

precedent-setting decision he made in 1995 when he wrote the majority decision that rejected efforts by The Citadel—a Charleston, South Carolina military college—to ban female cadets from attending the college.

The man who made the decision in the case of The Citadel, was a man who had the courage of his convictions. He had honed his skills as a Federal judge early in his career in West Virginia, when he outlawed the State's existing abortion law and presided over a violent school textbook controversy (the Kanawha County Textbook case).

He also presided over a class action lawsuit against Pittston Coal Company, over the tragic 1973 Buffalo Creek Flood which resulted in the deaths of 125 West Virginians and wiped out a small town. The lawsuit ended with a \$13.5 million settlement for 625 plaintiffs.

Upon learning of his death, U.S. Senator ROBERT C. BYRD said that "he was someone on whom I could always rely for straightforward, no-nonsense advice . . ." This statement has been made by the many, many friends he left behind and who remember him with reverence and deep respect.

Before becoming a judge, Kenneth Hall served as Mayor of Madison in his home county of Boone, when in 1968 he ran unsuccessfully for the State Supreme Court—but he persevered and went on to serve as a hearing examiner for the Social Security Administration before his elevation to the federal bench.

Judge Hall is survived by his wife, Gerry, and his son Keller. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them, and we keep them and all West Virginians in our hearts as they mourn the loss of Judge Hall's incisive humor, his masterful storytelling, and his deep and compassionate understanding of the people he loved and served so well.

TRIBUTE TO THE LANERI FAMILY
AND THE O.B. MACARONI COMPANY

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I know the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in recognizing a family, company, and corporate citizen of Fort Worth who, for the past 100 years, have not only been significant contributors to the Fort Worth community and the state of Texas but have also made the best pasta this side of Italy. The Laneri family and O.B. Macaroni Company have been a cornerstone of the Fort Worth community; and, as they celebrate their 100th anniversary this year, they are doing so in grand fashion by donating thousands of pounds of pasta to those in need in North Texas and around the world. I want to take this opportunity to recognize the Laneri family, owners and managers of O.B. Macaroni Company, for their longtime contribution to the well being of the community.

An outstanding corporate citizen of Fort Worth, this family firm was founded in 1899. From the beginning, John B. (J.B.) Laneri, the family patriarch who came to Fort Worth in

1882, was the link between the company and the community.

In 1905, O.B. Macaroni Company was incorporated and J.B. Laneri became president. He was an early member of the Board of Trade, Director of the Fort Worth National Bank from 1902, and a noted philanthropist and local booster until his death in 1935. His home, built in 1921 at 902 S. Jennings Ave., is on the Texas Historical Register.

Located at the hub of the vast railroad network which reaches out of Fort Worth, the O.B. Macaroni Company shipped its popular products all across America, as well as provided secure and constant employment to the neighborhood.

The company grew; and in 1907 J.B.'s nephew, Louis Laneri, came to Fort Worth from New York City to join the firm. The business continued to expand; and in the 1930s Louis's sons, John and Carl, went to work for the thriving pasta company.

Built on strong ties to family and community, the Fort Worth Macaroni Company became one of the leading regional pasta manufacturers and is the only company of its kind still existing in the South and Southwest.

The fourth generation of the Laneri family, Louis II and Carlo, continues the pasta operation on the south side of town. Working at the company from their teens, both returned to the family enterprise after graduating from college (Texas Wesleyan University and Stephen F. Austin University, respectively).

Louis Laneri, representing O.B. Macaroni, is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Pasta Association and a member of the DFW Grocers Association, the Food Salesman's Association, and the Food Processors Association.

Carrying on a tradition of giving back to the community, the family donates regularly to the Tarrant County Food Bank, the Women's Haven of Tarrant County, and various Fort Worth social and religious causes and programs, including education in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate and thank the Laneri family and the O.B. Macaroni Company for 100 years of success. Fort Worth is a better place thanks to their family unity, hard work, and charity over the past century.

ENDING MILITARY USE OF
VIEQUES AND RETURNING IT TO
THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the hard work of the Special Commission on the Situation of Vieques, which recently delivered its final report to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. I would especially like to recognize the Honorable Anibal Acevedo Vila, who very ably served on this commission representing the Popular Democratic Party, for his tireless efforts on behalf of the people of Vieques as well as the general population of Puerto Rico.

The conclusion reached by the Special Commission is that the U.S. Navy must cease its activities on the island of Vieques and return the occupied territory to the people of Vieques as soon as possible. I am pleased to note that the Governor of Puerto Rico agreed with the report's findings and recommendations and adopted them as Administration policy.

I have reviewed the report and was very impressed by the Commission's extensive research and findings. I have the report available for Members of Congress and urge all to call me for copies, and if not for the page limit, I would publish it at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Again, my congratulations to the Special Commission on the Situation of Vieques for their fine work in investigating U.S. Naval operations on the island.

CITIZENS MEMORIAL HEALTH
CARE FACILITY

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to publicly congratulate the board of directors, administrative staff and employees of the Citizens Memorial Health Care Facility in Bolivar, Missouri for their outstanding vision, dedication and effort in attaining Merit Status in OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program. The 111 bed licensed skilled nursing facility located in Missouri's Seventh Congressional District joins over 400 other businesses in our nation in participation in this program. However this recognition is unique because this is the first skilled nursing care facility in the Nation to achieve this high level of safety compliance.

The designation was granted after an intensive 15 month-self study by employees at all levels followed by a rigorous five day comprehensive review visit by OSHA inspectors who found the facility to be fully in compliance with all regulations.

According to OSHA this designation means that the health and safety practices and procedures developed by CMHCF are models within the nursing care industry, and that the facility is preparing itself for even higher levels of health and safety compliance.

I would also point out that this outstanding achievement is the result of a cooperative effort between public and private entities rather than a unilateral regulatory effort on the part of a lone federal agency. To quote OSHA "This concept recognizes that compliance enforcement alone can never fully achieve the objectives of the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Good safety management programs that go beyond OSHA standards can protect workers more effectively than simple compliance."

This commitment to excellence in the care of its patients and employees is part of an overall culture of caring that is being recognized by a variety of outside agencies. For example, CMHCF is only one of seven facilities in the state that the Missouri Division of Aging has found to be deficiency free for six years or longer.