rapid growth because it is at the edge of the Southern California urban area. Community leaders are working hard to maintain their small-town community even as they plan for growth that is expected to nearly double the population of 26,000 by 2010.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that the citizens and leaders of San Juanito will help their town continue to be a warm and welcoming place that combines a respect for the history of California with an eye to the state's booming future. Please join me in congratulating them on their 115th birthday, and wish them well in the years to come.

HONORING LULAC

HON. SAM FARR
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 3, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the League of United and Latin American Citizens (LULAC) and in particular the local Monterey County LULAC Council 2055. LULAC is the largest and oldest Hispanic community organization in the United States. LULAC Council 2055 reflects that tradition and has enjoyed a distinguished 25-year history of community service.

LULAC Council 2055 has worked cooperatively and collaboratively with a wide array of people, organizations, and businesses to promote and advance the economic, educational, political and civil rights of the Latino population of my Central California district. Mr. Speaker, as many people from my district and in this body are aware, I am a firm believer in the power of collaboration to achieve great ends. I believe that LULAC Council 2055's continuous activism and partnership with other neighboring organizations is one example of the power of teamwork.

For the past 5 years LULAC Council 2055 has raised more than $100,000 in scholarship money for deserving high school students. In November 2002, the League worked to pass several important local school bond measures that will bring $30 million to middle schools in Salinas, California. In the upcoming years, middle students will learn in new, renovated, and modernized classrooms. This will mean great progress in relieving student overcrowding. Along the same lines, LULAC Council 2055 helped pass a bond measure to renovate Hartnell Community College, which serves the people of the Salinas Valley.

LULAC Council 2055 continues to work with various civil rights organizations such as the American Liberty Rights Coalition; Coalition of Minority Organizations; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; Salinas Action League; and the United Farm Workers of America to achieve equality, justice and peace for all people.

Furthermore, LULAC embraces diversity by organizing social and cultural events for the Latino community such as the Orgullo Latino Dance, Cinco de Mayo, 16-de septiembre, and Teatro Campesino night.

I applaud the efforts of LULAC and those who support their mission to advance and maintain the rights of the Latino community as well as others. Mr. Speaker, I hope that all my colleagues will join me today in applauding the 25 years of public service that LULAC Council 2055 has brought to the community.