

I wish to congratulate the members of the Antiochian Orthodox community on their efforts and wish them many years of success in their work throughout the United States.

TRIBUTE TO DAVE KORBELIK

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 27, 2001*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to express gratitude and congratulations to one of Colorado's outstanding public servants, Mr. Dave Korbelik who recently announced his resignation as County Commissioner. Dave Korbelik is a hard worker and has performed his elected duties with the highest degree of excellence. All who have been fortunate to know Dave speak of his deep commitment to his job and his community. I know Dave Korbelik and am glad to say that he has been a strong advocate for the citizens of Kit Carson County. Dave's representation will be sorely missed.

Dave saw his job as both a public duty and a challenge. Leaving his home to accept his new post leading the Farm Bureau in Trinidad, Colorado was not an easy decision. His reflections in a recent edition of the Flagler News capture the difficult nature of his decision. "This was not an easy decision to make. Kit Carson County has always been my home, and my family's home, and it will always be where our roots are deeply planted."

Dave is a distinguished individual carrying out both his personal and professional life with the values of dignity, respect, reverence to God, and a dedication to serving the public. He is truly a fine example for all Americans.

A constituent of Colorado's 4th Congressional District in Colorado, Dave not only makes his community proud, but also those of his state and his country. It is a true honor to know such an extraordinary citizen and we owe him a debt of gratitude for his service and dedication to the community. I ask the House to join me in extending hearty congratulations to Mr. Dave Korbelik.

PERUVIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 27, 2001*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the joyous occasion of the Peruvian Festival, 'Independence of Peru'. Peru is located in the southwestern section of South America and was a colony of Spain with other surrounding territories until 1821. After many ferocious battles against the Spanish army, Peru defeated Spain and gained their independence by becoming a democratic Republic on July 28, 1821. Peruvians in Cleveland have joined together year after year on this festive occasion to celebrate this day and honor their heroes, martyrs and intellectuals who shed their blood for freedom of their country from the Spanish Crown.

This year to celebrate the 180th anniversary of the Independence of Peru, an outdoor celebration is being held portraying a civic ceremony and a childrens' soccer tournament. A traveling team of eighteen Peruvian boys under the age of twelve are flying in from Lima, Peru and will play against Cleveland and Columbus teams. There will also be a group of students from Pittsburgh, LACU who will present dance and music performances.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in commemorating this festive affair to show our support of this Peruvian celebration.

RECOGNIZING THE HOUSTON MINORITY BUSINESS COUNCIL'S EXPO 2001

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 27, 2001*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the Houston Minority Business Council's EXPO 2001. As Texas' largest minority business development trade fair, EXPO provides a forum for major corporations to identify and build relationships with capable and dependable minority businesses and suppliers. This year's business forum will be held on Wednesday, September 26, 2001 at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

For many years, EXPO has served as a multi-faceted network linking Minority Business Enterprises (MBES) with leaders of major corporations. MBES utilize EXPO as an efficient and productive means of connecting with key purchasing personnel and decision makers at major corporations. Corporations take advantage of this networking opportunity, using it as a tool to distribute personalized information on doing business with their companies. EXPO allows MBES to gain valuable insights into both the local and national strategies of major corporations. Featuring approximately 200 major corporations and government agencies, EXPO prides itself in its ability to spur the development of minority businesses by bringing together minority businesses and corporate executives.

As a result of the Houston Minority Business Council's EXPO 2000, more than 2,000 participants were afforded the opportunity to furnish new business contacts and promote economic opportunity for their businesses. MBES made an average of 23 sales calls from which 44 percent reported instantaneous results. On average, at least two-thirds of participants reported the establishment of new business relationships that totaled as high as \$2 million in eight months. EXPO 2001 promises to be an even more successful event.

James Postal, of Penzoll Quaker State, will serve as this year's Honorary Chair. As in the past, participants can look forward to the stimulating and insightful remarks from the event's keynote speaker, Harriet Michel, President of the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC), a private non-profit organization that expands business opportunities to minority-owned companies. Her expertise on minority businesses and the issues they are facing will make her an interesting and exciting addition to the convention.

Mr. Speaker, the Houston Minority Business Council serves the important function of incorporating minority businesses in local and national commerce. Their mission, "to actively involve [their] members in efforts that will increase and expand business opportunity and business growth for minority business enterprises," is vital to the promotion and expansion of minority business opportunities. I applaud the efforts of the Houston Minority Business Council and look forward to another successful event.

DEDICATION OF THE PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY AS LOS ANGELES COUNTY VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 27, 2001*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the dedication taking place today in my district of more than 60 miles of the infamous Pacific Coast Highway as the Los Angeles Country Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway. I regret that the House schedule prevents me from joining in the dedication ceremony, but wanted to share the remarks I had planned to make.

As this long stretch of road is dedicated to our Vietnam Veterans, the analogy of this road to a ribbon seems appropriate.

Roads sometimes divide, but this ribbon of road is designed to unite. It stretches seamlessly and ties the diverse communities that comprise the South Bay into one.

This ribbon of road is intended to heal, despite the divisiveness of the war itself. Just as this road embraces people from every walk of life, so too do we continue to embrace our soldiers, sailors and airmen.

This ribbon is intended to honor. Like the yellow ribbon used to signal our eternal hope of homecoming, this ribbon of road is dedicated not just to those who served and returned from Vietnam, but also to those who remain missing or unaccounted for.

But, while this ribbon of road is well-traveled and familiar, for those of us of the Vietnam generation, the war has started to recede—perhaps too quickly. What is our memory is now history to a sizable portion of our citizenry. Not only do they fail to understand the historic context of that war, they also fail to appreciate those who served.

Designating this highway will provide a constant and continuing reminder of the valor and sacrifice of the men and women who served in Vietnam. It will be a tribute—a memorial—a symbol to a not-so-distant period in our Nation's history.

Like a ribbon, it will bind our community in a collective expression of appreciation—of love—of gratitude—of remembrance.

Today's dedication ceremony is the result of the hard work of the members of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 53, who first suggested to California State Assemblyman George Nakano the designation of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway. Assemblyman Nakano was able to secure the passage