

Carruth, have four daughters—Linda, Fayette, Dorene, and Sharron—two sons-in-law, seven grandchildren, and a niece and nephew-in-law.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMUNITY OF STRATFORD

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 4, 2007*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Community of Stratford on the celebration of their 100th anniversary.

In the late 1800's, the community of Stratford began taking the role of a trading post as an integral part of the booming mining industry that transformed communities across the country. Rich in vast fertile farmland, the production of cotton, hay, and grains soon became bountiful thus overtaking trade as the predominant industry in the region. A few years later, Stratford became home to a large dairy concentration as well as a diverse group of citizens. The ethnic groups of Stratford included Portuguese, English, Italian, and others from all over the world that settled in this charming community.

A glorious day occurred on October 7th, 1907, when Stratford was founded by the Empire Land Company as a development property. The history of this place further demonstrates that it is only by embracing the importance of cooperation and vision that thriving communities are born. I am honored to stand and shine a spotlight on the community of Stratford as they celebrate a century of pride and progress.

IN HONOR OF THE CENTER FOR AGROECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 4, 2007*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the most prominent centers of agricultural research and education in the world on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. The Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems, CASFS, located on the campus of the University of California at Santa Cruz, enjoys a reputation as the Harvard of organic farming.

While this reputation is well deserved, it did not come easily to the UCSC Farm, as CASFS is more commonly known. The program began life in 1967 as an obscure 4-acre organic garden tucked away in a disused and unnoticed corner of the UCSC campus. It was birthed by master gardener Alan Chadwick who inspired a group of students to convert a dry hillside into a magnificent terraced garden that incorporated the latest techniques in chemical free horticulture and reflected the back to the land Zeitgeist of the day. In 1972, the project expanded onto another unused campus site where garden participants began a 17 acre, later 25 acre, experimental organic farm. There they set out explore ways of improving and applying organic farming tech-

niques. Throughout the 1970s, the little UCSC Farm community quietly grew with a mixture of a little campus support, some creative grant writing, and the sales of its farm produce. A steady stream of student apprentices advanced through constantly evolving program. By the 1980s, the UCSC Farm had come to a crossroads. Could it reach beyond the little world of the UCSC campus and help shape the broader world of agriculture?

While the UCSC campus family welcomed the project, the broader UC system didn't know what to do with it. It didn't have any formal accreditation and it was not located on one of the UC land grant institutions where agriculture was supposed to happen. It simply lacked the necessary pedigree to secure an official and funded place within the University of California system. As the State assembly member representing the Monterey Bay Area during the 1980s, I had the honor of securing a line for the UCSC farm in the State's higher education budget. In 1990, I authored the California Organic Standards Act, which was largely shaped by work at the UCSC Farm and the Santa Cruz community of organic growers that had grown up in its neighborhood.

Since entering Congress, I have worked hard to share the story of the UCSC Farm's important work with my colleagues. Congress has responded with a total of over \$3 million in direct appropriations to the UCSC Farm since 2000 to assist with its important research and extension work with the rapidly expanding organic farming sector. Indeed, the UCSC Farm's influence has been far reaching, inspiring many sustainable agriculture programs at other universities, including UC Davis, Cal Poly, and USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pass on the congratulations of the House to all the people who have worked so hard over the course of the past 40 years to make the UCSC Farm such a great success.

HONORING DONNA AND STEVE HILL

**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 4, 2007*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Donna and Steve Hill. The Hills originally came to the Baltimore County Department of Social Services interested in adopting one child, a boy. They had three daughters and were very much interested in adding a son to their family. The agency placed a young boy in their home who lacked impulse control and required a great deal of time, attention, and therapy. They were presented with many more challenges than they had expected. Several months later, the agency learned that a sibling of this child was also in foster care in Baltimore City, in a therapeutic foster home. When approached about taking this second child, a girl, the Hills again stepped up to the plate. In an effort to keep the siblings together, they agreed to be parents for this special-needs little girl as well.

When the sister was placed with the Hills, she had to share a room with the Hills' youngest daughter. After a short period of time, it

was evident that the two girls, being so close in age, were in constant rivalry due to a lack of their own space. As a result, the Hills decided to put an addition on their home to ensure that the siblings could continue to live together. Though the two children were biological siblings, they had never lived together since entering foster care and had not formed any significant attachment to each other.

The foster son was struggling with multiple emotional challenges, and the Hills pursued intensive individual and family therapy to stabilize both children. The Hills officially adopted their 10-year-old daughter on March 23, 2007. They are still working toward adopting their foster son, who has expressed some reluctance because of ties to his biological father. This family has consistently put the needs of the children first. They have dealt with many difficult situations, while at the same time providing a stable, loving home environment for the children in their care. In addition, if this family had not gone above and beyond their original request to adopt one boy, these two siblings would not have had the opportunity to live together.

Madam Speaker, today I ask that you join with me in honoring Donna and Steve Hill for being unsung adoption heroes and I am honored to recognize them in the Angel in Adoption program.

WHERE IS SPUTNIK WHEN WE NEED IT?

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 4, 2007*

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, 50 years ago today, the Soviet Union changed the world by launching Sputnik I into orbit. People who were alive in 1957 vividly remember Sputnik. It shocked the American public and dwarfed the achievements of our rocket program. It was so serious that President Dwight Eisenhower had to go on national television to apologize for our failure, and promised a boost to our science efforts. This led to an awakening of innovation, which resulted in the United States launching a comparable satellite of its own, the Explorer I, into orbit fewer than four months later. More importantly, Sputnik spurred U.S. investment in aerospace, culminating in the Apollo Moon landing. There was also a great emphasis on improving our math and science education programs. This sparked an intense focus on equipping our workforce with the skills needed to compete with the Russians.

Unfortunately, once again the United States is falling behind other nations. This time, it is our children who are falling behind their peers in European and Asian countries that have more rigorous math and science education programs. We must do a better job of preparing our kids for the jobs of the future.

Already, economic pressures have pushed some States and the Federal Government to improve math and science education. For example, in Michigan the business community supported the effort to require that high school graduates take at least 4 years of math and 3 years of science courses. Michigan desperately needs a workforce equipped with math and science skills to attract employers to