

professional success, Jack was selected as the first executive director of the Community Action Commission in Cincinnati, one of the first and largest anti-poverty agencies in the country. Jack designed and implemented several programs to combat poverty throughout the greater Cincinnati area. His plans became the blueprint for similar programs in cities throughout the country.

During this time, Jack entered into a doctoral program at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts, with a concentration in gerontology. Nearing the completion of his studies, Jack was urged to accept a directorship position for the Ohio Department of Public Welfare to oversee a broad spectrum of programs for all 88 counties in Ohio. In 1972, Jack was named chief of staff to the Governor of Ohio, John J. Gilligan.

In 1976, after his tenure as the Governor's right-hand man, Jack came to Washington as the director of government affairs for the American Public Welfare Association, and later joined the National Conference of Social Welfare (NCSW). As executive director of NCSW, Jack initiated several breakthroughs in social policy: the kick-off of the first national conference on the homeless; the introduction of the first forum on long-term care; and the launch of the three-year project, "The Social Role of the Federal Government."

Completing his doctorate in gerontology in 1980, Jack was soon directing his energies toward health care and social programs for the elderly. Much of his work in his area includes the application of new computer technologies and data collection practices to provide a look ahead at the welfare of the aging population. Also in the area of applied technologies, Jack earned a commendation for his work spearheading the National Practitioner Data Bank project. Mandated by Congress, this groundbreaking program restricts the ability of incompetent physicians and dentists to move from state to state without discovery.

While Jack may be joining the ranks of septuagenarians today, he is by no means slowing down. He continues to teach classes and lecture on social policy and public administration. As an avid researcher, discerning editor and prolific writer, Jack is also looking to add a sixth book to his body of work. All things being equal, it's business as usual for Jack Hansan—pursuing his life's work and building on a 50-year legacy for which we are most grateful.

HONORING THE WOOLF FAMILY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Woolf family for maintaining an unwavering commitment to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. The family was recognized at the Promise Ball 2000, in Fresno, on March 25, 2000.

The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation was founded in 1970 by parents of children with diabetes. The mission of the Foundation is to find a cure for diabetes and its complications, through the support of research. Since 1970, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation has provided over \$326 million for diabetes research,

more than any other nonprofit, nongovernmental health agency in the world.

The Woolf family, a prominent farming family, has two diabetic children. Having been touched by diabetes, the Woolf family has been diligent in helping others to understand the challenges facing families with diabetes, as well as spreading the word about the progress toward a cure.

Mr. Speaker, I want to honor the Woolf family for their tireless commitment to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Woolf family many more years of continued success.

THE ORANGE COUNTY UNION HARVEST FESTIVAL

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, as the Library of Congress celebrates its Bicentennial this year, the Local Legacies Project will provide an opportunity for each Member of Congress to describe a project of significant and historical importance in their district. This documentation will become immortalized in the collections of the Library's American Folklife Center.

The documentation will provide a diverse cross section of America's culture to be preserved for future generations.

The Orange County Union Harvest Festival, held just outside of Pine Island, in Florida, New York, is an outstanding example of such an event. It is colorful example of a tradition that has endured for generations. It chronicles a celebration of the Polish agricultural heritage of a group of immigrants who settled in the "Black Dirt Region" of Orange County, New York, starting in the early 1800's; bringing with them Old World customs and traditions that continue today.

The Orange County Union Festival depicts the courageous "never say die" struggle of a people to tame and convert a vast decomposing flood plain into land that fulfilled their most cherished dreams.

The "Black Dirt" lands rose out a glacial lake. This area known as the "Mucklands" had as its inhabitant's early man, mastodons, and the Mini and Unamis Indians, who used the giant rich swamp as their hunting grounds.

It took the efforts of entire families to tame and cultivate some 12,000 "Black Dirt" acres. Over the years, the pioneers endured in one long battle against disease, drought, winds, flooding rains and weeds from planting time in March or April until the Harvest months in July and August.

They grew into a colony of efficient, hard working, thrifty people. With perseverance and love of family, they established schools, churches, and social groups.

These people are an outstanding model of what can be accomplished in the face of adversity.

Gradually, over years of hard labor, the "Black Dirt" lands have emerged into what is now a scientifically run business using the latest available technologies. It has become the largest onion growing area in the State of New York and the third largest east of the Mississippi River.

The Onion Harvest Festival in celebration pays tribute to hardworking, land loving people

who have gone before; those who are here now, and those who are yet to come.

It is most heartening to observe, that in today's world, where the integrity of family, history, tradition and the virtual survival of family based agriculture remain continually threatened, an event such as The Orange County Union Harvest Festival not only continues to exist, but thrives in the hearts and minds of all who work so hard to ensure its success.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to call to the attention of our colleagues the following dedicated citizens who worked so hard to make the onion festival such a success in 1999, and who worked to ensure that its history be included in the Library of Congress program in the year 2000: Ann Cortese of Pearl River, NY; Peter Zubikowski of Port Jervis, NY; Vincent Polaniak of Florida, NY; Linda LeMieux of Midletown, NY; Frances Sodrick and Barbara Morgiewicz, both of Pine Island, NY.

We salute not only this outstanding onion Harvest committee, but also all of their predecessors from prior years who have helped make the Orange County Union Festival a truly historic, colorful event.

We look forward with great anticipation to many more Onion Festivals still to come.

THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE

HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a beloved member of the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Department who lost his life Saturday, March 25, in the line of duty. The heroism of Cero Niemi is credited with saving the lives of at least two fellow officers. Cero answered the call to duty as a gunmen showered police with bullets following the shooting of an innocent bystander, Jefferson resident Walter A. Olson.

Cero was the K-9 partner of Deputy William R. Niemi. The loyal German shepherd was born November 3, 1997, in Germany, and had received his Ohio Peace Officer Training and North American Work Dog Association certification in December 1999. Since that time, he had worked diligently for the K-9 unit at the sheriff's department, often assisting with felony apprehensions and drug arrests.

Mr. Speaker, the death of K-9 Cero has deeply touched folks throughout Northeast Ohio, and the grieving extends beyond his partner, his partner's family, and the sheriff's department. Many people were moved by the heroic sacrifice of this dog, and folks are left to wonder how anyone could shoot and kill a human being and then a police dog in the blink of an eye. The shooting deaths of Walter Olson and K-9 Cero have plunged the community of Jefferson into a period of collective mourning.

Mr. Speaker, Cero will be laid to rest tomorrow with full police honors, and officers and police K-9 units from throughout Ohio are expected to attend the service. Cero is the first police dog in Northeast Ohio to die in the line of duty in more than 20 years. I have asked that a United States flag be flown over the Capitol in honor of Cero Niemi, his partner, Deputy William Niemi, and the Ashtabula County Sheriff's Department.