

CESAR CHAVEZ POST OFFICE

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 925 to designate Chicago's 1859 South Ashland Avenue postal facility as the Cesar Chavez Post Office.

Born on the cusp of the Depression, he knew that hard work in hard times brought only hard luck for farm workers. As a 15-year-old, Chavez left school when his father was disabled in a car accident, and he took up work that would inform his legacy. He worked twelve hours a day hoeing beets and lettuce to help sustain his family. As a child he learned that farm workers' pay depended on the farm owner's good will or whim. As fields of fruit ripened before him, he saw that the agricultural economy depended on growers' abilities to hire enough short-term workers to harvest the crop. He also saw how immigration policies like the bracero program ensured a steady supply of labor willing to accept depressed wages.

But the work that nearly broke his back only strengthened his spirit, and Cesar Chavez went on to be one of this nation's greatest advocates for farm workers.

With first-hand knowledge of the field's wretched conditions, of farm workers' vulnerabilities and of the workers' essential role in maintaining agricultural production, he gave voice to hundreds of thousands of migrant workers who were too afraid to speak out alone. He mobilized the isolated and vulnerable into a unified power, and in the process strengthened the burgeoning civil rights movement. The union he founded, United Farm Workers, adhered to Gandhi's principles of nonviolence, and slowly improved the lives of farm workers and their families by insisting that work conditions are safe and humane.

Cesar Chavez is an American hero. He believed in the dignity of work, and fought for the humane treatment of each worker. His life's work and guiding values make our society a better place. I am privileged to stand in support commemorating his life and work with the designation of the U.S. Postal Service facility at 1859 South Ashland Avenue in Chicago as the Cesar Chavez Post Office.

HONORING ESCO BILLINGS JR.

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this body of Congress today to pay tribute to a hardworking American. Esco Billings Jr., of Pueblo, Colorado, selflessly served this great nation throughout his long and dedicated life. It is with great pride that I take this opportunity to highlight the many contributions Esco made to his community throughout his life.

Esco answered the honorable call to military service twice in his lifetime, serving with the U.S. Navy during both World War II and the Korean War. Esco continued his life of public

service when he returned home in 1951, embarking on a career with the Pueblo Fire Department. He ascended to the position of Assistant Chief in 1964, where he continued to serve until his retirement in 1979.

Esco's strong commitment to public service was only superseded by his devotion to family. Within his extended family of fellow policemen and firemen, he will be remembered as a devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand before this Congress today to recognize Esco's devotion to his family and service to his country. Citizens like Esco provide the strength of spirit and character that make this nation great. While he will be dearly missed, we can all take solace in the fact that Esco's spirit will live on through the lives of those whom he has touched.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARY SMITH, MOBILE AREA OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2003

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor and congratulate Mrs. Mary Smith for having recently received the Mobile Area Education Foundation's 2003 Outstanding Educator Award. She deserves our sincere and respectful congratulations. Her dedication and service have rightly earned her this prestigious award.

Mary Smith has taught middle school science at the Clark School of Mathematics and Science for eleven years. She has been very interactive with her science students, and she always gives her time and energy to her students and to her school. She frequently takes her classes on field trips and exposes them to hands-on experiments in and out of the classroom. She also gives up many nights and Saturdays to coach the Clark Science Olympiad. Her dedication and involvement have made a difference in many young lives.

One of Mrs. Smith's newest projects has been to capture the interest of her students with the NASA space program. "Signatures in Space" is a new government sponsored program that allows 500 different schools throughout the country to send their students' signatures into outer space with the next shuttle launch. Mary Smith was instrumental in procuring a spot on the signature list for the Clark School of Mathematics and Science. She also successfully helped a student to apply and get initiated into an extremely competitive national program allowing the student to communicate directly with the astronauts via a live telecast. Her devoted spirit and good-natured heart have made her more than deserving of this honorary award.

Mary Smith has been a real treasure to the students and faculty of Clark School of Mathematics and Science. The extra effort she always puts forth has allowed her to touch so many young lives. She is always going above and beyond and it shows in the hearts of all that she has touched. Heroes are not just the powerful and popular figures seen on television. True heroes are the people that touch lives, giving their heart and dedication to ev-

erything they do. True heroes are the Mary Smiths in the world. I can think of no one better deserving of this award and distinction. Once again, I congratulate Mary Smith for her hard work, dedication, and service to her students, to her community, and to our great country.

A TRIBUTE TO DANIEL H. KAHN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Daniel H. Kahn in recognition of his accomplishments in the field of business travel and for his public service.

Daniel H. Kahn, CTC is a principal of Marketing Solutions Network, LLC. He is a recognized expert in the areas of leisure travel, tourism, corporate travel, and travel and expense management. Dan has held numerous executive and managerial positions in travel management during his 34 years at American Express.

Most recently, Dan was vice-president of Global and Corporate travel for American Express. In this capacity, he was responsible for the negotiations and management of all of the company's contracts with the world's leading travel suppliers, as well as the company's corporate travel policies. On an annual basis, he negotiated contracts in excess of \$200 million.

Dan was selected to serve as Deputy Director of the White House Conference on Travel and Tourism. As an Executive-on-Loan from American Express, he was responsible for travel industry relations and fundraising activities for the conference, which was held in Washington, DC in 1995. Dan enjoys favorable relationships with virtually all of the leading travel companies throughout the world.

Throughout his career at American Express, Dan held position of increasing responsibility including Vice President of Consumer Travel, Vice President of National Accounts, Vice President of Sales Planning and Development, and Vice President/General Manager of Destinations Services for the U.S. and Canada.

Dan is active in a number of travel industry and civic organizations. These include the National Business Travel Associations (NBTA), Association for Corporate Travel Executives (ACTE), American Society of Travel Agents (STA), and the Institute of Certified Travel Agents (ICTA). He is also on the advisory board and a charter member of American Sightseeing International, and on the Board of Directors for the Vocational Foundation, Inc. (VFI), the nation's first job training and placement agency for youth. He is Chairman of VFI's Hospitality program. In his personal life, Dan is on the Board of Trustees of Temple Beth Haverim in Mahwah, New Jersey.

Dan earned a B.S. in Business Administration from Rider College and acquired his Certified Travel Counselor (CTC) designation from the Institute of Certified Travel Agents (ICTA) in 1972. He lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, with his wife Nancy and two daughters, Stefanie and Jamie.

Mr. Speaker, Daniel Kahn has reached the highest level of accomplishment in business travel. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my