

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES H. CURLEY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 1996

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my district's more dedicated and caring individuals, Charles H. Curley. Chuck is being honored as Marin Citizen of the Year for 1995. I wish that I could be with his colleagues, friends, and family tonight as we celebrate his remarkable accomplishments.

Chuck has been a devoted resident of Marin County since he moved here over 35 years ago. Chuck's work has come as both monetary support and as direct participation on task forces and focus groups. Serving as mayor of Larkspur, councilman, planning commissioner, president of the Police Commission, Chuck has spent countless hours working with community leaders in an effort to create a strong alliance throughout Marin. I wish to recognize Chuck for his commitment to the people of Marin County, and to thank him for his long record of public service.

The enthusiasm that Chuck has for both the arts and the environment is seen through his participation in various activities throughout the county. In addition to serving as president of the Marin Arts Council, Chuck is also a patron of the Marin Society of Artists. His effort and dedication has opened the door for numerous artists and has introduced young children to the world of art. Chuck and his wife Nancy were honored in 1994 for their outstanding contribution to the Arts of Marin.

Chuck is also committed to protecting our environment. He was vice-president of the Marin Conservation League, and is currently a member of the Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory and the Sierra Club.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to Charles H. Curley during this special evening at the Marin Civic Center. Marin County owes a great deal of gratitude for the tireless efforts of Chuck over the years. He has worked hard time and time again on behalf of many people and for many important causes. I extend my hearty congratulations and best wishes to Chuck and his wife Nancy for continued success in the years to come.

LET'S DON'T RISK THE AVOCADO INDUSTRY

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, growers in my district produce the most and the best avocados in the world. In order to ensure that we remain competitive we need to make sure our crops remain the best in the world.

For that reason, I rise to urge the USDA to stop the rulemaking process that would modify the quarantine on Mexican Hass avocados. I ask Secretary Glickman, to prevent a rule from going forward which risks the entire avocado industry, especially when there is so much disagreement about the quality of the science underlying the USDA's determination.

As a member of the appropriations Committee, I worked with my colleagues to address

this issue in the fiscal year 1996 agriculture appropriations legislation. The bill, which the President signed into law back in October, expects the U.S. Department of Agriculture to use scientifically credible pest risk assessment and risk management before lifting the current quarantine on Mexican avocados.

During the appropriations process, we asked for the USDA to conduct an independent review of the science. Unfortunately, the Secretary turned us down and suggested that the avocado industry take the lead in this regard.

The Center for Exotic Pest Research at the University of California at Riverside reviewed the proposed rule and published an extremely troubling report. Their findings were strikingly different from those of the USDA and give me great cause for concern. UC Riverside found, and I quote:

The proposed rule's risk assessment contains undocumented assertions, highly questionable estimates, and improper methodology, and as a result, we find it to be invalid.

Free trade is the engine that drives a vibrant economy. I know that growers in my district will compete against any avocado grower in the world. However, the UC Riverside report gives credence to their fears that Mexican avocados coming across the border could carry infestation that could spread throughout the country. I certainly don't believe Secretary Glickman wants to usher in another disaster like the Mediterranean fruit fly.

I think it just makes sense to learn our lesson and take a cautious approach. I urge the Secretary to listen to the experts at UC Riverside and craft a rule that does not put the American avocado industry at risk.

TRIBUTE TO EUGENE JUNETTE

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 1996

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues an extraordinary program that began in government but has for the past 20 years been supported by the private sector to the benefit of millions of children in this country and countries around the world.

Most particularly I wish to point with pride to the individual who has carried this splendid program forward from its beginning in a U.S. Justice Department agency in the 1970's to the worldwide anticrime program that is has become today. He is my constituent, Eugene Junette of Fresno, CA.

The program that Mr. Junette has spearheaded since 1976 is Play It Safe, a crime prevention program launched by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration [LEAA] Office of Public Affairs in 1974 by its director, Malcolm Barr. Mr. Junette has asked that Mr. Barr, who retired Feb. 3, 1996, as an Associate Director of Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Commerce, following an illustrious 26-year government career, and other Federal Government officials who helped him—Wilbur Brantley, the late Cornelius Cooper, and Joseph Mulvey—share credit for this highly acclaimed program.

Play It Safe is, in fact, a simple coloring book, originally approved by the U.S. Justice

Department and various sheriffs, police, and juvenile justice organizations.

It began in Mr. Barr's office on a shoestring budget and was visualized and developed by Mr. Barr and his small staff. When funds ran out, Mr. Barr approached Kiwanis International which agreed to promote, print, and distribute the booklet among preschool, kindergarten, and elementary school children in the United States, at no cost to the Government. Eugene Junette was appointed chairman.

Under Mr. Junette's enthusiastic guidance, the Play It Safe program multiplied to all 50 States and into 61 foreign countries. The coloring book is translated into 31 languages. Thousands of volunteers now work with what has become Play It Safe International, Inc., whose address is 1289 N. Temperance Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727.

Numerous service clubs and other nonprofit organizations are responsible for the distribution of some 26 million copies of the coloring book. Play It Safe, through Mr. Barr, used the nationally syndicated children's television program "Romper Room" in Baltimore, MD, to jump-start the project that I am told cost the American taxpayer no more than \$20,000. As a result, millions of young children have been effectively educated about how to minimize criminal opportunities against themselves and their friends.

Play It Safe volunteers have also helped develop a parent/teacher guide and home safety check list. Mr. Junette has dedicated the last 20 years of his life, often working 16 to 18 hour days, to help protect children from criminal activity. I join him in drawing attention to Mr. Barr, of Alexandria, VA, who he credits as the man with the vision to see the future possibilities of Play It Safe, not as a Government-sponsored project, but as a private sector program dedicated to the safety and wellbeing of children in this and many nations around the world. Mr. Barr described Play It Safe as a major accomplishment of his long Government career. I join his colleagues and friends wishing him well in his retirement.

As the Play It Safe program completes its 20th year of private sector sponsorship, I wish to particularly salute my constituent Mr. Junette, and all the thousands of volunteers who have helped in furthering the Play It Safe project, and to point to this amazing display of volunteerism that I am proud to say has emanated from my congressional district for two decades.

ACADEMY REVIEW BOARD

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 1996

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, every year, more high school seniors from the 11th Congressional District trade in varsity jackets for Navy peacoats, Air Force flight suits, and Army brass buckles than any other district in the country. But this is nothing new: our area has repeatedly sent an above average proportion of its sons and daughters to the Nation's military academies for decades.

This shouldn't come as a surprise. The educational excellence of our area is well known and has long been a magnet for families looking for the best environment in which to raise