

I am pleased to recognize the contributions of Dr. Arya, and wish him continued success in the medical profession. The community of Brooklyn is fortunate to have a medical practitioner with Dr. Arya's background and commitment working at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center.

NATIONAL GUARD HONORED

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the brave men and women of the National Guard were honored at the world premier of Charles Gabriele's "National Guardian's March" presented in Venice, FL, on May 19, 1997, at a concert of the Venice Concert Band directed by Bill Millner. The National Guard in recent years served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and in Florida in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew and Hurricane Opal.

During the concert, U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Steven Solomon, Commander of the 83d Troop Command, presented the Venice Concert Band and Professor Gabriele each with a framed Certificate of Appreciation "for exceptional service to the National Guard." Gabriele is noted worldwide for his classical compositions and patriotic marches, such as "Korea Veterans March," which was performed by the U.S. Army Band for the dedication of the Korean War Memorial in Washington, DC. Also during the program, Sarasota County Commission Chairman Robert Anderson presented the Venice Concert Band and Dr. Gabriele with commendations; and city of Venice Vice Mayor David Farley, Councilmen Earl Midlam, Burt Brown, and Virginia Warren presented them with commendations and a flag of the city of Venice.

Members of the band who performed in the historic premier of the "National Guardian's March" were: Renee Arata, Marilyn Bay, Jan Bonds, Henry Busche, Russell Byron, Fred Capitelli, Harokl Chase, Rogers Cumming, Carmelo Cuscina, Vicki Elmora, Mary Ann Farrell, Jay Fish, Judson, Vincent Gigliotti, Harry Gilmore, Les Gowan, Ed Grep, Charles Heidorn, Willie Jacus, Bob Kaltenbaugh, David Leath, Carl Linden, Mary Lipton, Julie Mahler, Robert McMullen, Les McRea, Alex Meldrum, Bill Meyer, Rex Morse, Shirley Morse, Mary Mullen, George Olisar, Stanley Ovatt, Fred Ploch, Marilyn Sexton, Jane Sibole, Larry Shields, Ken Sotherlund, Bob Spangle, Missy Thornley, Connie Timm, Michael Torino, Basil Wanshula, Agnes Warfield, Roger Wolfe, and Don Yasso.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this well-deserved tribute to the National Guard.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK LONARDO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Frank Lonardo for his vast contributions on behalf of organized labor. Mr.

Lonardo is a 40-year veteran of the International Longshoremen's Association, AFL-CIO. He is the president of ILA 1814 and was reelected International General Organizer at ILA's 1995 convention.

To his credit, Mr. Lonardo has worked his way through the ILA organization. He started working on the docks of Brooklyn as a teenager and throughout his career has served in a number of capacities, including assistant treasurer of the Brooklyn Longshore Credit Union, and as assistant to the president of Local 1814.

Among his other duties, he has served on the executive board of the New York City Central Labor Council and is a trustee of the New York Maritime Ports Council of the Maritime Trades Department. Frank and his wife Patricia are the parents of four children, Jeanine, Frank Jr., Joseph, and Alicia.

COMMEMORATING INDIA'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and ask my colleagues to join with me today in commemorating the upcoming 50th anniversary of Indian independence.

On August 15, 1947, India gained its freedom from British colonial rule and became an independent nation. The Indian peoples struggle for democracy mirrored very much our Nations' own experience. We share a kinship because we believed, then and now, in the same principals and notions of democracy for our citizens. India's great national leader, Mahatma Gandhi, studied American thinkers, such as Emerson and Thoreau, for their ideas, inspiration, and courage to press on with the struggle for democracy. And leaders in America looked to his example of nonviolence in guiding our Nation during its most turbulent civil rights period.

On August 15, 1997, we celebrate half a century of democracy in India which has developed into the largest democracy in the non-Western world. This populous democracy is home to 950 million people and represents a true multiethnic state where 18 major languages and over 100 dialects are spoken. Let us celebrate their commitment to human rights, the rule of law and the principals of peace, and the successful transition of power in that country's most recent parliamentary elections. It is clear to me, as it should be to all here today, India's democratic institutions remain quite strong and we can look forward to many more years of democratic growth and independence.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES E. SIMPSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Charles E. Simpson for his consistent and competent efforts in the field of corporate reorganizations, divestitures, and workouts.

Presently, Mr. Simpson is in charge of bankruptcy/creditors' rights department of the firm of Windels, Marx, Davies and Ives in New York City. During his professional career, Charles has developed an impressive track record on behalf of clients such as Bancorp, Pantry Pride, Central Railroad, Braniff, Vanguard Oil & Service, and a host of other companies.

Mr. Simpson is a member of numerous boards, including the Brooklyn Red Cross. He served in the U.S. Army, attended Harvard Law School, and received his undergraduate degree from Pepperdine University. I am pleased to highlight Mr. Simpson for his tireless and persistent endeavors.

ALMOR WEST AND PIONEER PARK SCHOOLS EARN AWARD

HON. J.C. WATTS

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, recently the Department of Education announced the selection of elementary and middle schools which were awarded the prestigious Blue Ribbon School Award. I am proud to announce that two schools from Lawton, OK, have been recognized.

I am delighted to congratulate Pioneer Park Elementary School and Almor West Elementary School on this great achievement.

These schools display the qualities of excellence that are necessary to prepare our young people for the challenges of the next century. Blue Ribbon School status is awarded to schools which have strong leadership; a clear vision and sense of mission that is shared by all connected with the school; high quality teaching; challenging, up-to-date curriculum; policies and practices that ensure a safe environment conducive to learning; a solid commitment to parental involvement; and evidence that the school helps all students achieve high standards.

This is an honor that is vigorously sought by thousands of schools across the Nation. We are so very proud of the students and teachers, the parents and administrators, and all at Pioneer Park and Almor West Elementary Schools who have been selected for this distinguished recognition.

TRIBUTE TO DE COSTA HEADLEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to honor Mr. DeCosta Headley for his contributions in the community of Brooklyn. Mr. Headley is the founder of the Rosetta Gaston United Democratic Club and a dynamic player in the political and economic affairs of the communities of Brownsville and east New York.

DeCosta was raised in Brownsville and east New York, and has been instrumental in providing college scholarships for youth, jobs for community residents, and full services for senior citizens.