

May 4, 2000

I urge my colleagues to support this Bill.

WELCOME HOME MEMBERS OF  
THE 69TH PRESS CAMP HEAD-  
QUARTERS

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join family, friends and neighbors in welcoming home the returning members of the 69th Press Camp Headquarters from their deployment to Bosnia-Herzegovina and Hungary.

Comprised of 25 members of the California Army National Guard and the Nevada National Guard, the unit, headquartered in Fairfield, was mobilized and deployed overseas in September 1999 in support of Operation Joint Forge.

Operating the Coalition Press Information Center at The Eagle Base in Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as the Media Center in Taszar, Hungary, the 69th Press Camp Headquarters performed an invaluable role keeping the world informed about NATO's military and peacekeeping operations.

Each day, they held press briefings to the international press who, in turn, kept citizens everywhere alert to the ongoing operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina. They were also responsible for publishing two publications, The American Endeavor and The Talon for the benefit of both U.S. and NATO forces.

Mr. Speaker, I note the record that the 69th Press Camp Headquarters received the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the NATO Medal and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" Device (denoting mobilization). But these awards cannot fully convey the heartfelt thanks Americans have for the dedication and sacrifice of these Guard members.

For more than 9 months, these individuals were away from family and friends. For more than 9 months, they performed a key role in answering questions from skeptics and critics and supplying information about NATO's operations—balancing accuracy with operational security needs. They did an admirable job.

But nothing compares to the homecoming they will receive this weekend. I am pleased to join family, friends and neighbors in welcoming the members of the 69th Press Camp Headquarters and in saying "thank you" and "job well done."

TRIBUTE TO THE 4TH ANNUAL  
FAMILY DAY MILLENNIUM CELE-  
BRATION

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2000

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with joy that I pay tribute to the "4th Annual Family Day Millennium Celebration" on Saturday, June 3, 2000.

Family Day in the 21st Century at Crotona Park is a celebration that will take place near

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

the lake at Crotona Park from 12 pm to 6 pm. Family Day provides an opportunity for the residents of this community to claim Crotona Park as a playground and entertainment place for the family, free of crime and vandalism.

Mr. Speaker, the Family Day celebration is an event that gives Crotona Park and the neighboring communities an opportunity to embrace and recognize the importance of their families. It also gives them the opportunity to claim ownership of Crotona Park.

The CES 4x and CS110 marching band with their cheerleaders and baton twirlers, will walk through the park demonstrating family pride and unity, accompanied by parents, teachers, and classmates.

This event is sponsored by Phipps Community Development Corporation—Crotona Park West, Friends of Crotona Park, Mount Hope Housing Corp., Mid Bronx Desperados, Aquinas Housing, New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, Partnership for Parks, Bronx Lebanon Hospital, The Bronx Healthplan, 42nd and 48th Precinct Community Affairs Dept., CES 4x, Goodwill Baptist Church, Councilman Jose Rivera, Assemblywoman Gloria Davis, Morrisania Revitalization Corp., Community Board #3 & Community Board #6, Community Action for Human Services, 105.9 Caliente Radio Station, and the GAP.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the individuals and participants who are working to make the "4th Annual Family Day Millennium Celebration" not just possible but successful and fun.

IN HONOR OF SEAN BOLAND,  
PRESIDENT OF THE CLEVELAND  
FEIS SOCIETY

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the memory of Sean Boland, President of the Cleveland Feis Society, who helped to develop the Cleveland Feis into one of the largest traditional Irish dance competitions in the country.

Mr. Boland lived an exceptionally full life. In addition to his first job, purchasing supervisor for the Ohio Lottery Commission, he also served on the board of directors of the Michael Coleman Heritage Center, a museum in Ireland that honors internationally known Irish musicians. He was also a member of the Irish Northern Aid Society, the East and West Side Irish American clubs and has volunteered his time at events like the Irish Cultural Festival. Mr. Boland's most recent accomplishments were working with the Cleveland Memorial to the Great Hunger Committee to erect a monument in the Flats in memory of those who died in the Potato Famine and being named 1994's Irish person of the year.

America is known for being a melting pot society. Mr. Boland selflessly volunteered his time to help others feel the same pride and honor he did when looking back at the glorious Irish heritage. Mr. Boland's inspirational life has left a lasting legacy. He will be

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missed. He is survived by his wife of 33 years, two sons, a daughter, and many loving relatives and friends.

I ask you, fellow colleagues, to join me today in honoring, Mr. Sean Boland, a deeply dedicated, committed man who was an inspiration to us all.

MS. ARACELY GURROLA, A PRU-  
DENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY  
AWARD WINNER

**HON. ED PASTOR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2000

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor a young Arizona student from my district who has achieved national recognition for outstanding volunteer service in her community. Ms. Aracely Gurrola of Phoenix 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. An eighth grader at Lowell Elementary School, Aracely is being recognized for having initiated "Line Up to Help," a fund-raising project at her school to benefit victims of Hurricane Mitch. An active community volunteer on projects such as clean-ups, food drives, and car-wash fundraisers, she felt compelled to do something special after watching news reports of the devastation Hurricane Mitch had left behind. She approached her principal and received approval to collect change from fellow students for two days as school let out. Aracely coordinated her efforts with the local St. Vincent DePaul Society, which made arrangements to get the donations into the right hands. Then she recruited several student volunteers to help her with flyers promoting the fund-raiser and to collect the money. In just two days, she collected \$250 in loose change from fellow students, money that most students would usually spend on candy. Aracely should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud her for her initiative in seeking to make a positive impact on the lives of others. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that young Americans can play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.