

a service to the community, they put on demonstrations that educate us on how to stay safe in emergency situations. They are an irreplaceable and integral part of our community, whether it is raising money for a cause, adding to the joy of a local parade or hosting meetings and social functions. Clearly, the members of the Linfield Fire Company have served proudly and I rise today to recognize their service over the past 90 years.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the Linfield Fire Company on their 90th Anniversary and salute, admire and appreciate all the volunteers that have served this community for so many years.

**FREE FRANCISCO CHAVIANO
GONZÁLEZ!**

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the Congress about a Cuban prisoner of conscience locked in Castro's gulag. This week I ask my colleagues to learn the name of Francisco Chaviano González.

The prevailing theme throughout the life of Mr. Chaviano González is his desire to live in freedom. First, he attempted to flee Castro's dictatorship in March 1989, but was caught and sent to prison. While unjustly incarcerated for attempting to flee the Cuban dictatorship, Mr. Chaviano González founded the Cuban Rafters Council.

Upon Mr. Chaviano González's release from prison, he and the Council began to document the list of people who have become unaccounted for in the treacherous Florida Straights as they sought refuge from Castro's repressive regime. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Chaviano González compiled a list of those who perished on their dangerous journey to freedom. The Council desired that these martyrs be known, that those who died pursuing freedom be remembered by those they left behind.

As Mr. Chaviano González began to understand how the repressive policies of Castro's ruthless regime propelled these refugees into the Florida Straights, he, and other members of the Council, decided to change the name of their organization to the National Council for Civil Rights in Cuba (NCCRC). Castro's machinery of repression took notice of this pro-democracy group and Mr. Chaviano González was arrested on May 7, 1994.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Chaviano González has been imprisoned in Castro's gulag since May 7, 1994. According to reports, Francisco Chaviano González is in poor and deteriorating health after 9 years and 5 months in Castro's gulag. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Chaviano González has dedicated his life to the idea that the Cuban people should be free, and for that belief alone he has been imprisoned by Castro's tyranny since 1994.

On October 2, 2002 Ernesto Roque published portions of a letter by Mr. Chaviano on the website CubaNet. The haunting words of this letter included the plea "Humanity, don't forget us, they are killing us!" Mr. Speaker, this Congress should never forget what happens each day in Castro's gulag; each day, Castro's machinery of repression is delib-

erately murdering Cuban citizens whose only crime is their desire for freedom.

My Colleagues, we must stand up for those who seek freedom from tyranny. We must call now, and we must call everyday, for the release of Francisco Chaviano González and all the prisoners of conscience dying for freedom in Castro's gulag.

**HONORING INFANT OF PRAGUE
ADOPTION SERVICE**

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Infant of Prague Adoption Service for its 50 years of dedication and commitment to children and families. The agency will celebrate the anniversary at an event on October 11th, with live music and a live and silent auction.

In 1953, Infant of Prague was founded by priests and lay people affiliated with the Catholic Diocese. The name was taken from a popular devotion to the Infant Christ Child of Prague, Czechoslovakia, dating back to the 16th century. The devotion stressed special blessings for children and families. The name fits the agency well and today, Infant of Prague serves 11 counties in central California.

Infant of Prague Adoption Service, guided by the belief in the preciousness of life, builds healthy families and serves the needs of children through adoption. The lifelong best interest of the child has always been the cornerstone of the agency's practice. Emphasis is also placed on community outreach, where schools, churches, clinics, and other organizations are provided information on adoption. Staff is also available to provide adoption in-service for professionals who work with families in crisis, particularly pregnant and parenting teens.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Infant of Prague Adoption Service for its 50 years of dedication to children and families. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Infant of Prague many successful years to come.

**HONORING FRANK BIERWILER OF
SPRING HILL, FLORIDA**

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great public servant, a charitable giver, and a selfless hero in my Fifth Congressional District, Mr. Frank Bierwiler.

Frank Bierwiler first served his community in New York for many years as a State Police Officer. Then, after a multiple sclerosis diagnosis in 1974 forced him to retire from the force, Frank Bierwiler pledged to do something good with his life.

It was a few years later, Mr. Speaker that he moved to Florida and started DayStar Hope Center, an organization giving food, clothing, and assistance with bills to central Floridians in need.

For nearly 20 years, the center has served as an example of the power and impact of benevolence and kindness. Its doors have welcomed thousands of Floridians in need and Mr. Bierwiler's perseverance and generosity have for so long ensured that those doors stay open.

Unfortunately, after 20 years of helping so many, the DayStar Hope Center is closing.

While it is unfortunate that the center is ceasing operations, many other charitable organizations, came into existence because of the success of the DayStar Hope Center. Frank's leadership fostered these other organizations and he always worked well with them.

I want to take this opportunity today to first commend Frank Bierwiler for his work in my district and to, second, draw attention to the extraordinary things can happen when one determined, individual pledges himself to greatness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all of my colleagues in this body to join me in honoring Frank Bierwiler and offering our sincere admiration for his work, life and accomplishments.

**A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
STEVE SCHUMACHER**

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Steve Schumacher has demonstrated a high level of commitment and ingenuity towards increasing forest landowners' knowledge of timber marketing; and

Whereas, Steve Schumacher, as a Belmont County Extension Agent, has developed a program to educate forest landowners on selling and marketing their lumber to companies; and

Whereas, Steve Schumacher has received regional and national recognition for his unique extension program; and

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in recognizing Steve Schumacher for his achievements in promoting the forest industry.

**AWARDS RECOGNIZE COLORADO'S
LEADERSHIP IN HISTORIC PRES-
ERVATION**

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call the attention of the House to recent recognition of Colorado's leadership in preserving significant parts of our state's colorful past.

As reported by the Denver Post, that recognition came in the form of awards by the National Trust for Historic Preservation related to four Colorado sites—the 1878 Central City Opera House and historic district, 1886 Beaumont Hotel in Ouray, the 1905 Kit Carson Carousal in Stratton and the 13th-century Ute Indian Porcupine House at the Ute Mountain Tribal Park in Towaoc.

I agree with Mr. Richard Moe, the President of the National Trust, who said, "That Colorado was voted a total of four awards is a real