

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
HONORABLE PATRICIA BLEVINS

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Honorable Patricia Blevins of the Delaware State Senate, this year's recipient of Special Recognition from the Delaware Small Business Development Center Network for her efforts to champion small business growth in Delaware.

As you know, small businesses have always been extremely important to the economic vitality of each State and to our national economy. Small businesses account for the majority of all new jobs being created daily, and provide opportunities for millions of people to earn a living and provide financial stability for their families. Through Senator Blevins' efforts and guidance, she has distinguished herself as a leader in the promotion of small business growth in Delaware.

Through out my years in public service I have consistently counted Delaware's small business community to be amongst the very best in the Country, and recognition of Senator Blevins by the Delaware SBDC Network, in my mind, confirms this belief.

Senator Blevins' accomplishments and innovative leadership in the small business community have place Delaware's business community in a position to rise above and meet the challenges of the future; I commend her on her receipt of this award and wish her continued success in her efforts.

HONORING ANNE TRAFICANTE

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Anne Traficante, a great Floridian, a caring wife and mother, and a noted political activist. Mrs. Traficante was no stranger to the political arena, and her contributions on behalf of the citizens of Sunrise and all of South Florida will not be forgotten.

Traficante first got involved in local advocacy in the mid-1970s when she and her husband first relocated to the South Florida region. A dedicated activist, Traficante steadfastly worked to fight for important measures that were of great concern to her and her community. In a 1992 interview, she said, "I have to get up and chastise and criticize and fight for what I believe is right. It's something that has to be done, and I get up to do it."

Many of Mrs. Traficante's efforts focused on aiding her fellow senior citizens. She successfully fought for weather shelters at bus stops in Sunrise, lobbied the city to create a senior living center, and in the wake of Hurricane An-

drew's destruction she went so far as to criticize city commissioners for allotting \$44,806 in the budget for senior citizen parties. In addition, Mrs. Traficante volunteered her time and resources by opening a distribution center in Sunrise where hurricane victims could receive free food, baby supplies, and other items.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor to stand here today and remember the life of an exemplary citizen of South Florida, one who remained devoted to her fellow neighbors and sought a better quality of life for her community. Her legacy as an ardent and accomplished political activist will last for many years to come. Mrs. Traficante is survived by her daughter, Joyce Shepard of Queens, NY, along with 3 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN O'DOHERTY,
PRESIDENT, CORONA CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the city of Corona, CA are exceptional. Corona has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated business and community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give time and talent to making their communities a better place to live and work. John O'Doherty is one of these individuals. On January 11, 2003, the Corona Chamber of Commerce hosted an Installation and Awards Banquet in celebration of John's year as president.

John has been an invaluable member of the Corona Chamber of Commerce, having served as Treasurer, 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President, president Elect and currently, as President. His commitment to involvement has set a benchmark for those who follow him. During the past year, John has presided over Board, Executive and membership meetings as well as attending almost every after-hours activity. He prides himself on being involved beyond his direct duties as President. In addition to this extensive Chamber event involvement, John became a regular at the city council meetings giving a Chamber update to the mayor and council members.

As his tenure as President, John had several noteworthy accomplishments. The Chamber grew in membership from 780 members to over 900. He also encouraged and participated in the growth and expansion of Chamber events such as Good Morning Corona which grew to an average attendance in excess of 100 and quarterly Membership Meeting Luncheons, which hit the all time high this year with over 320 members in attendance. Committee growth was also a legacy of this fine leader and under his tutelage, many Committees were motivated to reach landmark per-

formance goals. The Chamber also reintroduced the Five P.M. Christmas Holiday, expanded the scope of the Business Expo and finely tuned the Ambassadors, who assisted many businesses in grand openings, open houses and ground breaking ceremonies.

Under John's exemplary leadership, the Chamber was a visible participant in the annual Corona Beautiful program, run through the City of Corona's Economic and Redevelopment Department. He also oversaw a very successful Casino Night which raised proceeds that went to scholarships for high school students in the local area. The Chamber also hosted a very successful 13th Annual Corona Night with the Anaheim Angels.

John has set a standard for excellence and commitment that will be difficult to duplicate. John's diligent work as the President of the Corona Chamber of Commerce has contributed unmeasurably to the betterment of the city of Corona. His involvement in the community makes me proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that all of the members of the Chamber are grateful for his service and salute him as his term comes to an end. I look forward to working with him in the future for the good of our community.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION TO
EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN
SUPPORT OF FEDERAL AND
STATE FUNDED IN-HOME CARE
FOR THE ELDERLY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support of Federal and State funded in-home care for the elderly. This legislation essentially highlights the inadequacies seniors face with electing in-home care. By increasing financial assistance for in-home care, establishing fee payment guidelines, implementing better schooling for in-home aides, and assembling a supervisory board of care givers, we can help to ensure that the quality of care elderly receive in home is as adequate as hospitalized attention.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important resolution for two crucial reasons. First, it allows the elderly to remain independent and sustain viability during the last years of their life. Supporting studies show that seniors who receive in-home care have greater life expectancies than seniors who are moved from everything that is familiar to them and placed in nursing homes. Second, this resolution would encourage increase employment opportunities in the nursing and in-home care industries. By implementing government funded in-home care to equal that of nursing home care, more seniors will elect being nursed a home, which in turn increases job opportunities. All of which we

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