

for the week of May 6–10th. As a result I was unavailable for several rollcall votes. Had I been here, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall votes 129–133. On rollcall vote 136, I would have voted “yea.” On rollcall votes 137–139, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 140, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 141, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 142, I would have voted “yea.” On rollcall vote 143, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 144, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 145, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 146, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 147, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 148, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 149, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 150, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 151, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 152, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 153, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 154, I would have voted “yea.” On rollcall vote 155, I would have voted “yea.” On rollcall vote 156, I would have voted “yea.” On rollcall vote 157, I would have voted “no.” On rollcall vote 158, I would have voted “yea.”

**NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS  
WEEK**

**HON. LAMAR S. SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2002*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Small Business Week.

It is a time to celebrate the contributions that America's small businesses make to our economy.

Small business is the engine that drives this nation, producing 75 percent of new jobs, accounting for almost 98 percent of all employers and 53 percent of the private work force.

It is our small businesses that will continue to lead us to economic recovery.

In particular, small tech businesses are on the front lines of the digital revolution. They have led the way in advances from broadband deployment to software development.

My state of Texas ranks second nationally in high tech workers, employing more than 411,000 with an annual payroll of about \$25 billion. Many of those employees are working for small businesses.

And my new congressional district contains thousands of small, innovative high tech centered businesses.

One such company is SecureInfo in San Antonio. SecureInfo was founded in 1994 and has 64 employees.

SecureInfo allows companies and government agencies to learn about and fix their existing cyber vulnerabilities before they can be exploited by hackers. Exploiting known vulnerabilities is the weapon of choice for cyber terrorists.

SecureInfo battles these electronic attackers with vulnerability intelligence methods that were developed while its founders were working for the United States Air Force Emergency Response Team.

SecureInfo is just one of the thousands of small technology businesses around the country connecting rural America, developing next generation hardware and software, protecting our electronic assets and keeping America on the forefront of technological advances.

**NATIONAL NURSES WEEK**

**HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2002*

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of National Nurses Week.

Every year, National Nurses Week is celebrated from May 6 to May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, founder of nursing as a modern profession. During this week, we recognize the accomplishments and tireless efforts nurses make in order to improve our healthcare system.

Nurses are devoted to their profession and to people in need. They serve our country on the front lines of care in our doctor's offices, hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, and schools.

As we in Congress work to strengthen Medicare and ensure that all people have access to first class healthcare, we are reminded of the long hours of hard work that nurses endure, the sacrifices they make everyday to contribute to the health and well being of our communities.

With a large population of Americans aging, the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technology, and the explosive growth of home health care services, the nursing profession will become increasingly important. In fact, it is estimated that our country will need more than one million new nurses over the next decade. In order to encourage individuals to enter the nursing profession and support care for our loved ones, we must promote education programs, provide information to recruit individuals and highlight the role of nurses in the community.

As such, I ask you to join me in honoring nurses for their commitment to the principles we value. While they serve as the foundation of our Nation's healthcare system, nurses' dedication to their work and compassion for all patients exemplify the best of America's spirit.

**TRIBUTE TO WALDO GIACOMINI**

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2002*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Waldo Giacomini, a prominent West Marin citizen and rancher, who has just died at the age of 88. His life has left a strong imprint on the community.

Mr. Giacomini bought 1,100 acres of mudflats in 1944 which he developed into a thriving dairy. In January 2000, he sold the bulk of this property to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area for a nature preserve to be named the Waldo Giacomini Wetlands. In 1959 Mr. Giacomini co-founded the West Marin based organization, the Resource Conservation District, to promote good land stewardship in local agricultural areas by focusing on the prevention of erosion and water pollution.

He was also known for his participation in local organizations such as the West Marin Lion's Club, Sacred Heart Church, and Sonoma County Trailblazers and was supportive of cultural and service groups such as

the Dance Palace Community Center and Papermill Creek Children's Center, his neighbors in Point Reyes Station. He was frequently seen walking around the town, greeting his many friends.

A dedicated family man, Mr. Giacomini is survived by his four children as well as siblings, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, several of whom continue in the ranching business.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Giacomini leaves us a legacy of caring for the community he called home. In remembering his frequent rendition of the tune, “You are my Sunshine,” I echo the words of that song in bidding him farewell: “(He) made us happy when skies were gray.” Waldo Giacomini will be missed!

**HONORING MR. JOSE AND MRS.  
ANTONIETA VARGAS ON THEIR  
50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 10, 2002*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is with utmost pleasure and privilege that I rise today to recognize two wonderful Americans, Mr. Jose and Mrs. Antonieta Vargas, on the joyous and momentous occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary. On May 3, 1952, Jose and Antonieta Vargas joined in holy matrimony and commenced their marvelous journey together, a journey which we celebrate and reflect upon today.

Jose Vargas was born on December 19, 1918, in El Paso, Texas, during the Mexican Revolution. His mother, Atilana Castillo de Vargas, had traveled to El Paso to escape the violence of the Revolution while his father, Guadalupe Vargas, stayed in Chihuahua, Mexico. Atilana returned to her home in Chihuahua with her children after the violence had ended. Jose completed six years of primary education before going to work in the mines of Chihuahua and on the railroad; he also became an accomplished carpenter. He is the second of six children; his elder sister, Natividad, and younger brother, Jesus, have passed away. His siblings Maximo, Lazaro, and Guadalupe live in Chihuahua and Los Angeles, California.

Antonieta Valverde was born in the mining town of Santa Eulalia in the Mexican state of Chihuahua on December 27, 1927, and was raised in Ciudad Chihuahua. She is the eldest of six children, including Leobardo, Alicia, Concepcion, Damaso and Berta. She completed college before going to work at the Coca Cola bottling facility in Chihuahua.

Jose and Antonieta met in their neighborhood, Santa Niño de Antocha, while riding the bus to their jobs. After a year-long courtship, they married and moved to El Paso, Texas. There, the first five of their children were born: Jose and Fernando in 1952, Jorge in 1954, Maria Antonieta in 1958, and Arturo in 1962. Fernando died shortly after birth.

In 1962, while working on a construction site, Jose was injured, falling from the second story of a building being razed. The family survived through the kindness and charity of neighbors and family. In 1964, Jose left for Los Angeles to find employment, and upon doing so, moved the family to the South Central and then the Pico-Union areas of the city.