

Every year, I am amazed at the number of people who attend this event. While some of us tend to take for granted that we live in a great a country, others wait in line all night long simply to submit an application to become a U.S. citizen.

Although an event like this takes many months of coordinating and planning, the rewards are remarkable. Not only does it provide a service to our community, but it also increases awareness among legal residents about the importance of becoming a citizen. Moreover, it's encouraging to see volunteers return every year to contribute their time and effort.

I am extremely thankful of the following volunteers, groups and organizations who assisted in making this event possible: Houston Community College—Northeast Campus, Harris County Constable Victor Trevino, Immigration and Naturalization Service, United States Postal Service, Houston Industries, League of United Latin American Citizens, National Association of Latino Elected Officials, Hispanic Women in Leadership, Rio Posada Restaurant, Fiesta Mart, Inc., Hispanic Organization of Postal Employees, Houston Coca Cola Bottling Co., Pizza Hut, Chase Bank, Telemundo—Channel 48, Univision—Channel 45, College Democrats @ University of Houston, Quan, Burdette & Perez, Attorneys at Law, Esther Alaniz, Alicia Almendariz, David Airhart, Artie Blanco, Delia Barajas, Debra Barnes, Yasmine Cadena, Mary Closner, Mitchell Contreras, Romero Cruz, Hector De Leon, Anselmo Davila, Armando Entenza, Arthur Flores, Charles Flores, Dr. Margaret Ford, Celia Garcia, Cyndi Garza, Juan Garcia, Rosa Garcia, Reynaldo Garza, Victor Gonzalez, Juana Gonzalez, Priscilla Gonzalez, Manuel Gonzalez, Mary Guerrero, Rebecca Guerrero, Joe Granados, Ben D. Huynh, Ana Maria Lopez, Dorothy Ledezma, Alfred Martinez, John Martinez, Benny Martinez, Margaret Mata, Edward Melendez, Josephine Mendoza, John Meyer, Diana Morales, Sally Morin, Mercedes Nassar, Janie Munoz, Frances Munoz, Art Murillo, Ana Nunez, Sandra M. Orellana, Juan Padilla, Cesar De Paz, Richard Perez, Candy Perez, Andre Rodriguez, Jesse P. Ramirez, Francisco Rodriguez, Mayor Cipriano Romero, Juana Rosales, Rosa Ruelas, Yeannett Salazar, Thomas Sanchez, Olga Soliz, Diana Trevino, Marco Torres, Vera Vasquez, Suzanne Villareal, Patricia Valdez, Ralph Vazquez, and Shahid Waheed.

OSHA WORKPLACE VIOLENCE
RECOMMENDATIONS

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 1998

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration recently issued a document called "Recommendations for Workplace Violence Prevention in Late-Night Retail Establishments."

Although workplace violence is an issue that we are all concerned about, I and many of my colleagues have serious reservations about OSHA's involvement in this issue. In September 1996, more than 100 members of the House of Representatives wrote to then Assistant Secretary for OSHA, Joseph Dear, re-

garding an earlier set of "guidelines" for workplace violence prevention programs for night retail establishments, expressing a number of concerns, including the enforceability of the guidelines and the lack of scientific basis and procedural safeguards in their promulgation.

I continue to be concerned that OSHA's involvement in workplace violence has not been supported by objective analysis nor been subject to procedural safeguards. There is little evidence that OSHA is in a better position than state and local authorities to investigate incidents of workplace violence perpetrated by either 3rd parties or co-workers, or that OSHA's involvement in those investigations would help to bring the perpetrators to justice.

Nonetheless, I do want to underline a clarification that OSHA made in its recent recommendations for late night retail establishments. It is my understanding from both the actual text of OSHA's final recommendations, as well as from comments made by OSHA officials, that its recommendations are not a new standard or regulation, and do not create any new OSHA duties, and that an employer's decision not to adopt any of the recommendations will not be deemed evidence of a violation of the General Duty Clause in section 5(a)(1) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act. To quote OSHA's recommendations directly, "These recommendations do not impose, and are not intended to result in, the imposition of any new legal obligations or constraints on employers or the states."

Mr. Speaker, a great many employers in the late night retail industry have worked hard to develop violence prevention programs that may not conform to all of OSHA's recommendations. It is my understanding that OSHA's recent "recommendations" are intended as suggestions to late night retailers of a variety of steps that may be taken as part of such violence prevention programs. The particular recommendations in the April 28 OSHA document are not intended to create any legal obligation, duty or consequence.

Mr. Speaker, workplace violence, like violence throughout our society, is a serious problem. Employers in all sectors of the economy are taking steps to prevent violence against their employees, whether it be violence perpetrated by 3rd parties or by disgruntled and disturbed employees. I commend OSHA for clarifying that its recommendations do not impose new legal duties on employers but are intended to provide employers with suggestions and recommendations of steps that employers may consider as part of their own efforts to reduce the likelihood of violence occurring against employees in their workplaces.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. PAUL C.
ZANOWIC

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 1998

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Paul C. Zanowic, who served as a law enforcement officer in Somerset County, New Jersey for fifty years.

President Warren G. Harding once said, "Whenever a man contributes to the better-

ment of his community, whenever he contributes to the enlarged influence of his State, whenever he contributes to the greater glory of the Republic and makes it a better place in which to live and in which to invite men to participate and aspire, he contributes to himself as he contributes to the welfare of his fellow men."

Paul Zanowic dedicated his life to the betterment of his community, through the honorable profession of law enforcement. On February 12, 1998, Paul Zanowic reached his 91st birthday. His commitment to public duty and the public trust truly deserves recognition by this body.

Paul Zanowic started as a patrolman with the North Plainfield Police Department in 1931. After serving as the Office in Charge of the Detective Bureau for eight years, he was elevated to Chief of Police in North Plainfield, New Jersey, in 1960, which is in my Congressional district. Beginning in 1967, he was elected to four straight terms by the citizens of Somerset County to serve as their Sheriff. He retired from law enforcement in 1980. His tenure as Chief of Police was marked by his becoming President of the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police and he has the honor of being the first Chief ever elected to office in the Association from Somerset County. He was past president of the North Plainfield Police Benevolent Association, and received an honorary lifetime membership in the New Jersey State PBA.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring the dedication of Paul C. Zanowic. His record of public service should serve as a model for the citizens of our nation.

LAWRENCE MEINWALD, OUT-
STANDING CITIZEN OF GOSHEN,
NEW YORK

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to the attention of our colleagues the birthday of an outstanding American and resident of the Town of Goshen, New York, Lawrence Meinwald. Today, Mr. Meinwald celebrates his 84th birthday, and I want to take this opportunity to share with our colleagues the remarkable life story of this incredible person.

Mr. Meinwald came to the United States in 1920 as a young boy from Warsaw, Poland. His first ten days in America were spent at Ellis Island while waiting to enter our nation. Ellis Island had such a strong impact on him that he decided to make New York State his home, and remains unpersuaded by the recent ruling reverting Ellis Island to New Jersey.

Larry Meinwald, along with his wife, Carolyn, have made lasting contributions to their adopted home of Goshen, New York. Chief among these contributions has been the complete restoration of eight commercial buildings in the Village of Goshen, all which preserve the historic nature of the area.

Mr. Meinwald's most recent restoration is that of an office building at the very spot at which the former Erie and Western Railroad had the initial trip on what proved to be a long