

sustainable agriculture. Their life stories since participating in CASS make clear that this program is effectively achieving its mission.

In light of the fact that the bill also provides an additional \$50 million for Haiti through the Economic Support Fund, I hope that the Committee will join me in encouraging USAID to commit a portion of those additional funds specifically to expanding the CASS program in Haiti. The success of the program there and its strength in training individuals in fields which can truly make a difference in Haiti's future: infrastructure repair, environmental management, sustainable agriculture, among others, offer an opportunity to see that these additional funds are put to work quickly through a program that will, no doubt, bring quick returns in terms of enhanced economic and social well being for the people of Haiti.

Again, I appreciate the Committee's attention to this particular program, and I hope that through CASS and other programs, we will seize the opportunity to assist our neighbors through the promotion of economic and social development in Latin America. I appreciate the Committee leadership's commitment to work on further increasing funding for the Latin America region during conference and I lend my support to that effort.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MONTEREY  
ROWE

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Monterey Rowe and thank her for her work as the Acting Director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) office of Congressional Relations. Her years of commitment and dedication as a public servant is certainly commendable and worthy of recognition before this body of Congress and this nation today. I, along with my fellow Americans, am grateful for all that she has accomplished during her years of service.

Monterey began her service in the Immigration and Naturalization Service as a Data Transcriber in the Record Services Division in 1980. Her efficient and productive work led to three promotions as Staff Assistant to the Assistant Commissioner, Secretary to the Director of the Information Services Division, and Immigration Information Officer. At the Director's request she was assigned to the Legalization Project that helped implement the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. Monterey's diligence earned her an additional detail on the Examination Branch that handles special requests from the public, the White House, Congressional, and State and Local government agencies regarding immigration benefits. As result of that experience, Monterey went on to become the Senior Immigration Officer for the Congressional Relations office and was assigned to the USCIS department in 2004.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Monterey Rowe has been an invaluable resource to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Congressional Relations Department and it is my honor to recognize her service and dedication before this body of Congress and this nation. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with

devoted public servants like Monterey. On behalf of the citizens that have benefited from the hard work and commitment she has given to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and the constituents it serves, I extend my appreciation for her years of enthusiastic service.

HONORING JOSE M. HERNANDEZ

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2004*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor NASA engineer Jose M. Hernandez. Mr. Hernandez is an exceptional individual who worked hard all of his life in accomplishing his ultimate goal of becoming an Astronaut. On May 6, 2004 NASA announced the "Next Generation of Explorers," and all of us in the 18th Congressional district of California were very proud to hear Jose Hernandez as one of the 11 named in the new class of astronauts.

Mr. Hernandez was born in French Camp, CA and as the son of farm workers, he grew up in the fields of the Central Valley. Mr. Hernandez dreamed of becoming an astronaut, and knew that in pursuing his dream he would face many challenges. However he also knew that life as a farm worker was not for him. He worked hard and obtained his education from the University of the Pacific and then a Masters from UC Santa Barbara.

Mr. Hernandez worked as an engineer for Lawrence Livermore Lab and then moved on to become an engineer for NASA. He applied to become an Astronaut three times never giving up hope that one day his goal would be fulfilled. On May 6 his dream came true.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Jose Hernandez for his accomplishments. I am delighted to recognize all of his achievements, and thank him for being a role model in his service to our community, and our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MAC COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2004*

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for debate on the Stock Options Accounting Reform Act (H.R. 3574) rollcall vote 394, an amendment by SHERMAN; rollcall vote 395, an amendment by MALONEY; rollcall vote 396, an amendment by KANJORSKI; rollcall vote 397, final passage of H.R. 3574.

I was not present for debate on Appropriations for the District of Columbia for Fiscal Year 2005 (H.R. 4850), rollcall vote 398, an amendment by HEFLEY; and rollcall vote 399, final passage of H.R. 4850.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" for rollcall votes 397, 398, and 399.

I would have voted "nay" for rollcall votes 394, 395, and 396.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TAGE  
PEDERSON

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated sports-medicine pioneer and U.S. Ski-team trainer from Aspen, Colorado. Tage Pederson has helped to train athletes and promote the sport of skiing in Colorado for years, and I am privileged to stand here today before this body of Congress and this nation to recognize his accomplishments.

Tage initially immigrated to Aspen from Denmark in 1956 where he became the assistant director, and then director of the Aspen Institute Health and Fitness Center until 1983. While at the Institute, Tage's Danish schooling in physical education to develop ski training and physical therapy regimens caught the attention of several Olympic racers. He believed that motion was a requirement for a speedy recovery from injury and is actually responsible for many of the early rehabilitation programs that existed before orthopedics and medicine.

In 1968 Tage was invited to become the official U.S. Ski Team trainer and worked with the U.S. Alpine team until 1980 and the Nordic Team until 1985. He accompanied the teams to four Olympic games and four World Championships as an unpaid volunteer. One of the biggest moments of his career as a sports-trainer was aiding Billy Kidd to overcome back problems in the 1970 Amateur World Championships to win the gold medal in the combined event that contained the longest slalom in the history of the sport. Tage was recently inducted into the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame for his service to the sport of skiing for over four decades.

Mr. Speaker Tage Pederson has committed decades of his life to rehabilitating hundreds of Roaring Fork Valley skiers and getting them back on the slopes. He is a caring and humble individual who I am honored to recognize before this body of Congress and this nation. Congratulations on your induction Tage, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAS  
VEGAS DAILY OPTIC

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2004*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Las Vegas Daily Optic, a newspaper in San Miguel County, New Mexico, on its 125th anniversary. On August 21, 2004, citizens throughout the area will celebrate this remarkable achievement.

The Optic, owned by Russell A. Kistler, was founded shortly after the railroad arrived in Las Vegas in July of 1879. Mr. Kistler, who had been publishing a newspaper in Otero, New Mexico, felt that Las Vegas would be a more lucrative location. So he packed his bags, moved there and set up the Optic's first office and a printing press at the building on the corner of Grand and Douglas.