

Wine Auction to be held on June 3, 2000 at Meadowood Resort in St. Helena, CA.

Since its inception in 1981, the Napa Valley Wine Auction has become the world's largest charity wine auction contributing more than \$20 million to local nonprofit organizations.

Last year, the auction raised over \$4 million, which was allocated to area health care providers, and youth and housing programs. Organizations that have benefited from these funds include Napa Women's Emergency Services, Hospice of Napa Valley, Planned Parenthood, the Boys and Girls Clubs of American Canyon, Napa Valley, and St. Helena, and Healthy Moms and Babies.

The auction weekend kicks off on Thursday, June 1st with the opening of the display auction lots at newly remodeled Silverado Vineyards with a trio of joint venture lots and concludes on Saturday, June 3rd with a family-style dinner on the Meadowood fairway.

The three-day event includes a tasting of foods prepared by dozens of Napa Valley restaurateurs and caterers as well as a Vintners black-tie dinner Gala.

This year's event features soul diva Patti LaBelle, who agreed to perform a 40-minute show after learning that last year's monies went to farm worker housing, youth at risk, and health care.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we acknowledge the 20th Napa Valley Wine Auction and the Napa Valley Vintners Association's efforts to improve the quality of life in our community.

IN CELEBRATION OF KANSAS CITY'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

**HON. KAREN McCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Ms. McCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Kansas City, Missouri's 150th Birthday. The sesquicentennial marks an era of growth and prosperity in the Midwest. John Calvin McCoy, the father of Kansas City, created a small trading town on the banks of the Missouri River. It was a link from the stunning East to the sprawling West. Truly in the Heart of America, this City was destined to become a great metropolitan area as it is today.

The innovation of bridges allowed travelers and goods to move through Kansas City to complement the Missouri River's movement of commerce. Soon railroads aided this cause and Kansas City flourished. It became a metropolis known for its stockyards and wheat. The 1900's brought growth.

The citizens of this distinguished and lovable city have seen the building of the Liberty Memorial, the only World War I monument dedicated by the five allied leaders; the development of the Country Club Plaza by J.C. Nichols, the first outdoor shopping venue now visited by travelers from all over the world for its elegance; the Pendergast era in which Kansas City's own political machine ruled for years; a Convention Center rebuilt from fire ruins in less than 90 days for the 1900 Democratic National Convention; and the birth of

Kansas City Jazz which can still be heard throughout our country. We became a Major League sports city supported by the Kansas City Royals Baseball team, the Kansas City Chiefs Football team, and the home to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum. Unfortunately it is impossible to cover the entire expansive and rich history my City has displayed.

Kansas City is now the second largest rail hub. We are second only to Rome in fountains and have more miles of boulevards than Paris. Kansas City is first in greeting card publishing as the home to Hallmark Cards. We have more freeway miles per capita than any major metro area and are 25th in U.S. population. Kansas City is adored for its 24 public lakes and 200 public parks. We stand 1.6 million people strong in the metropolitan area.

We highlight our rich history through events and activities that enliven the culture of our community and celebrates its diversity and sense of unity. This year Kansas City was blessed with events such as "Arrivals and Departures—Union Station" a Kansas City symphony performance to highlight the importance and the memories shared at our newly renovated Union Station; Benjamin Ranch Celebration Picnic allowing our youth to experience the wild outdoors with horse rides, stagecoach and hayrides; the 18th and Vine Vintage Vine afternoon at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum recreated the excitement of a Monarchs game; and finally the Kansas City Zoological Park brings our community 150 new animals. The grand finale will be held at Arrowhead Stadium where Walter Cronkite, Kenny Rogers, Little Richard, Oleta Adams, and the biggest fountain and pyrotechnic special effects show ever seen in the Midwest will swing us into the next incredible 150 years.

Throughout the 150 years of Kansas City we have been known for our hospitality, strong work ethic, fairness, and ability to develop a consensus. These attributes of our community are constantly enhanced by our citizens' commitment to continue to grow and expand upon these inherent traditions.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the City of Kansas City's 150th Birthday.

IRANIAN JEWS

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join several of my colleagues in condemning the actions of the Iranian government against 13 members of that nation's Jewish community. These Jews, arrested over a year ago, have been accused of spying for Israel. In Iran, a country where Jews enjoy virtually no freedoms and are under constant government scrutiny, one of the world's most effective intelligence organizations, Israel's Mossad, has allegedly chosen to use Jews to collect state secrets. Not only is this assertion preposterous, it is offensive. A shoe salesman, a candy store owner, and a 16-year-old boy, are being portrayed as agents of espionage.

Ten of the 13 have been imprisoned since their arrest last year. All have been brought

before a court with no jury, in which the judge also serves as the prosecutor, to face accusations they have not heard, without the assistance of a lawyer or any contact with their families or friends. To add insult to injury, a Justice Ministry spokesman recently announced that "only one or two" of the 13 Jews were actually accused of espionage, the others were accused of the lesser crime of acting against national security. This after the Minister of Intelligence and Security said, in January, "if they are condemned to hang, they will be hanged." As if "one or two" deaths were any less despicable than 13.

This would not be the first time a show trial in Iran resulted in the deaths of members of the Jewish community there. Since the Islamic revolution in 1979, 17 Jews have been executed in Iran. I say it is time for this to stop. I ask those in Iran who represent fundamental Islamic faith to recall the centuries old Islamic tradition that protects strangers in Muslim lands. I call on those in Iran who represent reason and reform to intervene and prevent a brutal outcome to this trial. And I ask all Iranians to look at the changing world and recognize that by rejecting reconciliation with Jews, they are no longer on the fore of a unified Arab front, they are lonely outsiders who will never reap the benefits of the lasting partnerships being formed in the Middle East.

EVENT AT WEST END MEMORIAL SCHOOL

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, Who: 200 4th and 5th grade students from Woodbury Public Schools.

What: Will host Vice-president Lawrence Engel of the Battleship New Jersey Foundation.

When: May 24, 2000 at 1:30 PM.

Where: West End Memorial School, Woodbury, NJ.

Why: The fifth grade students from the three elementary schools engaged in a two month project of designing, making, and selling needlepoint bookmarks and stock certificates which resulted in raising \$1000.00 for the Battleship New Jersey Museum which is to be located in Camden, NJ. An assembly featuring Liberty, Uncle Sam, The Minuteman, Betsy Ross, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt will engage the students in the singing of patriotic songs, the presentation of the check to Col. Engel, and refreshments to celebrate their success.

Col. Engel will present the district with a print of the Battleship and certificates of participation to each of the three elementary schools. He will address the classes about the ship and its contributions to democracy, present a slide show, and bring a six-foot model of the ship with him. He will also comment on the significance of Memorial Day.

May 24 has been designated Red, White, and Blue Day at West End School in celebration of Memorial Day and the student's success.