

West District Patrol in 1991; and again to the Special Patrol Bureau in 1992, until his retirement.

Throughout his career at the Police Department, Officer Wisniewski was a fine example of dedication and excellence. For his hard work, he earned a Class "C" Award, two commendations, and eight excellent police service awards.

I am proud to recognize Police Officer John S. Wisniewski for his accomplishments, and I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing him for his service to New Jersey.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND YVONNE
McCOY, OUTSTANDING COLO-
RADO WOMAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to congratulate a remarkable woman, Yvonne McCoy, for her outstanding courage and devotion to helping her fellow man. Yvonne is a newly ordained minister with the Colorado Community Church. Rev. McCoy's selfless service has helped countless inner-city children turn their lives around. Her continued devotion to the underprivileged children of Colorado has earned her the high honor of being named Outstanding Colorado Woman. Yvonne's contributions to the citizens of Colorado are great in number and deserve the recognition of this body.

Yvonne is a wonderful model for women of all ages. Yvonne has been pivotal in getting troubled youth off the streets by directing a music program that brought many kids out of harm's way. In addition to helping youth get on the right track, she has tirelessly worked to help women who are looking to improve their own lot in life. Yvonne goes directly to areas of need and counsels women on how they can best improve their course in life. Based on her own life experiences, Yvonne knows first hand the travels of those whom she counsels. Because of these experiences, Yvonne can ably guide others toward a better and brighter future. That, Mr. Speaker, is exactly what she has done for so many.

Yvonne not only serves the needs of those less fortunate in America, but she has also lent her compassion to the impoverished in foreign places. Yvonne recently returned from a mission to the Dominican Republic, where she worked with an orphanage. She has plans to continue her service there in the future.

Yvonne is an inspiration for us all and for all these reasons she is deserving of the honor of Outstanding Colorado Woman. What's more, she clearly deserves the commendation and praise of this body.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to Yvonne for her dedication and service to her community over the years and congratulate her on this high honor.

Yvonne, your friends, family, state and nation are proud of you and grateful for your gracious service.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE RICHARD
CHARLES "RC" ROBINSON, SR.

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to salute a fallen hero. Richard Charles "RC" Robinson, Senior. RC passed away on Saturday, January 27, 2001. The irony is that he gave so much of his heart to others, and it was his heart that failed him in the end.

RC was many things: the first African American appointed to the Missouri State Barber Board, early civil rights activist, and mentor, husband, father, and friend to many, including myself. Whenever duty called RC was never one to turn his back on the task at hand. During the turbulent times of the 60's, RC led a sit-in at a restaurant that refused him coffee. This grassroots effort led to the end of similar discriminatory practices by businesses of the day.

Everyone who knew RC always succumbed to his charisma. The words of Rudyard Kipling's poem "If" depict RC well, for he could "walk with kings" without losing "the common touch." He walked with great celebrities and public officials as well as with those disenfranchised or homeless. The legendary Muhammad Ali once sat in RC's barber chair and the police mistook the fan fare for a riot. "The Greatest" paid great respect to RC. The service that RC provided to the community will never be replaced, just as his many kind deeds will never be forgotten.

When I visited R.C.'s Barber Shop he would always welcome me with open arms. The talk of the day would turn not only to the current events, but also the historic struggles and the resulting progress which led the way to greater equity for African Americans in our community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting Richard Charles "RC" Robinson, Senior, a dedicated public servant and a soldier for justice and equality. Also, Mr. Speaker please join in sending condolences to his wife, Dottie and his daughter, Terri. This great human being will be missed, but his memory will live on in all those whose lives he touched. We are a better community for his having lived.

CONGRATULATING KAWEAH
DELTA HEALTH CARE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kaweah Delta Health Care District for being awarded the coveted Foster G. McGaw Prize.

The Foster G. McGaw Prize is widely recognized as one of the most significant honors in the health care industry. The prize honors health care delivery organizations that have demonstrated exceptional commitment to community service. It is awarded by the American

Hospital Association and supported by the Baxter Allegiance Foundation.

Kaweah Delta Health Care District has always believed that strong community relationships and comprehensive programs are the keys to quality community health. It is therefore quite appropriate, and not surprising, that Kaweah Delta Health Care District has been honored for their proactive role in establishing the web or relationships needed to address the community's health. Its contributions to improving the community's well being have truly been outstanding.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to congratulate Kaweah Delta Health Care District for winning the Foster G. McGaw Prize. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Kaweah Delta Health Care District many more years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF COMMIS-
SIONER RAFAEL FRAGUELA

HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Commissioner Rafael Fraguela, recipient of the "Los Próceres Antillanos Award," which was presented by Save Latin America, Inc., on January 25, 2001.

Save Latin America, Inc., a non-profit organization that honors Hispanic community leaders for their contributions to society, provides information to Hispanics regarding their rights and responsibilities in the areas of education, health care, housing, and other social services and economic development opportunities.

Rafael Fraguela, who was born in Cuba on June 7, 1955, immigrated to the United States as a boy, and attended Union Hill High School in Union City, New Jersey. He received his BA in Social Studies/Political Science from Montclair State College and his MA in Education from Seton Hall University.

Since receiving his undergraduate degree and teacher certification, Commissioner Fraguela has dedicated his life to public education and to the New Jersey education system, serving as teacher, vice-principal, and principal. He is currently the Principal of Grant School #7 in Passaic, New Jersey.

In addition, Commissioner Fraguela has served the residents of New Jersey as an elected official in a variety of positions over the past decade. He served as President of the Union City School Board and as President and Commissioner on the School Board of Estimates. In 1993, Commissioner Fraguela was elected to replace me as a Commissioner of Union City, an office to which he was re-elected in 1994 and 1998. He served as Commissioner of Revenue and Finance and Public Affairs and Recreation, and as Commissioner of Public Affairs, Parks, and Public Property.

Commissioner Fraguela is a member and founder of the Alliance Civic Association; the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO); the Mid-West Northeast Voter Registration Project; the Summit Avenue Merchants Association; the Hispanic Leadership for Political Action Committee; the Democratic

National Committee; the Committee to Elect President Clinton; the National Democratic Steering Committee; the Union City Day Care Board of Directors; the Union City A.B.C. Board; and Gore 2000.

For his continued and selfless public service to the community, he has received numerous honors and awards, including the Human Values Award, Man of the Year Award (1993, 1995, 1998); the Babe Ruth League Award (1997); the Summit Avenue Merchant Association Award (1998); the Duarte, Sanchez & Mella Award (1996); and the Hispanic Law Enforcement Society of North Hudson, NJ Achievement Award (1998).

In 1991, it was my distinct honor to appoint Rafael Fraguela to be the President of the School Board of Union City. I am extremely proud of his record, his dedication to public service, and his many achievements since that first appointment. Over the years, I have cherished his friendship as an educator, school board president, and commissioner. More importantly, he is an invaluable asset to the residents of New Jersey.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Rafael Fraguela for his leadership and for his important contributions to New Jersey and to the Hispanic community:

WHITESIDE SCHOOL CELEBRATES
ITS 150TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Whiteside School District in Belleville, Illinois which is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year. This school has a rich history and has enhanced the Belleville area by consistently demonstrating excellence in teaching.

Mr. William Lot Whiteside, the original owner, was granted land by former President James Monroe in 1817. He deeded the one-acre property to school trustees in 1843 for \$100 and a one-room schoolhouse, named after the Whiteside family, was built. A formal school district was established in 1865. At the turn of the century, a second room was added to the school enabling this two room schoolhouse to serve children from Belleville to Shiloh.

A new school was built in 1958 on five acres of land acquired from the Whiteside family and placed directly in front of the old two room schoolhouse. The new school consisted of three classrooms, a multi-purpose area, and an office. Subsequent additions took place in 1965, 1973, 1979, 1987, and 1996 to meet the needs of its growing student body.

With enrollment currently over 1,000 students, the Whiteside School District is now expanding to a second building which will stand on a hill once occupied by Mississippian Indians. Middle school students will occupy the new facility, roughly one mile from the original school site. The new building is scheduled to open in 2002.

Since starting as a one-room schoolhouse, the Whiteside School has operated continu-

ously for 150 years and has been producing students that make and will continue to make a significant contribution to not only Southwestern Illinois but the nation as well. Their impressive level of achievement and accomplishment for a century and a half is a milestone for the school district and the education profession as a whole. Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in expressing our appreciation to the Whiteside School District for its dedication to service and our very best wishes as it celebrates its 150th year.

NEW YORK TIMES: INDIA CLEARLY
RESPONSIBLE FOR CHITHI
SINGHPORA MASSACRE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on December 31, the New York Times Magazine ran a good article on the massacre of 35 Sikhs that took place in Chithi Singhpora in March while President Clinton was visiting India. The article makes it clear that "Everyone knows who did it" and that the responsibility rests squarely on the Indian government. The Times writer, Barry Bearak, the newspaper's bureau chief in New Delhi, wrote that "Among the careful preparations for the historic occasion were a painstaking cleanup around the Taj Mahal, a reconnoitering for wild tigers he might glimpse on a V.I.P. safari and the murder of 35 Sikh villagers in a place called Chittisinghpora."

I will not place the entire article into the RECORD, Mr. Speaker, because it is very long, but I recommend it to my colleagues. Bearak interviewed several people who were witnesses to the massacre or who lost family members. It is very clear from his interviews that the Indian government is responsible. This confirms the findings of two independent investigations, one by the International Human Rights Organization, which is based in Ludhiana, and another jointly conducted by the Movement Against State Repression and the Punjab Human Rights Organization.

This is typical of the Indian government. The Indian newspaper Hitavada reported in November 1994 that the Indian government paid the late Governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, \$1.5 billion to organize terrorist activities in Punjab and Kashmir. The book "Soft Target", written by two Canadian journalists, proved that the Indian government shot down its own airliner in 1985, killing 329 innocent people, to create an image of Sikhs as terrorists.

The article noted that the killers were dressed in the regulation uniform of the Indian Army. Some had their faces painted in celebration of the Hindu holiday of Holi. They rounded up 37 Sikhs, one of whom escaped and one of whom survived. The other 35 were murdered in cold blood. They called out the parting phrase "Jai mata di," a Hindu phrase in praise of a Hindu goddess.

Clearly the Indian government was trying to create a bad image of the Kashmiri freedom fighters for the President's visit. It looks like President Clinton was right when he called the region "the most dangerous place in the world."

Bearak came to Chithi Singhpora in the company of a businessman, who is an associate of a fellow reporter. "So you want to know the truth?" the businessman said to Bearak. "Don't you know the truth can get these people killed?" The Indian government had killed five Muslims, claiming they were Pakistanis responsible for the massacre, but at least one village resident said that he recognized the remains of one of his relatives. One of the men killed was a man of 60. The Indian government has subsequently admitted that the so-called "militants" they killed were in fact innocent. Now they have made another arrest in the case. This is also equally dubious. The 18-year-old that they arrested was "intensively interrogated," according to the article, which usually means torture.

At the close of the article, Bearak writes that "Everyone knows about this crime. The Indian Army did it." The evidence makes it clear that this is true. Why should such a country receive any support from the U.S. government? Let us stop our aid to this terrorist regime and let us openly support self-determination for Punjab, Khalistan, for Kashmir, and for all the nations of South Asia.

THE RETIREMENT OF MR. ED
O'CONNOR

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a great American who has played a major role in our nation's space program. Ed O'Connor was selected in 1990 to lead the newly established Spaceport Florida Authority, and he retired late last year. It was his leadership, vision, and tireless energy that enabled Florida to preserve and secure its place in the world as "the place for space."

Spaceport Florida Authority is a recognized leader among state spaceports, and it also plays a critical role in recruiting new space-related industries to Florida. Through Ed O'Connor's leadership, the Authority gained international recognition as the first state agency to conduct space launches from its facilities, and has enabled historic partnerships between the State of Florida, NASA, the Air Force, and the commercial and academic space communities.

His service to the space program, however, started long before then. He has a long and distinguished record of service to our nation in the United States Air Force, including directing the Search, Recovery, and Reconstruction Team supporting the Presidential Commission investigating the *Challenger* accident. Upon retiring from the Air Force in 1987, Colonel Ed O'Connor joined Martin Marietta as manager of the Commercial Titan Launch Program.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Florida's Space Coast in the United States Congress, and I am honored to represent distinguished citizens such as Ed O'Connor who have given so much to our nation. While he will be retired, anyone who knows Ed doesn't expect him to slow down one bit. I'm certain he will continue to be a great source of knowledge and ideas for the nation's space goals.