

of Caseville was incorporated at a session of the County Commission.

The first election of officers was held on December 5, 1898. John Poss became the first Village President, and Frank Poss was the first Village Clerk. The first ordinance, adopted in 1899, dealt with riding or driving on sidewalks, emphasizing that from the very beginning the people of this fine community were concerned with keeping it special.

Over the past 100 years, Caseville has been a major economic center for the Thumb of Michigan, a geographic feature recognized from the Michigan elementary school student to the orbiting Space Shuttle astronauts. The history of commercial fishing, saw mills, iron and salt processing, are important elements in Caseville's development. Agriculture was vital to this area as well, going from the early days of the Indians in Michigan who grew corn in this area, to today's bounty of corn, wheat, sugar beets, dry beans, and other specialty crops. Railroads, beginning with the Pontiac, Oxford, & Port Austin Railroad, have been vital arteries of commerce, even though their presence today is less significant than it had been in the past.

Today, Caseville is known as a tourist destination offering ideally sandy beaches, camping, marinas with access to Lake Huron and all of its bounty, and a way of life that is envied by its thousands of annual visitors. Mr. Speaker, it is only fitting that we take the time to congratulate Caseville on its Centennial. I urge you and all of our colleagues in wishing its residents the very best on this occasion, and the very best as the Village of Caseville begins its next century.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR. PAUL
M. MARTIN

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Reverend Dr. Paul M. Martin, the Senior Pastor of the Macedonia Baptist Church of Denver, Colorado. Dr. Martin recently celebrated his 8th Anniversary at Macedonia, and in celebration of his tenure, a street in the City and County of Denver was renamed for a week in his honor. I want to add my voice to all those in his congregation and throughout the city who are taking this opportunity to honor Dr. Martin and praise him for his leadership.

Dr. Martin came to Denver from the South Central Community of Los Angeles where he grew up. He received his undergraduate and graduate degrees with honors at several California schools, and holds a Masters of Divinity Degree, and the Doctors of Philosophy Degree.

Dr. Martin was appointed by Federico Peña, former Mayor of Denver, to serve on "Stapleton Tomorrow" where he has served continuously as the Co-Chairperson of the Citizens Advisory Committee and a member of the Board of Directors of the Stapleton Development Corporation. Additionally, he serves as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Urban League of Metropolitan Denver and is Chairman of the Department of the Ministry for the American Baptist Churches of the Rocky

Mountain Region. He is also a life member of the NAACP and his fraternity Kappa Alpha Psi.

Dr. Martin is known for his concern about maintaining the ethics and integrity of the Christian Ministry and the traditions of the African-American religious experience. He is a highly respected citizen and I am honored to be able to pay homage to him in recognition of his service and contribution to Macedonia Baptist Church, to honor his dedication and fellowship to people of Denver.

TRIBUTE TO BEATRICE AYALA
VALENZUELA

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Beatrice Ayala Valenzuela who is honored with the 1998-1999 Trustees Award for Outstanding Achievement, presented by California State University, Fresno.

Mrs. Valenzuela is one of three students among the 343,000 in the California State system to receive such an award and is the third Fresno State student to be honored since the award's inception in 1988. With a major in English and a 3.75 grade point average, Mrs. Valenzuela has not only displayed superior academic skills, but also a dedication to community service and personal achievement. She is very deserving of this award.

Mrs. Valenzuela graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1969. In hopes of receiving a collage degree, Mrs. Valenzuela resumed school in 1990, starting at Fresno City College and transferring to Fresno State in 1996. To further challenge herself, Mrs. Valenzuela applied and was accepted into the McNair Scholar Program, an academically intense effort that prepares college seniors for advanced studies.

In addition to her outstanding academic achievements, Mrs. Valenzuela has served her community in more ways than one. She has taught English as a second language to potential U.S. citizens and is a tutor at Fresno State's writing center. Beatrice Valenzuela is an exceptional woman who has displayed an outstanding achievement in the academic arena without compromising her commitment to the well being of others.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Beatrice Valenzuela in receiving the 1998-1999 Trustees Award for Outstanding Achievement. She is a role-model for all future scholars. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Beatrice Valenzuela many more years of success.

NEW YORK STATE CANAL SYSTEM

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to recognize the historically significant role the New York Canal System has played in developing American cul-

ture. The New York State Canal System is the largest and most ambitious public works project ever undertaken by a single state. It has been the catalyst for enabling New York State to become the nation's leader in industry and commerce by establishing the first effective route for inland interstate commerce in the country.

During the nineteenth century, the system played a vital role in fostering settlement, expansion, and ethnic diversity in the entire northern half of the United States. During this time, it was seen as a symbol of westward movement, and has found an enduring place in American legend through song and art. It has also been instrumental in developing a strong political and cultural connection with our Canadian neighbors by providing a link that extends through New England, Upstate New York, and the Old Northwest.

Today, the Canal's banks are bordered by more than two-hundred diverse municipalities, ranging from urban industrial areas, farmland, and wildlife preserves. More than four million people live in the counties surrounding the canal system. In all, thirteen million people, or 75 percent of the state's population, live along the Erie Canal-Hudson River corridor between Buffalo and New York City.

Because of the vital role that the Canal System has played in our nation's history, it is certainly appropriate that it be recognized by the federal government, and that every effort be made to preserve and develop its rich resources and those of the communities that surround it. The bill that I and several of my New York colleagues introduce today will designate the New York Canal System and its adjacent counties and connecting waterways as an affiliate of the National Park Service. This will allow the Park Service to provide technical assistance to enhance the canal region without infringing upon the autonomy of local governments and private property owners. This legislation will complement and build upon other federal efforts, such as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Canal Corridor Initiative, that are committed to enabling communities along the canal to maximize their potential for economic growth and community revitalization.

A TRIBUTE TO STU BYKOFSKY
AND THE VARIETY CLUB OF
DELAWARE VALLEY

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my friend and fellow Philadelphian, Stu Bykofsky. Stu is a long time columnist, author and man about town. He is also a board member of the Variety Club, one of America's most prominent charities. For the past eight years, Stu has organized and hosted "Stu Bykofsky's Candidates' Comedy Night."

The Candidates' Comedy Night raises funds for the Variety Club of Delaware Valley. I know that all my colleagues are aware of the fine work done by Variety Clubs throughout this nation, and indeed in several other countries throughout the world. But, only my fellow Philadelphians could truly appreciate Stu and