

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO ADELANTE EAGLE  
AWARD RECIPIENT TONY  
CARDENAS

### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Assemblyman Tony Cardenas, a recipient of the 2001 Adelante Eagle Award.

Adelante and the California Migrant Leadership Council is dedicated to empowering the Latino community in California by developing opportunities in education, economic development and the political process.

The Adelante Eagle Award is presented annually to individuals who have made a commitment to California and have made positive contributions to the betterment of our community.

Past Eagle Award recipients include Congressman JOE BACA, Congresswoman GRACE NAPOLITANO, Educators Mario Muñiz, Carolyn and Jim Bartleson, Jim White, Business persons Mary Lou Gomez and Maria Dolores Andrade, just to name a few.

Assemblyman Tony Cardenas was first elected to the California State Assembly in 1996 to represent the Northeast San Fernando Valley. The youngest of eleven children, Tony is the product of a modest upbringing, rich in the values of hard work and discipline. As a result, he achieved scholastic, professional, and political success.

Assemblyman Cardenas graduated with an Electronic Engineering degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara where he was on the Dean's Honor List. After graduation, he worked at Hewlett Packard as an Engineering Specialist. Later he owned and was president of a real estate company in the San Fernando Valley.

During his first term in the Assembly, Assemblyman Cardenas was the only freshman member to serve on both of the influential Assembly fiscal committees: Appropriations and Budget. He also chaired the Budget Subcommittee on Transportation and Information Technology and the Select Committee on Indian Gaming.

In his second term, Assemblyman Cardenas was elected Chairman of the Assembly Democratic Caucus, which is one of the top leadership posts in the Assembly. His duties included maintaining a Democratic majority and formulating a public policy agenda for a productive California. He served on Assembly Committees on Utilities and Commerce; Budget; Banking and Finance; Governmental Organizations; Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments; and Budget Subcommittee on Resources. Assemblyman Cardenas continued to chair the Select Committee on Indian Gaming. In June of 2000 Assemblyman Cardenas was named Chairman

of the Assembly's Budget Committee. As Chairman, he is responsible for overseeing the State's \$100 billion budget.

In recognition of his hard work and success in the California Assembly, Cardenas received numerous awards including Legislator of the Year from the California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, California Indian Legal Services, High Tech Legislator of the Year, American Electronics Association, and Humanitarian Awards from the Valley Family Center and the City of San Fernando.

Assemblyman Cardenas envisions government as a tool to assist citizens on the local level and believes it can serve as a platform to enhance the quality of life, as evidenced by his legislative agenda. His priority issues include reforming our juvenile justice system, developing strong local economies by encouraging community businesses and assuring our children greater access to education for both immediate and long-term success. He has also sought to streamline government, allowing agencies to improve their services for people statewide and address the quality of healthcare for Californians.

For all that he has done on behalf of the Latino community, we salute Tony Cardenas.

IN HONOR OF SIMMONS T.  
VALERIS

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Simmons T. Valeris, an entrepreneur with a flame burning deep within allowing him to succeed in all of his endeavors. Mr. Valeris has distinguished himself from his peers as being the only minority Multiple Franchise Dealer/Operator of Mobil Oil Corporation in the tri-state area.

Mr. Valeris, a native of Port-au-Prince, migrated to Brooklyn, New York in 1968. He is a graduate of Prospect High School and Long Island University. Simmons T. Valeris furthered his education by entering the Mobil Pre-Installation Dealer Training program, which ultimately led to his success as a Mobil Oil Franchise owner. Mr. Valeris can take pride in the fact that he is a life-long learner, constantly keeping up with the latest in technology.

Throughout Valeris' 27-year career as a Mobil Oil Corporation franchiser he has had an illustrious career with the Mobil Corporation, receiving many awards and honors. For twelve consecutive years, Simmons received recognition for the "Top Retailer Sales" in the region. He also earned seven "Circle of Excellence Awards" for consistently meeting or exceeding corporate objectives.

In addition to his duties at Mobil, Simmons also holds various memberships and is an ac-

tive member on many community boards including the Boards of the Bronx Community College Auto-Lab as well as the Greater New York Dealers Association.

Aside from his entrepreneurial success, Simmons places an important emphasis on family. He credits his parents, Marie and Timothy Valeris, for raising him. He explains that his mother was a pioneer businesswoman, and hence his inspiration. He vowed to follow in her footsteps and become a successful businessman, and this commitment has led him to his present successes. Simmons' pride and joy are his two children, Dwayne and Monique.

Mr. Speaker, Simmons T. Valeris has contributed throughout his life to his community as a successful businessman and experienced leader. For his service, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

BRAVO TO THE VICTORY GARDENS  
THEATER OF CHICAGO

### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to congratulate the Victory Gardens Theater in Chicago, Illinois. On Sunday night, they became only the third Chicago theater to receive the prestigious Tony Award for regional theater.

This award, the highest recognition an artist or theater can receive, is given to a regional theater company that has displayed a continuous level of artistic achievement contributing to the growth of theater nationally. Founded in 1974, by eight Chicago artists, the Victory Gardens Theater has continued to introduce theater-goers to fresh, original, and innovative productions.

I am proud that the nation is finally being let in on a secret we Chicagoans have known for years: that bigger is not always better and that in the end, quality, courage, and determination will be rewarded. I salute the Tony Award-winning Victory Gardens Theater and I appreciate the contributions of the Theater to the Chicago community and to the arts.

RECOGNIZING DR. LEILA  
DAUGHTRY DENMARK

### HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, 103-Year-Old Tift College Graduate, Dr. Leila Denmark, is still practicing pediatric medicine. She

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