

that indicates that an organization meets certain performance standards. JCAHO has certainly chosen a good place to start its accreditation program of office-based surgery by starting in Salinas. Even more, it has chosen a solid model for others to follow in meeting the stringent JCAHO standards by choosing Drs. Mraule and Perrott. I congratulate them on their fine work and urge my colleagues to join me in acknowledging their contribution to health care services on the Central Coast of California.

IN HONOR OF JOHN GALLAGHER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to John Gallagher. Known as "Bobo" by friends, John Gallagher dedicated himself to working for justice and creating a safer community. As bailiff for Judge Norm Fuerst, Mr. Gallagher strove to fight crime and create a more secure community. He worked hard and was dedicated to the public interest.

His dedication to his community did not end with his job. In his free time, Mr. Gallagher devoted himself to improving his neighborhood and creating a better home for his family. His love for his family could be seen in how he spoke of them to his friends, neighbors, and coworkers. John Gallagher contributed to the restoration of St. Colman Church and he worked tirelessly to support the West Side Irish Club. John Gallagher loved his country and was active in many political campaigns, working to advance the causes in which he believed.

Even greater than his dedication to his community was John Gallagher's commitment to his family. The father of three, John Gallagher always worked to help strengthen his family. He was a loving, caring father who saw the importance of creating a safe neighborhood for his family to live. He was proud of his family as well as his heritage. John Gallagher was always quick with a smile, or a kind comment or word of encouragement. John was, in the words of a longtime friend, a "ray of sunshine."

John Gallagher was a model citizen who recognized the connection between a strong family and a safe community. Throughout his life, he worked to strengthen both. He will be missed. My fellow colleagues, please help me in honoring John Gallagher.

TRIBUTE TO LEAMON KING

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute Leamon King, of California. Leamon has been recognized by Adelante, California Migrant Leadership Council and American Legion Merle Reed Post 124 as an outstanding individual who has made significant contributions to the improvement of education opportunities for Latino Children in California.

A lifelong educator in the Richgrove and Delano Elementary School Districts, Olympic

Gold Medalist, World Record Holder on the 100 yard dash and Delano High School graduate, Leamon has provided a positive role model for the local youth.

Leamon was born on February 13, 1936 in Tulare, California. His parents were Loyd King and Beatrice Wallace King. They owned a farm in Earlimart, and Leamon lived there the first year of his life. His father, Loyd King, sold their farm in 1937, and the King family moved to Delano, California where Leamon completed his elementary and secondary education.

Leamon began his education at Ellington School and later transferred to Fremont School. His mother wanted him to learn music and to play the saxophone. The only elementary school in Delano with a band at that time was Cecil Avenue Elementary School, so he transferred to this school. While attending Cecil Avenue and learning music, Leamon began to excel in track as a sprinter, and was ultimately elected student body president.

Upon graduation from Cecil Avenue, Leamon transferred to Delano High School. He attended and won his first state meet at the age of fifteen during his freshman year in high school. During the next four years, Leamon King continued to excel as both a student and as a runner. This outstanding athlete provided a positive image for Delano High School and the City of Delano, as well as being a positive role model for students to emulate.

Following graduation from Delano High School in June 1954, Leamon began to pursue higher education at University of California, Berkeley. He was the first child in his family to pursue a college education. The April 10, 1956 Delano Record stated, "Delano Sprinter Ready for Olympics. Sophomore Leamon King, Delano High School graduate, a young man with wings on his feet, is California's newest hope for 'World's Fastest Human' honors, and the Bear sprint sensation will have ample opportunity to earn such acclaim this spring."

The following month Leamon King tied the world record for the 100-yard dash at the West Coast Relays in Fresno, California. Merle Reed Post 124 First Vice Commander Joe Viray and former educators Wayne and Wava Billingsley witnessed this spectacular event. They stated Leamon King's historic race was an awesome sight to see. It appeared as though Leamon King had wings on his feet as he majestically flew across the finish line and into the world record history book.

The Delano Record dated May 15, 1956 stated the following: "King's 9.3 Dash Brings Another Record to City. Delano became the home of two world champions Saturday when Leamon King, local resident and former Delano High School track star, ran the 100 yards dash in 9.3 at the Fresno Relays to tie the world record. King's victory brought another world record to Delano, making it the home of one the fastest sprinters and the residence of Lon Spurrier, holder of the world record for the 880. There is no city in the United States the size of Delano, which can boast two world champions."

Both Leamon King and Lon Spurrier were selected to participate in the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne, Australia. Delano became the only city of its size in the United States to have two representatives make the 1956 Olympic team. Because of the fame the City of Delano had

received due to the athletic accomplishments of these two track stars, Leamon King and Lon Spurrier were the Grand Marshalls of the Eleventh Annual Harvest Holidays Parade on October 6, 1956.

During the October 1956 United States Olympic camp practice meet at Ontario, California, Leamon King set his second world record when he tied the 10.1 time for the world record for 100 meters set by Ira Murchison and Willie Williams in Germany the previous summer. Following this splendid achievement, Leamon traveled to Australia to represent the City of Delano and the United States. Dr. Clifford Loader, Mayor of Delano, also traveled to Australia to give support to the two Delano Olympic participants.

Delano High School Educator Gary Girard, who was serving as a staff writer for the Delano Record, stated in his article dated November 23, 1956, "King's Efforts Pulled U.S. to Victory in 400-Meter Relay at Olympic Games. Dr. Clifford Loader, Mayor of Delano, believes that it was the running of ex-Delano High star Leamon King that pulled the United States to victory in the 400-meter relay at the Olympic Games in Australia. The U.S. had stiff competition from Russia. Loader said that after the relay, Thane Baker, another member of the U.S. relay team ran over to hug King, realizing that it was his leg on the relay team that had won the race. King received a gold medal for his effort on the winning U.S. 400-meter relay quartet."

Following the Olympic games, the foursome set a New World record. In a meet with the British Empire, the U.S. team of King, Andy Stanfield, Thane Baker and Bobby Morrow set a new world mark of 1:23.8 for the 880 yard relay. The old mark was 1:24.

According to Leamon King, when he first arrived in Melbourne, he ran on grass and set a grass record. It appeared as though every time he ran, he would break a record.

Bakersfield Californian Staff Writer Kevin Eubanks stated "King's omission from the 100 meter team certainly didn't affect his moment in the spot light. The news that the world's fastest man was not competing in the 100 meter race was received as something of a shock by the rest of the sporting world." For his outstanding attributes as an athlete, Leamon King served as Grand Marshall for the Delano Cinco de Mayo Parade, was inducted into the University of California, Berkeley Hall of Fame, and the Bob Elias Hall of Fame in Bakersfield, California.

During the past twenty-nine years, Leamon King has served as an educator in the Delano area. Mr. King taught for two years in Richgrove prior to transferring to the Delano Union School District where he has served as educator for the past twenty-seven years. Mr. King has taught the sixth grade at both Terrace Elementary and Almond Tree Middle School. During his tenure as an educator for the Delano Union School District, Mr. Leamon King has proven to be an extraordinary educator and is highly respected. This educator has served as an excellent example for his peers, as well as our youth.

On his sixty-fifth birthday this year, during Black History Month, the Delano Union School District named in Leamon's honor the athletic facilities at Almond Tree Middle School, which include the school gym and outside athletic facilities, including a track and basketball courts.