

Mary Lou had begun much of her volunteer work in the 1970s, and includes being a member of the Maplewood Woman's Club Evening Membership Department, Board member of the YWCA of the Oranges and Maplewood, member and past Board member of UNICO, and fundraiser for St. Johns Children Residence and the Make-a-Wish Program. Additionally she has worked to benefit charitable causes, including being the past President and former Board Member of the Wives of the Maplewood Firemen. She has also worked as the Scouting Chairperson and Group Leader for both the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and worked to establish the permanent outdoor theater for the Tuscan School.

Mary Lou has also served the community on the Maplewood Economic Development Committee and as a CPR instructor for the community. But perhaps the most significant gift of time and talent has been in Mary Lou's dedication of energy and talent to the Maplewood First Aid Squad, where she is a founder, a 10-year service veteran, and is a First Aid Squad Alumni member. Mary Lou and her husband Pat, a retired Maplewood Fireman, have two children, Patsy and Christina.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, the family and friends of Mary Lou Langone, and the Township of Maplewood in recognizing Mary Lou's many outstanding and invaluable contributions to the community of Maplewood and to the State of New Jersey.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SHARON LEVY, WILLIAM H. RANDOLPH, AND MANUEL A. ESQUIBEL

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fresno County Supervisor Sharon Levy for receiving the annual Rose Ann Vuich Ethical Leadership Award. I also rise today to congratulate Fresno County Administrative Officer Will Randolph and Selma City Manager Manuel Esquibel for receiving the Excellence In Public Service Award. As public servants in the Valley, Sharon Levy, Will Randolph, and Manuel Esquibel exemplify the focus and integrity that is deserving of this recognition.

Sharon Levy was first elected to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors in 1975 and was re-elected for her 7th term in March of 1996. Levy, who served as Governor Deukmejian's appointee to the State Board of Corrections, is a member of the following organizations: Airport Land Use Commission, Ambulance Authority, Association Of Metropolitan Water Agencies, Audit & Debit Advisory Committee, Board of governors of the California State University, Fresno Foundation, Co-Chairman of Adult Volunteer Crossing Guard Program, Economic Development Corporation, Fresno City & County Consortium, Fresno Convention/Victors Bureau, Fresno Rotary, Mental Health Advisory Board, San Joaquin River Conservancy, and the Transportation Authority. Sharon has been a resident of Fresno County since 1955. She has been President of the Mallock PTA, Junior League, and Women's Symphony League. She is married to Joe Levy and has three children and seven grandchildren.

Fresno County Administrative Officer William H. Randolph has served as Chief Executive Officer of Butte County, City Administrator of Oroville, California, District Director for the Second Congressional District of California, and Legislative Director for the Second Congressional District of California. William Randolph has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from the University of California at Berkeley and a Masters Degree in Public Administration from California State University, Chico. He has served in a public capacity in many different instances including serving on the Board of Directors for the Economic Development Corporation of Fresno and the New United Way of Fresno.

Selma City Manager Manuel A. Esquibel has over twenty-five years experience in local government. He has served in the City of Selma for the past seven years. During his professional career, he has developed an effective team approach style among community members and local government officials in addressing community needs. He earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Behavioral Sciences from the University of Southern Colorado. Manuel Esquibel has served as City Manager for the City of Lindsburg, Kansas, Assistant City Manager for the City of Pueblo, Colorado, and Executive Director for the Human Resources Commission of Pueblo Colorado just to name a few.

The awards were presented by the Fresno Business Council and the Fresno Bee. I applaud the efforts of Ann Speaker, President of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce; Jim Boren, Editor of the Fresno Bee; and Deborah Nankivell and Dick Johnson of the Fresno Business Council for their efforts in organizing and putting this program and award together. Their commitment to public service and the community is exceptional.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Fresno County Supervisor Sharon Levy for receiving the annual Rose Ann Vuich Ethical Leadership Award. I also congratulate Fresno County Administrative Officer Will Randolph and Selma City Manager Manuel Esquibel for receiving the Excellence In Public Service Award. As dedicated public servants in the Fresno Community they are very deserving of this honor. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Sharon Levy, William H. Randolph and Manuel A. Esquibel many more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOSHUA AND DORIS LEVY

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Joshua and Doris Levy for their visionary leadership and dedication to building our community by donating their time and energy to the recent expansion and renovation of Temple Shaarey Zedek.

The Talmud tell us, "He who does charity and justice is as if he had filled the whole world with kindness." Since arriving in the San Fernando Valley in 1967, Dr. and Mrs. Levy have done just this. They have assumed many key leadership roles and responsibilities in the Jewish community, selflessly dedicating their

time to enriching others. In their most recent positions, Joshua Levy has spearheaded Shaarey Zedek's \$2 million expansion and renovating project while Doris Levy remains active in the Shaarey Zedek Sisterhood. In addition, Joshua has served on the boards of various Jewish organizations in the West Valley, among them Emek Hebrew Academy and Valley Torah High School.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Doctor Joshua and Doris Levy for their community activism and visionary leadership in helping to strengthen our community.

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN PROGRAM

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an organization that is making a contribution to American democracy nationwide—The National Write Your Congressman program (NWYC).

The NWYC organization reminds me a great deal of the work that I did as a grassroots coordinator before coming to Congress to serve the people of Southern Missouri. The program encourages participation at the very level our nation's desires and dreams were founded upon—the grassroots level that encourages personal involvement. I believe that this wonderful organization is to be commended for the efforts it undertakes to educate others about the necessity and value of letting lawmakers like you and I know what the American people are thinking and saying about the policies that we debate when we are in Washington. Without a doubt, the program provides an open line of communication between citizens and elected officials—an essential element in the process of keeping voters engaged in important public policy discussions.

Mr. Speaker, before I conclude today, I would like to call to mind one of my favorite movies—"Mr. Smith Goes to Washington." Whenever I am walking over to the Capitol from my office and I see the Capitol Dome, I often feel like Jefferson Smith the first time he saw the Capitol—awed and truly amazed by the tremendous spirit of community and passion that our forefathers had about serving our country. I believe that National Write Your Congressman has helped keep that spirit of community participation and energy alive, and I am grateful for their hard work and the dedication they show to keeping everyone at home apprised of the work being done here each and every day.

TRIBUTE TO ENRIQUE "RICKY" O. FERNANDEZ, RECIPIENT OF THE 1998 MAPLE LEAF AWARD

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Mr. Enrique "Ricky" O.

Fernandez of Maplewood, New Jersey who is being honored with the 1998 Maple Leaf Award on this occasion of the 30th Annual Maple Leaf Award Ceremony.

Ricky Fernandez, a retired high school language teacher from the Dover School System, has been doing volunteer work since the 1960s when he joined the Kiwanis Club, an organization in which he served a term as President and is still a very active member. Working to benefit several children's causes, he devoted special energy to the Children's Identification Program. Ricky and fellow members of the Kiwanis Club provided for free Polaroid pictures and fingerprinting of children, creating a permanent identification of each child for the parents to have in case the child disappeared.

As an active member of the VFW Post 10120, Ricky served as commander in 1989 and again as commander from 1996 to the present. He also served as commander of American Legion Post 80 in 1975. Since 1992, Ricky has served as the Maplewood Memorial Day Parade Chairman, ensuring that Maplewood organizations and residents have an opportunity to participate in this annual memorial event. Additionally, Ricky has visited numerous schools to distribute materials for, and to promote, the "Voice of Democracy Contest" sponsored by the VFW, and he visits hospitalized veterans regularly to play games with them, distribute cash canteen booklets, and provide friendship and assistance. He also is a volunteer as St. Barnabas Hospital where his warmth and generous spirit have made a significant difference in the lives of many who have been hospitalized.

Ricky, a member of Maplewood Service Men's and Women's Committee since 1943, has served as the organization's Chairman since 1995, and has since revitalized this important volunteer effort. For decades, he has worked tirelessly to ensure that Maplewood's service personnel receive newspapers from home, cards, letters, and holiday gifts as remembrance from their hometown of Maplewood. In addition to these other services he has rendered to Maplewood, Ricky also serves as a member of the Civil Defense and Disaster Control Committee and has served as an active member of the Maplewood Citizen's Budget Advisory Committee. He continues to teach English as a Second Language at the Summit Y, and he is an active member in Morrow Memorial Church where he serves as Head Usher. He and his wife, Bette White, are both excellent dancers who have integrated the joy of dancing within their personal and professional lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me our colleagues, the family and friends of Ricky Fernandez, and the Township of Maplewood in recognizing Ricky's many outstanding and invaluable contributions made to the community of Maplewood and to the State of New Jersey.

AMERICAN WINE DELEGATION
CONTRIBUTES TO IMPROVED
U.S.-SOUTH AFRICAN BUSINESS
RELATIONS

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, fellow members of the House and Senate, and colleagues in the U.S. wine industry, last May 20th to 30th, 1997, I had the opportunity to again lend my support to an American Delegation of Viticulture and Enology that spent two weeks visiting and studying all aspects of the Republic of South Africa's wine industry.

In April of 1996, I had the opportunity of providing support and guidance to a similar trip, the first officially invited U.S. wine delegation to visit the People's Republic of China since 1949. A summary of that report, which is still hailed as a primary source of information on the PRC wine industry, was entered into the Congressional Record of September 28, 1996, Vol. 142, No. 137, pp. E1776-E1777.

The trip to South Africa, also organized under the sponsorship of the People to People Citizen Ambassador Program, was conducted for the purposes of establishing contacts at all levels of the South African wine industry, assessing the status and growth of the industry and identifying the potentials for American wine interest involvement, including trade, marketing, investment, and joint venture activities, as well as the problems that may be encountered in pursuing such business interests.

The resulting 72-page delegation report entitled, "A Window on the Wine Industry of South Africa," not only addresses the above points of interest, but provides a current picture of how the South African wine industry is structured and operates.

Descriptions are given of the organization and functions of the various government elements that have oversight responsibilities for the nation's alcohol beverage industry, supporting research institutions, including the University of Stellenbosch's Viticulture and Oenology academic program, and other industry/private sector wine education initiatives. Also, vineyard management and winemaking practices in South Africa are addressed, along with site visit descriptions of the nation's largest wine cooperative, KWV, and several individual wineries from the most northerly positioned wine estate outside of Johannesburg to wine estates of the Cape Town region.

This report, I feel, given the current national attention being focused on U.S.-South African relations, particularly in the field of business and trade, will serve as a valuable up-to-date source of information for anyone in the U.S. wine community who is interested in developing a business relationship with or in South Africa.

I wish to commend the members of this delegation and its leader, Gordon Murchie, President of the Vinifera Wine Growers Association, for their professionalism in representing the United States in this valuable fact-finding and trade relations trip.

It is with considerable pleasure that I offer the Prologue of this report, which not only summarizes the potentials and challenges for American wine industry involvement, but out-

lines how to proceed and who to contact, both in the United States and South Africa, to establish business and trade relations.

The full report is available by contacting the Vinifera Wine Growers Association.

For further information on making contact with the government or private sector agencies and organizations listed herein, please contact my Washington, D.C. office.

SOUTH AFRICAN WINE INDUSTRY TRADE AND BUSINESS
OVERVIEW—PROLOGUE

South Africa is a proud nation with a history that dates back to 1652 when the first European settlement was established by Jan van Riebeeck and his party at the Cape of Good Hope.

It is one of the most developed countries on the continent of Africa. It boasts a highly sophisticated national infrastructure of transportation, communications, social and economic organizations. The water from the public system is potable in the entire country.

But the nation, also, faces some of the most challenging social, labor, political and economic problems of any country. However, as the post apartheid period was achieved without a major civil uprising, the new South Africa is a nation of considerable domestic and international economic promise.

South Africa's wine industry has a 342 year history. It is a developed, technologically sophisticated and fully modern industry. Generally, the level of viticultural and ecological practices and research are equal to any wine producing nation.

With a population of approximately 43 million, a growing consumer base, and a developed product distribution and marketing system, the growth of domestic wine sales should continue to increase, inhibited only by the industry's inability to produce sufficient quantities to meet consumer demand. This is also true of South Africa's potentials of marketing its premium wines on the international market.

Overall, if the South African wine industry can resolve the problems of limited water resources and lack of a dependable, trained, skilled, and affordable work force, there is little reason that South Africa cannot become a major wine exporting nation.

The climate and opportunities for American wine industry joint venture and investment activities, as well as for the exporting of American wines to South Africa, are considerable. However, interested parties should first conduct an economic feasibility study on shipping bottled wines to the South African market. As the consumer base grows in South Africa, the appeal of international products also grows. The possibility of a joint venture arrangement of shipping bulk wine to South Africa for local bottling and marketing at competitive prices would appear most doable.

One of the present drawbacks to doing business with South Africa, particularly as it applies to the alcohol beverage industry, is the complexity and diffusion of the government's bureaucracy that deals with the importation of alcohol beverage products. The number of government and quasi government entities that have jurisdiction or partial jurisdiction over taxes, tariffs, licensing, quality control, authentication of origin, etc., is confusing to say the least.

This is a situation that the South African government and the wine industry are well aware of and are in the process of trying to restructure to be more export-import business friendly.