

community leaders, foreign embassy officials, youth, and elders all of whom are members of various ethnic backgrounds. Africa Week has become the symbol of international diversity, and this year's honorary guest and keynote speaker, exemplify that diversity.

The Honorary Guest for the 2001 Africa Week Celebration was His Majesty Rukirabasija Agutamba Solomon Gafabusa Iguru I, Omukama of Bunyoro Kitara Uganda. His Majesty Rukirabasija Agutamba Solomon Gafabusa Iguru I has made many valuable contributions to the world community through his unselfish public service. The Keynote Speaker for the 2001 Africa Week Celebration is United States Senator KAY BAILEY HUTCHINSON of Texas.

Again, I want to congratulate The African Cultural Exchange and all of its collaborative partners on the 8th annual Africa Week. I wish them great success in the future, and thank them for their valuable service to the global community.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS AND WORKING FAMILIES

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the urgent need to provide immediate economic stimulus to this country in the form of a payroll tax rebate for working families.

The United States is facing a crisis, and it is not merely a security crisis. There is a visible, pressing need for economic stimulus and worker relief.

We should move quickly to jumpstart the economy by putting money into the hands of the tax paying lower wage workers that are more likely to spend it immediately.

My bill, the Working Families Tax Rebate Act will do just that.

This bill will provide an immediate payroll tax rebate of up to \$300 to people who didn't benefit from the tax cut signed into law in June.

The dramatic decrease in travel and tourism not only affects those workers employed by the airline industry.

Working men and women in the hospitality industry and service sector are also facing massive layoffs.

These people need immediate help with buying their groceries, preparing for the holidays, and paying their heating bills. Our shop keepers need consumers back in the stores.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3015. Because this country needs economic stimulus now.

IN HONOR OF MR. MARTIN VITTARDI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. Martin Vittardi, Clerk

of the City of Parma's Municipal Court and 2001 Honoree of the Year for the Italian American Brotherhood Club.

Mr. Vittardi has a long and distinguished history of public service in the Cleveland area. Upon graduation from John Carroll University in 1977, he took the position of Deputy Clerk for Cuyahoga County Probates Court and later decided to serve as Legislative Representative for the Seafarers International Union until 1988. Throughout his tenure in that position, Mr. Vittardi had the opportunity to lobby on behalf of countless labor issues in not only Columbus, but Washington D.C. as well.

Mr. Vittardi served in many different capacities, and was a true public servant. In 1987, then Councilman Martin Vittardi coordinated the very successful campaign of his good friend Mr. Mike Ries for Mayor. After inauguration, Mayor Ries appointed Mr. Vittardi Public Service Director for the City of Parma, where he oversaw countless city matters, including: community development, engineering, senior citizen programs, public lands and buildings, recreation, streets, and sewers.

In 1982, Mr. Vittardi served as Cuyahoga County Democratic Executive Committeeman. Soon thereafter he was elected Parma Councilman in Ward 3. In 1991, he was elected for a six-year term as Clerk of Court for Parma Municipal Court and re-elected again in 1997. In addition, Mr. Vittardi had the honor of serving as President of the Northeast Ohio Municipal Court Clerks Association in 1996-1997, and is currently serving as the President of the State of Ohio Municipal Clerks Association.

Mr. Vittardi has obviously been a great asset to not only his local community, but also throughout Northeast Ohio. He has earned the respect of his constituents, and served the public selflessly.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing Mr. Martin Vittardi on his long and distinguished career in public service, and in recognition of the Italian American Brotherhood Club's 2001 Awards.

HONORING CADENCE DESIGN SYSTEMS ON THE OCCASION OF THE NINTH STARS AND STRIKES CHARITY BOWLING TOURNAMENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Cadence Design Systems led by their extraordinary President and Chief Executive Officer, H. Raymond Bingham, on the occasion of their ninth Stars & Strikes Charity Bowling Tournament to be held in San Jose, California on Sunday, October 14, 2001.

Since its inception in 1990, Stars & Strikes has become among the largest fundraisers of its kind in Silicon Valley, with Cadence donating 100% of all proceeds to deserving charitable organizations in the Bay Area. Working in partnership with other local corporations and individuals, Cadence has raised more than \$1.7 million dollars for programs in the Bay Area. This year's event, featuring mem-

bers of the San Jose Sharks hockey team, is expected to raise \$500,000 to benefit the San Jose-based Resource Area for Teachers (RAFT), a non-profit organization serving more than 4500 teachers in Bay Area.

In an unprecedented effort to assist those affected by the recent terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, Cadence has pledged to match all funds raised for RAFT with a contribution to the American Red Cross and to the New York Firefighters' 9-11 Disaster Relief Fund. In doing this the company will build upon a long-standing tradition of community involvement and an abiding sense of corporate and civic responsibility. Under the able stewardship of Ray Bingham, Cadence has transformed itself from a \$369 million supplier of electronic design automation tools to its current \$1.3 billion position as one of the world's leading suppliers of electronic design automation products, methodology services, and design services.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Cadence Design Systems great success with this year's Stars & Strikes Charity Tournament. I pay tribute to and honor Ray Bingham for his special leadership and I thank all Cadence employees for their contributions to our community and our country.

TRIBUTE TO FARMER-CHEF MARKETING ALLIANCE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to express gratitude and congratulations to the Farmer-Chef Marketing Alliance of Fort Collins, Colorado. The alliance prides itself on bringing together farmers and restaurant chefs to benefit local agriculture and businesses.

The Farmer-Chef Marketing Alliance, coordinated by Colorado State University and the Colorado Department of Agriculture's markets division, has created new opportunities for local farmers to sell fresh vegetables to local chefs. This innovative and unique program has given chefs fresher produce for their restaurants, enhancing the quality of their food while also supporting local farmers. In a recent edition of the Fort Collins Coloradoan, Dawn Thilmany, Associate Professor of Agriculture and Resource Economics at Colorado State University, said, "There's a push for community-supported agriculture, and we think this is a good way to do it."

The Farmer-Chef Marketing Alliance is a shining example of two different sectors coming together to achieve a common goal. I applaud the alliance for its courageous and noble efforts to enhance the quality of community restaurants while also supporting local agriculture through teamwork.

As an exceptional program located in Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, the Farmer-Chef Marketing Alliance not only makes its community proud, but also those of its state and country. It is a true honor to have this alliance reside in Colorado, and we owe it a debt of gratitude for its service. I ask the