

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Chokshi has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes this kind gentleman and master scientist most worthy of our recognition today.

HONORING MR. JACK C. SMITH,
FOUNDER OF K-VA-T FOODS,
FOOD CITY

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my admiration and respect for Mr. Jack C. Smith, the creative entrepreneur and community leader responsible for K-VA-T Foods, Food City. Although Mr. Smith resides in Virginia, his impact has reached thousands of households in East Tennessee.

As Members of this body, we frequently have the opportunity to recognize the achievements of our constituents and these achievements are quite often remarkable. Today, though, we have the distinct honor to recognize a man who has consistently embodied what we respectfully call the great American spirit.

Mr. Smith was born into a small rural coalmining community in Southern Virginia. From an early age he showed signs of leadership and recognized the greatness of his Nation. Young Jack set as his life's goal service in the United States Navy and on Flag Day, 1944, Jack Smith joined the ranks of our Navy's finest as a Midshipman at the United States Naval Academy.

In 1947, he graduated from Annapolis and was married to his wife, Judy Smith. From 1947 until 1954, Mr. Smith served his Country with distinction. Following an honorable discharge, Mr. Smith and his wife returned to the hills of Virginia.

It was here that Mr. Smith's eye for business became focused. Recognizing the community's need for a supermarket style grocery, Mr. Smith, with his family's support, set about to meet that need.

Today, 50 years have passed since that first grocery store opened its doors, but the focus on excellence and the determination to support local communities has only grown. Through expansion and acquisition, Mr. Smith's small family company has grown to 92 stores with a service reach of over 2.5 million people in Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee.

In addition to being a successful businessman, Mr. Smith has demonstrated his appreciation for local communities through countless philanthropic efforts. Under his leadership, Food City has donated over \$7 million to schools in three states and has partnered with local farmers giving them an avenue to bring their produce to a broad and profitable market. Communities throughout its service region know that if a Food City store opens in their neighborhood, their neighborhood will become stronger.

Food City stands as an example of the great success that can come from one man's commitment to doing the very best he can do. Food City continues to be a family owned company.

As possibly the most impacting testimony of all, his children and grandchildren possess the same remarkable character that set one young

man from a rural coalmining community on a path that we celebrate here on the Floor of the United States House of Representatives today.

Congratulations to Mr. Jack C. Smith for 50 years of business success and thank you for 50 years of setting an example each of us can follow.

RECOGNIZING THE GURU GOBIND
SINGH FOUNDATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the completion of the Guru Gobind Singh Foundation and its opening, which will occur on October 2, 2005. I commend this organization for their dedication to the construction and also the inauguration of such an important spiritual center within the Sikh community. The Guru Gobind Singh Foundation (GGSF) is a Gurdwara, an institution with a hope to increase global awareness of Sikhism, the world's fifth largest religion, as well as enhance the image of Sikhs in order to bring them into the mainstream, especially in American society.

Since its inception in 1985, GGSF has devoted its time and energy to promoting and highlighting the issues concerning Sikhs in the United States. Since 1987, this group has represented Sikhism in the Inter-Faith Conference, held in Washington, DC, and in 1993, participated in the World Parliament of Religions in Chicago. Also since 1987, they have consistently demonstrated their support for the Civil Rights Movement through their annual involvement in the birthday celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Uplifting local communities and focusing on the youth, GGSF has organized Punjabi and Gurmat classes every Saturday for 14 years in addition to camps, study circles and educational conferences.

On an international scale, GGSF attended a Global Conference on Environment in Moscow in 1990, and various other conferences in Turkey, Greece, Japan and England, at which the organization fully represented Sikhism by illustrating its viewpoint on different topics. As early as 1984, GGSF has adamantly worked for the protection of the human and civil rights of Sikhs in India.

More recently, in March of 2000, the Guru Gobind Singh Foundation organized an interfaith memorial service for the 40 Sikh victims of the Kashmir Massacre, a tragedy which occurred in India. After the unforgettable tragedy of 9/11, GGSF played a major role in representing Sikhism and creating awareness of the portrayal of Sikhs in the media since 9/11. Also, the organization worked closely with the White House, U.S. Congress, and civil liberties organizations and held press conferences to call attention to the racial profiling and to deter hate crimes against Sikhs.

The Guru Gobind Singh Foundation has proven to be a cornerstone of the Sikh community and more importantly, of American society. This organization has continuously worked to increase Sikh participation in the religious, social, cultural and political fabric of America. While ensuring the protection of those members of the Sikh community, GGSF

promotes mutual respect and human rights for all people, and contributes to the efficiency of dialogue and understanding among all religions.

I commend not only their success over the years from its inception up to the inauguration of a new spiritual center, but also their undeniable commitment to the promotion of religious and cultural awareness both nationally and internationally. The Guru Gobind Singh Foundation serves as a strong, unified representative of Sikhism by communicating the interests and perspectives of the Sikh community to the American public and international organizations.

Once again, I fully acknowledge the achievements of the Guru Gobind Singh Foundation and its undying determination to foster awareness and understanding of Sikhism in America.

SALUTE TO HURRICANE
VOLUNTEER WAYNE HASSLER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute those individuals and organizations that opened their hearts and dedicated both financial and emotional support to the evacuees of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. All of the states along the Gulf Coast have endured terrible hardships during this hurricane season, and I know that the generosity of North Texans played a vital role in bringing some peace into their lives.

Today, I want to specifically thank one man, his store and his donation. Wayne Hassler, from Chick-fil-A donated 75 sandwiches for volunteers during hurricane Katrina.

Chick-fil-A is one of the largest privately owned restaurant chains in the Nation. Yet, from the beginning, their first priority has never been just to serve chicken; they serve the Lord and the community.

I stand here today to sincerely thank Wayne Hassler for his donation. It is people like him that I am proud to call a fellow Texan. Through his contribution, he not only stands as a devoted and giving American citizen, but he serves as an inspiration to others.

CELEBRATING IRMA EDNA
HENRY'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Irma Edna Henry, who is celebrating her 100th birthday. Irma has been a joy to the community and has profoundly impacted the lives of her friends, family, and neighbors.

Irma Edna Henry was born to Bertha and Frank Daniels on November 7, 1905 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and has lived in Coraopolis, Pennsylvania for most of her life. Growing up with three sisters and two brothers, Irma has always greatly valued family life. At the age of sixteen, Irma began working for