

During her successful 50-year career, Celia Cruz has recorded over 70 albums, won a Grammy Award and 10 Grammy nominations. She performed in various films, including "The Perez Family" and "The mambo Kings", and has been recognized with more than 100 awards from publications and institutions around the world. Among other honors, Cruz received an honorary doctorate from Yale University, a star on Hollywood Boulevard, and recognition from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Celia Cruz for her extraordinary talent, her vibrant contributions to the history of music, and her generous gift to the Smithsonian Institution.

THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S 86TH  
NATIONAL DAY

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, for many years now, I have joined my colleagues in congratulating the leaders of the Republic of China [ROC] on their National Day.

Today I congratulate President Lee Teng-hui and the people of Taiwan on the ROC's 86th National Day.

President Lee has just completed a very successful Latin American tour and Taiwan has been invited to join the System of Central American Integration. President Lee is an energetic man who is moving forward on a number of diplomatic recognitions for Taiwan.

In the months and years ahead, I hope that Taiwan will continue to enjoy its prosperity and freedom.

FDA APPROVAL OF LEADCARE

**HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to rise today to inform the House that on September 10, 1997, the Food and Drug Administration announced the approval of a new portable, easy to use, medical screening device that can quickly detect high levels of lead in blood. The Leadcare In Office Test System was developed by ESA, Inc., of Chelmsford, MA, and AndCare, Inc., of Durham, NC, in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Located in my congressional district, ESA, Inc., is a biotechnology research company whose products and services have played a significant role in advancing the health care of Americans for over a quarter century. Since its establishment in 1970, ESA has designed and manufactured numerous high technology analytical instruments used for analyzing minute quantities of substances, often at the molecular level. The company's products are frequently utilized in biomedical research projects, clinical laboratories, and environmental quality control studies.

The recently approved Leadcare System promises to dramatically improve the rate at

which children in the United States and abroad are screened for lead poisoning. Currently, blood samples from children tested for exposure to lead must be sent to a laboratory for clinical evaluation. This process could take several days or even weeks. With the Leadcare System, a sample of a patient's blood obtained by a finger stick can be analyzed by the system within 3 minutes, and the results are instantly displayed. Moreover, clinical studies conducted by ESA indicate that the new test is as reliable as established laboratory screening methods. Both ESA and the Department of Health and Human Services believe that the expediency of the Leadcare System will allow health care professionals practicing in urban, underserved areas to screen more high-risk children in transient innercity communities.

The FDA's approval of the Leadcare System is also a major victory for the many countries around the world currently losing the battle against lead poisoning. Following the FDA's decision, HHS Secretary Donna Shalala, stated that "thanks to the FDA and CDC, and to memorandums of understanding we have developed with other countries, this new technology can soon be applied to fighting lead poisoning throughout many areas of the world." To this end, ESA plans to introduce the Leadcare System to public health officials and primary care physicians in countries with high incidents of lead poisoning.

Mr. Speaker, the FDA's approval of the Leadcare System is truly a landmark in the fight against childhood lead poisoning.

TRIBUTE TO BOB TEDFORD

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Robert A. (Bob) Tedford, one of the most influential citizens and civic leaders of Farmersville, TX, during the past quarter of a century. Bob died recently after a sudden illness, and he was such a pervasive presence in the community that his absence is difficult to accept and to measure.

Bob's influence in Farmersville began in 1963, when he moved there to establish the Bob Tedford Chevrolet Co., which, under his leadership, developed into a thriving business. His energy, enthusiasm, and ability to relate to people were keys to his success in business and also to his community leadership. Bob's imprint could be seen in almost every civic organization and leadership position in Farmersville.

Bob served as mayor, city councilman, and school board president. He was instrumental in obtaining funding to rebuild a State highway through downtown Farmersville. He was president of Farmersville Centennial and a founder of Old Time Saturday, an annual civic fundraising event that has raised an estimated \$200,000 over the years for the library and other civic projects.

Bob was past president of the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, and library board and was chairman of the board of First Bank of Farmersville. He was a lifetime charter member of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars,

member of the Royal Order of Jesters, and member of Masonic Lodge No. 214 for 30 years—serving as past master and secretary. He was a patron of the Farmersville Order of the Eastern Star No. 940 and a member of the Hella Temple and Scottish Rites of Dallas.

Sports were a particular passion. He was an avid golfer, a great baseball fan, and an ardent supporter of high school sports. He operated the game clock at Farmersville High School football games for 30 years and attended the state basketball tournament every year except for one when he suffered a heart attack. He took special interest in the young people of Farmersville and was active in Little League and Boy Scouts.

A native of Clearwater, TX, Bob served in the U.S. Army just after the end of the Korean war and earned the rank of sergeant. Afterwards, he worked for the railroad in Gene Autry, OK, where he met and married the former Sandra Haney in 1955. He is survived by Sandra, son and daughter-in-law Robbie and Kailyn Tedford, daughter and son-in-law Beverly and David Toney, sister Mrs. Glennis Lilley, brother Nelo Tedford, and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Tedford was a friend to many and a friend of mine. He was a driving force in Farmersville and an inspiration to all who had the pleasure of knowing him—and he will be truly missed. He leaves behind a community service and compassion, however, that will be remembered for years to come, and as we adjourn today, let us do so in memory of and in honor of Robert A. "Bob" Tedford.

NOW MORE THAN EVER, IT'S TIME  
FOR AN INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

**HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct your attention to the following "Tale of the Tapes" editorial from the Albany Times Union, a newspaper circulated in my district. The editorial criticizes the Clinton administration for its feeble attempt to explain away its delay in forwarding videotapes of the White House coffees. The administration's most recent and abominable excuse for its inadvertent overlooking of the video tapes is that they entered the wrong word search on the computer.

The administration's the buck-stops-there philosophy seems to now have gone beyond the customary excuses and is reliant on more creative ones. The mishaps, stalling, and inadvertent overlooking is at an all time high in the White House. And in the midst of all this, Attorney General Janet Reno remains hesitant to appoint an independent counsel to investigate the campaign finance violations and abuses originating in the White House and risks being seen as a cohort in all of this. It has become apparent that Ms. Reno cannot carry-the-ball and shed some light on these campaign finance illegalities, I think it's time that she hand the ball over to an independent counsel who can.