McAllen Hispanic Chamber of Commerce during the 9th Annual Noche de Gala.

Joe has shown exemplary leadership in his civic service to the south Texas community with his extensive involvement in the Lions' Club, American Heart Association, Rio Grande Cancer Treatment Research Foundation, South Texas Communities for Youth Service, and the Special Olympics. Joe is also the founder and chairman of the preeminent South Texas Academic Rising Stars, STARS, organization, which gives opportunities to the youth in south Texas in pursuing their dreams of higher education. He has made their dreams possible, and it is for this reason alone, that he truly deserves the Golden Eagle Award from the McAllen Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Today, STARS partners with hundreds of local and national businesses, organizations, colleges, and universities to raise over \$12 million in scholarship funds. This is truly a hallmark of Joe's success as a businessman, and as a committed husband to his wife, Derrelene, father to his seven children, and grandfather to his 26 grandchildren. Joe has come a long way from his initial start in farming in Carrizo Springs with produce operations in Chile and Mexico. The Rio Grande Valley became home for his family, and the base of his business, L&F Distributors, which has allowed him to deepen his ties to the south Texas community through his philanthropic work with STARS.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the dedication and commitment of Mr. Joe LaMantia, Jr., and his organization, STARS, to the children in communities all across south Texas. I thank you for this time.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring the contributions of Catholic schools as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

I want to recognize both the teachers and administrators of Catholic schools across America who devote their lives to providing students with a strong moral and academic foundation.

Catholic institutions prepare 2.3 million young men and women for college and many of these students participate in volunteerism and other programs that help to improve the community.

The benefits of a Catholic education go far beyond the classroom. The moral and intellectual growth fostered in America's Catholic

schools prepare our young men and women with a sense of social responsibility that lasts a lifetime.

I know firsthand the positive value that a Catholic education can have in an individual's development. My wife and I are both products of Catholic schools and we chose to send our two children to Catholic schools based on the significant impact Catholic instruction has had in each of our lives.

It is with great pleasure that I stand before the House of Representatives and the American people today to commend the dedication of Catholic schools to the academic excellence of our young men and women.

RECOGNIZING THE OPENING OF THE OHLONE COLLEGE NEWARK CENTER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the opening of the Ohlone College Newark Center for Health Sciences and Technology in Newark, California. The Center will be officially dedicated on January 31, 2008.

Ohlone College is looking to the future with a new green campus that will prepare students for jobs in the burgeoning health, biotech and environmental technology industries.

Ohlone College President Douglas Treadway said the Newark Center, in addition to being the first green college campus in the Nation, will be the first community college campus in California to have a thematic emphasis. The Center will specifically support the growing fields of health care, biotech and environmental technology.

The Ohlone College Newark Center for Health Sciences and Technology was completed in December 2007 and could be certified at the LEED platinum level—the highest U.S. Green Building Council certification for sustainable construction and design.

The 135,000 square-foot campus is constructed on 80 acres on Newark's Cherry Street and will be an addition to the college's main campus in Fremont, California. The Newark Center will serve some 3,500 students attending day and evening courses.

The Newark campus houses 26 miles of underground piping which is part of a geothermal system that will result in a 25 percent improvement in energy performance. There are some 38,000 square feet of solar panels employed at the Newark campus, which provide energy savings the equivalent to taking 1,000 cars off Bay Area freeways every day. The effects of the alternative energy features could reduce the campus' utility bills by as much as \$400,000 to \$500,000 a year.

The building employs three different alternative energy systems, and a long list of other green features, from recycled blue jeans for insulation to sustainable produced furniture.

I join the community in applauding the opening of the Ohlone College Newark Center for Health Sciences and Technology, the first green community college campus in the United States. This leadership and commit-

ment to quality education, energy and the environment, as demonstrated by Ohlone College, is exemplary.

CHARLES "CHUCK" ROBINSON

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, sail boat racers, mining companies and Henry Kissinger don't have much in common. But they share this: all have relied on the passion and ingenuity of Chuck Robinson.

Chuck has been finding solutions to tough problems for most of his 88 years. He has received more than 30 patents for ideas ranging from better ways to transport iron ore to better ways to build a sailboat. His ideas have made him a leader in business and government. Even his home displays Chuck's brilliance and commitment to his community. His home features the world's largest heating system in a private home. And after all these accomplishments, Chuck has not slowed down.

I rise today to honor Chuck for receiving New Mexico's first Visionary Designer Lifetime Achievement Award. The award recognizes that Chuck has already put in a lifetime's worth of work tackling tough problems, but those who know him recognize that Chuck's work is far from over. I look forward to admiring Chuck's incredible abilities for years to come.

HONORING HRANT DINK

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, one year after the tragic killing of Hrant Dink, his loss remains acutely felt by many communities throughout the world. To observe this anniversary, I resubmit for the record my statement made at the time of his death, which calls for comity and peace in a time of such sadness.

I supported H. Res. 102 and I condemn in the strongest possible terms the cowardly murder of journalist Hrant Dink in Istanbul on January 19, 2007. I find particularly contemptible the actions of those who seemingly chose a 17-year-old youth—the alleged killer—to commit this appalling crime. This despicable act should not, however, obscure the inspiring solidarity of tens of thousands of secular, Muslim, and Armenian Christian Turks who filed past Mr. Dink's bier and marched in his funeral procession. Western news media have estimated the crowds between 50,000 and 100,000. Important Turkish officials, such as Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Ali Sahin; Interior Minister Abdulkadir Aksu; the governor of Istanbul, Muammer Guler; the head of the security forces, Celalettin Cerrah; and two generals joined Arman Kirakossian, the deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia, and other Armenian officials at the funeral service.

Everyone in the world who cherishes freedom and brotherhood must take heart when signs proclaiming "We are all Armenians" are carried through the streets of Istanbul. I wish

to express my condolences to the family and friends of Hrant Dink. I want also to express my profound respect for all his fellow citizens who protested his murder and mourned his death.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SPEECH OF

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to celebrate the life of one of the greatest leaders in our Nation's history, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. Martin Luther King is revered and respected throughout the world for his commitment to unite humanity by working to end segregation and racial discrimination and to create social and economic justice for all.

Martin Luther King, Jr. brought the issues of racism, segregation, and inequality to the forefront of the United States' and the world's moral conscience. He willingly sacrificed his life for humanity in the hope of helping our Nation fulfill its promise of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" for all Americans. He vehemently expressed that America could not be true to its vision unless these inalienable rights expressed in its founding documents could be applied to all.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. envisioned a world-wide community where all forms of discrimination and prejudice would cease to exist. He advocated peaceful methods of conflict resolution instead of brute force and violence. To King, his dream was not a utopian ideal, but a reality that could be actively sought. King stated that, "It is this love which will bring about miracles in the hearts of men."

Those who released attack dogs at him, sprayed him down with firehoses, threatened him, and even bombed his house ultimately learned to respect him and his vision because of his unequivocal embrace of humanity for all. He looked past the evil he faced and the ignorance many held firmly close at heart with an empathetic vision of hope for social and economic justice. That is, he believed righteousness and love could overcome the greatest evils. I quote his vision, "Yes if you want to say that I was a drum major, say that I was a drum major for justice; say that I was a drum major for righteousness. And all of the other shallow things will not matter. I won't have the fine and luxurious things of life to leave behind. But I just want to leave a committed life behind."

In his last sermon, Dr. King stated, "If any of you are around when I have to meet my day, I don't want a long funeral, and if you get somebody to deliver the eulogy, tell him not to talk too long.—Tell him not to mention that I have a Nobel Peace Prize; that isn't important. Tell him not to mention that I have three or four hundred other awards; that's not important. Tell him not to mention where I went to school. I'd like somebody to mention that day that Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to give his life serving others. I'd like for somebody to say that day that Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to love somebody—I want you to be able to say that day that I did try to feed the hungry. I

want you to be able to say that day that I did try in my life to visit those who were in prison. And I want you to say that I tried to love and serve humanity."

On behalf of the people of the 11th Congressional of Ohio I join with the rest of the Nation, and the world to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The torch has now been passed on to us to carry on his commitment for social and economic justice. There is still more work to be done. We must continue to strive towards making the dream Dr. King dreamt for us into a reality. May his legacy live on.

HONORING THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD ON ITS SELECTION AS A RECIPIENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S 2007 CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PERFORMANCE AND INNOVATION AWARD

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 832, Honoring the Texas Water Development Board on its selection as a recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency's 2007 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Performance and Innovation Award, introduced by my distinguished colleague from Texas, Representative EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON. This important legislation recognizes the exceptional work done by the Texas Water Development Board in its efforts to be an environmental innovator and for its vast contributions to the great State of Texas.

On November 5, 2007 the Texas Water Development Board was honored at the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities annual conference in Denver, Colorado. Subsequently, this mark of distinction produced a major environmental victory. The Texas Water Development Board agency is distinguished for its exceptional regional water planning activities, finest administration practices in nonpoint source pollution endowment, the instream flow program, and funding of water reuse projects amongst other notable achievements.

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund in Texas has lucratively granted communities nearly \$4,300,000,000 in low-interest loans to finance 472 water infrastructure projects across the State of Texas. This initiative serves about one-half of the population of Texas and provides direct environmental and public health benefits.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I urge that Congress recognize the magnitude of the Texas Water Development Board's satisfactory investment and management of water resources in sustainable development, including environmental integrity, human health, and overall quality of life in the United States.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 28, 2008

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, January 23, 2008, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 21: "yes." On motion to pass H.R. 3963, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, January 29, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 30

10 a.m.

Budget

To hold hearings to examine the economic stimulus, focusing on budget policy for a strong economy over the short- and long-term budget outlook.

SD-608

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the threats and protections for the polar bear.

SD-406

Finance

To hold hearings to examine private fees for service in Medicare Advantage plans.

SD-215

Judiciary

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Department of Justice.

SH-216

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine the Small Business Administration's accountability, focusing on the efficacy of women's contracting and lender oversight.

SR-428A

11 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of James K. Glassman, of Connecticut, to be Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy with the rank of Ambassador, Goli Ameri, of Oregon, to be Assistant Secretary for Educational