

COMMEMORATING THE CENTEN-
NIAL OF THE WORLD'S FIRST
AIRMAIL DELIVERY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the world's first official airmail delivery, completed by Fred Wiseman on February 17–18, 1911. The private airman's pioneering voyage took him from Petaluma to Santa Rosa, California, a distance of only 14 miles, but a momentous step forward in the history of aviation and the United States Postal Service.

Wiseman was born on a ranch in rural Sonoma County on November 10, 1875, and he grew up fascinated by the mechanics of transportation—bicycles, racecars, and of course airplanes. In the spring of 1910, less than seven years after the Wright Brothers built the world's first successful airplane, one of Wiseman's own projects was already taking to the air. The Wiseman-Peters, as his final pusher biplane design was eventually known, was a local collaboration between Wiseman and a group of fellow aviation aficionados, as well as one of the first planes built in California to fly.

Throughout 1910 and early 1911, Wiseman practiced his flying, even taking part in an early 1911 air race in San Francisco. Then, on February 17, 1911, Wiseman loaded his plane with three letters, 50 copies of the Santa Rosa Press Democrat, and a bag of groceries, and he set out on his flight across Sonoma County. Total flight time was less than 20 minutes, but the journey included two forced landings and ultimately spanned two days. Wiseman's plane flew roughly 100 feet off the ground, reportedly at speeds of up to 70 mph.

Although Wiseman did not continue making airmail deliveries, he did go on to fly in several other air shows in 1911, and his Wiseman-Peters would be redesigned for use in future exhibition flights. In September 1911, the U.S. Postal Service would eventually hire its first official airmail pilot in New York.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating the centennial of the world's first airmail delivery. Fred Wiseman's independent spirit and passion for adventure live on in Sonoma County, and we are proud to mark this milestone in our history.

HONORING PASTOR MICHAEL A.
SHINN

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

Whereas, Pastor Michael A. Shinn is celebrating nineteen (19) years in Pastoral leadership this year at New World Harvest Church and has provided stellar leadership to the church on an international level; and

Whereas, Pastor Michael A. Shinn under the guidance of God has pioneered and sus-

tained New World Harvest Church as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Pastor Shinn is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his Church, but with our District and the world his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Pastor Michael A. Shinn as he celebrates nineteen years on his Pastoral Anniversary;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim September 26, 2010, as Pastor Michael A. Shinn Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, This 26th day of September, 2010.

HONORING PRESIDENT RONALD
WILSON REAGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. JON RUNYAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Mr. RUNYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to an American hero. I was only eight years old when Ronald Reagan became our Nation's 40th President. I clearly remember the optimism and patriotism he inspired in me and an entire generation of Americans who grew up during the Reagan era. His Presidency was guided by a commitment to conservative principles. He won the Cold War without firing a single shot and presided over the greatest period of economic growth and prosperity in American history. President Reagan would have had his 100th birthday this week. I urge my colleagues and all Americans to use this occasion to reflect on his life and legacy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for votes in the House chamber on February 8, 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 26.

CONGRATULATING GIANT FOODS
ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me

in congratulating Giant Foods on its 75th anniversary of service to the residents of the District of Columbia and the national capital region.

Throughout its 75 years, Giant, as it is commonly known, has been known for its high-quality food and customer service. Beginning in 1936, when the first Giant opened in the District of Columbia, our city has embraced its convenient neighborhood locations, bargain prices, and quality customer service.

We appreciate Giant's long presence in the District and its continuing service to our city throughout population growth and transportation and infrastructure development here. We are particularly grateful that Giant has always adapted to the ever changing needs of the community, offering pharmacies, BonusCard programs, which come with special product discounts, Peapod, a home-delivery grocery service, and Super Giant, a department store that offers bulk items at reasonable prices.

Giant has become such a focal point and meeting place for residents that my office frequents Giants in the District for my Government-to-Go program, which offers casework services in the community to assist District residents with federal concerns, saving them from having to visit my offices.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 75th anniversary of Giant Foods.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALEX
SOLA

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Alex Sola.

Alex was born on January 18, 1930 in Daly City, California. Alex served in the U.S. Air Force for four years, serving as a crew chief at Tyndall Air Force base in Florida. This posting allowed Alex to proudly serve his country while also pursuing his passion for working on the P-51 Mustang aircraft. After his career in the military, Alex remained involved in the aviation field working as an air traffic controller.

In addition to his love for all things aviation, Alex enjoyed film. He earned a role in the 1987 film "Six Against the Rock," playing a prison guard, and he also made appearances in various TV programs.

Alex passed away January 19, 2011, at the age of 81. He is survived by his daughter Debra, her husband Don, and their two children, Theresa and Sarah. Alex lived a long and eventful life, and I am grateful for his service to America.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Alex Sola and in sending our thoughts and prayers to his beloved family and friends.