

Channel 47 is celebrating 30 years of quality programming. For more than a quarter of a century, this Hispanic television station has entertained and informed millions of viewers nationwide. Channel 47 is a pioneer in Spanish broadcasting. It has distinguished itself for promoting Hispanic issues and concerns and as a preserver and promoter of the Hispanic culture.

I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Jorge Ramos, a dedicated man, a kind humanitarian and an excellent broadcast journalist. Also, join me in honoring Channel 47, a television station that has championed Hispanic issues and concerns.

TRIBUTE TO MR. LANNIE B. MOTT

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 1995

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 1995 president of the Los Angeles Association of Realtors [LAAR], Inc., Mr. Lannie B. Mott.

Mr. Mott has made important contributions to the Los Angeles community through his efforts on behalf of this association. He has worked to expand home ownership for lower income individuals in our community. Under his leadership, LAAR sponsored a free home ownership seminar in both English and Spanish which was designed to inform people about governmental programs that would assist low and moderate income families in buying their own homes. By providing this seminar, Mr. Mott has helped families enjoy the benefits of home ownership and realize the pride that comes from owning your own home.

Mr. Mott has also helped sick children through efforts to provide funds for the Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles. During his tenure, LAAR hosted two successful fundraisers for the hospital, raising over \$5,000. His efforts to help needy children demonstrates his dedication to improving our community.

As president of the Los Angeles Association of Realtors, Mr. Mott has also worked actively to promote legislation of interest to the association.

I am pleased to commend Mr. Mott for his tireless efforts on behalf of the people of Los Angeles and his commitment to the real estate industry. Please join me in wishing him continued success in the future.

TRAVELERS EXPRESS WORKS  
WITH THE IRS

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 1995

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, few companies willingly invite the Internal Revenue Service to visit their facilities, and fewer yet receive money from the IRS, but recently a Minnesota company, Travelers Express, was called on by the IRS to accept a check for \$100,000. This check was the result of Travelers Express' quick assistance in identifying and notifying the IRS about an international money-laundering operation.

Travelers Express is the Nation's largest money order company issuing more than 240 million money orders a year. These money orders are sold in over 42,000 retail and financial institution locations throughout the United States. Travelers Express has been working for a number of years on ways to detect suspicious money order transactions. Over a year ago, Travelers Express noticed a large number of money orders clearing through their Minnesota facility which appeared to be suspicious. These money orders were all made out to the same individual, cleared through a bank in Colombia, and all bore a yellow fluorescent symbol, such as a rabbit, a tall ship, or a box containing a face—these symbols are referred to as "smurf stamps" by law enforcement.

Once detecting these suspicious money orders, Travelers Express immediately contacted the local IRS, which began an investigation. The IRS found that over 1,300 money orders had been purchased at over 150 agent locations throughout New York City and New Jersey. The money orders, totaling over \$650,000, had been purchased over a several month period and had been shipped to Colombia. They were deposited in a Colombian bank, and then presented for payment to a United States bank. The U.S. bank then presented them for payment to Travelers Express. Based upon the suspicious indicators and detailed conversations with the IRS and the U.S. Attorney's Office, Travelers Express decided to refuse payment on the items. The IRS was able to seize the money, which led to the \$100,000 reward for Travelers Express.

This is an excellent example of Government and business working cooperatively together in order to stem the tide of money laundering. Travelers Express has been working for a number of years to improve its operations to prevent the use of money orders in money laundering schemes. While this case was a significant money laundering operation, the number of Travelers Express money orders involved was less than two-tenths of one percent of the money orders sold on any given day.

I'd like to commend Travelers Express for their diligence in the fight against money laundering and to congratulate them on their \$100,000 reward. I hope that this example encourages other financial intermediaries and businesses to keep a watchful eye on possible money laundering schemes and to work in partnership with the Federal Government to crack down on the illicit use of money.

BABY SAFETY SHOWERS

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 1995

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, no challenge we face in our lives is greater than raising our children. As a father, I know those challenges well. That is why I was so impressed by an event recently attended by the First Lady, and the contribution that event could make in the lives of new parents around the country.

Mrs. Clinton spoke at a Baby Safety Shower put on by the Consumer Product Safety Commission—a Federal agency responsible for keeping families safe in and around their

homes. The CPSC knows that being a parent does not come with an instruction manual. Being a parent means on-the-job training.

The CPSC also knows that more children die from accidental injuries than from childhood diseases. So CPSC Chairman Ann Brown determined to get information to new parents about hidden safety hazards in the home that could present a danger to infants and toddlers. Her idea was to mount a national campaign to encourage day-care centers, community organizations, and families to give new mothers a baby shower with a twist—a shower incorporating critical safety information.

The first such shower was held here in Washington on October 25 at the Edward Mazique Parent Child Center, and Mrs. Clinton came to help host the shower. She made some outstanding remarks to the more than 80 mothers gathered there, and I would like to enter those remarks into the RECORD.

REMARKS BY FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON AT THE U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION'S KICK-OFF OF "BABY SAFETY SHOWERS," WASHINGTON, DC

Mrs. CLINTON: Thank you very much. I'm delighted to be here. I think this is a very important event. I want to thank Gerber and everyone associated with Gerber foods for their commitment to this baby safety effort. I want to thank Ann Brown and everyone associated with the Commission for their leadership on all of these issues about how we keep our babies safe.

I'm pleased to be here at this child care center. The Mazique Center is well known around not only in this area, but throughout the country for its many years of superb care for the children of the District of Columbia.

Now there are some, I would guess who would think that talking about a baby safety shower is something that doesn't deserve a lot of attention. That it is a nice thing to do, but not as important as some of the really big issues of our time.

Well I can only say that there is nothing more important than our children and there is nothing more important to any parent than keeping our babies and our children safe and secure as much as we are able to do so.

I have found as I've travelled throughout the country talking with parents exactly what Ann said she had found. Many of us just don't know everything we need to know to keep our babies secure. And part of the reason I'm here today is to reinforce the message of this baby safety shower. To encourage people all over the country that when they have a pregnant friend, pregnant daughter, when they themselves are pregnant that they will think about safety issues.

It's always nice to get the cute little clothes that people give for a baby, but I think it's more important to give some of the kinds of products we saw demonstrated upstairs that will keep baby's little fingers out of outlets, will keep them from—I just learned lifting up the toilet bowl [lid] and drowning which can happen, keep them safe in their cribs, keep the little toys out of their mouths. Those kinds of gifts that we can give one another and that every parent would be glad to receive are what I hope will be flooding into all of the lives of parents in our country because of this initiative.

I know that it is very difficult for parents to feel that they can control everything that happens to their babies in today's world, because the world is complex, it is challenging, and in many respects more dangerous than it has been in the past. That's why trying to make our homes safe is something that is