

SALUTE TO THE CITY OF YOAKUM,  
TEXAS

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 13, 1999*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the City of Yoakum, Texas, which will celebrate its 112th birthday on Wednesday, July 28, 1999, with a festival at the city's Heritage Museum.

Yoakum is located partially in western Lavaca County and partially in eastern DeWitt County. Today, the city is known as the "Leather Capital of the World," due primarily to the economic impact of 12 leather goods manufacturing firms and some 16 factory locations in Yoakum.

In its early years, Anglo-Americans used Yoakum as a gathering site for thousands of bawling Texas Longhorns that were grouped into cattle drives and driven along the Chisolm Trail to market. Yoakum's townsite was established in 1887 with the arrival of the San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railroad—the railroad of Yoakum's history.

Once, Yoakum was the "Green Wrap" tomato capita of the world and still commemorates this heritage with the annual "Tom Tom Festival." As that industry faded, the community leaders—namely Mr. C. C. Welhausen—fostered the idea that Yoakum needed another industry as a base to its economy. The result: a leather industry era that now employs some 1,500 and produces millions of dollars of the Yoakum area economy.

Beef production is also huge in Yoakum, and both Lavaca and DeWitt Counties rank in the top five counties in the State of Texas in cow-calf operations. A true cowboy culture exists in the Yoakum area due to the thousands of head of cattle grown on area ranches.

I am proud to represent a city so full of rich, Texas heritage. Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me sending happy birthday wishes to the City of Yoakum, Texas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 13, 1999*

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker due to official business, I was unable to record my vote on several measures considered in the House of Representatives on Monday, July 12, 1999. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on approving the Journal; H. Con. Res. 144; H. Con. Res. 107; and "aye" on H. Con. Res. 117.

IN HONOR OF SERGEANT RONALD  
ICELY AND HIS 31 YEARS OF  
DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE  
RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF  
MILPITAS

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 13, 1999*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor and congratulate

Sergeant Ronald Icelly, for serving the residents of the City of Milpitas for more than 31 outstanding years.

Sergeant Ronald Icelly attended Mt. Whitney High School in Visalia, CA, and graduated in 1965. He then continued his education at College of the Sequoias and San Jose State University. He began his career in public service as a reserve officer with the San Jose Police Department while at San Jose State University in 1967. On August 1, 1968, Ronald Icelly was appointed to the Milpitas Police Department. He was promoted to senior officer in 1973, and promoted to Sergeant in 1975.

During his many years of service, Sergeant Icelly has received numerous letters of appreciation and commendation from the citizens of Milpitas as well as from many government agencies. He has been praised by his past supervisors for the high quality of his work, his leadership skills and investigative experience.

In his tenure as a police officer, Ronald Icelly saw Milpitas grow from a small community to a thriving city of 65,000 people. As the city grew his charge became more demanding, but Sgt. Icelly continued to serve commendably.

Early in his career Sergeant Icelly became a member of the department's K-9 squad. He served as K-9 officer for five years with his canines, "Romell" and "Toma". He also received advanced training in supervision, and homicide and sexual assault investigation.

Sergeant Icelly has served as a field training officer and field supervisor in the patrol and traffic sections. He was also a supervisor in the Investigation Division and the lead investigator in "felony persons" crimes that included high profile homicide, robbery and sexual assault cases.

Sergeant Icelly has been very active with the youth of the community throughout his career. He coached PAL basketball, PAL baseball, and little league baseball for nine years. Sergeant Icelly was also a charter member of the Milpitas Police PAL Board of Directors.

The city will be honoring Sgt. Ronald Icelly at a retirement dinner on July 30, 1999. I would like to join them in applauding his hard work and dedication. He has a fine record of accomplishments and is an inspiring example of citizenship. I wish Sergeant Icelly the best in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO GUS LEMIEUX

**HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 13, 1999*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to World War I veteran and Fond du Lac Reservation tribe member Gus LeMieux.

Not only is Gus LeMieux the oldest (at 100 years) Fond du Lac Reservation tribe member, but he is also the oldest serving World War I veteran in Douglas County, WI. Gus joined the U.S. Navy in 1916 and served on the U.S.S. *Rhode Island* and the U.S.S. *Massachusetts*, as well as on an oil tanker. He also served in the U.S. military on a submarine tender during World War I.

Now the oldest Fond du Lac Reservation tribe member, Gus is well-known in the community. He is admired not only for his standing

as an Elder, but also because of his kindness and gentleness. A hard worker, Gus is well-liked and greatly respected.

Gus is a pillar of the community, both as a veteran in the Armed Forces and as a tribe member. I know my colleagues join me in thanking Gus LeMieux for serving the Fond du Lac Reservation and the United States during the past century.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GARY G. MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 13, 1999*

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was inadvertently detained and unable to vote on rollcall No. 279, regarding United Nations General Assembly Resolution ES 10/6. Had I been here, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRATULATING CERTAINTEED  
ON THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 13, 1999*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Chowchilla CertainTeed Fiberglass Insulation Plant on their 20th Anniversary as a major contributor to the Chowchilla and Madera County communities.

CertainTeed began construction in 1978 and started operation on May 15, 1979. Since then, the plant has generated over \$200 million in wages and taxes, which have helped the local communities to grow and improve. CertainTeed has been an active member of these communities and has participated in various projects. They are strong supporters of the "Bucks for Books" campaign; have adopted a section of Highway 99 and kept it clean for 6 years; provided sandbags for flood support during the Chowchilla flood of 1997; have supported the Penn Literacy program for Fairmead School; are involved in the Madera County Industrial Group; and have made themselves available to many more programs in their community.

CertainTeed has been recognized with many awards throughout the years: the CertainTeed Interplant Safety Award—Best Record in Accident Prevention, the National Safety Council Award, the Outstanding Safety Performance Award, 1,500,000 Hours with No Lost Time Accidents in 1966, 1,243,090 Hours with No Lost Time Accidents in 1985, Madera Economic Development Commission Recognition, the California Department of Conservation Award of Appreciation for Glass Recycling, and the Group President's Award.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate CertainTeed on their 20th Anniversary and for the service they have provided to their community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing CertainTeed many more years of continued success.