

OPENING OF NEW LEED GOLD
CERTIFIED CUB FOODS STORE IN
ST. PAUL, MN

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2009

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Minnesota-based grocery retail company Cub Foods for its planned opening of one of the nation's first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold Certified grocery stores in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The new store, located in the heart of St. Paul's Phalen neighborhood, will be the first LEED Gold Certified grocery store in Minnesota and the second in the United States. It received an award from the Environmental Protection Agency's GreenChill Partnership at Gold-Level Certification for outstanding use of environmentally friendly refrigeration technology. I want to congratulate Brian Huff, President of Cub Foods; Mark Halvorson, Phalen Cub Foods Store Manager; and Jeff Noddle, Chairman and CEO of Cub Food's parent company SUPERVALU for their outstanding environmental leadership in setting a new standard in the grocery retail industry.

As a member of the Congressional Green Buildings Caucus I firmly believe that energy efficiency in our nation's buildings must play an important part in a 21st century energy strategy for the United States. The innovations Cub Foods brings to the St. Paul Phalen community with its new LEED store are exceptional and should be replicated nationwide. The new 62,900 square-foot store has skylights to illuminate 75 percent of occupied spaces and has the first commercial parking lot in Minnesota illuminated using only LED lights. It incorporates a landscape irrigation system that uses 50 percent less water than typical systems. In addition, 75 percent of the building construction waste will be recycled. Such innovations must become the standard for America's buildings as we tackle the challenges of climate change and energy security.

In addition, the Phalen Cub Foods store was an integral part of St. Paul's East Side redevelopment project and has created approximately 135 new part-time and full-time jobs for the neighborhood. As we face a global recession, such green projects are a win-win for the environment and our economy.

As Cub Foods commemorated their 40th Anniversary in 2008, the commitment Cub is making to the long-term well-being of the environment, their customers and employees truly exemplifies Minnesota's strong tradition of community and responsible stewardship of our community and our planet. I congratulate Cub Foods on its efforts and look forward to continuing our shared fight for a greener building sector and stronger economy.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY OF MR. AND MRS.
ENCARNACION AREVALO
GUERRA

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2009

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the 50th Wedding Anniversary for Encarnacion 'Carny' Arevalo Guerra and Emma Flores Guerra. The lives of these individuals have been uniquely American, and this Golden Anniversary of theirs is a special moment for not only them, but for their family and friends.

Encarnacion Arevalo Arevalo was born May 15th, 1940 in McGregor, Michigan to Sacarias Bonilla Guerra and Ines Arevalo. Emma Flores Guerra was born December 13th, 1940 in San Antonio, TX to Alfredo Saucedo Flores and Ofelia Cavazos Flores. From San Antonio, Emma's family moved to Saginaw, Michigan that she met Encarnacion. Both fathers of the honored couple worked at General Motors during the 1940's, a crucial period when manufacturers were devoting all effort to preparing the military with proper equipment.

Music played an important role in both of their lives. As children they loved music and would attend weekly dances in Saginaw, Michigan as young adults. This later would inspire them to start a business. When both were in junior high, attending Central Junior High in Saginaw, Encarnacion played the saxophone, and Emma the French horn. This is where they met and began their relationship. Not all went as planned however as Emma's family was forced to move back to San Antonio. This would not stop their relationship however. The young couple stayed in touch by writing letters to each other at every chance they had.

It was January 10, 1959 that the two married in a large ceremony at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. After marriage, Encarnacion supported his growing family with his continued employment at General Motors in Saginaw for 10 years. It was during this time that the two welcomed 5 daughters into their family: Cynthia, Sylvia, Judith Ines, Belinda, and Elaine.

After leaving GM, the family moved to Laredo, Texas. It was here the couple purchased and converted the Bowl-A-Rama into what we now know as the "Casa Blanca Ballroom". The Ballroom has become a landmark and has held a prominent place in the lives for Laredoans for almost 40 years now.

From here the couple went on to purchase their first radio station in Nuevo Laredo and name it "Radio Canon". This proved to a wise investment, and the Guerra's later purchased share holdings in seven more radio stations. After a short try at retirement, the two returned to the business and acquired three new radio stations: Z-93, Energy 98, and K-Onda. In 1995, the couple moved to San Antonio, but remain active in the communities. Today, when Encarnacion is not tinkering in his garden, the two are fulfilling their dream of traveling the world. The Guerras are a vibrant example of living the American dream.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating them on the 50th Wedding Anniversary not just as local icons in Texas, but model citi-

zens of the United States of America. They are true stewards of the American dream, and I celebrate them and thank them for their contributions to the Great State of Texas.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. JOSEPHINE ARNOLD

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2009

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mrs. Josephine Arnold of Portage, Michigan, for her nearly 30 years of distinguished service to the Portage Senior Center and the greater Kalamazoo area.

Jo began working with the Portage Senior Center in 1979 and was named its charter director in 1992 when the Portage City Council created the Department of Senior Services to give the senior center a direct link to the council. Since its inception 30 years ago, the Portage Senior Center has gained 2,000 members and currently has a regular daily attendance of 200 senior citizens. Under Jo's leadership in 2000, the Portage Senior Center became Michigan's first nationally accredited senior center and one of an elite group of 127 centers that have been nationally accredited. Throughout the years, Jo's overriding goal at the center has been to promote personal growth, health, friendship, and independence for area seniors and all generation participants. In addition to her career with the city of Portage, Jo has been an active community member as an instructor at Kalamazoo Valley Community College and as the activities director of Friendship Village.

Jo has been an inspirational figure, exuding friendship, generosity, and leadership in her commitment to a population often neglected by society. Her dedication to community development will be remembered for years to come and her example followed to continue to aid senior citizens in Kalamazoo.

Once again, I would like to personally congratulate and thank Jo Arnold for her many years of public service to the citizens of this great country. Southwest Michigan is truly a better place because of her contributions.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF MOUNT FERN UMC

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2009

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the one hundred twenty-fifth anniversary of the Mount Fern United Methodist Church, in Randolph, New Jersey.

The first service at Mount Fern Church was held on November 11, 1883. Mount Fern Church was an offshoot of the Millbrook Methodist Church established 50 years earlier in 1833. Mount Fern was built to serve the growing surrounding community and the workers at Mine Hill who did not have transportation to Millbrook.

John R. Spargo is the person most responsible for the church at Mount Fern. He donated the land, provided the financing, helped

build the church, and he gave the church a new name, Mount Fern Church.

By 1880 Mount Fern was a hilltop community of about 25 homes, a dozen or so farms, and the mining families. The successes of the local mines attracted still more miners to Randolph. After moving to an old stone farmhouse, John Spargo held Methodist class meetings in his home. The old stone house served as both an early church and Sunday school. Its two small rooms were soon filled to capacity. Eventually the community decided it was time to build a new church.

The Rev. Robert Jenkins served as the first pastor of Mount Fern Church from 1883–1884 and returned for a second year in 1894. Many of the Mount Fern early pastors were laymen, people who lived in the community, often with a farm of their own, and volunteered to lead the church for a year or two.

Mount Fern was well attended in its earliest years. However, membership declined when the local mines closed. By 1914 the church listed only 30 members.

The first Mount Fern Church Fair was held on July 4, 1914. Booths surrounding the church sold food, gifts, and souvenirs. A baked goods booth featured fresh-baked cookies and Anne Spargo's apple pies. Chicken suppers were served from a tent erected on the grounds. Fireworks at the first fair, by accident or mischievous design, ignited prematurely. Mount Fern never attempted fireworks again, but the church fair became a popular annual event for over 50 years.

By 1948 there were about 100 houses in the community. New families moved into the area and the church began to grow. In 1952 construction of a new fellowship hall began.

Growth continued and membership swelled to 350 after the arrival of Rev. Diane Gilbert in 1996.

Although over the years the building has changed, the church has not. Mount Fern Church remains a congregation of people united in their faith.

Madam Speaker, I ask that the House recognize this remarkable church and parishioners who have contributed so much toward the preservation and appreciation of American history through their place of worship at Mount Fern United Methodist Church in Randolph, New Jersey.

NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2009

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution recognizing and honoring those who make a difference in the lives of our young people across the United States.

I am honored to be joined by Congressman MIKE ROGERS of Michigan and Congresswoman BETTY MCCOLLUM of Minnesota in introducing a resolution marking January of 2009 as National Mentoring Month as proclaimed by the President of the United States. National Mentoring Month celebrates and honors those who are mentors and draws attention to the great need for more mentors.

Mentors make a tremendous difference in the lives of our children. When a responsible

and reliable adult becomes a mentor, the benefits to the mentee can last a lifetime. Countless stories show the positive outcomes of a good role model.

Quality mentoring relationships between reliable adults and our young people are invaluable. Millions of adults nationwide are acting as excellent role models while providing guidance and advice to our young people—many of whom face problems at home or difficulties at school. Without a good, solid role model, our kids are more likely to drop out of high school or to become involved with drugs or alcohol.

Unfortunately, research shows that about 15 million children across the United States are in need of a mentor and a good role model. It is crucial that we begin to reach these children to give them a better future and hope. We are calling on more adults to rise to the occasion and to act as a role model to our children.

Madam Speaker, thank you very much for the opportunity to offer a resolution honoring America's mentors on the occasion of National Mentoring Month, 2009. I urge its quick passage.

IN HONOR OF DANIEL M. ORTEGA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2009

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of a great public servant on the occasion of his retirement. Daniel M. Ortega has served the City of Salinas as Chief of Police for nearly a decade, working hard to provide its citizens with a sense of peace, safety, and security. He retired this week after an exemplary 42-year public safety career.

Chief Ortega began his career in his hometown of Stockton, California, as a patrol officer. He then moved to San Jose, where he spent 28 years ascending the ranks of the San Jose Police Department. His assignments included 12 years as a hostage negotiator, 3 years as the Executive Director of the Police Activities League, and as the Captain of the Special Operations Division. In June 1999, Chief Ortega left the San Jose Police Department as a Deputy Chief of Police and Chief of Detectives.

In Salinas, Chief Ortega championed community-oriented policing. He created a police substation on Salinas' east side to ensure increased community access to the police. Moreover, he coordinated with business leaders to develop strategies to increase the safety of local businesses. Chief Ortega was also instrumental in creating a Community Services Coordinator position within City Hall. Additionally, he revitalized the School Resource Officer program to polish the image of police amongst the city's youth. Seeking to staff the department with "homegrown" police officers, Chief Ortega established a cadet program, which mentored youth from ages 16 to 21. Furthermore, in conjunction with the County of Monterey, he was integral in developing the highly successful Joint Gang Task Force.

In addition to his community-oriented approach, Chief Ortega improved the Salinas Police Department in other ways. He increased the force from a strength of 150 to 187 and expanded the Hostage Negotiation

Team. He also established a horse-mounted unit, added a ballistic identification system, and acquired command and crime scene investigation vehicles.

Chief Ortega has served on the Board of Directors of various organizations, including the California Police Chiefs Association and the United Way of Monterey County. He is also a past president of the Monterey County Chief Law Enforcement Officers Association. His memberships include the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the National Latino Police Officers Association.

Madam Speaker, Chief Daniel M. Ortega leaves an indelible legacy and a shining example to his officers, peers, and successors. On behalf of the House, I wish Chief Ortega, his wife Donna, and their family continual happiness and prosperity as he progresses on to well-deserved retirement.

HONORING BOB PICKARD

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 9, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bob Pickard upon his retirement as Mariposa County Supervisor, District V. Supervisor Pickard was honored by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, December 16, 2008.

Bob Pickard was originally appointed on September 4, 1996, by Governor Wilson to fill an unexpired term on the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, District V. He was elected in 1996 and re-elected in 2000 and 2004. Over the past decade, Supervisor Pickard has been involved in numerous projects, committees, and organizations. He served as chair in 1999, 2003, and 2005. Under his role of supervisor he served on the Disaster Advisory Council, Fish Camp Community Planning Advisory Council, Wawona Appeals Board, Wawona Town Planning Advisory Committee, and Mariposa Solid Waste AB939 Local Task Force. Over the years, he also served on the board of directors for over 10 different agencies including: Area 12 Agency of Aging Joint Powers Authority Governing Board, California State Association of Counties Government Finance and Operations Committee, and California State Association of Resource Conservation and Development Council. Supervisor Pickard worked tirelessly on dozens of projects to revamp the county, community planning and development, recreation facilities, landfill, wastewater treatment facilities, airport improvement, road and fire station improvements. During his tenure, he was regularly involved in the resolving of natural disasters including the floods of 2005, the Ferguson rock slide disaster of 2006 and the recent wildfires of 2008.

Supervisor Pickard has worked with the State government for assistance in resolving issues that affect small rural counties. He was successful with legislation to bring \$400,000 to Mariposa County, \$80,000 per year for counties with no incorporated cities, for their fair share of the gasoline tax and vehicle license fees; \$900,000 for local road rehabilitations; \$240,000 to provide equity funding for rural counties and their hazardous waste inspections on local businesses; \$120,000 and an