

to form, he charmed each and every person there.

I was most impressed with the reception Johnny got over in Mount Pleasant, the predominantly Hispanic enclave in northeast Washington. CHCI once held afternoon concerts the day prior to the annual gala to share the sense of commonality with people in the community who could not afford the price of tickets to the Gala.

Johnny hosted the talents that would play at the Gala the following evening. Knowing that Johnny Canales would be the host was as big a draw as the bands which would be playing. I watched in awe as little boys and girls, largely of Central American heritage, cautiously walked up to Johnny to shake his hand . . . inevitably, they all said, "You got it," mimicking his signature line.

Mr. Speaker, since our business keeps me here this week and away from my friends who are celebrating Johnny's career, I hope all of you will join me in commemorating this patriot and great Hispanic talent.

**SALUTE TO THE CITY OF YOAKUM,
TEXAS**

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the City of Yoakum, Texas, which will celebrate its 112th birthday on Wednesday, July 28, 1999, with a festival at the city's Heritage Museum.

Yoakum is located partially in western Lavaca County and partially in eastern DeWitt County. Today, the city is known as the "Leather Capital of the World," due primarily to the economic impact of 12 leather goods manufacturing firms and some 16 factory locations in Yoakum.

In its early years, Anglo-Americans used Yoakum as a gathering site for thousands of bawling Texas Longhorns that were grouped into cattle drives and driven along the Chisolm Trail to market. Yoakum's townsite was established in 1887 with the arrival of the San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railroad—the railroad of Yoakum's history.

Once, Yoakum was the "Green Wrap" tomato capita of the world and still commemorates this heritage with the annual "Tom Tom Festival." As that industry faded, the community leaders—namely Mr. C. C. Welhausen—fostered the idea that Yoakum needed another industry as a base to its economy. The result: a leather industry era that now employs some 1,500 and produces millions of dollars of the Yoakum area economy.

Beef production is also huge in Yoakum, and both Lavaca and DeWitt Counties rank in the top five counties in the State of Texas in cow-calf operations. A true cowboy culture exists in the Yoakum area due to the thousands of head of cattle grown on area ranches.

I am proud to represent a city so full of rich, Texas heritage. Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me sending happy birthday wishes to the City of Yoakum, Texas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker due to official business, I was unable to record my vote on several measures considered in the House of Representatives on Monday, July 12, 1999. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on approving the Journal; H. Con. Res. 144; H. Con. Res. 107; and "aye" on H. Con. Res. 117.

**IN HONOR OF SERGEANT RONALD
ICELEY AND HIS 31 YEARS OF
DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE
RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF
MILPITAS**

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor and congratulate Sergeant Ronald Icely, for serving the residents of the City of Milpitas for more than 31 outstanding years.

Sergeant Ronald Icely attended Mt. Whitney High School in Visalia, CA, and graduated in 1965. He then continued his education at College of the Sequoias and San Jose State University. He began his career in public service as a reserve officer with the San Jose Police Department while at San Jose State University in 1967. On August 1, 1968, Ronald Icely was appointed to the Milpitas Police Department. He was promoted to senior officer in 1973, and promoted to Sergeant in 1975.

During his many years of service, Sergeant Icely has received numerous letters of appreciation and commendation from the citizens of Milpitas as well as from many government agencies. He has been praised by his past supervisors for the high quality of his work, his leadership skills and investigative experience.

In his tenure as a police officer, Ronald Icely saw Milpitas grow from a small community to a thriving city of 65,000 people. As the city grew his charge became more demanding, but Sgt. Icely continued to serve commendably.

Early in his career Sergeant Icely became a member of the department's K-9 squad. He served as K-9 officer for five years with his canines, "Romell" and "Toma". He also received advanced training in supervision, and homicide and sexual assault investigation.

Sergeant Icely has served as a field training officer and field supervisor in the patrol and traffic sections. He was also a supervisor in the Investigation Division and the lead investigator in "felony persons" crimes that included high profile homicide, robbery and sexual assault cases.

Sergeant Icely has been very active with the youth of the community throughout his career. He coached PAL basketball, PAL baseball, and little league baseball for nine years. Sergeant Icely was also a charter member of the Milpitas Police PAL Board of Directors.

The city will be honoring Sgt. Ronald Icely at a retirement dinner on July 30, 1999. I would like to join them in applauding his hard work and dedication. He has a fine record of accomplishments and is an inspiring example of citizenship. I wish Sergeant Icely the best in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO GUS LEMIEUX

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to World War I veteran and Fond du Lac Reservation tribe member Gus LeMieux.

Not only is Gus LeMieux the oldest (at 100 years) Fond du Lac Reservation tribe member, but he is also the oldest serving World War I veteran in Douglas County, WI. Gus joined the U.S. Navy in 1916 and served on the U.S.S. *Rhode Island* and the U.S.S. *Massachusetts*, as well as on an oil tanker. He also served in the U.S. military on a submarine tender during World War I.

Now the oldest Fond du Lac Reservation tribe member, Gus is well-known in the community. He is admired not only for his standing as an Elder, but also because of his kindness and gentleness. A hard worker, Gus is well-liked and greatly respected.

Gus is a pillar of the community, both as a veteran in the Armed Forces and as a tribe member. I know my colleagues join me in thanking Gus LeMieux for serving the Fond du Lac Reservation and the United States during the past century.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was inadvertently detained and unable to vote on rollcall No. 279, regarding United Nations General Assembly Resolution ES 10/6. Had I been here, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRATULATING CERTAINTEED
ON THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Chowchilla CertainTeed Fiberglass Insulation Plant on their 20th Anniversary as a major contributor to the Chowchilla and Madera County communities.

CertainTeed began construction in 1978 and started operation on May 15, 1979. Since then, the plant has generated over \$200 million in wages and taxes, which have helped

the local communities to grow and improve. CertainTeed has been an active member of these communities and has participated in various projects. They are strong supporters of the "Bucks for Books" campaign; have adopted a section of Highway 99 and kept it clean for 6 years; provided sandbags for flood support during the Chowchilla flood of 1997; have supported the Penn Literacy program for Fairmead School; are involved in the Madera County Industrial Group; and have made themselves available to many more programs in their community.

CertainTeed has been recognized with many awards throughout the years: the CertainTeed Interplant Safety Award—Best Record in Accident Prevention, the National Safety Council Award, the Outstanding Safety Performance Award, 1,500,000 Hours with No Lost Time Accidents in 1966, 1,243,090 Hours with No Lost Time Accidents in 1985, Madera Economic Development Commission Recognition, the California Department of Conservation Award of Appreciation for Glass Recycling, and the Group President's Award.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate CertainTeed on their 20th Anniversary and for the service they have provided to their community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing CertainTeed many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO FIRE CHIEF J.D. KNOX

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize the unparalleled service of Springfield Fire Chief J.D. Knox. He was named by the Springfield Firefighters Union as "Firefighter of the Year." When he responded to the nomination he said, "I was shocked. I thought it was a joke." Two years ago when Chief Knox became chief he had big ideas. He was determined to do things that had never been done.

Chief Knox is currently lobbying for Fire Department controlled ambulance service. Implementing such a program would save money and increase response time according to Chief Knox. I would like to thank Chief Knox for his dedication and open-mindedness that has made the Springfield Fire Department a world class organization.

TRIBUTE TO WILLARD MUNGER

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to State Representative Willard Munger of Duluth, Minnesota, who died Sunday at the age of 88 after a valiant fight with cancer.

On Sunday, the State of Minnesota and the City of Duluth lost a great friend in Willard

Munger. The environment lost a valuable ally and tireless advocate. He was a man who worked for forty years as a defender of the environment.

Willard, who was born in 1911 in a log cabin, credited his grandfather, Lyman Munger, with instilling his love of nature. Lyman Munger, a Minnesota farmer and conservationist, told Willard when he was a young boy that he could save Minnesota's wilderness from destruction if he became a politician. And so he did. He first ran for the state legislature in 1934, and although he lost, he did not give up. In 1954, he won a House seat representing West Duluth.

Willard Munger was a thoughtful, devoted, and dedicated public servant—the consummate legislator. He served in the Minnesota House of Representatives for 42 years, longer than anyone in my home state's history. He was also the oldest sitting legislator in Minnesota's history. Some legislators get amendments passed, a few get bills passed, but only a very small number of public servants leave a legacy. Willard Munger leaves a lasting legacy of cleaner air and water—a heritage that will benefit future generations.

In Minnesota, Willard Munger's name is synonymous with environmental protection. Because of his relentless efforts, future generations will enjoy cleaner lakes and rivers and less pollution in the air. As Chairman of the House Environmental and Natural Resources Committee, he was a tireless advocate of numerous environmental causes, including energy conservation, alternative energy sources and preserving wetlands. Perhaps most importantly, he created Minnesota's Environmental Trust Fund, which funds projects for environmental protection and outdoor recreation. His forty-year career is a monument for the protection of Minnesota's waters, woodlands and air quality, and we all owe him a deep debt of gratitude.

Willard has been recognized in the past for his environmental efforts by having the Minnesota-Wisconsin Boundary Trail and the animal care center at the Lake Superior Zoo named in his honor. Today, we remember Willard Munger as a true pioneer in Minnesota politics and for his enduring commitment to protecting the environment for future generations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was inadvertently detained and unable to vote on rollcall No. 277, the approval of the Journal. Had I been here, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING PRIVATE CHESTER BEYMER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Private Chester Beymer upon his approval by the Government of France for the award of the National Order of The Legion of Honor. This award is the highest honor in France during World War I and is authorized in recognition of the 80th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice on November 11, 1918.

Chester Beymer is 100 years old and a long time resident of Fresno. He served during World War I with the communications department of the U.S. Army Tank Corps, American Expeditionary Force. He enlisted in Los Angeles in August 1918 at age 19. Pvt. Beymer left for France that October as part of the Automatic Replacement Draft. Pvt. Beymer's duties in France involved working with two man French tanks at the U.S. Army Tank Corps Center in Langres, Haute Marne, France. He arrived shortly before the war ended and remembers being on a troop train on Armistice Day and seeing many French flags and townspeople cheering at the train stations. He came back to the United States in March 1919 on a Japanese troop ship.

Chester Beymer was born on a farm in Tonganoxie, Kansas in 1898; he was one of six children in his family. In 1904 his family moved to El Modeno, California and by 1913 was settled in the San Joaquin Valley near Lindsey. After returning from World War I Chester worked in the Fresno area with the Southern Pacific Railroad and then the Alcohol and Tobacco Unit. He later worked with the Sugar Pine Lumber Company until the early 1930's. After prohibition he joined the Alcohol Tax Unit and later in 1941 the Income Tax Unit of the Treasury Department where he retired from in 1968. One hobby Chester enjoyed was being a ham radio operator. He still does his own taxes and considers the airplane and jet propulsion to be two of the most important inventions of the 20th century. His advice to the younger generation is to study hard while in school. Chester's extended family includes three sons, four grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Private Chester Beymer for his service to his country. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Chester many more years of continued success and happiness.

AN AMERICAN HERO

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, they say heroes come in all shapes and sizes, now we know they come from Michael, Illinois. On July 4th, 23-year-old Army Spc. 4 Anthony Gilman became the first U.S. casualty of the multinational peacekeeping mission in Kosovo. He