

best wishes to the leaders in Taiwan on their National Day and my sympathies to all quake victims' families on their tragic losses. May President Lee Teng-hui and other leaders guide Taiwan through this difficult period. Much of the daily activities in Taiwan has been disrupted because of the quake; the loss of human lives and economic damages are so staggering that will take Taiwan years to fully recover from this catastrophe.

Despite all the hardships facing Taiwan today, I am confident that Taiwan will quickly recover its losses and rebuild an even stronger Nation, given Taiwanese resilience and industry.

WILLIAM H. AVERY POST OFFICE

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 12, 1999

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 2591, legislation designating the United States Post Office located on Elm Street in Wakefield, Kansas, as the "William H. Avery Post Office." Let me commend Congressman MORAN for sponsoring this legislation which is an appropriate honor well deserved by the recipient.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vicki and I have enjoyed our friendship with Governor Avery over the past several years, and we are both excited that this honor is being bestowed upon a great public servant and good friend who has always placed the people of the great State of Kansas first.

When I think about the tremendous reputation Governor Avery still enjoys, I think about the moniker given to a past politician: The Happy Warrior. You cannot talk to Bill without feeling his zest for life and his indomitable spirit. It is not unusual to see Governor Avery at an event in Kansas, shaking hands, kissing babies and talking about the latest Republican strategy. Sometimes a few of us in this esteemed Body get tired and frustrated. At those moments I think of Governor Avery, his quick smile, his knowing wink, his kind words, his all-encompassing heart. Always smiling, always moving, always hopeful of the future, but respectful of the past. Governor Avery is truly Kansas's Happy Warrior.

Mr. Speaker, I realize that at times the floor of the House can be partisan, and with your indulgence I am going to add to that partisan flame, just a bit. There is one memory I will always cherish, and it occurred in January 1995. I was a new Member of Congress, full of hope, a little overwhelmed, and flush anticipation of the job ahead.

I had some friends and family in my office and in came Governor Avery. He came up to me and shook my hand, and told me why he had traveled back to D.C. You see Governor Avery is also appropriately called Congressman Avery. He served in this House from 1955-1965. He related to me that when he won his election in 1954, he thought he would be entering a Republican Congress, but he soon learned that the Democrats had regained the majority. Congressman Avery was des-

tinued to serve all his tenure in the minority. He always felt a little jilted by history, and that is why he wanted to be on the floor of the U.S. House when the gavel passed. At that moment I realized how fortunate I really was to be entrusted with a job representing the Fourth Congressional District of Kansas, and I realized just how historic a shift in Congress can be.

Mr. Speaker, I hope Governor Avery is enjoying the beautiful Autumn evening back home in Wakefield, Kansas. I want to thank him for all his words of inspiration, his dedication and his enduring attitude. When the history of Kansas is written, it will be as kind to Governor Avery as he has been to anyone who has had the good fortune to know him.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be able to call Governor Avery my friend and to help recognize him this day for the many accomplishments he has provided the people of Kansas and this great country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably detained during rollcall votes 505-508. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 505, 506, 507, and 508. I would ask that the RECORD reflect these votes.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF FRANK GARRISON

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Frank Garrison, on the eve of his retirement as President of the Michigan State AFL-CIO. Frank is truly one of our finest public servants in Michigan, having first been elected AFL-CIO President in 1986. As all who have ever met Frank know, he is a man who has devoted his life to helping Michigan's working men and women improve their lives.

Frank was born in 1934 in a small town in Indiana. His family, like so many others, was destitute and jobless as a result of the Great Depression. And so it was with gratitude that they named Frank after one of our country's greatest presidents, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who created the Works Progress Administration [WPA], which allowed Frank's father to work, and helped get the family back on its feet. Frank has said he has always taken great pride in his namesake. I believe that he has certainly lived his life, like his namesake, with the purpose of helping America's working families—a goal, Mr. Speaker, that I believe is one of the most honorable of all goals.

In the early 1950s, Frank came to Michigan to find a job. He found one at General Motor's Steering Gear plant in Saginaw, a city I am

proud to represent today in Congress. Shortly thereafter, he joined UAW Local 699 and, in 1955, Frank married Ms. Dora Goodbo. Later, he was drafted into the Army, and served two years before returning to his job at the Saginaw Steering Gear plant in 1956.

Frank refers to the next event in his life as a true "turning point". A fellow UAW Local 699 member invited him to hear a speech by the legendary Walter Reuther. Frank says he was spellbound with Reuther's deep commitment to the labor movement, and that Reuther instilled in Frank a purpose: To help ordinary working people band together and improve their lives. From that moment on, Frank has certainly been committed to doing precisely that. He ran successfully for office in UAW Local 699, and later went on to serve as Alternate Committeeman, Committeeman, Shop Committeeman, Local Union Vice-President and Financial Secretary.

He went on to a variety of appointments and positions: UAW International Representative, Community Action Program (CAP) Coordinator for Region 1D, UAW lobbyist and Legislative Director, and Michigan CAP Director. He was appointed in 1982 as Executive Director of Michigan UAW-CAP, a position he held until his election as President of the Michigan State AFL-CIO in 1986. Frank went on to be one of the longest-serving presidents, and was re-elected in 1987, 1991, and 1995.

Frank's contributions and work on behalf of Michigan's working men and women are legendary and real. They do indeed reflect Frank's great commitment to the labor movement and his belief that it is a tool to effect great change in this country. Michigan's working families will always be grateful for Frank Garrison's work, for he selflessly gave of himself to make their lives better. For that, Mr. Speaker, I say he is truly worthy of a name shared with our former President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Frank has been blessed with a supportive and caring family—his wife Dora, their three daughters, seven grandchildren and great-grandchild. He has worked hard his entire life on behalf of others, and it is my hope that during his retirement, Frank will work just as hard to enjoy these years with his family and many friends. Mr. Speaker, I now invite you and our colleagues to offer your congratulations to Frank Garrison, and your most sincere wishes for a very happy and productive retirement.

M.G. VALLEJO, FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I insert the following for the RECORD:

M.G. VALLEJO, FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES

(By Galal Kernahan)

When the Senate and the House of Representatives approved an "Act for the Admission of California into the Union" on September 9, 1850, its "Birth Certificate" had been reviewed and found in order, whereas, the people of California have presented a