

HONORING MS. MARIA GUEVARA

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Maria Guevara, whom I have named Woman of the Year in Solano County. Ms. Guevara is a tireless advocate for the rights and needs of homeless individuals in Vallejo, California.

Ms. Guevara has spent much of her life in California, and attended Solano Community College, Napa Valley College, and St. Mary's College of California. From volunteering with Filipino American Social Services to serving as a board member for Vallejo Community Access Television, Ms. Guevara has dedicated her time to causes close to her heart. She also enjoys volunteering in her faith community as a religious education teacher at St. Basil the Great.

In 2010, Ms. Guevara founded Vallejo Together, a group of dedicated volunteers, to address the unmet needs of homeless people in her community. Vallejo Together provides many services, including serving meals, connecting individuals to resources, and sponsoring events such as a "Youth and Parent Expo" and "Unity Day" to celebrate Vallejo's diversity and families. The volunteer group aims to empower those in need to become self-sufficient so they can enjoy an independent and fulfilling life.

Mr. Speaker, Maria Guevara selflessly spends her time and energy caring for others in our community. Everyone Ms. Guevara works with enjoys her warm and compassionate nature, and Vallejo continues to benefit from her inspiring dedication to service. For this reason, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

**CELEBRATING THE PLANTING OF  
A TREE ON THE U.S. CAPITOL  
GROUNDS HONORING CONGRESS-  
MAN EDWARD R. ROYBAL**

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2016*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I led the planting of a tree on the U.S. Capitol Grounds in honor of my father, the late Congressman Edward R. Roybal. The tree, a red oak (*Quercus rubra*), was planted on the south side of the House of Representatives along Southwest Drive, near the intersection of Independence Avenue SW and South Capitol Street.

For helping to make this planting a reality, I extend my most sincere thanks to Speaker PAUL RYAN, Senate Rules Committee Chairman ROY BLUNT, Architect of the Capitol Stephen R. Ayers, and all my congressional colleagues who signed the letter in support of the tree planting ceremony.

On behalf of my family, I also extend my deep gratitude and appreciation to three congressional leaders who spoke at yesterday's ceremony: Senator HARRY REID, whom my father admired and considered a very dear friend; Minority Leader NANCY PELOSI, whom

my father often referred to as the gentle lady from California and predicted would one day become a great leader; and Minority Whip STENY HOYER, whom my father respected and proudly served with as a member of the Appropriations Committee. I also want to offer my heartfelt thanks to House Chaplain Fr. Patrick J. Conroy, S.J., who blessed the tree during the ceremony.

In celebration of the centennial of my father's birth, I can think of no greater tribute than the planting of this red oak tree on the U.S. Capitol Grounds.

Adding to this occasion is that it is also the 40th anniversary of my father's founding of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, better known as NALEO.

If my father were alive today, of all the tributes he has received, including the Medal of Freedom from President Obama, the Presidential Citizens Medal from President Clinton, the naming of the CDC Campus in his honor, and many others, this would be among his most cherished, because this tree is being planted between the House of Representatives, which my father truly believed is the people's house, and the Rayburn Building, where he spent much of his 30 years in Congress doing the people's work.

The magic of this tree is that it will be a living testimony of my father's work to ignite beacons of hope and opportunity for all Americans.

As a poet once wrote, "A tree is the greatest human service provider. It provides shade while standing, comfort when converted, and fire when burned."

To all who made yesterday possible, and to those who honored us with your presence and made this occasion even more special, my family and I are extremely grateful, and we thank you.

**CELEBRATING RICHARD A.  
LEYENDECKER**

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2016*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Richard A. Leyendecker, a decorated war hero and successful business owner.

Mr. Leyendecker was born to Peter P. Leyendecker Jr. and Emma Jordan Leyendecker. A lifelong resident of Laredo, Texas, he attended St. Peter's Memorial School and Martin High School. He enrolled in Texas A&M University until, at the age of 19, he enlisted into the Army Air Corps to serve his country during World War II.

Mr. Leyendecker was a heavy bomber in the European Theater during World War II. In August of 1944, while he was flying a mission in support of the Normandy invasion, he was shot down and declared missing in action. He endured prisoner of war camps for nearly a year before American troops were able to liberate him. In recognition of his service and sacrifice, Mr. Leyendecker received the Prisoner of War Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Ribbon with 4 bronze stars, and the WWII Victory Ribbon, among other honors.

After returning home, Mr. Leyendecker resumed his studies at Texas A&M University,

earning a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. Upon graduation he began working with his father at their family construction business in Laredo. He and two of his four sons, Gary and Mark, founded Leyendecker Construction, Inc. in 1980. Another son, Paul, also joined the company in the 1990's. Mr. Leyendecker worked tirelessly to build a successful family business and valued the work of his employees.

In addition to his many accomplishments, Mr. Leyendecker was a proud husband and father. He is survived by his wife, Blanche Flores, and their four sons Richard, Gary, Paul and Mark.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to remember the legacy of Richard A. Leyendecker: a hero to his country, a successful business leader, and a loving family man.

**RECOGNIZING MARTIN E.  
HELLMAN AND WHITFIELD  
DIFFIE, RECIPIENTS OF THE  
TURING AWARD**

**HON. JERRY MCNERNEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2016*

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Martin E. Hellman and Whitfield Diffie for receiving the 2015 Association of Computing Machinery's A.M. Turing Award for their major contributions to modern cryptography.

Mr. Hellman is Professor Emeritus of Electrical Engineering at Stanford University and Mr. Diffie is former Vice President and Chief Privacy Security Officer of Sun Microsystems. Named in honor of Alan M. Turing, the influential British mathematician who articulated the mathematical foundation and limitations of computing, this annual award is often described as the Nobel Prize of computing.

Forty years ago, Mr. Hellman and Mr. Diffie's groundbreaking paper, "New Directions in Cryptography," introduced the idea of public-key cryptography, which has proven critical for safely transmitting information across the Internet. Public-key cryptography ensures that a message can be securely transmitted online such that only the intended recipient is able to view the message. This is achieved through a pair of mathematically related keys, one that is public and one that is private. Although anyone wishing to send a message to a certain recipient can use that recipient's readily available public key to encrypt the message, the message can only be decrypted with the recipient's securely held private key. Today, thanks to Mr. Hellman and Mr. Diffie's crucial work, we are able to send emails, submit payments on e-commerce websites, and use online tools to check our bank statements and health records, while ensuring that the information transmitted remains private.

Mr. Hellman and Mr. Diffie have also received the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Hamming Medal, the Marconi International Fellowship Award, the Franklin Institute's Levy Medal, and the IEEE Donald G. Fink Award for their work on public-key cryptography. Additionally, they have each been recipients of other prominent awards and honors for their significant contributions to the important area of digital security.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Hellman and Mr. Diffie and thanking them for their outstanding work.

HONORING KYLE ANTHONY  
DOWNES

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2016*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Anthony

Downes. Kyle is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Kyle contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Kyle refurbished several

terrace steps on the White Tail Trail in the Parkville Nature Sanctuary, making the trail safer for hikers.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Anthony Downes for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.