

behind six brothers, nine sisters, five daughters, three sons and twelve grandchildren, along with many fellow countrymen and women.

Mr. Fang will forever be remembered as one of the respected Hmong leaders who spent his entire life dedicated to helping his fellow countrymen during and after the cold war in Laos. During the U.S./Vietnam War, Captain WangKay Fang served 15 years for the United States Secret Army operation, in Laos under the command of General Vang Pao. His service and dedication shall remain etched in history for generations to come. Mr. Fang's military leadership has contributed to the common interests of the world in order to protect against the spread of communism, and preserve peace, freedom and democracy in Southeast Asia.

During the U.S./Vietnam War, Mr. Fang was the mission commander of the Special Guerrilla Unit to fight against communists and rescue U.S. pilots shot down in Laos. In addition, Mr. Fang was in charge of the military department for medical personnel.

Mr. WangKay Fang arrived in the United States in August, 1976 as a political refugee from Laos. His family re-settled in California. Mr. Fang worked diligently to address the Hmong and Laotian resettlement difficulties in a new society. During his 24 years of re-settlement in the United States, Mr. Fang took on numerous leadership roles: chairman of the Hmong International New Year in Fresno from 1966-1998; co-founder of the Hmong Youth Foundation of Fresno; co-founder and President of the United Hmong International Council from 1996-1998; co-founder and Vice President of the Hmong National Council of Fresno from 1994-1996; co-founder and board member of the Hmong Council from 1981-91, and vice president from 1992-1994; Board member for the Lao Community of Fresno from 1981-1991; co-founder and board member for the Lao Family Community headquarters in Orange County from 1978-1981.

Mr. Fang is also an active member of political advocacy in the Hmong community worldwide. He has dedicated his entire life in the United States to the promotion of freedom, democracy and human rights for the people and region of Southeast Asia.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. WangKay Fang for his dedication to preserve freedom. Mr. Fang is honored by his family members and his fellow countrymen as an honorable leader who was generous and honest. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending my condolences to the Hmong and Laotian community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, November 1, 1999 I was unavoidably absent from this chamber and therefore missed roll-call vote 550 (on passage of H.R. 348), roll-call vote 551 (on passage of H.R. 2737) and roll-

call vote 552 (on passage of H.R. 1714). I want the record to show that had I been present in this chamber I would have voted "yes" on rollcall votes 550 and 551 and "no" on rollcall vote 552.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLEVELAND BROWNS

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Cleveland Browns football team on their first NFL win as an expansion team. This win, in only their 8th game since being reincarnated, was impressive and magical. As a loyal fan of the team, I watched quarterback Tim Couch's last second "Hail Mary" 56-yard pass sail into the awaiting hands of wide receiver Kevin Johnson. The prayers of Cleveland fans were answered with the 21-16 win.

I applaud the team and its "never-say-die" attitude and efforts to win against the New Orleans Saints in this game. The two first-year players involved in the winning play, Couch and Johnson, have proven themselves stars already in their rookie season. But the efforts of the whole team and the entire Browns organization must be applauded. From owner Al Lerner and Team President Carmen Policy down to the individual players, everyone has exemplified themselves and the City of Cleveland by playing with the heart of champions.

I congratulate the Cleveland Browns on this historic win, the first of what will undoubtedly be many exciting victories.

HONORING MAXINE C. BROWN-REID

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Maxine C. Brown-Reid, a leader in healthcare.

As Deputy Executive Director at Kings County Hospital Center, Ms. Brown-Reid is responsible for Network Ambulatory Care Services, Managed Care and Community Health. Her areas of responsibility include the hospital's clinics and Emergency Departments (except Behavioral Health Services), the East New York Diagnostic and Treatment Center, ten Family Health Services Clinics and the Flatbush Health Center, the newest off-site facility.

Ms. Brown-Reid began her tenure with Kings County Hospital Center in 1982 as an Administrative Resident to the Executive Director. At the end of the one year program, she was appointed as Assistant Director for Pediatric Outpatient Services, followed by a promotion to Associate Director of Maternal and Child Health Services, Outpatient.

After seven years at Kings County Hospital Center, Ms. Brown-Reid relocated to Jacksonville, Florida, where she was the first black Ad-

ministrators for Emergency Services at University Medical Center. Upon her return to New York, Ms. Brown rejoined the Network family by accepting a position as Deputy Executive Director at the East New York Diagnostic and Treatment Center, and while there she was promoted to her current Network position.

Ms. Brown-Reid received her undergraduate degree from Fordham University and her MPA from New York University. She is also a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and the American Hospital Association's Society for Ambulatory Care Professionals.

Mr. Speaker, I would like you and my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to join me in honoring Ms. Maxine C. Brown-Reid.

HONORING STAVROS NICHOLAS KALOMIRIS AND VIOLET RECKAS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stavros Kalomiris and Violet Reckas. They were the recipients of St. George Greek Church's Georgie Awards.

Stavros Nicholas Kalomiris: Stavros was born in Anniston, Alabama, on April 2, 1925. His family moved to Fresno when he was 8 months old. Stavros graduated from Fresno High School in 1943. He then joined the Marine Corps after graduation and served in the Pacific Theater for 3 years. Stavros saw action on Iwo Jima. He returned to Fresno after the war.

On February 17th, 1952, he married Clara Mitchell from Stockton, California. They have 3 children and 7 grandchildren. Stavros worked for the City of Fresno, Street Department, for 25 years and retired in 1978.

Stavros served on the St. George Parish Council in 1959 and 60. He also served as St. George Youth Advisor for over 10 years and ran Camp Keola at Huntington Lake for many years before St. Nicholas Ranch was established. Stavros assisted Father Bakas at St. Nicholas Ranch by transporting campers to and from the ranch.

Stavros has been a life long member of St. George Golden Age activities as tour director for over 10 years and a member of the Order of Ahepa for over 40 years.

Stavros volunteers at Special Olympics every year. He and his family have been a very important part of St. George Church and the Greek Community for many years.

Violet Reckas: Vi is one of nine children born to Peter and Vasiliki Reckas. A native of Fresno, Vi's affinity for ecclesiastical music came naturally: her father was a cantor for the Church which, at the time, was but a few blocks away from the family home. Vi attended Edison High School, and wound up working in the family bakery during World War II while her brothers were away.

The St. George Choir has been organized by her brother John prior to the war. Vi took over the direction of the choir at the urging of Dr. Limberakis during his tenure at St. George. During the 80's, Vi's outstanding work