

community one of the finest places to live anywhere in America. He has been a great friend of mine and I wish him all the best.

HONORING KATY TARTAKOFF,  
POWER OF ONE HONOREE

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 27, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to now honor Katy Tartakoff who has been awarded the Colorado Woman 2000 Power of One Honor in recognition of her service to her community and the State of Colorado. Katy is a true heroine in her community and she deserves our highest thanks and praise.

Katy published a journal in 1991 called "My Stupid Illness." The journal showed photographs of children suffering from cancer along with stories addressing how the children were dealing with the illness. She has since expanded her work to photograph and document children with other life-threatening illnesses. She presents these exhibits to schools to use as a tool to teach kids how to accept, understand and live with differences.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to both congratulate and thank Katy for all of her efforts to make her community a better place to live. I applaud Katy's efforts to educate children about diversity. She is a most deserving recipient of the Power of One Honor.

IN HONOR OF MR. GERALD NOWICKI, ONE OF THIS YEAR'S RICHARD A. RUTKOWSKI ASSOCIATION HONOREES FOR DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF BAYONNE

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 27, 2000*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gerald Nowicki of Bayonne, NJ. Acknowledging the accomplishments of those rare individuals dedicated to making Bayonne a better community, the Richard A. Rutkowski Association has selected Mr. Nowicki as one of this year's honorees.

Joining the Bayonne Historical Society in 1991, Mr. Nowicki has been instrumental in working to preserve and foster the historical and artistic beauty of Bayonne. Knowing the importance of maintaining outdoor sculptures to prevent corrosion, Mr. Nowicki coordinated a Tender Loving Care workshop to teach volunteers the proper guidelines for outdoor sculpture upkeep at the public buildings in Bayonne.

In addition to maintenance, Mr. Nowicki emphasized the necessity of restoration efforts for public artwork in the community. By cochairing the "Save the Hiker" project, an effort to restore the Spanish-American War Monument in Stephen Gregg Bayonne Park, and chairing the restoration project for the Civil War Monument in the same park, Mr. Nowicki has helped bring arts awareness in Bayonne.

To continue his efforts for the arts, Mr. Nowicki spearheaded the fundraising campaign designed to bring both funds and attention to the arts field—two very significant components to achieving his goals. His campaign drives helped to restore oil paintings from the Brennan Fire Fighting Museum and the Bayonne Public Library, and restored the antique grandfather's clock, which stands in the lobby of the library.

Because of his vast experience in Bayonne history and culture, Mr. Nowicki served as editor and co-author of "Bayonne Landmarks." The book served as an instrumental local history guide, winning the acclaim of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey.

Mr. Nowicki, born and raised in Bayonne, attended Assumption School Marist High School, and Jersey City State College.

For his continued efforts on behalf of the Bayonne community and the State of New Jersey, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Gerald Nowicki. His accomplishments in historical preservation and community service have undoubtedly made the city of Bayonne a better community in which to live.

INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS DAY

**HON. PHILIP M. CRANE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 27, 2000*

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, it was nearly 47 years ago, on January 26, 1953, that the World Customs Organization, formally known as the Customs Co-operation Council, held its first meeting in Brussels, Belgium. In recognition of this occasion, the Council observed January 26 as International Customs Day. This occasion also serves to recognize the role that customs services around the world play in facilitating trade while protecting national borders from economically and physically harmful importations.

I am proud of the contributions of the U.S. Customs Service to the Nation over the past 210 years. U.S. Customs responsibilities have increased with the growth of our great Nation—trade has increased exponentially and the threat of illegal importations, including illegal drugs is ever present. These are significant challenges that Customs faces on a daily basis, and Customs must continue its vigilance in facilitating trade while interdicting narcotics at our borders and preventing exportation of critical technology. I am pleased to say that Customs meets these challenges well, and I stand ready to continue my longstanding support of Customs in these efforts.

The U.S. Customs Service represents the United States at the World Customs Organization [WCO], a 150-member international organization founded to facilitate international trade and promote cooperation among governments on Customs matters. The WCO works to simplify and standardize legal instruments and rules of international customs. The WCO also renders technical assistance in areas such as customs tariffs, valuation, nomenclature, and law enforcement. Its objective is to obtain, in the interest of international trade, the best possible degree of uniformity among the customs systems of member nations. The United States became a member on November 5,

1970. All America benefits when both exporters and importers operate in an atmosphere of simple unambiguous customs operations around the world.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the World Customs Organization on its past accomplishments and wish it well in its ambitious new millennium goal of further harmonizing and simplifying the customs rules that affect international commerce. I also congratulate the U.S. Customs Service for its fine work both nationally and internationally.

HONORING MR. WILLIAM JEFFERSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 27, 2000*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. William Jefferson of Linden Plaza, in commemoration of his 100th birthday.

Mr. Jefferson was born in Columbia, South Carolina on January 2, 1900. At the age of thirteen, after earning his education in Ridgeway, South Carolina, he moved to New Jersey, and through working several odd jobs acquired skills in electrical work, plumbing, and house painting. In 1925 he moved to New York where he worked in these various trades until he found a permanent position with the American Window Shade Company.

While at this company, he met and married Mabel Stevens, and through this union was blessed with five daughters. Mr. Jefferson, known to many as a "Jack of all trades", devoted his time to his family, neighbors and anyone in the need of assistance. His wife passed away in 1998.

Since his retirement in 1977, Mr. Jefferson has enjoyed spending time with and passing wisdom to his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He helped start and on occasion still works at the Neighborhood Garden. He still enjoys discussing candidates, and voting in every election. In his spare time, he continues to play his guitar and keyboard. Please join in celebrating the wonderful life of centenarian, William Jefferson.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES A. ALGIE

**HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 27, 2000*

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James A. Algie, Chairman of the Board of the Goodwill Industries of Long Beach and South Bay. Jim Algie passed away last year, and he is dearly missed.

Jim Algie was committed to the progress and success of the Goodwill Industries. Jim was dedicated to helping others and proudly followed Goodwill's mission to serve the communities of Southern Los Angeles County by educating, training, and placing people with barriers to employment to help them achieve economic and personal independence.

Jim was tireless in his efforts to better Goodwill Industries and he has left a lasting impact. He even helped change the accounting and financial reporting systems making the