

1998 the Malonson RS Ranch in Harris County; the RS Deer Ranch in Waller County in 2004, one of two African American Whitetail Deer Breeders in the nation; Shirley Ann's Flower Shop in 2013; the RS Deer & Cattle Ranch in Waller County; and Shirley Ann's Black Collectibles & Flowers in 2014. Shirley Ann Malonson is now President and CEO of the Malonson Company.

Roy Douglas Malonson and Shirley Ann Malonson are the proud parents of a daughter, Melanie Nicole Malonson, and the grandparents of Tayler and Caleb.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor two legendary Texas heroes, my constituents, Roy Douglas and Shirley Ann Malonson, who have devoted their lifetimes to creating economic opportunity and development for their beloved Acres Homes community. These two great American trailblazers have made a difference in the lives of thousands of men, women, children and businesses. Their work has brought our nation closer to fulfilling its founding ideals. And it is that work that truly makes America great.

RECOGNIZING THE BETTER CHINATOWN USA LUNAR NEW YEAR PARADE 20TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th Anniversary of the Chinatown Lunar New Year Parade in New York City organized by the Better Chinatown USA. The Lunar New Year is the most important traditional event celebrated for thousands of years by Asian and Pacific Islanders in New York and around the world. This is a time to pay homage to one's ancestors, enjoy family reunions, great food and other traditions.

The Better Chinatown USA, a community volunteer-based organization, is dedicated to bringing people together and providing services that promote the culture, tradition and contributions of Chinese Americans in New

York. In the aftermath of 9/11, the parade helped launch the economic rebound of Chinatown's small business community. The event started with just 500 marchers and a local Chinatown audience but has grown to encompass more than 20,000 participants, 80 floats, lion and dragon dances, acrobats and marching bands. Today, the parade draws more than half a million spectators from the East Coast and abroad.

Better Chinatown USA has enriched the cultural fabric of my district and New York City. Festivals like these showcase the strength and diversity of our immigrant neighborhoods. That is why I am proud to represent the Manhattan and Brooklyn Chinatown communities.

Madam Speaker, as we mark the Year of the Pig, please join me in congratulating the Better Chinatown USA Lunar New Year Parade on its 20th year anniversary and for its public service to the New York community. I wish them continued success.