

Wildomar on their official incorporation as a city on July 1, 2008. Located in southwest Riverside County within the 49th Congressional District, Wildomar stands to be the 456th city in the great state of California. I commend the citizens of Wildomar for their decision to take the responsibility of self governance by utilizing the fundamental principles of democracy, a tradition that goes back to the founding days of our nation.

Established as a community in 1891, Wildomar has a long and rich history in California. The three founders constructed the name "Wildomar" from their first names, "Wil" from William Collier, "Do" from Donald Graham and "Mar" from Margaret Collier. Once a common stop for the Pony Express on the Butterfield Stage route, Wildomar provided a much needed break for the express riders. Thanks to the establishment of a rail line and stop at Wildomar, the village has continued to grow throughout the last century.

Today, the area of Wildomar consists of many custom built homes set on large ranches and communities along the hillsides with sweeping views of the valley. Wildomar remains a relaxing and naturally beautiful area of California. Wildomar is home to 27,000 people, many of them first time home buyers and long time residents.

On February 2, 2008, the citizens of Wildomar voted to incorporate the city, while at the same time electing the leaders that will set the standards for future growth and stability in a rich area of California. It is my honor to recognize the first city council of Wildomar: Council Members Ms. Sheryl Ade, Mr. Bob Cashman, Mr. Scott Farnam, Ms. Bridgette Moore, and Ms. Marsha Swanson. I look forward to working with the new council on issues important to their new and growing community.

As the Representative of the 49th Congressional District of California in the United States House of Representatives, I wish the new city of Wildomar great success as it begins the next chapter of Wildomar's storied history.

COMMENDING THE UNITED
STATE'S LONGSTANDING RELATIONSHIP WITH SWAZILAND

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2008

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, as a proud co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Swaziland, I rise today to educate my colleagues about the history of Swaziland and strong but unfortunately too often overlooked relationship between the United States and the Kingdom of Swaziland.

The Swazi nation has a long and rich history going back to the 16th century when, according to tradition, the Swazi people migrated south from what is now Mozambique. Following a series of conflicts with people living in the area around modern day Maputo, Mozambique, the Swazi people settled in northern Zululand—part of present day South Africa—in about 1750. Unable to resist the growing power of the Zulu nation in the region, the Swazis moved gradually northward in the 1800s and established themselves in the area of modern Swaziland. From 1894 to 1902

South Africa administered Swazi interests with the British assuming control of the country in 1902. On September 6, 1968, the Kingdom of Swaziland became officially independent from the British crown.

Today, Swaziland is a full fledged member of the United Nations, the African Union, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), and Southern African Development Community (SADC). Ten accredited ambassadors or honorary consuls are resident in the country and Swaziland maintains diplomatic missions in Brussels, Copenhagen, Kuala Lumpur, London, Maputo, Nairobi, Pretoria, Taipei, the United Nations, and Washington, D.C.

The United States has maintained good bilateral relations since the kingdom became independent in 1968 and these good ties have developed substantially over the years through talks of trade and assistance to fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic that plagues the Kingdom.

Approximately five years ago, the United States began negotiations to launch a Free Trade Agreement with the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) made up of Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland. While the negotiations are currently on hold, the United States is still engaged in cooperative efforts to launch a program to intensify the trade and investment relationship in preparation for a Free Trade Agreement that would eventually eliminate tariffs, reduce non-tariff barriers, liberalize service trade, protect intellectual property rights, and provide technical assistance to help the five African nations, including Swaziland. To compound these future goals, the U.S. supports small enterprise development, education, military training, and development of institutions and human resources, and agricultural.

In addition to promoting economic reform and improved industrial relations, the United States has worked closely with many organizations within Swaziland, and through U.S. agencies, to develop HIV/AIDS initiatives and programs. The U.S. is also the largest bilateral donor to the Global Fund, Swaziland's principal HIV/AIDS funding source. Through this source, many Swaziland groups such as the Hope House, Anglican United Against HIV/AIDS, World Teach, Salvation Army etc, have received funds to help in the scourge against AIDS. As exhibited in this year's large reauthorization amount for Presidential Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the United States is committed in the fight against AIDS, and will stand alongside any country willing to join us in this serious fight.

The Peace Corps has made substantial contributions to this common fight as well. In 2003, Peace Corps volunteers returned to Swaziland after a nine-year absence. The current Peace Corps program in Swaziland focuses on HIV/AIDS and provides assistance in the execution of two components of the HIV/AIDS national strategy—risk reduction and mitigation of the impact of the disease. Volunteers encourage youth to engage in appropriate behaviors that will reduce the spread of HIV; they work with children orphaned by the HIV/AIDS pandemic; and they assist in capacity building for nongovernmental organizations and community-based organizations.

I was also pleased to learn that the U.S. Government sends, on average, four Swazi professionals to the United States each year, from both the public and private sectors, pri-

marily for master's degrees, and about five others for three- to four-week International Visitor programs. Such programs are vital to continuing substantial progress between our two countries' common goals. Given the great potential for progress and development between the United States and Swaziland as outlined above, I am excited to co-chair the Congressional Swaziland Caucus with my friend and colleague Representative EDOLPHUS TOWNS of New York. I urge my colleagues to learn more about the Kingdom of Swaziland and to consider joining the Congressional Swaziland Caucus to help us bolster the long standing ties of friendship between our two great countries.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JUSTICE
REVIUS ORTIQUE, JR.

HON. WILLIAM J. JEFFERSON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2008

Mr. JEFFERSON. Madam Speaker, the death of Justice Revius O. Ortique, Jr. this past Sunday marked the passing of a true public servant and a selfless leader. A man of historic firsts, most notably the first African-American member of the Civil District Court in Louisiana, and the first African-American member of Louisiana's Supreme Court, he blazed a trail for others to follow.

He was an outstanding lawyer, winning landmark civil rights cases, and serving as President of the National Bar Association. He served our community as a leader of our Urban League and chair of the New Orleans Aviation Board. He served our Nation, as an army officer and as an appointee to significant federal posts by five different Presidents.

Justice Ortique was a man of community, of faith and of family. He was a man who loved justice and pursued it for himself and others his entire life. Our Nation is better for his service, his leadership and his commitment to his country. We pray God's comfort for his wife of over 60 years, Miriam; his daughter, Rhessa; and her husband, Alden; and his grandchildren, Chip, Heidi, and Todd.

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL
INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2008

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the National Institutes of Health, NIH, and call attention to one example of important NIH-supported research being conducted through the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, NIDCD.

Of the five standard senses—sight, hearing, taste, smell, and touch—hearing is the one that people are most likely to lose. Approximately 32 million American adults have some form of hearing loss, ranging from mild to profound. Loss of hearing can occur at any age. Between two to three out of every 1,000 infants in this country are born deaf or hard of hearing. This impairment can make it difficult