

Dr. Carl H. Gellentien came as a "lunger" in 1927, and he headed the next generation of healers and researchers at Valmora Industrial Sanatorium. Brown and Gellentien were dreamers, ahead of their time during an exciting era of modern medicine. The program was closed in the 1960s.

The old and crumbling site was rediscovered in 1992 by a group of New Mexicans and Texans—board members of The High Frontier of Fort Davis, Texas. Their vision was to use this site as a residential treatment center for troubled boys and girls.

Today Rancho Valmora serves as a non-profit residential school aiming to assist adolescents that are in need of treatment. Over the years I have met counselors who have worked at Rancho Valmora, who have shared heartfelt stories of these young people. These youth are looking for a positive role model, a place to fit in and a peer group that accepts who they are. They are trying to make sense of their particular situations, themselves, their relationships and their lives. No young person wakes up one day and says, "I want to be rejected, devalued, or alone." Yet this is the message that many of them received early in their lives. Many of the youth have had bad experiences that no one would wish upon a person they care about: abandonment, violence, physical and sexual abuse, drugs and alcohol to name a few. They have not known who to turn to, who to follow and who to look up to.

At Rancho Valmora, the youth learn that they are of value, that others care for and about them, and they learn that they can care for and about others. They find they have something to offer, they fit in for helping, not hurting others. A positive interaction with others becomes fashionable and with that comes a sense of well-being and a sense of self worth through Positive Peer Culture.

Within this structured learning environment, Rancho Valmora provides a complete educational program and recreational activities which will develop the mind, physical fitness and confidence of each student. For recreation the youth engage in social and physical activities through basketball, mush ball, volleyball, dances and through working and attending an old fashioned soda fountain named the Little Dipper. They also engage in horsemanship, horticulture and art to enhance their knowledge base and accumulate experiences outside the classroom setting.

The central position is that young people can develop self-worth, significance, dignity, and responsibility only as they become committed to the positive values of helping and caring for others. As an ancient Hindu proverb advises, "Help thy brother's boat across, and lo, thine own has reached the shore."

Rancho Valmora will mark their centennial of service on August 7, 2004. A day of fun, food, and entertainment will commence with the dedication of a new 39,000 square foot school gymnasium as the students, staff and friends usher in the next 100 years. It is sure to be a wonderful time.

Mr. Speaker, for the past century Rancho Valmora has served thousands of people. From the tuberculosis patients in the early 20th century to the troubled youth of the 21st century, Rancho Valmora has mended hundreds of sick bodies and souls. This special place of learning and healing has managed to take what is old and make it new again. Ran-

cho Valmora has been, is now and will hopefully remain a place of hope and miracles. I ask that my colleagues join with me in congratulating Rancho Valmora.

EXTENDING AUTHORIZATION FOR  
CERTAIN NATIONAL HERITAGE  
AREAS

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAVID L. HOBSON**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 19, 2004*

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4492, which contains the authorization of the National Aviation Heritage Area Act. I would first like to thank Chairman POMBO, the Members of the Resources Committee and their staff, for their leadership and cooperation in advancing this idea.

I introduced legislation to create the National Aviation Heritage Area, which has been supported by Representative's RALPH REGULA, MIKE TURNER, JOHN BOEHNER, and all of the Ohio Delegation, to enhance significant historical resources of interest to all Americans and to further national awareness of Ohio's key role in the history of aviation. I can think of no better way to preserve and carry on the years of hard work and preparation leading up to last year's 100th anniversary of the first powered flight, than to establish this heritage area.

Few technological advances have transformed the world or our Nation's economy, society, culture, and national character as the development of powered flight. Ohioans such as the Wright Brothers, John Glenn, and Neil Armstrong have been at the forefront of every major development associated with flight. But just as important are the inventors, scientists and engineers that have made it possible in less than 100 years to not only fly between continents, but also to fly to the moon and maintain a presence in space.

My provision is fully in the spirit of President Bush's recent "Preserve America" executive order that declared, "It is the policy of the Federal Government to provide leadership in preserving America's heritage . . . by promoting intergovernmental cooperation and partnerships for the preservation and use of historic properties."

The Members of Congress from Ohio have a long record of promoting the preservation of aviation sites in Central Ohio. We have previously worked together to secure funding for the U.S. Air Force Museum, the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, and the National Aviation Hall of Fame. We also worked closely with the community to make sure that last year's Centennial of Flight celebration was a huge success.

For these reasons, it is vitally important that we move forward with this legislation, and I urge a "yes" vote on H.R. 4492.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT  
FINANCING AND RELATED PRO-  
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,  
2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 15, 2004*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4818) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes:

Mr. REYES. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank Chairman KOLBE and Ranking Member LOWEY of the Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, as well as others on the Committee, for their support of funding for Latin America. On average, funding for programs in Latin and Central America was slashed by 11 percent from fiscal year 2004 levels in the President's fiscal year 2005 budget. As the Chair of the International Relations Task Force of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I was outraged to see that the President's budget cut development assistance to the region by almost 10 percent and child survival and health programs by almost 12 percent from fiscal year 2004 funding levels. While decreasing assistance funding in Latin America, the Administration has planned to increase foreign aid in other parts of the world. My colleagues on the Committee have committed to undo this injustice to Latin America and have directed funding for the region at at least fiscal year 2004 levels.

It is critical that we extend assistance to Latin America. In this region, extreme poverty, hunger, and economic disenfranchisement are resulting in instability—preventing democracy from taking root and growing. We should reach out to our neighbors and allies, working together to make the future brighter for thousands of children living in poverty and hunger throughout Latin America.

For this reason, I am pleased that the Committee has included language that is strongly supportive of the Cooperative Association of States for Scholarships (CASS) Program funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development under this legislation. As the Committee report indicates, this program has been highly effective in fostering economic growth and development in a number of countries in Central America and the Caribbean. I am also pleased to say that CASS students who have studied over the years at El Paso Community College have added greatly to the vitality of that campus. Furthermore, those students have, as part of their program, extended themselves through valuable community service in the El Paso area.

I took special note of the reference to the long history CASS has had in Haiti. Indeed, I have had the chance to learn about CASS participants from Haiti and how they have returned to their home country to make real contributions to strengthening the economy of that nation which desperately needs their help and that of the international community. They have gone into fields such as computer technology, management of micro-enterprise development, drug abuse prevention and development of