

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL CENTER  
FOR INDIGENOUS AMERICAN  
CULTURES IN KANSAS CITY, MO

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 20, 2001*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Center for Indigenous American Cultures at Line Creek in Frank Vaydik Park in Kansas City, Missouri.

Frank Vaydik Park lies within an area that has been recognized as sacred ground by Native Americans. It contains a large number of American Indian archeological artifacts, many of which date back more than 1,000 years. The National Center for Indigenous American Cultures at Line Creek, an organization created to preserving the site, is working hard to ensure that future generations will be able to learn about the different cultures that have inhabited that sacred land. Additionally, the Center intends to establish an education center to promote and protect this important archeological site.

On September 21st, 22nd, and 23rd, there will be a meeting of Spiritual Leaders from all over the nation at the site to perform a Healing Ceremony. It will be an opportunity for people from both the American Indian and the Kansas City communities to come together to celebrate as the plans for the construction of an educational center and protection of the archeological site progress.

I would like to commend the National Center for Indigenous American Cultures for their work to preserve the past, and I wish them many blessings as they partake in this important sacred ritual that will provide a wonderful beginning for their future education and preservation endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO PARKER  
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 20, 2001*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to express gratitude and congratulations to Parker Agricultural Services of Limon, Colorado, a recent recipient of the Environmental Achievement Award from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The Environmental Achievement Award is one of the highest awards given by the Environmental Protection Agency and recognizes Parker Ag's success of using biosolids as a fertilizer and soil enhancement product in Prowers County.

The biosolid program performance by Parker Agricultural Service has made monumental changes in the environmental makeup of Prowers County. Through this program New York and Boston biosolids are used as fertilizer for farmland. Not only has this program been successful for farmland but has also transformed marginal lands once again into rich producing ground. As reported by The Limon Leader, a 250-acre plot of land was

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

transformed from bare sand to being completely covered by vegetation. Other instances have shown that using this program has increased the amount of protein content in certain plants as well as increasing yield per acre.

Parker Ag has been a shining example of what every company must strive for, achieving the delicate balance between production and environmental protection. I applaud the company for its courageous and noble efforts to preserve and enhance the environment in its community.

As a company located in Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, Parker Ag not only makes its community proud but also those of its state and country. It is a true honor to have such an extraordinary company reside in Colorado and we owe it a debt of gratitude for its service. I ask the House to join me in extending wholehearted congratulations to Parker Agricultural Services.

HONORING DR. HRAYR "HAGOP"  
HOVAGUIMIAN

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 20, 2001*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Hrayr "Hagop" Hovaguimian for his contributions to the improvement of health care in Armenia. He started the Nork Marash Medical Center, which provides cardiac surgery, free of cost, in Armenia.

Decades of under-the-table, behind-closed-door payments have plagued the health care system in Armenia. Armenian citizens tell stories of bribing nurses, doctors and other health care staff just to get the medical attention they require. Dr. Hovaguimian, a Syrian-born specialist in complex pediatric surgery, made his first trip to Armenia in 1991 to see the corrupt medical practices first-hand. Since then he has been actively committed to providing affordable cardiac surgery in Armenia and abolishing corrupt medical practices prevalent in that country.

Dr. Hovaguimian left behind a lucrative career in Portland, Oregon to establish Nork Marash Medical Center in Yerevan, Armenia. With the help of a pediatric cardiologist from Spokane, Washington, Dr. Hrair Garabedian, Hagop is running Armenia's first medical facility that is free of the corruptive influences that are crippling the country's health care system. In June of 1994, the first pediatric heart surgery was performed at the hospital. In 1996, the first adult surgery was performed. Nork Marash Medical Center operates at standards equivalent to those of United States hospitals. These standards also include noncorrupt business practices indicated by a zero-tolerance policy against gratuities. Led by the efforts of Dr. Hovaguimian, the Nork Marash Medical Center has brought a breath of fresh air to a health care system marked by bribes, kickbacks and payoffs.

Nork Marash has struggled to achieve financial self-sufficiency without government subsidies. Many surgeries on pediatric patients

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who cannot afford the cost of cardiac surgery are performed at no charge. Dr. Hovaguimian has a guiding principle: no patient is denied care because of inability to pay. Although the hospital has faced several financial obstacles, they have been able to achieve financial self-sufficiency.

Mr. Speaker, I honor Dr. Hovaguimian for his efforts to bring high standards and professionalism to the health care system in Armenia. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Hrayr "Hagop" Hovaguimian many more years of continued success.

2001 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR RE-  
COVERY FROM AND RESPONSE  
TO TERRORIST ATTACKS ON THE  
UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 14, 2001*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2888, the emergency supplemental appropriations bill providing essential funds for recovery from and response to the terrorist attacks on New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

I want to thank our distinguished Chairman, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, and our ranking member, Mr. OBEY, for their hard work in negotiating this essential package with the leadership of both bodies and the President. The mettle of a nation is tested at trying times, and the response before us today demonstrates that America, her people, and her leaders, are ready for this test.

Today we provide \$40 billion to start beginning to pay for the damage caused by the attack, to assist the victims who were impacted by it, to upgrade our security, and to begin the military preparations necessary for an appropriate response. \$10 billion is available immediately for the President to use as he sees fit. Another \$10 billion is available after the President specifies how he wishes to use the funding provided that the Congress concurs within fifteen days of that plan. Congress as part of our work on regular appropriations bills will expend the final \$20 billion based upon a submission of a budget request by the President and further action in the weeks ahead.

Mr. Speaker, there have been so many times when America has committed her resources to the causes of peace and in support of freedom. There can be no more appropriate time than when our homeland has been attacked and our citizens killed.

I am one who believes that we should celebrate the victory that we had in the thousands of people who survived, and in the outpouring of the American spirit in support of the victims of the attack.

No one will forget the devotion of the firefighters, police, and emergency medical technicians who braved the danger presented by the destruction.

No one can ignore the determination of the iron, steel and construction workers who felt an obligation to donate their professional skills to the rescue effort.