

Minorities and women contribute greatly to our nation's economy and communities. Over the past decade they have expanded their ownership of small businesses. However, minorities and women continue to have difficulty gaining access to the resources they need to succeed in business. If granted greater access to private funds more minority and women small business owners could help revitalize their neighborhoods and expand their commercial base.

Mr. Speaker, the Access and Openness in Small Business Lending Act would greatly increase access to private credit for minority and women-owned businesses. This legislation is a much needed step in the right direction that allows minorities and women an opportunity to succeed as small business entrepreneurs and contribute to their communities and the nation. Thank you.

RECOGNITION FOR ERNEST AND  
JULIA GALLO

**HON. GARY A. CONDIT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 29, 2001*

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, it is a distinct privilege to rise today to honor two giants in the world of business and agriculture—Ernest and Julio Gallo.

Ernest, and his late brother Julio, are being inducted into the Stanislaus County Agricultural Hall of Fame. That alone speaks volumes about these two men in a region of the country known as the agricultural leader of the world.

The sum of their contributions is nearly impossible to evaluate. They easily take their place in history with great men of vision such as Henry Ford and Sam Walton who through hard work and determination transformed their dreams into reality.

Starting with a small family vineyard and winery, they strove for perfection and set a path others would struggle to find. They are part of a disappearing breed of hands-on discoverers and entrepreneurs who blazed a trail, proving the value of hard work, dedication and ambition.

Rarely in history does a name or a single word draw such a connotation as Gallo. The name alone is synonymous with wine and wine making in the same way Ford is synonymous with quality automobiles.

Mr. Speaker, volumes could be written about the contribution these men have made and will continue to make to the Central Valley of California from research to industry operation, production and viticulture. All of these things are intertwined in the history of the Gallo family enterprise.

Ernest and Julio Gallo have greatly impacted agriculture through their decades of leadership in the wine industry. Starting with a small family vineyard and winery, they strove for perfection, inventing the tools they needed when none existed, setting the path for others to follow. They built their business into the largest winery in the world. Their shared ambition to produce and market quality wines at affordable prices motivated them to continuously improve their operations, extending the family business to include grape growing, wine making, production of the bottles, warehousing,

distributing, transporting and marketing wines throughout the country, and now throughout the world.

Ernest and Julio Gallo were instrumental in transforming the economy of grape growing, offering long-term contracts to independent farmers by encouraging growers to upgrade the varieties of grape planted to meet future consumer demand for quality. California grape growers were able to then transform the California wine industry into the international phenomenon it is today. Ernest and Julio invested heavily in agricultural research and shared their learning with local farmers.

Through this investment and sharing, the Gallos helped improve the quality of grapes available in the region through better farming practices such as plant nutrition, irrigation and harvesting regimes. The Gallos helped educate generations of vineyard managers and wine makers by their support of curricula throughout the University of California and California State University systems. They undertook extensive research in wine making techniques to help build and sustain the market by introducing new types of wines and methods of wine production. Today this global enterprise employs thousands of people worldwide, nearly 3,500 in and around Stanislaus County.

On a shoestring budget, Ernest and Julio created the "flagship" winery in the United States and put California on the map for wine. Their dream has translated into a global force for wine and wine making.

Mr. Speaker, Ernest and Julio always gave "All their best." It is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to rise and join me in honoring two great men—Ernest and Julio Gallo—on the occasion of their being inducted into the Stanislaus County Agricultural Hall of Fame.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WALTER  
WAYNE THOMPSON, JR.

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 29, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Walter Wayne Thompson Jr. and thank him for his service to this country. Walter began his service as a sailor in 1941, joining the Navy at the age of eighteen. By the end of his service, Walter had served on two ships involved in several famous and infamous battles in the Pacific theater.

Walter served on the U.S.S. *Hornet* as a stenographer to the ship's Captain. While serving on the ship, Wayne was present for the launching of the famous Doolittle Raid, America's first strike at the Japanese after Pearl Harbor. Following the raid, the *Hornet* engaged in the Battle of Midway, a battle considered a turning point in the war that stopped the Japanese fleet from controlling Hawaii.

Following Midway, the Japanese focused on the island of Guadalcanal. Here the *Hornet's* crew found itself tasked with the role of defending the island alone after Allied naval forces sustained heavy losses. After Guadalcanal, the crew fought in the Battle of Santa Cruz in an attempt to weaken Japanese defensive forces for an invasion of the island.

The Battle of Santa Cruz was to be the final engagement for the *Hornet*. The carrier was

attacked and sunk by enemy forces and her crew rescued by the U.S.S. *Anderson*. After living through the travesty, Wayne finished his service aboard the U.S.S. *Lexington*, where he served until the end of the war. Following his discharge, he returned to his native state of Missouri and became a Baptist Minister. He served the ministry for over forty years before retiring in Montrose, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to recognize Walter Wayne Thompson Jr. and thank him for his service during World War II. If not for dedicated citizens like Wayne, we would not enjoy the many freedoms we have today. Wayne Thompson served selflessly in a time of great need, bringing credit to himself and to this great nation. —

WE MUST RELEASE AID TO HAITI

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 29, 2001*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. must change its current policy towards Haiti. We, as the standard bearers cannot allow Haiti to further sink into a financial and social mire. It has always been America's role to feed those who are hungry and clothe those who cannot clothe themselves.

As we loosen our belts from our Thanksgiving feast, compare the fate of millions of Haitians to ourselves: According to the United Nations, sixty percent of Haiti's 8.2 million people are undernourished. The average number of calories available to Haitians per day is 1977, nearly half of the 3754 calories a U.S. resident gets, according to the World Health Organization.

The Associated press recently published the following account of life in Haiti:

"I'll eat anything I can get," said Jean, 25, as he pulls an empty crab trap out of the polluted Port-Au-Prince Bay. On a good day, Jean can earn about \$12 but often goes home empty handed. Pigs are raised on garbage and human waste, but their meat is too precious to be eaten by the impoverished residents. The pork is sold at the market for cheaper staples like cornmeal and rice that provides more days of nourishment.

The current policy of the U.S. is contributing to the continued attrition of the quality of life of Haiti's people, which if left unchanged, could lead to horrendous outcomes for the western hemisphere's poorest people. We must address the current state of economic devastation. We must remove our blockade of essentially all aid to Haiti.

The U.S. must stop using its veto power at the Inter-American Development Bank. This veto-prerogative is blocking development and humanitarian loans which covers a broad spectrum of critical social and economic priorities, such as health sector improvement, education reform, potable water enhancement and road rehabilitation.

Presently, the U.S. is precluding the issuance of the following loans from being dispersed by the Inter-American Development Bank: 21.5 million—Education, 22.5 million—Health, 55 million—Roads, and 60.9 million—Water.

The hold up of these loans is exasperating Haiti's current negative cash flow status with the Inter-American Development Bank. Although the Inter-American Development Bank