

The week-long celebration will feature a wide variety of entertainment for all age groups. A series of concerts, art exhibits, lectures and cultural performances will take place to commemorate the contributions of Dominicans to our community and our nation.

Now numbering more than 600,000, Dominicans are the fastest growing Hispanic immigrant community in New York City. With the election of the first Dominican to the City Council, the Honorable Guillermo Linares, and that of New York State Assemblyman, the Honorable Adriano Espaillat, we are witnessing a new generation of Politicians with Dominican roots. That is an encouraging advance.

Although the celebration is in the Bronx, the events bring people from all over New York City to celebrate. Organizations have encouraged different cultural and social organizations to take part in the festivities.

The week-long celebration will have numerous activities for the community to enjoy. Folkloric bands will entertain the crowds and there will also be foods and crafts typical to the Dominican Republic.

Mr. Speaker, it is with enthusiasm that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderful celebration of Dominican culture, which has brought much pride to the Bronx community.

A SALUTE TO EUGENE P. RUEHLMANN: 1998 GREAT LIVING CINCINNATIAN

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize a prominent Cincinnatian and a friend, Eugene P. Ruehlmann, who was recently honored by the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce as a Great Living Cincinnatian. I thank him for the vision and service that he has so generously given to our area, and for the model he provides today.

Mr. Ruehlmann, a native Cincinnatian, graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1948 and Harvard Law School in 1950. He served in the Marine Corps and then began a long career in public service. The major transformation of Cincinnati's innovative downtown began under Mr. Ruehlmann's leadership. As a member of the Cincinnati City Council and as Mayor of Cincinnati, he led the effort to keep the Reds in Cincinnati, attract a National Football League franchise to the city, build Riverfront Stadium (now Cinergy Field) and construct the Albert B. Sabin Convention Center.

Following the race riots in 1967, Mr. Ruehlmann worked to heal the city. He reformulated the city's Human Relations Commission, and founded the Mayor's Housing Coordinating Committee and the city's Project Commitment.

He has given his time to numerous charitable and community organizations, such as Children's Hospital, Children's Hospital Medical Center, Greater Cincinnati Foundation, the Work and Rehabilitation Center, March of Dimes and the National Conference of Christians and Jews. Along the way, he has built a successful law practice with Vorys, Sater, Sey-

mour and Pease in Cincinnati, and served on the Board of Directors of the Center for Resolution of Disputes. In all these years, and with all these accomplishments, he has remained a devoted family man. He and his wife, Virginia, have raised eight children and now have twenty-three grandchildren.

All of us in Greater Cincinnati congratulate Gene Ruehlmann on his deserved selection as a Great Living Cincinnatian, and thank him for his many years of distinguished service to our community.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL SPORTSMANSHIP DAY

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor today's eighth annual celebration of National Sportsmanship Day. The objective of National Sportsmanship Day is to promote the critical role of ethics, honesty, and fair play in athletics and society in general.

Today, at more than 10,000 schools in all 50 states and over 100 countries, children will be taught the skills of good sportsmanship and the importance of playing fair in sports and in life through programs, contests, and other activities. The skills these children learn will guide them through a lifetime of choices both on the court and off the field.

This program began at the Institute for International Sport, located in my district at my alma mater, the University of Rhode Island. Since its inception in 1990, this program has touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of young people across the world. The institute provides information and materials to participating schools on sports ethics, healthy competition, and fair and equitable play.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding those participating in this worthwhile program, and in extending my congratulations to the Institute for International Sport for being recognized by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

I would also like to include in the RECORD the letter received by the Institute for International Sport from the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY AND MANDATES ARE NOT BENEFICIAL TO ECONOMY COMPETITION

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I do not believe that government authority and mandates are beneficial to economic competition. In fact, nations that have achieved the most impressive growth in the past have not been those with rigid government controls. Our telecommunications bill last Congress was an example of our putting trust in the power and potential of the marketplace.

For the past two years, however, I have watched and read about the latest regulatory

battle or industry court battle. First, the telecom industries need to honor the intent of the act. Second, I am concerned that the FCC continues to advance in its own direction on many issues—a direction this Congress did not authorize. Somehow, we have to demand that the FCC and the regulators commit to implement this act the way we intended.

And for clarification—we intended less regulatory constraints and more competition in the marketplace. The competition we envisioned between the various telecommunications industries would secure lower prices for consumers, improve service to the American consumer, and accelerate the development of new technological breakthroughs in the telecommunications market. I hope we see the competition we envisioned as soon as possible.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE ERNEST THOMPSON, MAYOR OF ARTESIA, NM

HON. JOE SKEEN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Ernest Thompson, who has served the last quarter-century as Mayor of the City of Artesia, which is located in my congressional district in southeastern New Mexico.

Mayor Thompson was first elected in 1972. Today, the voters of Artesia will go to the polls to select a new mayor, and they will find his shoes hard to fill. Mayor Thompson has been active in the New Mexico Municipal League, having served as President and as a member of the board of directors. In the National League of Cities, the Mayor served as President of the Small Cities Advisory Council and is a current member of the Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

In 1939, almost 60 years ago, Mr. Thompson moved to Artesia from central Texas. He worked at the local Navajo Refining Company until his retirement. They Mayor is a member of the First United Methodist Church, and has spent the last 46 years as an active supporter of the Boy Scouts of America; having served as cub master, scout master, explorer leader, area executive board member and district chairman. He is a recipient of the Boy Scouts of America's Silver Beaver Award.

During Mayor Thompson's administration he initiated and completed almost \$30 million of important and necessary local construction projects including a law enforcement center, two fire stations, the Artesia center, a new warehouse, an airport terminal, a wastewater treatment plant, the remodeling and expansion of the Artesia Senior Citizens Center, the remodeling of City Hall, the expansion and remodeling of Artesia Library, and several street and water/wastewater infrastructure projects. Many of these projects were assisted with federal funding through Urban Renewal, Neighborhood Development and Community Development Block Grants which were also matched by the State of New Mexico.

Mr. Thompson has been active in Artesia's important local civic groups including the