

last fifty years. Their continuous efforts to uphold the standards and integrity of the Republican Party are an asset to all Delawareans.

I would like to join my colleagues in congratulating the Sussex County Republican Women's Club on their 50th anniversary and to thank them for their immeasurable support and dedication.

HONORING JIMMIE RODGERS, THE
FATHER OF COUNTRY MUSIC

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2002

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a favorite son of Mississippi who many call the "Father of Country Music." I speak of the Singing Brakemen and America's Blues Yodeler of Meridian, Mississippi, Jimmie Rodgers, who 75 years ago this year recorded his first country song. That first song sold over a million records the first year. He was a platinum artist before these singers today could even imagine such an accomplishment.

Sadly, Jimmie Rodgers contracted tuberculosis in 1920 and this young man would only live six years after recording this first song. But think of the profound influence he had on the world. He was the first artist inducted in the Country Music Hall of Fame and he is also in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. He recorded over 110 songs and literally recorded the last ones on his deathbed.

I want to address a side of this artist that few may know. In 1931 Jimmie Rodgers teamed up with Will Rogers and the two toured England and the South of the United States raising money and addressing the plight of the poor during the Depression Era. I appreciate those that will speak up for the farmers, and I feel today that rural areas too often are ignored. These two men were involved with Charitable Choice before that name was coined.

This man was the Father of Country Music and, of him, it is said, "he started it all," and yet he took time to be concerned about those around him. It would have been easy to have used excuses such as his illness or his poverty or, once his hard work had produced great wealth, to simply ignore the problems of everyone else. But instead he gave of himself to help those around him. He was socially concerned with a "do something" attitude.

Jimmie Rodgers' life reflects the nature of the people I serve. They are hard-working people who care about one another and give of themselves to help each other. They are attracted to faith—Jimmie married a preacher's daughter, Caroline Williamson. It is no accident that so many singers come from Mississippi. It is the way we overcome our problems as we sing through them; it is the manner in which we celebrate life.

Jimmie died a young man of 36 on May 26, 1933, but on this Diamond Anniversary of Country Music we continue to celebrate his life and the many blessings he shared with us. I am proud to read this statement into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and will make sure a copy of this RECORD is placed in the Jimmie Rodgers Museum in Meridian, close to his gravesite.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 211, Woolsey Amendment to H.R. 4664, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES H. MURPHY,
JR.

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2002

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Arkansas's finest citizens, Charles H. Murphy, Jr. I am proud to recognize Mr. Murphy in the Congress for his invaluable contributions and service to his profession, his family, his State and this Nation.

Mr. Murphy was born in El Dorado, Arkansas on March 6, 1920, and became head of the Murphy family enterprise at the age of 21 after his father suffered a stroke in 1941. Mr. Murphy served in the armed forces for three years during World War II, and returned to El Dorado in 1946 to begin expanding the family business which was subsequently incorporated in 1950.

Under his leadership, Murphy Oil grew from a small oil and gas operation in southern Arkansas into a publicly-held, integrated oil company with international operations and scope. Mr. Murphy served as President of Murphy Oil from 1950 to 1972, Chairman and CEO from 1972 to 1986 and Chairman from 1986 to 1994. He retired from the board of directors in 2001 and was named director emeritus of the Company.

As a leader and spokesman for the oil industry, Mr. Murphy lectured widely in the United States and Europe where his audiences included OPEC oil ministers and the heads of national oil companies. He debated then-Senator Mondale on national television on the issues of price controls and divorce in the oil industry. He also debated Lord Kearton, chairman of the British National Oil Corporation, on the role of national oil companies.

He served as chairman of the National Petroleum Council and as a director of the American Petroleum Institute where he also served as president of the 25 Year Club of the Petroleum Industry. For his work in bringing together oil industry leaders and national leaders of the environmental movement, Mr. Murphy was honored by both. He received the National Wildlife Federation's citation for outstanding individual service, and was a 1999 winner of the Chevron Conservation Award. In 1999, Mr. Murphy was one of the first honorees of the University of Arkansas School of Business Hall of Fame.

Educated in the public schools of Arkansas and by private tutors, Mr. Murphy received doctor of laws degrees from the University of Arkansas in 1966 and from Newfoundland Memorial University in 1995. Keenly interested in education issues, Mr. Murphy served 17 years on the Arkansas Board of Higher Education, 10 years as trustee of Hendrix College and

established the Murphy Institute of Political Economy at Tulane University. He also served as a director of the Smithsonian Institution and was a trustee of the Ochsner Medical Institutions. He was a member of the Arkansas Business Council and served as chairman of its K-12 subcommittee.

The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette called him "a kind of one-man renaissance, a man of Arkansas and the Caribbean and the world." I couldn't agree more. Charles Murphy was my friend, and I forever will be honored by that friendship.

On behalf of the Congress, I extend sympathies to Mr. Murphy's family, and gratitude for all he did to make Arkansas and the world a better place.

TRIBUTE TO ANGELINA SOSAYA
BIDDLE

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2002

Mr. TOM UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the memory of a delightful New Mexican, Angelina Sosaya Biddle, who recently passed away. All those who knew her will forever remember her fondly.

Angie was known as one of Santa Fe's most wonderful and lively characters. Angie was a common sight to many clothing stores and people along the Plaza and Acequia Madre Street. She loved to visit with store owners and discuss the latest fashions. Angie had worked with clothing designer Agnes James and at Suzette's at the La Fonda Hotel. While working for Agnes James, Angie designed the Buffalo Hunter shirt and the Bustle-Back broomstick tier. Her sister, Stella Montoya, continues to still use the original patterns.

In her twenties, Angie enjoyed going out with the crew of the movie Santa Fe Trail. Her beauty was well known, and she was often used as a model by many of Santa Fe artists in the 1930's and 1940's. Angie enjoyed regaling her family with stories of when she and her cousin Fray Angelico Chavez were young, and would accompany her parents on the long drives to Albuquerque. She would tell how she and Fray Angelico often found it necessary to get out of the car and help to push it over La Bajada Hill.

Throughout her life Angie remained interested in fashions and kept that desire burning in her sisters and nieces. She always let her nieces know that they could wear pearls at anytime and with anything, and many of them still wear their pearls just that way. Angie had a love for anything French and had enjoyed her visits to France. The first time she traveled to Europe was with her mother aboard the Queen Mary. She was often seen at this French Pastry Shop at the La Fonda Hotel, where she loved to indulge in the crepes. She also loved to drive her "French" cars—her Renault and her beloved Peugeot.

While her nieces and nephews attended Acequia Madre elementary school, Angie would be a common sight, always stopping by to bring them treats and small gifts.

Born in 1910 to Augustin and Victoria Sosaya, she was preceded in death by her parents, her sisters, Mary, Consuelo, Delores,