

for the elderly, whose contributions in these disciplines span 50 years and counting. Celebrating his 70th birthday today, "Jack" Hansan has effected profound social change throughout his life and career. From his social worker days at the Minute Circle Friendly House in Kansas City, Missouri, through his active duty service during the Korean War, to his stint as chief of staff for the Governor of Ohio, and on to Washington, Jack has left an indelible mark on millions of Americans.

Jack's acumen for assessing real world problems and successfully carrying out visionary social programs has been a constant throughout his professional life. In the early 1960's, Jack developed an innovative educational program to give inner-city, pre-school children in Cincinnati a head start before entering kindergarten. The "Tot Lots" program was successfully rolled out in the metropolitan area and become the framework for what is today's Head Start program. From this early professional success, Jack was selected as the first executive director of the Community Action Commission in Cincinnati, one of the first and largest anti-poverty agencies in the country. Jack designed and implemented several programs to combat poverty throughout the greater Cincinnati area. His plans became the blueprint for similar programs in cities throughout the country.

During this time, Jack entered into a doctoral program at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts, with a concentration in gerontology. Nearing the completion of his studies, Jack was urged to accept a directorship position for the Ohio Department of Public Welfare to oversee a broad spectrum of programs for all 88 counties in Ohio. In 1972, Jack was named chief of staff to the Governor of Ohio, John J. Gilligan.

In 1976, after his tenure as the Governor's right-hand man, Jack came to Washington as the director of government affairs for the American Public Welfare Association, and later joined the National Conference of Social Welfare (NCSW). As executive director of NCSW, Jack initiated several breakthroughs in social policy: the kick-off of the first national conference on the homeless; the introduction of the first forum on long-term care; and the launch of the three-year project, "The Social Role of the Federal Government."

Completing his doctorate in gerontology in 1980, Jack was soon directing his energies toward health care and social programs for the elderly. Much of his work in his area includes the application of new computer technologies and data collection practices to provide a look ahead at the welfare of the aging population. Also in the area of applied technologies, Jack earned a commendation for his work spearheading the National Practitioner Data Bank project. Mandated by Congress, this groundbreaking program restricts the ability of incompetent physicians and dentists to move from state to state without discovery.

While Jack may be joining the ranks of septuagenarians today, he is by no means slowing down. He continues to teach classes and lecture on social policy and public administration. As an avid researcher, discerning editor and prolific writer, Jack is also looking to add a sixth book to his body of work. All things being equal, it's business as usual for Jack

Hansan—pursuing his life's work and building on a 50-year legacy for which we are most grateful.

HONORING THE WOOLF FAMILY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Woolf family for maintaining an unwavering commitment to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. The family was recognized at the Promise Ball 2000, in Fresno, on March 25, 2000.

The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation was founded in 1970 by parents of children with diabetes. The mission of the Foundation is to find a cure for diabetes and its complications, through the support of research. Since 1970, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation has provided over \$326 million for diabetes research, more than any other nonprofit, nongovernmental health agency in the world.

The Woolf family, a prominent farming family, has two diabetic children. Having been touched by diabetes, the Woolf family has been diligent in helping others to understand the challenges facing families with diabetes, as well as spreading the word about the progress toward a cure.

Mr. Speaker, I want to honor the Woolf family for their tireless commitment to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Woolf family many more years of continued success.

THE ORANGE COUNTY ONION HARVEST FESTIVAL

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, as the Library of Congress celebrates its Bicentennial this year, the Local Legacies Project will provide an opportunity for each Member of Congress to describe a project of significant and historical importance in their district. This documentation will become immortalized in the collections of the Library's American Folklife Center.

The documentation will provide a diverse cross section of America's culture to be preserved for future generations.

The Orange County Onion Harvest Festival, held just outside of Pine Island, in Florida, New York, is an outstanding example of such an event. It is colorful example of a tradition that has endured for generations. It chronicles a celebration of the Polish agricultural heritage of a group of immigrants who settled in the "Black Dirt Region" of Orange County, New York, starting in the early 1800's; bringing with them Old World customs and traditions that continue today.

The Orange County Onion Festival depicts the courageous "never say die" struggle of a people to tame and convert a vast decomposing flood plain into land that fulfilled their most cherished dreams.

The "Black Dirt" lands rose out a glacial lake. This area known as the "Mucklands" had as its inhabitant's early man, mastodons, and the Mini and Unamis Indians, who used the giant rich swamp as their hunting grounds.

It took the efforts of entire families to tame and cultivate some 12,000 "Black Dirt" acres. Over the years, the pioneers endured in one long battle against disease, drought, winds, flooding rains and weeds from planting time in March or April until the Harvest months in July and August.

They grew into a colony of efficient, hard working, thrifty people. With perseverance and love of family, they established schools, churches, and social groups.

These people are an outstanding model of what can be accomplished in the face of adversity.

Gradually, over years of hard labor, the "Black Dirt" lands have emerged into what is now a scientifically run business using the latest available technologies. It has become the largest onion growing area in the State of New York and the third largest east of the Mississippi River.

The Onion Harvest Festival in celebration pays tribute to hardworking, land loving people who have gone before; those who are here now, and those who are yet to come.

It is most heartening to observe, that in today's world, where the integrity of family, history, tradition and the virtual survival of family based agriculture remain continually threatened, an event such as The Orange County Onion Harvest Festival not only continues to exist, but thrives in the hearts and minds of all who work so hard to ensure its success.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to call to the attention of our colleagues the following dedicated citizens who worked so hard to make the onion festival such a success in 1999, and who worked to ensure that its history be included in the Library of Congress program in the year 2000: Ann Cortese of Pearl River, NY; Peter Zubikowski of Port Jervis, NY; Vincent Polaniak of Florida, NY; Linda LeMieux of Middletown, NY; Frances Sodrick and Barbara Morgiewicz, both of Pine Island, NY.

We salute not only this outstanding onion Harvest committee, but also all of their predecessors from prior years who have helped make the Orange County Onion Festival a truly historic, colorful event.

We look forward with great anticipation to many more Onion Festivals still to come.

THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE

HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a beloved member of the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Department who lost his life Saturday, March 25, in the line of duty. The heroism of Cero Niemi is credited with saving the lives of at least two fellow officers. Cero answered the call to duty as a gunmen showered police with bullets following the shooting of an innocent bystander, Jefferson resident Walter A. Olson.

Cero was the K-9 partner of Deputy William R. Niemi. The loyal German shepherd was born November 3, 1997, in Germany, and had received his Ohio Peace Officer Training and North American Work Dog Association certification in December 1999. Since that time, he had worked diligently for the K-9 unit at the sheriff's department, often assisting with felony apprehensions and drug arrests.

Mr. Speaker, the death of K-9 Cero has deeply touched folks throughout Northeast Ohio, and the grieving extends beyond his partner, his partner's family, and the sheriff's department. Many people were moved by the heroic sacrifice of this dog, and folks are left to wonder how anyone could shoot and kill a human being and then a police dog in the blink of an eye. The shooting deaths of Walter Olson and K-9 Cero have plunged the community of Jefferson into a period of collective mourning.

Mr. Speaker, Cero will be laid to rest tomorrow with full police honors, and officers and police K-9 units from throughout Ohio are expected to attend the service. Cero is the first police dog in Northeast Ohio to die in the line of duty in more than 20 years. I have asked that a United States flag be flown over the Capitol in honor of Cero Niemi, his partner, Deputy William Niemi, and the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Speaker, K-9 Cero is credited with saving the lives of at least two officers, and possibly more on this one violent morning. He died like any other officer in the line of duty; trying to make our streets and communities safe. K-9 Cero's duty and sacrifice are worthy of recognition, and I extend my sympathies to Deputy Niemi; his wife, Julie; their children, Heather, Brittany and Jonathan; and Cero's K-9 companion, Abby.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to enter into the RECORD a poem in Cero's memory. It is by an anonymous author and captures the bond between officers and their K-9 partners.

GUARDIANS OF THE NIGHT

Trust in me my friend for I am your comrade. I will protect you with my last breath. When all others have left you and the loneliness of the night closes in, I will be at your side.

Together we will conquer all obstacles, and search out those who might wish harm to others. All I ask of you is compassion, the caring touch of your hands. It is for you that I will unselfishly give my life and spend my nights unrested. Although our days together may be marked by the passing of the seasons, know that each day at your side is my reward.

My days are measured by the coming and going of your footsteps. I anticipate them at every opening of the door. You are the voice of caring when I am ill, the voice of authority when I've done wrong.

Do not chastise me unduly for I am your right arm, the sword at your side. I attempt to do only what you bid of me. I seek only to please you and remain in your favor.

Together you and I shall experience a bond only others like us will understand. When outsiders see us together their envy will be measured by their disdain.

I will quietly listen to you and pass no judgment, nor will your spoken words be repeated. I will remain ever silent, ever vigilant, ever loyal. And when our time together is done and you move on in the world, re-

member me with kind thoughts and tales, for a time we were unbeatable, nothing passed among us undetected.

If we should meet again on another street I will gladly take up your fight, I am a Police Working Dog and together we are guardians of the night.

HONORING GEORGE ROACH ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION'S 2000 COMPUTERWORLD PERMANENT RESEARCH COLLECTION

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate Mr. George Roach, a constituent and neighbor from Long Island, who as a system specialist with the Consolidated Edison Company has recently been honored by Computerworld Smithsonian Program (CWSP). Each year the CWSP identifies and honors individuals and organizations whose vision in the use of Information Technology produces a positive social, economic or educational change. The CWSP is considered one of the most prestigious awards program in the information technology industry. As a 2000 laureate, Mr. Roach's pioneering work was inducted into the Smithsonian Institution's 2000 Computerworld Permanent Research Collection.

Mr. Roach and his team of Customer Operations, Information Resources and Treasury Operations employees were instrumental in implementing Con Edison's use of the Intell-A-Check Program. This new development allows customers to choose the method of billing that is most appropriate for them, whether is be writing a traditional check, using a telephone key pad or authorizing payment over the Internet. Customers utilized these various electronic payment applications over 1.85 million times in the year 1999 alone. Through his innovation, Mr. Roach has significantly cut costs and improved customer satisfaction.

Mr. Roach's work was recognized by Bill Gates, a leading pioneer in the technology field. When Roach's efforts came to the attention of the prominent Chairman and CEO of Microsoft Corporation, he nominated Roach for inclusion in the Smithsonian Institution's Permanent Research Collection. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join the Computerworld Smithsonian Program in commending Mr. Roach for his groundbreaking work in the field of information technology. On behalf of the people of Long Island, I would like to thank Mr. Roach for the prestige and high level of technology his work has brought to our area of New York.

IN HONOR OF MR. MARK SMITH, RECIPIENT OF THIS YEAR'S CIRCOLO ITALIANO CLUB OF BAYONNE MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Mark Smith of Bayonne, New Jersey, for being named this year's "Man of the Year" by the Circolo Italiano Club of Bayonne.

Starting out in the Bayonne Police Department's Patrol Division in 1983, Mr. Smith's keen abilities and dedication to his career helped him to move quickly through the ranks. In 1985, Mr. Smith was promoted to detective of the Narcotics Squad; and, by 1988, he was assigned to the City of Bayonne Department of Public Safety's Detective Bureau.

Mr. Smith's remarkable and impressive career on the police force has earned him numerous service and valor awards. He has received more than forty Excellent Police Service Awards and more than twenty departmental commendations, as well as the Hudson County American Legion Police Officer of the Year Award in 1992; the City of Bayonne Police Department Valor Award in 1991; the New Jersey State PBA Valor Award in 1991; and the Hudson County 200 Club Valor Award in 1991, and again in 1999.

In addition to his work for the police force, Mr. Smith has been active in a variety of community service organizations. He has served on the board of the Chandelier Golf Charity Committee and the Hudson County ARC, and has dedicated his time as a member of the Bayonne Hospital Citywide Health Steering Committee, the Bayonne Elks Club, the Bayonne Chapter of UNICO, and the Bayonne Family Y.M.C.A.

For his dedication and service to the citizens of Bayonne, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Mark Smith on being named this year's Circolo Italiano Club's Man of the Year.

HONORING DEACON WALTER O. HEATH

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Deacon Walter O. Heath. I am very proud to join with the Second Baptist Church of Modesto, in my district in California's magnificent Central Valley, in honoring Deacon Heath for his many years of unselfish dedication to the church and its members.

Walter was born in Mill Flat, Louisiana, on March 8, 1913 and moved to California in 1944. He joined the Second Baptist Church in 1945, later becoming a deacon. He served on the committee to bring the Reverend Howard Clark to the church as pastor and worked to secure the land to build the new church at