

participating in the Welfare to Work Partnership begun in 1997. This nonprofit partnership works to help people move from welfare to good jobs without encroaching upon any current workers. Mills Chairman and CEO Laurence Siegel stated the company's objective for this program, "We need to institute programs to assist individuals who live under conditions that typically make employment difficult to achieve."

In November of 1999 during his "New Markets Initiative Tour," President Clinton cited one company as a leader and role model for this program, the Mills Corp. He noted that the Mills Corp., a board member of the Welfare to Work Partnership, has shown the way for other businesses to make this idea work in New Jersey. The Mills Corp. has already had success with its Jobs Initiative program in other states. Katy Mills, the first of its five Jobs Initiative prototypes, opened in Houston, Texas on October 28, 1999. This mall has already hired 200 employees.

The Meadowlands Mills Mall, planned for Carlstadt, New Jersey is the project where the Mills Corp. has incorporated the Welfare to Work program in New Jersey. The company plans to train and hire scores of low-income Newark residents to work at the facility. This program is patterned after Mills' other initiatives that have been successful throughout the nation.

Additionally, The Mills Corp. remains committed to their new employees. This dedication includes a remarkable pre-employment training and a career development center at the mall. The center will provide retention and career advancement services. In this spirit, the President stated, "The Mills Corporation made a \$1 million commitment towards pre-employment training and career development center on-site at the Meadowlands Mills Mall, which will provide job retention and career advancement services for all mall employees," during his visit.

Mills is a company with a long and storied history of community involvement. The company funds children's sport teams, public school computer labs, health fairs and high school safety programs. In addition, Mills has underwritten the development of environmental education curriculum in public schools with the Smithsonian Institute.

The accomplishments of the Mills Corp. and its leadership in the Welfare to Work Partnership are contributions to society of the highest order. It has made a commitment to the workers and citizens that stand to be left behind in the strongest economy in American history. We should all be proud to congratulate the company for this critical investment in humanity.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the friends and employees of this outstanding company and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of the Mills Corp.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JASON REDMOND OF
SOLDOTNA, ALASKA

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate and honor a young Alaska student from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in his community. Jason Redmond of Soldotna, Alaska has just been named one of my state's top honorees in The 2000 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Mr. Redmond is being recognized for his hard work and dedication in organizing a free public bicycle system for residents of his town who do not drive or own their own bicycles. He has volunteered his time by getting out into his community and making a difference in people's lives.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it's vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Mr. Redmond are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought this young role model to our attention, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, was created by The Prudential Insurance Company of America in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. In only five years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, with nearly 75,000 youngsters participating since its inception.

Mr. Redmond should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud Mr. Redmond for his initiative in seeking to make his community a better place to live, and for the positive impact he has had on the lives of others. He has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. His actions show that young Americans can, and do, play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

March 8, 2000

IN MEMORY OF LARRY MICHELS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a local entrepreneur and community personality whose leadership and innovation profoundly affected all who knew and worked with him. Mr. Larry Michels passed away on November 8, 1999 at the age of 68.

Born in Chicago, Illinois on January 17, 1931, Larry was the founder and genius behind Santa Cruz County's largest high-tech enterprises, Santa Cruz Operation. Launched with his son and current Chief Executive Officer, Doug Michels, out of a small Victorian house in Santa Cruz's downtown periphery, the father and son team's visionary approach and determination created Santa Cruz Operation into a business of 1,200 fiercely loyal employees. The company found a niche in the high-tech industry by placing the Unix operating system on Intel-based computers which propelled Santa Cruz Operations to the forefront of the Unix software movement.

Described as a passionate and dynamic leader who inspired the "loyalty and admiration of many employees," (Doug Michels, SCO CEO) Larry resigned his position in 1992 and retired to Evergreen, Colorado where he soon returned to his entrepreneurial roots taking an active role in launching and developing startups as well as re-engineering existing companies. It is a combination of Larry's natural talent and creative genius, his vivacious and dauntless personality as well as his hard-working and determined spirit that makes him such a memorable and respected member of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in recognizing the valuable contributions of Larry Michels whose leadership in our community has profoundly impacted and influenced the many who were privileged to know and work with him through the years. The products of Mr. Michels' genius continue with us today through his homegrown company, Santa Cruz Operations. Mr. Larry Michels will be missed and his years of achievement and innovation will not be forgotten. Larry is survived by his companion, Geri Snyder; sons, Doug, Jordan and David Michels; daughter, Dia Michels; sister, Barbara Michels; former wife, Loni Michels; and seven grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING THE BUTLER COUNTY
BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the citizens of Butler County who celebrate their community's 200th birthday this year. At noon on Sunday, March 12, two minutes of church bell ringing will commence in churches throughout the county. The celebration will continue throughout the day with