

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO ADELANTE EAGLE
AWARD RECIPIENT TONY
CARDENAS

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Assemblyman Tony Cardenas, a recipient of the 2001 Adelante Eagle Award.

Adelante and the California Migrant Leadership Council is dedicated to empowering the Latino community in California by developing opportunities in education, economic development and the political process.

The Adelante Eagle Award is presented annually to individuals who have made a commitment to California and have made positive contributions to the betterment of our community.

Past Eagle Award recipients include Congressman JOE BACA, Congresswoman GRACE NAPOLITANO, Educators Mario Muñiz, Carolyn and Jim Bartleson, Jim White, Business persons Mary Lou Gomez and Maria Dolores Andrade, just to name a few.

Assemblyman Tony Cardenas was first elected to the California State Assembly in 1996 to represent the Northeast San Fernando Valley. The youngest of eleven children, Tony is the product of a modest upbringing, rich in the values of hard work and discipline. As a result, he achieved scholastic, professional, and political success.

Assemblyman Cardenas graduated with an Electronic Engineering degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara where he was on the Dean's Honor List. After graduation, he worked at Hewlett Packard as an Engineering Specialist. Later he owned and was president of a real estate company in the San Fernando Valley.

During his first term in the Assembly, Assemblyman Cardenas was the only freshman member to serve on both of the influential Assembly fiscal committees: Appropriations and Budget. He also chaired the Budget Subcommittee on Transportation and Information Technology and the Select Committee on Indian Gaming.

In his second term, Assemblyman Cardenas was elected Chairman of the Assembly Democratic Caucus, which is one of the top leadership posts in the Assembly. His duties included maintaining a Democratic majority and formulating a public policy agenda for a productive California. He served on Assembly Committees on Utilities and Commerce; Budget; Banking and Finance; Governmental Organizations; Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments; and Budget Subcommittee on Resources. Assemblyman Cardenas continued to chair the Select Committee on Indian Gaming. In June of 2000 Assemblyman Cardenas was named Chairman of the Assembly's Budget Committee. As Chairman, he is responsible for overseeing the State's \$100 billion budget.

In recognition of his hard work and success in the California Assembly, Cardenas received numerous awards including Legislator of the Year from the California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, California Indian Legal Services, High Tech Legislator of the Year, American Electronics Association, and Humanitarian Awards from the Valley Family Center and the City of San Fernando.

Assemblyman Cardenas envisions government as a tool to assist citizens on the local level and believes it can serve as a platform to enhance the quality of life, as evidenced by his legislative agenda. His priority issues include reforming our juvenile justice system, developing strong local economies by encouraging community businesses and assuring our children greater access to education for both immediate and long-term success. He has also sought to streamline government, allowing agencies to improve their services for people statewide and address the quality of healthcare for Californians.

For all that he has done on behalf of the Latino community, we salute Tony Cardenas.

IN HONOR OF SIMMONS T.
VALERIS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Simmons T. Valeris, an entrepreneur with a flame burning deep within allowing him to succeed in all of his endeavors. Mr. Valeris has distinguished himself from his peers as being the only minority Multiple Franchise Dealer/Operator of Mobil Oil Corporation in the tri-state area.

Mr. Valeris, a native of Port-au-Prince, migrated to Brooklyn, New York in 1968. He is a graduate of Prospect High School and Long Island University. Simmons T. Valeris furthered his education by entering the Mobil Pre-Installation Dealer Training program, which ultimately led to his success as a Mobil Oil Franchise owner. Mr. Valeris can take pride in the fact that he is a life-long learner, constantly keeping up with the latest in technology.

Throughout Valeris' 27-year career as a Mobil Oil Corporation franchiser he has had an illustrious career with the Mobil Corporation, receiving many awards and honors. For twelve consecutive years, Simmons received recognition for the "Top Retailer Sales" in the region. He also earned seven "Circle of Excellence Awards" for consistently meeting or exceeding corporate objectives.

In addition to his duties at Mobil, Simmons also holds various memberships and is an active member on many community boards including the Boards of the Bronx Community College Auto-Lab as well as the Greater New York Dealers Association.

Aside from his entrepreneurial success, Simmons places an important emphasis on

family. He credits his parents, Marie and Timothy Valeris, for raising him. He explains that his mother was a pioneer businesswoman, and hence his inspiration. He vowed to follow in her footsteps and become a successful businessman, and this commitment has led him to his present successes. Simmons' pride and joy are his two children, Dwayne and Monique.

Mr. Speaker, Simmons T. Valeris has contributed throughout his life to his community as a successful businessman and experienced leader. For his service, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

BRAVO TO THE VICTORY GARDENS
THEATER OF CHICAGO

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to congratulate the Victory Gardens Theater in Chicago, Illinois. On Sunday night, they became only the third Chicago theater to receive the prestigious Tony Award for regional theater.

This award, the highest recognition an artist or theater can receive, is given to a regional theater company that has displayed a continuous level of artistic achievement contributing to the growth of theatre nationally. Founded in 1974, by eight Chicago artists, the Victory Gardens Theater has continued to introduce theater-goers to fresh, original, and innovative productions.

I am proud that the nation is finally being let in on a secret we Chicagoans have known for years: that bigger is not always better and that in the end, quality, courage, and determination will be rewarded. I salute the Tony Award-winning Victory Gardens Theater and I appreciate the contributions of the Theater to the Chicago community and to the arts.

RECOGNIZING DR. LEILA
DAUGHTRY DENMARK

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, 103-Year-Old Tift College Graduate, Dr. Leila Denmark, is still practicing pediatric medicine. She was the third female graduate of the Medical College of Georgia in 1928; the only woman in her class. After her marriage to Mr. Denmark she moved to Atlanta to work at Grady Hospital. When Egleston Childrens Hospital opened, she became its first intern. Dr. Denmark conducted research on whooping cough in the early 1930s, which led to the modern-day DPT vaccination.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

While Dr. Denmark appears extremely fragile, she opens her office five days a week from 8 a.m. till late, with no receptionist, nurse or appointment book; just a sign-in sheet on a table. If one of her patients calls, no matter if it is two in the morning or on the weekend, she will meet them in her office.

Dr. Denmark had planned to retire when she was 87, but because of her dedication and love of medicine, she decided only to semi-retire. She is now seeing 15 to 25 patients a day, does all of her filing and testing, answers her own phone, and charges all of \$8.00 per visit. If you can't afford even that, there will be no charge.

Dr. Leila Denmark has been honored throughout Georgia for her accomplishments (including the Atlanta Gaslight Award), has appeared on many local and national television shows, such as "Good Morning America," and in national magazines such as "Ladies Home Journal" and "Family Circle." She has also written a book entitled "Every Child Deserves A Chance." She is a shining example of a great American and a Great Georgian, and I am proud to salute her.

TRIBUTE TO ADELANTE EAGLE
AWARD RECIPIENT IRENE TOVAR

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Irene Tovar, a recipient of the 2001 Adelante Eagle Award.

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The Adelante Eagle Award is presented annually to individuals who have made a commitment to California and have made positive contributions to the betterment of our community.

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Ms. Tovar is Executive Director of the Latin American Civic Association, an organization she co-founded in 1960. Since then Ms. Tovar has dedicated herself to empowering a strong Latino community. Her efforts have led to the establishment of various programs and services, which have provided a strong foundation for the advancement of Latinos not just in the San Fernando Valley but also throughout the State of California.

Her commitment to community issues has resulted in the founding of the San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Legal Services and serving on various boards, task force and commissions. These have included serving on the State of California Public Employees Relations Board, the Los Angeles Mission College Community Advisory Board, Latino Advisory Committee to LAPD Chief Bernard Parks, Valley Economic Development Center, LAPD Police Commission Warren Christopher Commission Reform Task Force, SFV Hispanic—Jewish Women's Task Force, Rebuild L.A. Board of

Directors, LAPD Foothill Division Community Advisory Board, State of California Advisory Commission on Compensatory Education.

In 1975 Ms. Tovar was appointed by then Governor Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown Jr. to the California State Personnel Board where she served until 1981. Ms. Tovar was not only the first Chicana appointed to the board that required California State Senate confirmation, but she also served as President of this most important body. Recognizing Ms. Tovar's leadership abilities Governor Brown appointed her as his Special Assistant a position she held from 1978–1981. During her tenure Ms. Tovar was responsible for the identification and recommendation of Latinos for appointment to State Boards and Commissions. This included the recommendation and appointment of Cruz Reynoso as California Supreme Court Justice. Ms. Tovar was also responsible for the establishment of the Governor's Chicana Issues Conference first held in 1980.

Ms. Tovar's accomplishments have been recognized by various state and city agencies as well as community organizations. She has been the recipient of many honors and awards including the City of Los Angeles City Council Pioneering Woman Award, California State University, Northridge Distinguished Alumni Award, Comision Femenil's Woman of the Year, Los Angeles County Commission on the Status of Woman "Woman of the Year" Award, KLVE Feria de la Muier Outstanding Latina of the Year, L.A. Times "Newsmaker for 1999", Cal-State Northridge La Raza Alumni Association Outstanding Alumni Award, USC El Centro Chicano Cuauhtemoc Award, MALDEF Employment Award, U.S. Congressional Commendation, and the Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association Recognition Award, just to name a few.

For all she has done on behalf of the Latino community, we salute Irene Tovar.

IN HONOR OF JAMES TILLMON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of James Tillmon, Director of Community Development for Genesis Homes/H.E.L.P.—USA serving Brooklyn, Manhattan, and the Bronx. Mr. Tillmon has led an exemplary life of both community and public service. One of eight children born in Brooklyn, New York to the late Louise Tillmon and Dr. Walter E. Baker, James Tillmon graduated from South Shore High School. Mr. Tillmon holds a BA in Communications from Antioch College as well as a Masters in Urban Planning from Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

James started his career in community service in 1988 when he worked in Syracuse, New York as a Vista Volunteer for one year. As a Vista Volunteer, he worked with youth between the ages of 16 and 21. James left Syracuse and joined the Department of Commerce's Census Bureau as a Field Operations Supervisor where he assisted and trained a "Swat Team" for troubled neighborhoods for two years.

Continuing where he left off in the field of public service, in 1991 James joined the United States Peace Corps as a volunteer in

Equatorial Guinea. As a Peace Corps Volunteer, he organized and helped engineer plans for economic development within the region. In addition he supervised humanitarian projects and trained volunteers.

After leaving the Peace Corps, he worked in the Kings County District Attorney's office as a Victim Advocate/Crisis Counselor. In addition, as a Public Safety Corps Team Leader, he has worked with the New York City Housing Management with emergency residential placement. James left the District Attorney's office to become the Community Relations Liaison at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital in Manhattan.

James has also served as Chairman of the Health Committee on the Brooklyn Community Board #1 as well as on the Board of his Alma Mater, Antioch College. He has received much recognition for his public service including a City Council Citation for his outstanding service.

Mr. Speaker, James Tillmon has devoted his life to helping others. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

TRIBUTE TO EVANSTON TOWNSHIP
HIGH SCHOOL CHESS TEAM

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend congratulations and best wishes to the Evanston Township High School Chess Team for winning its 3rd state championship in four years.

This year's state meet was held on March 23–24 and the Wildkits team scored 396.5 out of a possible 475 points. Juniors Yahshua Hosch (6–0–1) and Ben Yarnoff earned first-place individuals records, freshman Jusuf Pekovic placed third, sophomores Daniel Summerhays and Mark Aburano-Meister both took fourth place, and senior David Summerhays placed eighth. Other members of the championship team include junior Gershon Bialer, senior Aaron Walsman, sophomore Tyler Drendel and freshman Amelia Townsend. Science Teacher Ken Lewandowski is the ETHS team coach and he is assisted by ETHS teachers Paul Kash and Sam Sibley (retired).

Adding to the success of this season, the ETHS team also placed at the national chess championship in April coming in 8th (just 4 points away from 1st place) at the championship level and first-place at the intermediate level of play. Gershon Bialer is the national Champion at the Intermediate level and Yuhshua Hosch placed 16th at the championship level.

Mr. Speaker, once again I am proud to congratulate the Evanston chess players on their continued success this year. I appreciate the Chess team's efforts in maintaining the great tradition of competitive excellence that is associated with the Wildkit name. They have made their school, their families, and the city of Evanston proud.