July 11, 2001

I want to again congratulate Father Angadiath, and wish him the best of luck as he takes on his new responsibilities as bishop. The St. Thomas Syro-Malabar Catholic diocese will provide a spiritual home for the Syro-Malabar Catholics outside of India, and it will be a wonderful addition to Chicago's many other religious communities.

CONGRATULATING STEVE SAMUELIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Steve Samuelian for being presented with the Chair's Award from the United Way of Fresno County (UWFC). The Chair's Award is selected by the Chair of the Board of Directors of the UWFC, and is awarded to the board member who has demonstrated outstanding service to community improvement.

The main goal of the United Way is to maximize financial resources in order to build a healthier community while improving the quality of life. Steve's exemplary service to the UWFC has helped advance the mission, values, and goals of the United Way. In addition to his work on the Board of Directors, Steve recruited and chaired the Leadership Giving Committee of the United Way of Fresno County. The Leadership Giving Committee is the group that recruits and handles major donors to the United Way of Fresno County. The amount of contributions to this committee has doubled under Steve's guidance.

Steve serves on the Board of Directors of the Clovis District Chamber of Commerce and participates in the National Education Association's Read Across America Program. He is also a member of the Resource Development Committee for the Fresno Leadership Foundation. In addition, Steve is actively involved in the Armenian-American community, and serves on the Board of Advisors for the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Steve Samuelian for earning the United Way of Fresno County Chair's Award. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Steve Samuelian's contributions and dedication to the community.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL TIMOTHY M. DANIEL

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arthur Mayer, Jr., who formally became President of the Benevolent and Protective Elks of the United States of America. Mr. Mayer assumed his presidency at the 133rd Elks National Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Arthur Mayer, Jr. is a native of Bergenfield, New Jersey and has been an active member of the Bergenfield Elks Lodge #1477 for the past 35 years. In 1978, he was appointed District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the Northeast District of New Jersey. He also served as President of the New Jersey Elks Association from 1985 to 1986. As President of the New Jersey Elks Association, he managed and supervised over 120 lodges throughout New Jersey.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America is one of the largest fraternal organizations in the country. Currently, over 1.2 million men and women serve as members of this prestigious association. In the organization’s 132-year history, it has disbursed over $2 billion in goods and services for patriotic and civic programs that assist armed service veterans and students in over 2,000 communities nationwide.

As a result of his hard work and diligent efforts, Arthur Mayer, Jr. has helped improve the lives of thousands of families across the country.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Arthur Mayer, Jr. for his commitment to helping others and for his years of distinguished service at the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "QUINEBAUG AND SHETUCKET RIVERS VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR PROTECTION ACT OF 2001"

HON. ROB SIMMONS
OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague from Massachusetts, RICHARD NEAL, to introduce the "Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Protection Act of 2001."

The bill would provide for the implementation of a management plan for the Corridor to protect resources critical to maintaining and interpreting the distinctive character of the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor.

Created by Congress in 1999, the Quinebaug-Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor (QSHC) encompasses about 695,000 acres in northeastern Connecticut and south-central Massachusetts. Called "the Last Green Valley" in the sprawling metropolitan Boston-to-Washington, D.C. corridor, the QSHC has successfully assisted in the development and implementation of integrated cultural, historical, and recreational land resource management programs that has and will continue to retain, enhance and interpret these significant features. But much more needs to be done, which is why Mr. NEAL and I introduced this legislation.

The QSHC will embark on two very significant projects. The Green Valley Institute is an expansion of the successful natural resource education program that will serve as a key educational tool for the scores of volunteers who work on the municipal boards, committees and commissions making those important decisions regarding land use and natural resource conservation. The program will also provide much needed information in estate planning, forestland management, and technical assistance in GIS training and other important technology. The Green Valley Institute may be the single most important program that the QSHC can provide its 35 towns.

The other significant project is the planning and consideration of the Gateway Center proposed for I-395 in Thompson, Connecticut. Many entities in northeast Connecticut and south-central Massachusetts are looking to the...