

Leste's people. This effort requires local buy-in and assistance from the World Bank and national and regional development groups.

Local systems of governance are developed and respect for the rule of law is cultivated. In particular, emphasis should be placed on judicial institutions, which will enable accountability for past and current crimes.

Peace and security is guaranteed for Timor Leste. Peacekeepers, instead of leaving prematurely, must remain to support military and police troops.

The Peacebuilding Commission is selecting which post-conflict nation-states to adopt. Along with Burundi and Sierra Leone, Timor Leste is high on the list. The world community has an opportunity to rally behind Timor Leste, rather than abandon it, and help this nation become healthy and strong—a peace-building process that will take a long-term commitment from every international institution.

Ian Martin, former special representative for the UN secretary general for East Timor, is forecasting a larger role for the UN. He should recommend that the Peacebuilding Commission take the lead in ensuring Timor Leste finally takes its place among the world's stable democratic countries.

HONORING SPRINGHILL MEDICAL CENTER AS A LEADER IN HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Springhill Medical Center.

For the past 31 years Springhill Medical Center has served the people of south Alabama through quality medical service. The administration and staff of Springhill Medical Center pride themselves on numerous services they provide to the community while maintaining a personalized approach to patient care.

I am proud to say that Springhill Medical Center is recognized as being in the top 5 percent of the most technically advanced hospitals in the United States. As a result of the hospital's investment in this technology, Springhill Medical Center was honored as a 2006 Laureate by the Computerworld Information Technology Awards Foundations.

Springhill Medical Center was nominated and received this award based on the hospital's operations in the days following Hurricane Katrina. The high volume of patients treated following the hurricane would not have been possible without the integrated technology the hospital had in place. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the emergency room provided services to as many as 72 patients at one time. In the month following Hurricane Katrina, the hospital treated 600 more patients than the same time period the previous year.

Upon receiving the award, Mr. Bill Mason, president and CEO of Springhill Medical Center, said, "Our firm decision to significantly invest in our electronic information resources has paid off for our patients and for the physicians, nurses, and technicians who care for them, and the hospital. We've been able to offer our medical staff a tool that complements the excellent care offered at Springhill Medical Center."

Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize the administration and staff of Springhill Medical Center and their continuing leadership in healthcare technology and commitment to quality healthcare services throughout south Alabama.

RECOGNIZING THE SOUTH EL MONTE EMERGENCY RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2006

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to congratulate the South El Monte Emergency Resources Association in honor of their 50th anniversary. I am proud to recognize the invaluable contributions and charity of the South El Monte Emergency Resources Association on this historic occasion.

For over 50 years the mission of this small organization has been to "prevent homelessness and maintain stability by providing the basic needs of food, clothing and shelter for families and individuals in times of crisis." And for 50 years the South El Monte Emergency Resources Association has not faltered in upholding their noble and honorable mission. The impact they have had on thousands of lives is immeasurable. By implementing the American spirit of humble and compassionate charity, the South El Monte Resources Association has come to embody the best of the American people.

The association began their mission by providing second-hand clothing to children in unfortunate circumstances. Through the years they have expanded their services to include the provision of emergency food, clothing, home furnishings, sheets, blankets, medical supplies, and medical equipment to members of the community. Yet the work of the South El Monte Emergency Resources Association is not limited to these services; it extends beyond material assistance to provide moral support and guidance.

Today, in the face of poverty, homelessness, suffering, and insurmountable circumstances, we have hope because of groups like the South El Monte Emergency Resources Association. Without the support and assistance of such organizations, our many impoverished children, seniors, and community members would be left out in the cold with no hope in sight. Today we recognize the priceless services that charitable organizations provide to our society and I congratulate the South El Monte Emergency Resources Association for 50 years of being a model compassionate organization.

TRIBUTE TO SONNY DOLCI

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2006

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to share with my colleagues the passing of Sonny Dolci. Most Members of the House never met Sonny Dolci. But everyone

has a Sonny Dolci in their congressional district.

Sonny Dolci was a veterans' leader in Northport, Long Island. He died 3 days before Independence Day. And he had a special link to that day. Because he embodied the finest qualities of great Americans who refused to say 'no' when it came to their country or their community.

When the veterans of Northport wanted to build a new facility, Sonny Dolci said, "Give me the shovel."

When community leaders wanted to organize a celebration of Northport, Sonny helped lead what is today one of the largest festivals on Long Island: Cow Harbor Day.

When a Korean War memorial was planned, Sonny traveled to eastern Long Island, and climbed amongst the rocks to find the perfect facing.

Sonny would not take no for an answer. That is really what Independence Day is about: the Americans who refused to say no when faced with challenge.

Two hundred thirty years ago, George Washington found himself surrounded in NY by the most powerful Navy on earth. He didn't give in, he kept up the fight for independence. And we replaced foreign monarchy with American democracy.

One hundred forty years ago, Abraham Lincoln lost battle after battle for American unity. He didn't give up. He kept fighting until we replaced slavery with liberty.

And 60 years ago, men like Sonny Dolci left their homes for World War II and then Korea. They refused to say no to defeating tyranny and totalitarianism.

They came home, and looked at the moon. And when President Kennedy said we could even defeat the distance of space, they said, "Let's go".

That determination and spirit made us the country we are today. They wouldn't take no for an answer. And neither should we.

The threat today is our reliance on foreign oil. Our generation needs a Declaration of Energy Independence. If we can beat the British, defeat slavery, triumph in World War II and land Americans on the moon, we can design vehicles that get more than 40 miles per gallon. That is today's challenge.

Sonny Dolci never said "It's too hard" when it came to the safety and security of his country, his community, his comrades, or his children.

And as long as his spirit and fortitude lives in each of us, we will give the next generation of children the peace and security that Sonny fought and worked to give us.

And that is the greatest legacy of all.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JUDGE CORDELL MEEKS, JR.

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2006

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding Kansas jurist who recently was taken from us too soon: 29th Judicial District Court Judge Cordell Meeks, Jr., who died unexpectedly on June 28th of a heart attack at age 63.

Born and raised in Kansas City, Kansas, Judge Meeks served on the bench for nearly