

care to those in need, fundraising events for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundations, and the youth-oriented Project Return.

Family has been an important part of Mr. Cortez's life. He has been married to his wife Sylvia for 31 years and together they have three wonderful daughters. Following a crippling auto accident involving his beloved wife and daughter, Mr. Cortez has refocused his efforts to raising awareness and money for spinal cord research.

I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this remarkable gentleman. Mr. Cortez's determination to excel in everything he does and desire to use his status to help those less fortunate, serve as shining examples for us all.

TRIBUTE TO DUNCANVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the cosmetology department students and faculty at Duncanville High School for winning first place in the national American Set-a-Good-Example competition. And I also congratulate Duncanville High School for their selection as this year's Learning Improvement Award winner.

Duncanville High School is only the second school in the past two decades to win both these national awards in the same year. As a result, Duncanville High School will receive \$7,500 in grant funds for these honors.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to commend the Concerned Businessmen's Association of America for sponsoring this competition and also Dr. Phyllis Mack of Savannah, GA, for funding these grants. With the program now in its 11th year, it is an excellent tool to recognize outstanding achievements in our public schools, and to reward that success with funding to help further enhance education.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the young people of Duncanville High School worked hard to earn this recognition and by their participation have shown they can indeed take actions to better their own lives, their communities, and thereby improve the world we all share.

Once again I would like to send my heartiest congratulations to Principal Mike Chrietberg and all the teachers, parents and students who share in these incredible achievements.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE WHEELER, A HERO FOR CHARLES COUNTY SENIORS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who dedicated his time, energy, and spirit to bettering his community and the entire senior population of Charles County, MD. George E. Wheeler spent the majority of his adult life serving southern Maryland as an area agricultural engineer with the U.S. Department of Agriculture working on

such projects as the Maryland Delaware Watershed Unit and establishing the first resource conservation and development project in Maryland. This work was important in coordinating efforts between the farming and conservation communities to assure the two worked together for their mutual interests.

But it is the work George Wheeler did within his community which we recognize him for today. Always there to lend a hand, George Wheeler became actively involved in advocating and initiating projects to benefit the senior community. Appointed to the Charles County Commission on Aging in 1972 and the Area Council on Aging in 1979, it became Mr. Wheeler's mission to make certain seniors in the community had the resources and programs for each of them to have a fulfilling and meaningful role in making their town and neighborhoods an enriching place to live.

George Wheeler had the dream of having a place where seniors could gather; a place where they could meet their friends and participate in activities and educational programs and work on projects to benefit the entire community; a place where seniors can exercise in the state of the art fitness center and a place where they know they can get some of the best meals in town.

Through hours of discussions, planning, and problem solving, George Wheeler spoke of the interests of seniors and laid out the vision of the beautiful facility called the Richard R. Clark Senior Center. In 1987, as chairman of the building committee for the center, Mr. Wheeler joined in the opening of this wonderful facility and saw his dream become a reality. He was never deterred by obstacles, but maintained a positive attitude, knowing that one way or another he would achieve his goal. And once the center was built, he continued in that spirit to bring in the best of programs and people to enhance the center.

It is George Wheeler's long hours of time, devotion and dedication which the seniors of Charles County benefit from today. We celebrate his tireless efforts in making the Richard R. Clark Senior Center possible and congratulate his wife, Erma and his children, Richard and Chris, as we dedicate this plaque in his honor.

TRIBUTE TO QUEEN MOTHER MOORE: BELOVED ACTIVIST

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay homage to Audrey (Queen Mother) Moore a leader and activist in New York City who passed away at the age of 98.

Queen Mother Moore is beloved in the African-American community for her life-long dedication to the upliftment of the disaffected, disenfranchised and the neglected. She was named Queen Mother by the Ashanti Tribe in Ghana, West Africa. Queen Mother Moore was a stalwart in the cause of civil rights, and believed that self-pride, dignity, honor, and hard work were the foundation upon which success and self-respect are built.

Born in New Iberia, LA, she spent her life trying to educate African-Americans about the past glory and contributions of African soci-

eties, and encouraged young people to make a commitment to educationally, economically, and politically strengthen the black community. She worked to organized domestic workers in the city of New York, fought to overturn the eviction of black tenants, and sought to integrate major league baseball.

Indeed, Queen Mother Moore established a legacy of love and commitment that spanned the decades of her life. In her passing years she suffered with declining health, but continued her strong convictions on behalf of the causes she held dear, social justice and political empowerment. Her passionate voice and vibrant spirit will be sorely missed. I salute her work and dedication.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD ANDERT

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Richard Andert, as he is named Los Angeles Police Department Police Officer of the Year. The Woodland Hills community joins me in praising him for his commitment and dedication to making our area a safer place to live.

Officer Andert's commitment to the safety and well-being of our citizens should serve as an inspiration to all Americans. He is a role model not only to younger but also to higher ranking police officers on the force. Of the countless examples of his leadership, none stand out more than his commitment to traffic safety. He single-handedly implemented a crackdown on speeding drivers in order to ensure the safety of the children in our neighborhood and return the neighborhood to the safe and quiet area it should be.

Officer Andert practices kindness, caring, and compassion in even the most routine situations. One day a panicked West Valley resident arrived at the police station, unable to enter a house where she was responsible for feeding a cat and dog. Upon investigating the situation Officer Andert discovered the woman was attempting to enter the wrong house and then assisted her in entering the correct home. It is Officer Andert's willingness to go the extra mile that has distinguished his career.

In closing Mr. Speaker, if this Nation had more Richard Anderts on America's police forces, our neighborhoods would be safer places to live. It is a personal honor to me, as his Congressman, to acknowledge his accomplishments which bring deep honor to our community, and to offer my warm congratulations and heartfelt thanks.

NATIONAL WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to recognize an organization that I became familiar with soon after arriving in Washington as a freshman in 1985. National Write Your Congressman has been providing me and my