

of Law in 1973 and graduated three years later with a Juris Doctor degree.

Throughout her noteworthy career as an attorney, Judge Jasper worked in private practice and served as general counsel for a local financial institution. She became the assistant attorney general and trial attorney for the Bureau of Worker's Compensation. Judge Jasper served for four years as a magistrate with the Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court before being elected as Judge with the Cleveland Municipal Court in 1987. She was re-elected to the bench for two more consecutive terms, in 1993 and 1999. Beyond her dedication to her family and profession, Judge Jasper continues to offer her time and talents as an active leader within her neighborhood, her church and within several civic organizations.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in tribute and recognition of Judge Mabel M. Jasper, as she is being honored on September 16, 2005, by colleagues and friends to celebrate her significant contributions to the Cleveland community, framed by tenacity, integrity and excellence. As a distinguished judge and attorney, Judge Jasper's brilliant legacy will continue to inspire us all, and will serve as a beacon of possibility for people of all races, lighting a clear path along which goals are attained and where others will follow. I wish Judge Mabel M. Jasper continued health, happiness and peace as she journeys onward from this day.

HONORING THE 216TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 216th Anniversary of the United States Marshals Service (USMS), our nation's oldest federal law enforcement agency.

The Judiciary Act of 1789 created the United States Marshals Service. That same year, President George Washington appointed the first thirteen U.S. Marshals. At that time the Service's primary mission was to support the federal courts; however, U.S. Marshals and Deputy U.S. Marshals also performed a myriad of duties such as executing warrants, distributing presidential proclamations, registering enemy aliens in time of war, controlling riots, conducting the national census, collecting commerce statistics, and protecting the President. Many of these responsibilities have changed over the past 216 years, yet the Service's dedication to integrity and justice has remained constant.

Today, the USMS provides for the custody and transportation of federal prisoners, ensures protection for witnesses, and manages the maintenance and disposal of seized and forfeited properties. Also of great importance is the Service's fugitive apprehension mission. The USMS apprehends more federal fugitives than all other federal law enforcement agencies combined. State and local law enforcement agencies nationwide have found the Service to be an invaluable fugitive apprehension resource. U.S. Marshals and Deputy U.S. Marshals carry out complex and life-threatening missions daily, striving to maintain the integrity of the American judicial process.

Over the years, the USMS has earned its reputation as one of the most versatile and effective law enforcement agencies in the world. The 4,500 men and women of the U.S. Marshals Service are justly proud of their history. I too am proud, and wish to commend the United States Marshals Service and thank them for their contributions to the law enforcement community and to our nation.

THE GOLDEN POPPY AWARD

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the annual selection of The Golden Poppy Award in California. The Golden Poppy Award is given annually by the California State Parks Foundation to individuals or organizations that have made a significant contribution to protecting, enhancing, and advocating for California's state parks. This year's recipient of the Golden Poppy Award is Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A.

Support of our state parks means support of our environment. This company has developed its own "Toyota Earth Charter." In it, Toyota outlines its goal of growing as a company in a way that is in harmony with the environment, including achieving zero emissions throughout all areas of business activities. To that end the company pledges to build close and cooperative relationships with a wide spectrum of individuals and organizations involved in environmental preservation, including governments, local municipalities, and related companies and industries.

One such example of the company's interest in a clean environment is its development of a high-mileage, low-emissions gas-electric hybrid vehicle, the Prius. The technology behind the Prius has made Toyota a leader in environment friendly hybrid technology today.

In keeping with the spirit of their Earth Charter, Toyota supports a wide range of projects, and awarded a major grant to the California State Parks Foundation for its "Coast Alive!" program. "Coast Alive!" underwrites workshops to middle school teachers that enable them to lead their classes on field studies at nearby State Parks. Armed with this knowledge, their students study the fragile marine ecology of our coastline, experience its beauty, and come to understand the importance of restoring and preserving it as a valuable resource. With the generous donation from Toyota, the Foundation will be able to create interactive, multi-media materials for this program.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the California State Parks family in congratulating Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A. on earning the Golden Poppy Award, the symbol of the Golden State.

IN HONOR OF HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month—a celebra-

tion of Americans of Hispanic heritage and their significant, collective and individual contribution to our community and to our nation.

Hosting one of the events this year is the Cleveland Public Library. The Cleveland Public Library and regional branches continue their commitment to promoting our diverse community, richly infused with Hispanic culture and language. As part of the Library's 2005 Strategic Plan, new and permanent resources of Spanish Language collections is now underway, along with the implementation of a Spanish language website.

Hispanic Heritage Month is reflective of the five hundred-year history of Hispanic culture and contribution to America. Hispanic Americans have contributed immeasurably to all areas of our culture—from medicine, law and business, to education, music and the fine arts. Hispanic Americans in our community and in communities across the country are life-saving doctors and nurses, veterans, inspiring professors, dedicated teachers, committed elected officials, fair-minded judges, and hardworking factory employees. Americans of Hispanic heritage continue to bring energy, innovation, and a real sense of social justice to America, while retaining the cultural traditions of their homeland for all citizens to enjoy.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, and join me in expressing my gratitude for the outstanding contributions made by Hispanic Americans. Their journey to America, fraught with significant obstacles and strife, paved the way for a better life for their children and future generations, and signifies what it means to be an American. Within our diversity we find strength. Within our traditions we find unity. Because of their journey, and the journey of people from all points of the world, we are stronger as a community, more unified as a nation, and better as people.

STERLING HEIGHTS' FIRE FIGHTERS UNION ANNUAL DINNER-DANCE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, September 30, 2005 the Sterling Heights' Fire Fighters Union will host their Annual Dinner-Dance, honoring their 2005 retirees. This yearly event honors Sterling Heights firefighters for their dedication to their community and recognizes their commendable contributions to the city. I am pleased to be associated with this fine organization and to call many of them my friends.

I rise today to pay tribute to the careers of three retiring firefighters. Tom Kropf was appointed as a Sterling Heights firefighter on May 21, 1979. He was licensed as an Emergency Medical Technician in December 1980. Upon his completion of the maiden medic program in December 1991, he was promoted to firefighter ALS (Advanced Life Support) on June 19, 1992. He has been promoted three times: Lieutenant on March 30, 1995, Fire Inspector on January 3, 1996, and Fire Marshal on May 21, 2003. Throughout his tenure, he has received many awards and recognitions.