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.

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.

HON. JANE HARMAN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, July 27, 2001

Mr. Speaker, the Houston Minority Business Council has a long tradition of helping minority businesses with their growth and development. This year, the council is hosting its annual EXPO, which is an event that brings together minority business owners from around the country to network, promote their businesses, and learn about opportunities for growth.

EXPOS are a crucial part of the work of the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC), a private non-profit organization that works to expand business opportunities for minority-owned businesses. The council’s mission is to actively involve [their] members in efforts that will increase and expand business opportunity and business growth for minority business enterprises, thereby promoting economic growth and development in the United States.

EXPO 2001 promises to be a successful event, with more than 2,000 participants expected to attend. The event will feature a variety of activities, including workshops, seminars, and networking opportunities. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about the latest trends and best practices in minority business development, as well as connect with other minority business owners and major corporations.

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 Houston Minority Business Council and the Houston Minority Business Council. George Nakano was able to secure the passage...