I was pleased to hear that the Village of Justice will hold its first ever Saturday board meeting, where May 21–27, 2000 will be appropriately named ''Bobby Dyer'' week. Mr. Speaker, I strongly echo the congratulations of the Village of Justice and I thank Mr. Dyer for his immediate contributions to the 3d Congressional District of Illinois.

IN HONOR OF TAIWANESE AMERICAN HERITAGE WEEK

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2000

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Taiwanese Americans across the United States. As you may know, May 7–14 is designated as Taiwanese American Heritage Week. Today, there are more than one half-million Taiwanese Americans across the United States. From science and education, to politics, Taiwanese Americans have made profound contributions to the strength and diversity of this great nation.

Like many immigrant communities, Taiwanese Americans have maintained a close relationship with their original homeland. Exchanges between Taiwan and the United States have resulted in an ever-closer relationship in trade, culture, and values. As we witnessed in the March 18th, 2000 Taiwanese Presidential election, the people of Taiwan and the United States share a bond in their adherence to the principles of freedom, democracy, and human rights. That bond is made stronger each day by the Taiwanese American community here in the United States.

Today, as the first member of the U.S. House of Representatives born in Taiwan, I am proud to pay tribute to Taiwanese Americans. During the occasion of Taiwanese American Heritage Week, I urge all my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives, and indeed all Americans, to celebrate the diversity Taiwanese Americans have contributed to the United States.

HONORING RICHARD N. AFT AS HE ANNOUNCES HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT OF UNITED WAY & COMMUNITY CHEST OF GREATER CINCINNATI

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I honor Richard N. Aft, a valued friend and constituent, who has served as president of the Greater Cincinnati United Way & Community Chest for 13 years. He announced that he will step down as president in December.

In his capacity as president, Dick leads the United Way staff, represents United Way in the Greater Cincinnati area, manages the annual fund drive, and involves community leaders in carrying out the mission of United Way, which is: ''To increase the capacity of our diverse community to prevent and alleviate human suffering.'' Under Dick's leadership, our United Way & Community Chest has been making progress each year in accomplishing this critical mission. The organization has grown to serve approximately 1,500,000 people in a seven country, two-state metropolitan area. And the United Way campaign now raises over $58 million per year.

Dick has not only expanded the responsibilities of our United Way and increased its annual revenues, he also has taken creative measures to address tough issues facing our community. For example, under his leadership, United Way formed an innovative and successful partnership called ''Every Child Succeeds'' with Children's Hospital Medical Center and the Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency/Head Start.

Dick is a graduate of Knox College, and received an M.A. in social service administration from the University of Chicago, He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Organizational Leadership and Development at the Union Institute in Cincinnati.

Actively involved with other organizations, Dick currently serves as a board member for the Coalition for a Drug-Free Greater Cincinnati; the Health Improvement Collaborative of Greater Cincinnati; Xavier University Advisors; Leadership Ohio; and Ohio United Way. He is an executive committee member for the Cincinnati Youth Collaborative; Hamilton County Family and Children First Council; and the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce Public Affairs Council.

Dick and his wife, Mary Lu, live in Cincinnati. They have three sons, David, Rob, and Eric.

All of us in the Greater Cincinnati area congratulate Dick on his extraordinary service to our community. We appreciate his leadership and friendship, and wish him well in his final months as United Way president and with the new challenges to come.

HONORING APPLE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL FOR EXCELLENCE

HON. BILL LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2000

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Apple Valley High School for its excellence in arts education. This school has received many awards, but most recently the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences selected this school, out of 18,000 applicants, to be a Grammy Signature School for the second consecutive year.

In 1991 the U.S. Department of Education recognized Apple Valley High School as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, and just seven years later, in 1998, the Minnesota Music Educators named AVHS the Minnesota Model Music School. The National Endowment for the Arts has also granted a AVHS a special national commendation for content-rich arts.

The outstanding success of Apple Valley High School graduates has rewarded the school's commitment to art and music education. Students' achievements are an apt reminder that arts education should not be minimized but rather embraced wholeheartedly, as Apple Valley High School's example shows.

CELEBRATE NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2000

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Edward Hines Jr. Medical Center Nurses for their invaluable work caring for our nation's veterans on the occasion of the National Nurses Week, which is celebrated the week of May 7–13, 2000.

The nursing staff at Hines Medical Center provide nursing care for veterans of all ages and all walks of life. They provide specialty care to patients from Illinois as well as throughout the Midwest. The nursing staff is committed to ensuring that all veterans received the high quality care they so richly deserve.

Approximately thirty-four thousand veterans are enrolled at Hines Medical Center. The nursing staff treat veteran patients during more than four-hundred thousand inpatient and outpatient visits each year.

The Nurses Week theme this year is ''Helping, Sharing, Always Caring for Our Veterans.'' They have a week of special events planned for Nurses Week. These include a nursing rededication to service program, nursing Olympics, and fellowship programs for all three shifts. Medical media is providing a video that highlights the many contributions of the nursing staff.

I congratulate and recognize Hines Medical Center Nurses and all nurses for their service to patient care, research, education, quality improvement, infection control, administration and the many other areas where nurses make a difference at Hines and at all medical facilities. I thank them for their commitment, dedication and tireless service.

TRIBUTE TO THE HALL OF FAME FOR GREAT AMERICANS

HON. JOSE E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2000

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with joy and pride that I congratulate and pay tribute to the Hall of Fame for Great Americans, which will celebrate its centennial this year.

Located on the campus of Bronx Community College, the hall of Fame for Great Americans is a national landmark honoring American achievements. Along with celebrating the centennial, some prominent American leaders will be honored. This year's honorees are Bernard Beal, Valerie Lancaster Beal, Wall Street investment bankers, and Elinor Guggenheimer, a major civic leader and philanthropist in the city.

Mr. Speaker, the Hall of Fame for Great Americans is the original ''Hall of Fame'' in this country. It was founded by Dr. Henry Mitchell MacCraken, chancellor of New York University, in 1900. Last year two significant architectural awards were bestowed on the Hall of Fame, one from the New York Landmarks Conservancy and the other from the Municipal Arts Society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the individuals and participants