

the accomplishments of Mr. Francisco Garcia. Mr. Garcia is the Founder and CEO of Integrated Information Technology Corporation, and through his company he has provided employment opportunities to 360 Coloradans in his eight offices. Francisco Garcia lives his business life by the motto: "Treat others with the same level of respect, professionalism and fairness that you wish to be treated", and I am proud to bring forth his accomplishments before this body of Congress.

Francisco has two degrees, a Bachelor of Science in chemistry from the University of Texas-San Antonio, and a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Ohio University in Athens. He also served our country in the United States Air Force as a Communications Officer where he achieved the rank of captain. Later in life, Mr. Garcia established his own company to provide important satellite, communications, network and installation services to the state of Colorado. His good fortune and quality business ethics have earned him many awards, including the SBA Region VIII Subcontractor of the Year in 2002, the Denver Post Minority-Owned Business of the Year in 2001, the Family Business Award in 2001, and also the SBA's National Minority Small Business Person of the Year in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the accomplishments of this pillar of the Denver Business community. Francisco Garcia has been a great asset to the State of Colorado and to the world of communications. Francisco, I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

JULY 4TH ADDRESS BY MAYOR  
ROBERT BLOMQUIST OF  
OLMSTED FALLS, OH

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 11, 2002*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity to share a 4th of July speech given by Robert Blomquist, Mayor of Olmsted Falls. Mayor Blomquist eloquently spoke of the values and principles on which our country was founded that we must remember and cherish on Independence Day.

Welcome to the City of Olmsted Falls 4th of July festivities. Five weeks ago we gathered here to honor and remember the members of our countries' armed forces whom paid with their lives for the ideas behind the event and document that we celebrate today, the anniversary of the signing, and adoption, by the continental congress, or the declaration of independence.

Today is just not about the birth of a nation. Today is a day in which we pay respect and tribute to the men that pulled together in one document, the most comprehensive and complete ordered thoughts about the nature of man, the nature of government, and how human beings can exist to pursue life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The careful thinking that is the fabric of our great nation. A statement of how we can be free as individuals, but still coexist in a structured and orderly society.

When I think about the history of our country, I am so grateful that I am a citizen of the United States, that my children and I are the beneficiaries of the ideals of the best human nature.

Think with me for a moment.

This land is the product of a unique confluence of the evolution of technology, economics, politics, and the nature of man. In the 17th century it became technically and economically possible for European powers to claim and settle lands beyond their boundaries. Politically Spain, France and Great Britain competed to exploit their claims in the new world and expand their influence.

The original 13 colonies were settled between 1607 and 1732, by Great Britain. It took 125 years and began 170 years before the birth of our nation. People first came as agents of the king to exploit the natural resources, and later came to escape the king and a situation where men were not recognized as being created equal, but where it was believed that men were given rights by station of birth.

At the time this land was being settled. The ideas of what is the true natural state of man. What is freedom and liberty? What is the role of government? What are the divine rights of the king as a sovereign? Should a king truly govern without the consent of his subject people? These ideas were being explored by such philosophers as Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, and Jean Jacques Rousseau. At the time the colonies were flourishing.

These ideas flourished with the American colonies. They took root and grew in the minds of both the intellectual and the layman as natural state of the human desire to be free and independent itself.

We know that this led to the events of our American Revolution. As we openly rebelled against an unjust king we still tried to organize ourselves and our government to better reflect mans desires.

The declaration of independence when you read it was nothing more than an indictment and redress of grievances in the literal sense. It was an announcement to the world of the reasoning behind the rebellion. When Congress adopted the declaration of July 4, 1776, England virtually ignored it. It received a 6 line mention in the London Morning Post, just below a theater notice. But on these shores it galvanized a people, to expend treasure and lives to fight for the ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness that we still enjoy today.

The Declaration of Independence was the product of the best thinking on social and political philosophy of the time. It became the blueprint of our constitution. And continues to this day to inspire men to pledge their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

In the year that has just passed, between today, and last year's celebration we again find it necessary to defend the foundation of our freedoms enjoyed as Americans.

At the time Jefferson wrote it and 56 men signed it and were declared treasonous, and sentenced to death, no one knew what would happen as a result of the Declaration of Independence. We have the advantage of 226 years of history to evaluate and appreciate this event.

Shortly before his death in 1826, Thomas Jefferson also had the advantage of the passage of time to reflect. The following is a passage of a letter written by Jefferson, as he had to decline an invitation to Washington City to celebrate Independence Day because of ill health. Expressing his regrets that he could not join with the small group of worthy gentlemen who created and signed the declaration, he said, "I should have indeed delighted to gather with an exchanged congratulations with those who joined with us to have elected to not submit to the sword, and to enjoyed with our fellow citizens after a half century of prosperity to continue of the choice we made. To assume

the blessings of self government that restores the right of the exercise of reason and freedom of opinion. All eyes are open to the rights of man. For ourselves, let the annual return of this day forever refresh our recollections of these rights and our devotion to them."

A TRIBUTE TO REBEKAH REVELS  
MISS NORTH CAROLINA 2002

**HON. MIKE MCINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 11, 2002*

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rebekah Revels who was recently crowned Miss North Carolina 2002. A native of St. Pauls in my home county of Robeson and a teacher at my alma mater, Lumberton Senior High School, Rebekah's recent accomplishment is a source of immense pride throughout our county and all of southeastern North Carolina.

The American historian, James Truslow Adams, once said, "Seek out that particular mental attribute which makes you feel most deeply and vitally alive, along with which comes the inner voice which says, 'This is the real me,' and when you have found that attitude, follow it." With dedication and determination, Rebekah has followed her heart and mind and become Miss North Carolina 2002.

Rebakah is a woman of dedication who does not rest on her laurels. Having held the past titles of Junior Miss Lumbee, Miss Lumbee, Miss University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Miss St. Pauls and Miss Fayetteville, Rebekah has kept the fire and energy alive to reach her dream of Miss North Carolina. She is a woman of dedication who provides a positive example for all to follow.

Rebekah is a very determined young woman. She set the goal of becoming Miss North Carolina and worked tirelessly to achieve this high distinction. She now will use this same drive and determination to inform people all across North Carolina of the devastating effects of Alzheimer's disease.

Rebekah, thank you for your dedication and your determination. We wish you continued success, and may God's strength, peace and joy be with you as you begin your reign as Miss North Carolina 2002 and as you compete for the title of Miss America.

TRIBUTE TO THE REGISTERS OF  
WILLS AND CLERKS OF OR-  
PHANS' COURT

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 11, 2002*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Registers of Wills & Clerks of Orphans' Court (ROW/OC), comprising Pennsylvania's 67 counties, for their 75th Anniversary as a state association. This organization is a collective group of elected professionals who have come together to learn from one another and to work as one body. By doing this, they have succeeded in creating one set of standards, procedures, rules, and statutes that are used statewide.