

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to celebrate the activities of Hispanic Heritage Month. Governor O'Bannon has designated September 15 through October 15, 1998, Indiana's Hispanic Heritage Month. This proclamation is in recognition of the efforts Indiana's Hispanic-American population has consistently displayed to improve the State of Indiana, as well as Indiana's First Congressional District.

In Northwest Indiana, you will find a vibrant, active, and proud Hispanic community. Thriving organizations such as the Latin American Community Alliance for Support and Assistance (LACASA) of NWI, Inc., Northwest Indiana Hispanic Coordinating Council, Hispanic Women's Forum of NWI, Union Benefica Mexicana, Puerto Rican Parade and Cultural Organization, Sociedad Mutualista Mexico, Raza de Bronze, Northwest Indiana Latino Historical Society, the Hispanic Catholic Center, National Association of Hispanic Nurses-Indiana Chapter, National Council of LaRaza affiliate, U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute affiliates, National Council of Puerto Rican Women (NaCoPRW), League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Indiana University Northwest's ALMA Latino student organization, Purdue University Calumet's Los Latinos student organization, Calumet College of St. Joseph's Los Amigos Latino student organization, Ivy Tech State College's Latino student organization, Valparaiso University's LIVE Latino student organization, to name a few, provide an effective avenue for promoting Hispanic interests and their shared cultural heritage.

Active in every aspect of community life from labor organizer, police chief, and Federal district court judge to educators, Labor President, and clergy, the citizens of Northwest Indiana have a multitude of Hispanic-American role models to emulate. Indeed, as an increasingly important segment of the Northwest Indiana community, Hispanic-Americans are making many valuable contributions to our state and region. These valuable contributions have come not only culturally, but also in the areas of law, religion, agriculture, education, architecture, and technology. Without the contributions of Hispanic-Americans, the rich, diverse, ethnically flavored culture of Northwest Indiana would be incomplete.

Mr. Speaker, Hispanic-Americans strive to earn and enjoy the promise and benefits that America, at its best, extends to all. I am proud to serve as the Representative in Congress for Northwest Indiana, with its diverse multicultural heritage, and I encourage my distinguished colleagues, and all citizens, to participate and enjoy events commemorating Hispanic Heritage Month.

SUPPORT FOR H.R. 4283, THE
AFRICA: SEEDS OF HOPE BILL**HON. LEE H. HAMILTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of our colleagues a letter from the Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman in support of H.R. 4283, the Africa: Seeds of Hope bill.

Doug Bereuter and I introduced the bill on April 1, 1998. The bill currently has 103 cosponsors. The purpose of the bill is two-fold. First, it supports sustainable agriculture development and food security in Sub-Saharan Africa. And, second, the bill enhances our ability to respond to humanitarian crises by replacing the Food Security Commodity Reserve with the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust. It also helps American farmers by giving the Department of Agriculture the ability to buy commodities for the Trust when prices are low.

Secretary Glickman notes in his letter that the bill would have a very positive impact on our ability to manage the Food Security Commodity Reserve.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,

Washington, DC, September 22, 1998.

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON,
Ranking Democratic Member, Committee on International Relations, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR LEE: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) concerning H.R. 4283, a bill "To support sustainable and broad-based agricultural and rural development in sub-Saharan Africa, and for other purposes" (Seeds of Hope Act). The bill is designed to focus on development activities that will provide assistance to the poor, especially women and children, throughout sub-Saharan Africa.

H.R. 4283 would enhance the Administration's "Partnership for Economic Growth and Opportunity in Africa," as well as Congress' proposed legislation, "The African Growth and Opportunity Act." The Seeds of Hope Act will help build a stronger and longer-term partnership between the United States and the countries of sub-Saharan Africa.

There are two proposals contained in H.R. 4283 that would have substantial positive impact on managing the Food Security Commodity Reserve (FSCR), which this bill would rename the "Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust." The first major change authorizes holding reserves in the form of cash, as well as commodities. The holding of reserves in the form of cash or commodities permits flexibility in managing the trust and could result in reduced storage and handling costs for the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). The second major proposal included in this legislation provides for more flexibility in replenishing the trust. Current authority provides for replenishing the FSCR through the purchase of commodities using funds appropriated in advance for this purpose or with existing, uncommitted CCC stocks. This legislation proposes allowing CCC to replenish the trust using funds appropriated for use in carrying out Pub. L. 83-480 activities that related to repaying CCC for the prior release of commodities from the trust.

H.R. 4283 could increase direct spending; therefore, it is subject to the pay-as-you-go requirements of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990. The Office of Management and Budget's preliminary scoring estimates of this bill are zero.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that from the standpoint of the Administration's program there is no objection to the presentation of this report.

USDA supports the passage of H.R. 4283. Thank you for the opportunity to share with you the Department's views. I am sending a similar letter to Representative Doug Bereuter.

Sincerely,

DAN GLICKMAN,
Secretary.

IN HONOR OF DR. ROBERT RUBEN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Robert Ruben on the occasion of his retirement as Chair of the Montefiore Medical Center Department of Otolaryngology. Tonight, Montefiore Medical Center is holding a gala salute in honor of Dr. Ruben's distinguished career. The gala will benefit hearing restoration research.

Dr. Ruben has had a long and impressive career in medicine. He received his undergraduate degree in psychology from Princeton University and his M.D. from the John Hopkins School of Medicine.

Although he is retiring from the post of Chair of the Department of Otolaryngology, Dr. Ruben will continue his dedicated work on behalf of people with hearing disorders at Montefiore Medical Center and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

When making his decision to retire from the position of department chair, Dr. Ruben took into consideration the time he will now have to continue his work on the protection, repair and regeneration of dead and damaged hearing cells. In his own words: "The more effort, resources and time that we devote to understanding hearing disorders, the sooner we will enable communicatively deprived people to reach their full potential."

Over the course of Dr. Ruben's career he has received numerous honors and distinctions that date back to his teenage years. As a high school student, Robert Ruben received an honorable mention in the Westinghouse Talent Search. He is the recipient of the American Academy of Ophthalmology & Otolaryngology Research Award, the Schreiber Gold Medal of the National Association of the Deaf, an Honorary Professor and Advisor to the Peking Institute of Otolaryngology of the People's Republic of China, and recipient of the Presidential Citation, AAO/HNS, among others.

His work on behalf of children and the disabled is extensive. He has served on the Head Start Medical Advisory committee, the National Task Force on Mentally Retarded Deaf, the National Institute of Health Advisory Council, the Advisory Council of the National Institute of Deafness & Other Communication Disorders, and as the director of the American Board of Otolaryngology, to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud and honored to bring to your attention the important work Dr. Robert Ruben has done for communicatively deprived people and the field of Otolaryngology. Montefiore Medical Center and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine are privileged to have such an outstanding man on their staff.

IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD-RENOWNED SEASCAPE ARTIST CHARLES VICKERY

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a world-renowned seascape artist and outstanding member of my district, Mr. Charles Vickery, who passed away in La Grange, Illinois, on September 22, 1998.

Charles Vickery was widely known as a local legend in Chicago's Western Suburbs where he lived and painted for over sixty years. He began his career, by studying the techniques of such artists as Frederick Waugh, Winslow Homer, and Anton Fisher at The Art Institute of Chicago and at Chicago's American Academy of Art. After he learned the mechanics, he received what he called his greatest instruction and source of inspiration, from Lake Michigan. From Lake Michigan, Charles Vickery learned the light effects and sea anatomy that later led him to be known and remembered for his ability to paint the many moods of water, making it come alive on the canvas.

In 1937, at the age of twenty-four, Charles Vickery opened his first art studio in Western Springs, Illinois. However, his first big break was in 1951 when Eleanor Jewitt, a respected Chicago Tribune art critic, discovered one of his paintings in a Michigan Avenue art gallery, and acclaimed him as "one of the great painters of this age * * * a bright Winslow Homer." The Clipper Ship Gallery in La Grange, Illinois, has been dedicated exclusively to Vickery's work since 1981, displaying his original oil paintings and publishing his collection of nearly 100 limited edition prints.

Charles Vickery has received the Waters of the World Prize, the Palette and Chisel Diamond Medal, awards from the North Shore Art Association in Gloucester, Mass., and the Union League Club Prize. Although, despite his many awards, the two things that satisfied Charles Vickery the most were bringing pleasure to the collectors of his work and urging other artists to further advance their abilities. Therefore, he was a charter member of the American Society of Marine Artists and a Signature Member of the Oil Painters of America.

Mr. Speaker, Charles Vickery was revered and respected by almost everyone who knew his work. I offer my heartfelt sympathy and prayers to his family and friends. Charles Vickery will most certainly be missed by many close friends, collectors of his art, and innumerable admirers.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE LINDA MCDUGAL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of Linda McDougal who died on May 3 of this Year. Linda has been a guiding force in raising public awareness of the needs of individuals with disabilities to assure everyone equal-

ity of opportunity, independent living and economic self-sufficiency.

Linda, one of six children born and raised in Benton, Arkansas, contracted polio at a young age. Through the loving determination and support of her mother, Pearl, and her siblings, Richard, Robert, Paul, Nina and Elizabeth, she attended public school. Each day she and her wheelchair were carried onto the school bus and up the steps of the school. After graduation, Linda attended State Teacher's College in Conway, Arkansas. By the early 1980's, Linda had set out on her course to train others about the rights of persons with disabilities. Linda took a major role in developing a housing project designed to allow people with many different disabilities to live independently. She spearheaded a Disability Awareness Day at the Arkansas State Capitol which was attended by heads of agencies, lawmakers, and by Governor Bill Clinton.

Linda and her husband Robert moved to Santa Cruz, California where Linda continued to make a difference in people's lives and attitudes. In 1986, she urged the County Board of Supervisors to create a Commission on Disabilities to guide public decision-makers in eliminating discrimination against people with disabilities in employment, and in the provision of goods and services. She helped to bring county facilities into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Linda became the first and, until her death, only Coordinator of the Commission. Among the many projects she undertook, Linda initiated an annual Job Fair featuring exhibits by employers who welcome employees with disabilities.

In her dealings with others, Linda was unselfish, seeing the good in everyone, gracefully accepting other points of view, willing to give credit freely, and tenacious as a bulldog. Friends describe Linda as a sweet woman, honest and forthright, never negative, and possessing a delightfully wicked sense of humor. She loved to have a good cry while watching old black-and-white movies about love and romance.

The community will miss her dearly, but Linda McDougal will always be remembered for the pathways she cleared. My thoughts are with her family.

THE CODE OF CONDUCT ON ARMS TRANSFERS ACT

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for H.R. 4545, the Code of Conduct on Arms Transfers Act of 1998, introduced by Representatives MCKINNEY and ROHRABACHER.

We must do more to curb arms sales and military assistance to dictators and human rights abusers around the world. The United States should stop supplying arms to governments that use these weapons to oppress and murder their civilian populations, as well as engage in illegal acts of aggression against their neighbors.

The United States is a leading arms merchant to the world. In 1995, U.S. arms exports amounted to \$15.6 billion, three times that of the next supplier and 49 percent of the world's

arms exports. The United States must take the lead in curbing arms sales abroad. If we lead, the world will follow. Our nation's resources must not be used to prop up dictators or promote international aggression. The Code of Conduct on Arms Transfers Act would put an end to this shameful practice.

This legislation would prohibit U.S. military assistance and arms transfers to a foreign government unless the President certifies that the country is genuinely democratic, does not engage in human rights violations, is not engaged in illegal acts of armed aggression, and participates in the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms by annually reporting to the U.N. the numbers and types of weapons it possesses and transfers.

This bill also requires the Administration to work with other nations to limit arms transfers worldwide and urge other nations not to sell weapons to countries that the United States has deemed ineligible to receive U.S. arms sales. International cooperation, in the context of a reformed U.S. arms sales policy, is critical if we are to protect innocent people from military aggression by undemocratic governments. This is an essential component of the McKinney-Rohrabacher bill, and it will be most effective only after we begin to limit U.S. arms sales.

The McKinney-Rohrabacher Code of Conduct would help the United States to bring its military policy into accord with its other international efforts to promote global peace, security, and prosperity. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 4545. Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO 18,745 AMERICANS

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a House Resolution which, for the first time, will recognize formally the 18,745 American civilians incarcerated by the Axis powers during World War II.

We all know what the world faced during the struggle between the evils of Hitler's Axis powers and the heroic citizen armies of the Allies. We know about the 50 million dead and millions of others maimed, wounded, and displaced. The history books are filled with their tragic and triumphant stories. However, there are still little known aspects of World War II that deserve our attention. The plight of civilian American internees deserves our attention. These American citizens were subject to barbaric prison conditions and endured torture, starvation, and disease simply for being American. As they lost their basic human rights, these courageous men and women were used as slave labor and 1,704 died due to the subhuman conditions they were forced to live under. Many were taken prisoner before the United States entered the war.

The horrors faced by America's civilian internees was brought to my attention by Michael Kolanik, Jr., a constituent of mine from Yonkers, NY. His father, Michael Kolanik, Sr., was an American citizen born in Pennsylvania in 1913 who returned to his ancestral homeland of Poland in 1931, with the full knowledge and consent of the U.S. State Department. In September of 1939, the Nazis termed Mr.