

in the United States. I am sure my colleagues are happy to join me in recognizing the Bolivian Folk Theater Festival of 1997, and all that it symbolizes for those Americans of Bolivian descent.

AMBASSADOR RICHARD N.  
GARDNER

**HON. LEE H. HAMILTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 1997*

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, Ambassador Richard N. Gardner has just completed 4 years as United States Ambassador to Spain. His distinguished service in Madrid follows an earlier assignment as United States Ambassador to Rome.

I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues an editorial in the July 1, 1997 edition of the Madrid daily *El Pais*. This editorial is a real tribute to Dick Gardner and the extraordinary job he did while serving the United States overseas. We are indebted to Ambassador Gardner for his many contributions to the national interest and for the excellent service he gave to the broadening and deepening United States-Spanish relations. Transatlantic ties have been strengthened by his leadership.

I commend the editorial to my colleagues attention:

A FORTUNATE AMBASSADOR  
(By Miguel Herrero de Miñón)

The U.S. Ambassador, Professor Gardner, and his wife, Danielle, will soon conclude their mission in our country. The time for farewells is the time for praise and the Gardners have made so many friends here, and even established family ties, that they will receive more than enough accolades. That is why I only want to bear witness to a simple, objective fact: Ambassador Gardner has been a fortunate ambassador, and good fortune, an excellent attribute for the one who has it and, particularly in the position he holds, requires two ingredients: specific circumstance and the ability to be able to navigate through to a safe port. The former is mere chance; the latter comes through character; good fortune consists of building a destination between the two.

The circumstance of Gardner's embassy in Spain is no less than the maturation of the U.S.-Spanish relationship, which led naturally to it becoming a truly "special" one. I think I was the first, now a number of years ago, to suggest this term, remarking that of all the countries in the European Union with the exception of the United Kingdom, Spain is potentially the one that has the most interests in common with the United States. Accordingly, the sometimes embarrassing security relationship begun over 40 years ago, has been growing while increasing economic, cultural, strategic and political ties have come to light. Massive student and teacher exchanges contributed to making Spain better known in the U.S. and to doing away with mistrust here; the restoration of democracy in our country opened the way to fuller cooperation, and the Gulf War marked a basic turning point, at least in Spanish public opinion.

But Gardner has had the historic opportunity to contribute decisively during these important recent years, to the acceleration and maturation of this trend, by preparing visits at the highest level in both directions, and collaborating in common, bilateral and multilateral undertakings, bringing the two societies closer together with better knowledge of each other. It was during his tenure that President Clinton launched the Trans-

atlantic Agenda in Madrid and, also in Madrid with the Spaniard Solana at the helm, Atlantic Alliance reform took place, not to mention good political collaboration in other areas of mutual interest. It was also when economic and trade relations were intensified between our two countries, and educational and cultural relations between our two societies.

Gardner has been not only the representative of one Nation and its Government in another, but also an excellent mediator between two societies. He has come to learn and to teach, opened up possibilities and launched institutions, mobilized initiatives that in many cases are more private than public. His professional talents—the ability to turn Embassy breakfasts into seminars—and his intellectual talents—he has even enriched our bibliography with a masterpiece of economic-diplomatic history—have served his mission well, as has his liberal patriotism in the best tradition of American internationalism—as opposed to unilateralism and isolationism—which has always held that the implementation of manifest destiny involves making oneself known, understood and making friends.

The growing number of Spaniards who believe in the Atlantic community will miss him, because good fortune, doing such a good and timely job, is a rare and beneficent attribute.

HAPPY 125TH BIRTHDAY TO  
FAYETTE, OHIO

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 1997*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th birthday of Fayette, OH, located in western Fulton County, OH in America's heartland. On August 2, 1997, this proud rural community will commemorate its milestone with a parade and festival, combined with the rural community's annual Bullthistle Festival.

The "History of Fayette, Gorham Township, and Fulton County, Ohio" notes that "Fayette is located on a beach ridge. It crosses the west line of Franklin Township, a half mile north of the Fulton line, and runs northeast to Fayette and thence to the Michigan line. An ancient shore of Lake Erie came almost to Fayette. The beach ridges have but a small area. Interspersed with these are marshes and west prairies." The publication goes on to note that "The first to settle within the present Fayette was Renesselear S. Humphrey."

From the hardship and hard work of those earlier settlers, Fayette grew over the years into a thriving and vibrant community. It features the best of both worlds, a rural community but convenient to larger cities. It is a close-knit and good-hearted community of neighbors with agrarian and urban roots.

As part of the annual Bullthistle Festival, the citizens of Fayette will come together in a special ceremony commemorating the town's first 125 years. As flag flown over the U.S. Capitol will be presented to them during this ceremony. I will be pleased to join the community to remember 125 years of growth, and commit ourselves to its future. I know my colleagues join me in wishing the village of Fayette a Happy 125th Birthday.

IN HONOR OF THE NEW FAIRVIEW  
PARK REGIONAL LIBRARY

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 1997*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the opening of the new Fairview Park Regional Library on August 9, 1997, in Fairview Park, OH. Public libraries are one of the greatest treasures in our local communities because libraries are centers of knowledge, and what higher ideal can a society strive for, than the search for truth and knowledge. Libraries provide our children a place where they can enrich their minds and provide adults a place where they can continue their education. The people of Fairview Park are excited about their new library. The new library will cater to both the young and old and will serve as a meeting place for the entire community. I am proud to announce that another center for learning has opened in northeast Ohio and I congratulate the people of Fairview Park on the addition of the new library to their community:

[From the Sun Herald, July 24, 1997]

REGIONAL LIBRARY GETS READY TO OPEN ITS  
LATEST CHAPTER

(By Ken Prendergast)

Some wonder if the library's exterior could have been different. Some regret that a viable furniture store was razed for it. Others say they wanted the library located elsewhere in Fairview Park.

Those "what ifs" will be filed in the historical footnotes, now that the new, \$6.5 million Fairview Park Regional Library is a heartbeat away from its Aug. 9 opening.

Once people walk into the new library, something will happen. Comparisons between the new and old libraries will occur automatically. But there is no comparison.

The old library is a labyrinth. The new is more like the atrium of a Fortune 500 company's headquarters. The old has no rhyme or reason in its layout. In the new library, it is possible to find your way without asking someone—twice. The old featured duct tape. The new actually has carpeting.

"I think it will serve the community a whole lot better than where we are," said Cathy Monnin, manager of the regional library.

Library users may be surprised at how spacious the new building is. The glass front puts natural light into a three-story-tall atrium, graced by a spiral staircase. Entry to the library is at the middle level.

On the atrium's ground level is a coffee lounge. That's where Java Connection will stand, starting in late November. The coffee business is owned by Cleveland Crunch soccer player Andy Schmetzer. Above, artwork dangles from the third-floor ceiling. Barely noticeable, soft music is piped in.

"We're trying to do a Border's-style feel," Monnin said.

Just as functional, the library was designed by Chagrin Falls architect David Holzheimer, who plans buildings from the inside-out.

"This old library is kind of a labyrinth," Monnin said. "Everything is in different sections. In the new library, everything is together."

The new library has 44,000 square feet of floor space and lots of amenities. There is a separate room for holding "Story Hours" for children, complete with its own bathrooms and a patio for holding story hours during nice weather.