

was the first major step in the battle for farm worker rights in the U.S., setting the stage for the 1975 Agriculture Labor Relations Act, the only law in the United States that protects farm workers' rights to unionize. This landmark legislation increased pension benefits, health insurance coverage and pay for thousands of workers.

Chavez continued to demonstrate his devotion to nonviolent advocacy of workers' rights until his death in 1993, at the age of 66. In 1994, President Clinton posthumously awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, saying that Chavez had faced "formidable, often violent opposition with dignity and non-violence". The legacy of Chavez's life's pursuit—his tireless fight for the basic civil rights of millions of workers—remains one that we must not let slip from the collective consciousness of this body. My home State of Michigan has been celebrating Cesar Chavez Day since 2003, and it is time for the Federal Government to follow our example.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pay tribute to Cesar Chavez on this day, and to commemorate his legacy by supporting H. Res. 76 to honor a true hero of our Nation.

IN HONOR OF ROBERT POWERS

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who has dedicated his entire life to the betterment of his community and the success of his family.

It is my great pleasure to inform the House of Representatives that Mr. Robert "Elliott" Powers of Savin Hill, in the Dorchester neighborhood of Massachusetts, is celebrating his 75th birthday at a surprise celebration with friends and family this Saturday, March 31st, 2007.

Bob Powers is a lifelong resident of Boston who attended Boston public schools, including the Edward Everett and Christopher Columbus High School. Then, at the age of 17, Bob volunteered to serve his country by enlisting in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. The Navy instilled in Bob a lifelong work ethic as well as personal pride and integrity.

As a letter carrier, Bob was a familiar face in the South End, Back Bay, and the Prudential Center where for many years he worked to ensure postal customers received their mail in a timely and professional manner. For 38 years, as a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers, Branch No. 43, Bob Powers put on his uniform every day to ensure that the men, women, families, and businesses on his route received their mail. Bob set an example of hard work and dedication to his friends and family that nobly illustrates the best of the American work ethic.

Madam Speaker, Bob Powers has also been a man committed to his community and has dedicated many hours and much energy to various activities within his home parish of St. William, including coaching basketball and managing the band. For many years Bob led St. William's Band, helping countless numbers of young people to find a purpose and direction in their lives. Through his thousands of volunteer hours Bob made sure that each

young person had an opportunity to grow and learn in a safe, enriching, and fun environment.

And most importantly, Bob has had the enormous pleasure and tremendous good fortune to be married to his wife Pat for over 47 years. Additionally, Bob has been blessed with five children: Rosemary, Trish, Kevin, Robert, and Caroline, and is the proud and, from what I hear, doting grandfather to Tierney, Colm, Brendan, Kelli, Erin, and Tara.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take the floor of the House today to join with Bob's family and friends to thank him for his service to his community and to wish him a happy and healthy 75th birthday. I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating the birthday of Bob Powers and wishing him well in all his future endeavors.

HONORING THE BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF ONTARIO

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today recognition of the bicentennial anniversary of the Town of Ontario. Ontario is located in the northwest corner of Wayne County, with Lake Ontario forming its northern border.

Led by Freeman Hopkins, the town separated from the town of Williamson 200 years ago, on March 27, 1807. After its separation, the town came to be known as Freetown. On February 12, 1808, the town officially became known as Ontario, in honor of the Great Lake on its border.

Ontario was a major location of the iron industry in Wayne County. In 1811, iron was first discovered in Ontario by a Mr. Knickerbocker. A few years later, Samuel Smith built a forge and began the making of iron. The real boom in iron industry came in 1880 when the Furnaceville Iron Company constructed a \$200,000 furnace. For the next 17 years, Ontario became a mining town, and the product was sold for mill and foundry iron. As competition from the other parts of the country grew, the iron beds in Wayne County became idle and the people of the town of Ontario turned to another attribute of the region for sustainability.

Sitting on the shores of Lake Ontario the area proved to be the perfect climate for apple growing. From the initial apple farms roughly a hundred years ago, the apple industry in Wayne County has grown to one of the top producing apple regions in the country.

During the Civil War, the people of Ontario lived up to their town motto of "A Community of Good Neighbors." No other town in Wayne County had as many fearless and brave citizens who served in the Union Army.

Today, the town of Ontario is home to many high-tech industries and alternative energies. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant provides clean energy for the town and the surrounding region while wind power investment at Harbec Industries has spurred economic development. Other small businesses in the town boost accolades that include the manufacturing of parts for the Hubble telescope and equipment for our American troops.

This once farming community has seen many changes from once booming iron production. Today Ontario grows and expands its industrial base while continuing to be a community of good, and proud, neighbors.

On behalf of the people of the 25th Congressional District of New York State, I proudly honor the 200 years of existence of the town of Ontario.

CONGRATULATING ROBERT L. DOMINICK

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to applaud the devoted service of Robert L. Dominick, a resident of Crowley, Louisiana who recently retired after concluding 42 years of service to the United States government.

Throughout his career, Robert devoted himself to public service. After graduating from Southern University in 1966 with a degree in Vocational Agriculture, Robert was employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) as an Assistant County Supervisor. In addition to his new career with USDA, Robert also enlisted in the United States Naval Reserve in 1966, where he dutifully served for 22 years.

Having a desire to continue his education, Robert enrolled at Louisiana State University at Eunice (LSUE), where he received over 30 hours in Administration and Supervision.

Robert held various positions with USDA, including Assistant County Supervisor, County Supervisor, Rural-Economic and Community Development Loan Specialist, Lead Single Family Housing Specialist, and Guaranteed Rural Housing Specialist.

In addition to his distinguished service to our country, Robert also is a devoted member of many organizations in his state and local community. He is a life member of the Southern University Alumni Association, the Peoples Investment Company, the County Supervisors Association, and the Israelite Baptist Church.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and the people of Southwest Louisiana in wishing Robert Dominick a happy retirement, and congratulating him for his invaluable service to his state and his country.

THOMASVILLE HIGH SCHOOL—THE HOME OF CHAMPIONS

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, many towns, states, schools, conferences, or leagues try to lay claim to be the "home of champions." But really, can anyone make a better case than Thomasville High School in Thomasville, North Carolina? The fact that the mighty Bulldogs reside in the Sixth District of North Carolina does nothing to dissuade me that Thomasville High School truly deserves to be called the home of champions, or perhaps, be renamed Title Town High! Allow me the opportunity to make the case for Thomasville High School.