completed on an on-site day care center for the Center's care-providers. The Longview assisted living facility was also newly finished, which allowed the residential community to welcome an additional 80 residents to these state-of-the-art facilities. Such a tremendous number of lives are touched through the Christian Health Care Center.

This number also includes the friends and families of residents, for they can rest assured that their loved ones are in good hands with complete care. If you meet even one member of the staff at the Center or hear even one story from a resident, you will understand that the staff here is truly doing God’s work—everyday. The philosophy by which the Center operates further testifies to this caring Christian spirit of the community: “the staff of nurses, doctors, program directors, aides and all others at the Center give unselfishly so that all of our residents and patients know that they are cared for and loved.” Their personal touch in caring for the elderly has moved many.

I speak from personal experience. My beloved mother, Margaret Scafati, was cared for with compassion and professionalism of the highest caliber at the Center. For this I am truly grateful.

Under the excellent guidance of Mr. Struyk and the caring of the wonderful employees, the Christian Health Care Center will continue to shine as one of the finest care facilities of its kind in our nation. This weekend we celebrate 90 years of excellence and look forward to many more. Our hearts and prayers are with those involved with this wonderful center.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

I hope all Americans can somehow show their patriotism like my friend David.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE EICHLER

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great man, George Eichler. Regrettably, George Eichler passed away on Friday, August 17, 2001, but he leaves us with a myriad of memories and lessons derived from his history of service and a legacy of championing important issues.

George was a life-long Democrat and a long-time labor leader in San Antonio. His tireless work on behalf of Democrats and in support of San Antonio working men and women was well recognized and respected within the Democratic Party. George’s dedication to service and his commitment to family and to fatherhood is a shining example of the life we should all aspire to.

His daughter, Vanessa Eichler, said of him “He was the perfect father. Everyone knows him for what he did for labor and the Democratic Party, but he taught us to enjoy life.” I believe that through his actions George taught us all a little bit about life and the need to help one another.

George Eichler’s involvement in the labor movement saw its beginnings in 1949. When George went to work as a bottle washer at the Pearl Brewery in San Antonio, Texas. Soon after beginning his work there, George joined the International Association of Brewery Workers, and quickly moved up the union leadership ranks to become the Associate Business Agent in 1960. In 1967, the International Association of Brewery Workers joined the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and George continued his leadership efforts, holding various local, State, and national level positions within the Teamsters organization throughout his career.

It was through his work as a labor leader that George also became well-known for his charitable contributions, selflessly dedicating his time and service to charitable organizations like Goodwill Industries and the United Way. From 1965 through 1974, George continued his commitment to service as Chair of the San Antonio AFL–CIO Council Pines Housing Trust, a program whose outstanding efforts in housing the handicapped was recognized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. These local elderly and handicapped independent living programs are recognized as precursors to national handicapped housing initiatives.

George’s work over the years also benefitted the Democratic Party and countless Democratic candidates, as he campaigned tirelessly during each campaign year. He also served as Democratic Precinct Chair, and as such attended many State and National Democratic Conventions.

I am proud to know myself among those who have had the opportunity to know and learn from George Eichler. I know his family will receive some comfort in the knowledge that George’s memory will endure among all those he touched throughout his life.

HOUSING BERINGER VINEYARDS ON ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 125th anniversary of Beringer Vineyards, located in St. Helena, Napa Valley, California.

Beringer Vineyards was founded in 1876, when Jacob Beringer and his brother, Frederick purchased a twenty-eight acre vineyard for $14,500. One hundred and twenty-five years later, the winery is worth in excess of $1.5 billion and is the oldest continuously operating winery in Napa Valley.

Beringer was not only a pioneer in the California wine industry, it is also a significant factor in the Napa Valley’s emergence as one of the world’s premier wine-growing regions. Today, Beringer Vineyards continues its extraordinary tradition of viticulture innovation and winemaking expertise to consistently produce the highest quality wines.

Mr. Speaker, Beringer Vineyards not only produces outstanding wines, but its generosity in the community is unsurpassed. Beringer supports numerous important charities, including civic organizations and youth groups throughout Napa Valley and the State of California. This year, the majority of its donations are being made to Napa Valley Health Charities, which provides critically needed health care services to low-income persons.

To commemorate this important occasion, Winemaker Ed Sbragia, who is celebrating his 25th year as Winemaker at Beringer, has produced a very special 1997 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon from the original “Home Vineyard.” As evidence of Beringer’s continued tradition of excellence, Mr. Sbragia is the world’s only winemaker to have both a red and a white wine named as Wine Spectator magazine’s “#1 Wine of the Year.”

Mr. Speaker, Beringer was where I worked as a young man and I am particularly proud of this tremendous organization. At this time, it is appropriate that we honor and congratulate Beringer Vineyards for its many successes and contributions to our Napa Valley community for the past 125 years.

RECOGNIZING HEAR O' ISRAEL INTERNATIONAL INC.

HON. KEN BENTSEN
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, in light of the tragedy that struck our nation September 11, 2001, I believe it’s fitting to recognize a valued organization within the Houston community, Hear O’ Israel International Inc., which is currently sponsoring its National Mercy, Love and Compassion Month. This month long event is...