

Mr. Speaker, in closing, our thoughts and prayers are with Bill's friends and family as they remember the loss of such a great man. His contributions to Delaware will live on, as will his memory.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, which commemorates the numerous contributions that Latinos make to our country.

I am proud, honored and privileged to represent California's 53rd District in Congress. The district's rich diversity embodies the vibrant cultural fabric of our country.

During this month of celebration, I would like to recognize the efforts of some ordinary individuals who are doing extraordinary things in San Diego.

GUS CHAVEZ

For thirty years, Gus Chavez helped make the dream of a college degree possible for countless students. Chavez is widely recognized as the heart and soul of the Education Opportunity Program (EOP) at San Diego State University. He transformed a pilot program to attract low-income students into one of the most successful programs in the state's history.

Chavez turned the department into a comprehensive admissions outreach and retention program. He expanded services to include pre-collegiate recruiting and pre-admission advising, academic orientation, tutoring, skills development and test preparation, summer bridge programs for freshmen and transfer students, career counseling and grants.

At his retirement words like "activist" "leader" "mentor" and "advocate", easily rolled off tongues. Indeed, many alumni cite Chavez as the person who had the most impact on their educations.

ALBERTO R. CORTÉS

For nearly 18 years, Alberto Cortés has been dedicated to educating people of color about HIV and AIDS. He has worked as a bilingual information specialist and health educator for the San Diego AIDS Project and volunteered for the San Diego AIDS Information Line. Cortés has also been active with the Council of Community Clinics where he helped build HIV awareness and counseled individuals.

Presently, Cortés serves as executive director of Mama's Kitchen, a nonprofit organization that prepares and delivers food to people affected by AIDS. Last year, Mama's Kitchen provided more than 316,000 meals to community members in need.

This year, Cortés was one of five San Diegans honored as a local hero as part of the Union Bank of California and KPBS Hispanic Heritage Month Local Heroes Awards. Award-ees are chosen for demonstrating a high level of commitment and community participation.

JOSE MONDRAGON

While some high school students view summer vacation as a time to relax, this 17-year-old used it to coordinate a community meeting with city council members.

Working with Barrios Unidos Hoy Organizados (BUHO), Mondragon was a key organizer for a public meeting that brought together 300 community residents to address issues of concern such as affordable housing and adequate street lighting. Those who worked with him on the community meeting describe Mondragon as "a true role model."

Mondragon is currently Commissioner of Community Service for the Associated Student Body at San Diego High School. Despite all of his extracurricular activities, Jose has maintained a 3.81 GPA and hopes to attend Stanford University after high school.

I hope you, Mr. Speaker, and all of my colleagues will join me in honoring these extraordinary individuals and their accomplishments for the Latino community.

COMMEMORATING THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF KKLA-FM

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to 99.5 KKLA-FM, Los Angeles, California's leading Christian-teaching radio station, as it celebrates 20 years of community-oriented broadcasting.

And what an amazing twenty years it has been. From its humble beginnings in a small studio in Hollywood to the multimedia powerhouse it is today, KKLA-FM has always striven to engage Southern California listeners with thought-provoking discussions and family friendly programming. In an age when our media increasingly focuses on violent and offensive material, KKLA-FM has consistently remained committed to providing quality material for listeners of all ages.

Since October 15, 1985, KKLA-FM's first day on the air, the station has been dedicated to its mission of beaming the Lord's word and teachings to Southern California. But it wasn't until 1986, with the debut of "Live from LA," that the station moved to the national forefront as the voice of Southern California's Christian community. Today, KKLA-FM is unquestionably the leader of Christian-themed radio in Southern California.

KKLA-FM's success was twenty years in the making. It was the first Los Angeles radio station and second in the nation to stream their programming on the Internet. And the station was quick to develop other radio outlets, including News/Talk 870 KRLA-AM, 95.9 KFSH-FM (The Fish), News/Talk 590 KTIE-AM and 1190 KXMX-AM. The development of these technologies has helped to grow KKLA-FM's listener base and spread its message of peace, tolerance, and love to listeners around the world.

Much of KKLA-FM's accomplishments can be attributed to the dedication and passion of its owner, Salem Communications Corporation, the leading U.S. radio broadcaster focused on Christian and family themes programming. The company will soon own 106 radio stations, including 67 stations in 24 of the top 25 markets. In addition to its radio properties, Salem owns Salem Radio Network, which syndicates talk, news and music pro-

gramming to over 1,900 affiliated radio stations; Salem Web Network, the leading Internet provider of Christian content and online streaming; and Salem Publishing, a leading publisher of Christian themed magazines.

I congratulate all the listeners and employees of KKLA-FM, who should be extremely proud of the station they have helped to build. I ask this Congress to join me in wishing the KKLA-FM family a happy 20th anniversary.

AZERBAIJAN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, Azerbaijan is an important strategic ally for the United States. The Country is located in a region that can produce and transport energy products to the West. As well as provide military and intelligence capabilities to the United States.

Azerbaijan is an emerging major non-OPEC oil producer and transit country (i.e. Baku-Ceyhan pipeline), which will supply 1.6 million barrels a day after being operational December 2005. This will stabilize the other energy producing countries (oil and gas) in the region and their ability to get their product to the marketplace without the dependency of Russia or Iran.

Azerbaijan is a front line positioned state for military and intelligence access to Iran. This will act as a stabilizing effect for the region and fight off the aggressive position of Iran. It will also work against terrorist activities spread by fundamental terrorist who have the support of Iran.

Azerbaijan is the first Muslim state to provide troops to the U.S. backed coalitions in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kosovo. To date, they are the only Shiite Muslim state to provide troops.

Azerbaijan is in the vanguard of the emerging democracies from the former Soviet Union. Azerbaijan has parliamentary elections scheduled November 6, 2005, and is moving forward with international support to assure free and fair elections. Azerbaijan has allowed opposition parties the right to organize, protest, and access public television.

Azerbaijan maintains excellent relations with the State of Israel, both, diplomatically and economically including providing crude oil.

Azerbaijan is a strong strategic partner with the United States and is cooperating in United States activities regarding Caspian regional security overseeing Iran (e.g., Caspian Guards program, radar system, fly-over rights and refueling capacity).

Azerbaijan is a strategic asset given its presence as a strong United States-Israel ally next to Iran. Azerbaijan welcomes trade with Israel and stronger ties between the two countries.

Iran has threatened Azerbaijan due to cooperation with Israel and the United States Iran continues to inform Azerbaijan that their strong relations with the United States and Israel will not be beneficial, as Iran is their neighbor.

The Iran military enters Azerbaijan airspace weekly and Iran has made claims on Azerbaijan's offshore oil and gas exploration.

Iran has attempted to spread Madrassas schools in Azerbaijan and Azerbaijan has resisted.