

beginning his work in health care administration working in long-term care facilities, ambulatory care centers and hospitals.

For the last twenty-three years, Mr. Conway has worked at the New Hampshire State Veterans Home, providing quality care and services to our states aging and disabled veterans. Under his leadership the Veterans Home has become a sought after long-term care facility, focusing on the special needs of our veterans. The care provided to our veterans not only meets their specific challenges and needs, but honors both them and their service to our country.

Mr. Conway has also shared his expertise and experience in caring for the elderly, frail, and disabled veterans as a member of many associations including the National Association of State Veterans Home, American College of Health Care Administrators, New Hampshire Health Care Association, and the American Legion. He has served New Hampshire and its residents well, especially our veterans community, and he will be sorely missed when he leaves the Veterans Home.

I congratulate Barry Conway on his well earned retirement and thank him for his outstanding support of our veterans here in New Hampshire. I wish both Barry and his wife Barbara continued success in their life together.

TRIBUTE TO THE WEST END
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2012

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the West End Church of God in Christ in my district of San Antonio, Texas as they celebrate 95 years of service to the community.

Throughout the past 95 years, they have worked diligently to provide the local community with spiritual enrichment, guidance and support. For nearly a century, they have endured and succeeded in accomplishing their mission to generations of families.

The service of The West End Church of God in Christ is as important today as it was 95 years ago, and their impact on our community cannot be understated. I would again ask you to help me congratulate The West End Church of God in Christ on their 95th jubilee.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF THE HONORABLE WARREN
BRIGGS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize the life and service of the Honorable Warren Briggs. Mayor Briggs was a dedicated public servant and a staple in the community. Northwest Florida mourns his passing.

Mayor Briggs, a Saint Paul, Minnesota native, led a distinguished life as a public servant, businessman, educator and soldier. He was a graduate of the United States Military

Academy at West Point who answered the call of duty and served our nation with honor and distinction. Mayor Briggs served as a pilot in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II, and later returned to his alma mater to serve as an English Instructor at West Point. He served in the United States Air Force until 1957, achieving the rank of Major. Following his military service, Mayor Briggs settled down in northwest Florida with his wife, Gloria, and joined his father-in-law in the Century, Florida sawmills at Alger-Sullivan Company.

It did not take long for Mayor Briggs to become active in Pensacola and Escambia County politics. In 1966 he was elected to the Florida House of Representatives. Mayor Briggs was widely respected by his colleagues in the Florida State Legislature, and was described as a gentle politician by his friends. In 1976, he continued his service to the northwest Florida community as Mayor of the City of Pensacola until 1978.

Mayor Briggs was involved in myriad civic organizations and charities such as Hospice of Northwest Florida, University of West Florida Foundation, USO Downtown Improvements, Junior Achievement of Pensacola, the Navy League of the United States, the Children's Home Society, United Cerebral Palsy, the Pensacola Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Pensacola Museum of Art. He was also president of Baptist Health Care Foundation. Mayor Briggs' work ethic, humility, and dedication to the citizens of northwest Florida did not go unnoticed. He had been honored as the Businessman of the Year by the Pensacola News Journal, BIP Community Leader of the Year, and Madison Fellow. Mayor Briggs was also bestowed with the United Way Distinguished Community Service Award and the Baptist Healthcare Foundation Fellowship Award.

Mayor Briggs had a deep passion and commitment to beautifying the City of Pensacola, and he wanted to establish the city as the Crape Myrtle Capital of the World. He encouraged community residents to color the area by planting crape myrtles in their yards and other public spaces. He also worked to highlight the beauty and history of the city by developing and restoring Pensacola's historic buildings through his company, Thompson-Briggs Developers. He was also the self-appointed Pensacola weed inspector, a role that friends and family claim he was most passionate about.

To some, Mayor Briggs will be remembered as a dedicated public servant and member of our armed forces. To others, he will be remembered as an amiable and caring neighbor always willing to lend a hand to improve the city's appearance. To his family, he will most fondly be remembered as a loving brother, father, and grandfather. His impact on northwest Florida was immense, and his legacy will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life and service of Warren Briggs. My wife Vicki joins me in extending our most sincere condolences to his daughter, Sandi Briggs; granddaughter, Clancy Bambrick; brother and sister-in-law, Edward and Nan Briggs and the entire Briggs family.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOB MURRAY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Bob Murray for his long and distinguished career helping families on Cape Cod.

For the past twenty-five years, Bob has been one of the Cape's strongest advocates for those who are in need of a home. He first became involved with helping the homeless when he was a small business owner and town selectman in Arlington, Massachusetts. Upon his retirement, Bob, like many in Massachusetts, chose to relocate to the Cape. Unlike most, however, his work did not end there. Instead, Bob chose to dedicate himself to helping those who are struggling with homelessness. When he found out that several local families were living in hotels, and threatened with losing even that form of shelter, he went into action, visiting every local pastor in the town of Harwich and raising money to help these families establish new homes. This grassroots initiative quickly grew into the Harwich Ecumenical Council for Housing, or HECH, an organization that has helped countless families since it was officially founded in 1990. Today, HECH's many responsibilities include the management of a portfolio of fifty-eight of its own rental units, one-to-one assistance with homeownership opportunities, and individual counseling. In addition, HECH founded The Children's Center of Harwich, a year-round childcare program that has proven to be an important resource for the area's working families.

Bob's compassion for those struggling with homelessness has reached nearly every corner of Cape Cod. In addition to being the president and founder of HECH, Bob was also a founding board member of the Family Pantry of Cape Cod, an organization that has provided food and clothing to those in need for nearly twenty-three years. He also founded the Falmouth Service Center in Falmouth, Massachusetts, a one-stop organization that provides housing opportunities, clothing, and community resources to local families. Nonprofits nationwide now turn to Bob for consulting, as his story is seen as a model of what can be accomplished when one is truly dedicated to helping others.

Residents of Cape Cod's shoreline know Bob as the man who loves to raise awareness for a good cause. For the past twenty years, Bob has organized the annual Housing with Love Walk on Cape Cod, leading others as they walk along the coast from Provincetown to Sandwich in order to raise awareness for the issues faced by the homeless. This year, Bob's organizations joined forces with several other local nonprofits, and over a quarter of a million dollars was raised for those in need. Known as an "entrepreneur with a deep heart," Bob is well-loved by his friends and co-workers. He continues to work tirelessly with his wife, Judy, in ensuring that no family on Cape Cod faces the incredible hardship of homelessness.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Bob Murray for his extraordinary career in helping others. I am proud to call him my friend and I ask that my colleagues join me in

honoring all that he has done for the families of Cape Cod.

HONORING THE CROATIAN
AMERICAN CIVIC CLUB

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2012

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Croatian American Civic Club of Farrell, Pennsylvania, as it celebrates the Centennial of the "Hrvatski Dom," the Croatian home. This architectural and cultural landmark, which still stands, serves as a reminder of the great impact the Croatian community has on our region's rich cultural history. Their commitment to the preservation of their culture is worthy of this body's recognition and admiration.

Croatian immigrants, who began construction on the Hrvatski Dom in September of 1912, would arrive immediately after their 12-hour shifts at the steel mills to work on the arduous task of laying bricks. On Thanksgiving, 1912, less than three months after the beginning of construction, the Hrvatski Dom was officially opened, serving as a testament to the dedication and perseverance of these immigrant laborers.

Starting as lodging for a collection of Croatian immigrants, the Hrvatski Dom quickly transformed into the central location for a community of like-minded Croatian Americans. As the hub for Croatian immigrants, the Hrvatski Dom became an educational, musical, and athletic haven for young and old alike—bridging the gap between the old country and their new culture as American citizens. I would also like to give special recognition to a celebrated member of the Croatian American Civic Club, who passed away earlier this year. Known as Aunt Polly, Mrs. Pauline Desput exemplified the love and care of the Croatian community in Pennsylvania.

I take great pride in celebrating and congratulating the Croatian American Civic Club of Farrell on its momentous day.

IN HONOR OF MEE MEMORIAL
HOSPITAL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the Fiftieth anniversary of Mee Memorial Hospital in King City, California. Founded in 1962 to replace an outmoded and inadequate facility, Mee Memorial has served its small town home and over 5,000 square miles of surrounding rural farms, ranches, and scattered residences with the highest quality medical care for the last half century. In that time it has grown into modern facility with a network of clinics serving the whole cross section of the local community, from farmworkes and local retirees to visiting U.S. Army Reserve soldiers training at nearby Fort Hunter Liggett.

In the late 1950s, South Monterey County leaders recognized the need to upgrade their

community's medical care. Dr. L.M. Andrus and his son, Dr. L.H. Andrus, donated land for a new hospital. Local leaders secured part of the construction funding through the federal Hill-Burton Act. A community campaign raised the balance needed, with local ranchers Myrtle Mee and her son Tom Mee donating the final \$150,000. They sold a valuable herd of cattle to complete the campaign. The campaign leadership named the hospital in memory of Myrtle's husband, George L. Mee, in recognition of this final critical effort.

Mee Memorial has kept up with the changing needs of the community and in 2001 built its present 199 bed facility adjacent to the original 1962 facility. This modern hospital is the core of the Mee Memorial Medical System in Southern Monterey County which also includes four outpatient health clinics in King City and one in the neighboring City of Greenfield.

In 1962, only 10,000 people called Southern Monterey County home. Today the population has grown to nearly 50,000, and Mee is still the only hospital within fifty miles. The hospital's on-site heliport, a project supported by the King City Lion's Club, transports critical patients to other facilities as needed. Today Mee Memorial employs more than 500 people. Over seventy-five volunteers are active in the Service League and Foundation, which sponsor many events and fund-raisers to provide valuable services and equipment to meet the needs of the patients. It is these people, the doctors, nurses, administrators, and the deep bench of community support, that make Mee such a vital part of Southern Monterey County's quality of life. Mee Memorial has seen some challenging times in recent years, but the skill, dedication, passion, and professionalism of these people ensure that Mee Memorial's future is a bright one.

Mr. Speaker, I know the whole House joins me in congratulating Mee Memorial Hospital on its anniversary, and wish them many more years of quality service to the public.

RECOGNIZING ALVARO URIBE AND
RICARDO SALINAS, TWO KEY
FIGURES IN LATIN AMERICA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2012

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday October 1st, the Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute (CHLI) hosted their First Annual Trade and International Affairs Symposium, which highlighted the contributions of the U.S. Hispanic community to the global economy. To culminate the day of activities, CHLI honored two important figures from Latin America during the Global Leadership Salon Dinner: Alvaro Uribe, former President of Colombia, and Mexican businessman Ricardo Salinas, President and CEO of Grupo Salinas.

Alvaro Uribe started his career in public service as a Senator of Colombia, making great strides in increasing community participation in government decisions. Then, he became Governor of Antioquia, where he cut government spending and allocated more funding to the education system to improve schools. During his tenure as Governor, 40,000 people received training in the peace-

ful negotiation of conflict; and, with community cooperation, the number of kidnapping cases fell dramatically. In 2002, Mr. Uribe became President of Colombia and our country's staunchest ally in Latin America. With his integrity and courage, Uribe fought the extremist forces within his country and led an aggressive campaign to root out drug traffickers. Colombia strengthened its democracy, improved its judicial system, protected human rights, and enhanced the way of life for all Colombians. Mr. Uribe reaffirmed his commitment to the U.S. by negotiating the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement, a critical alliance that benefits the security and economic interests of both nations. It is no wonder that in 2009, President George W. Bush honored Alvaro Uribe with the U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom for his meritorious contributions to our country. To this day, Mr. Uribe remains a great friend of the causes of freedom, democracy, and human rights in Latin America; and a strong partner of the United States.

Ricardo Salinas has been a pioneer in breaking down walls of competition in key industries in both México and the rest of Latin America. While his business achievements are admirable, his philanthropic work is perhaps even more laudable. Ricardo has been an outspoken entrepreneur who has dedicated his business career to promoting education, health and human rights among the communities he serves. Through Fundación Azteca, Ricardo has raised millions of dollars for important charities in México. Following the steps of Fundación Azteca, Ricardo founded Fundación Azteca América, an organization that works to promote the well-being of the Hispanic community in the United States. As part of their work, Fundación Azteca América has developed a series of social campaigns such as establishing educational programs for young Hispanic students to access quality education; improving civic engagement; and learning about financial responsibility. The organization has also been a staunch supporter of comprehensive immigration reform.

Mr. Speaker, as we continue to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, I am honored to have these two significant leaders from the Western Hemisphere in our nation's capital. I would also like to thank CHLI for their vision of advancing the Hispanic community's diversity of thought in the United States and beyond.

SUPPORT AND CONGRATULATIONS
FOR THE MARTIN LUTHER KING,
JR. BIMINI PLAQUE PROJECT

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2012

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support and congratulations for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Bimini Plaque Project.

The project is an effort to bring attention and awareness to the connection Dr. King had with The Bahamas, particularly Bimini. A special celebration and ceremony scheduled for October 5-7, 2012 will include the unveiling and placement of a commemorative plaque and bust of Martin Luther King, Jr. in the mangroves where Dr. King is said to have