

and three retail stores. It promises to be a wonderful addition to the area.

This new 38,000 sq. ft. edifice is a testament to the ongoing goodwill of the Cathedral-Second Baptist Church and the deep faith and charity of its members. I am proud to have such a devoted organization in my district and ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing its achievements.

TRIBUTE TO GUSTAVO MONTANO  
ARRIOLA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a highly acclaimed cartoonist and cultural advocate who recently announced his retirement. Gustavo Montano Arriola, known to most as Gus, is the creator of the famous cartoon "Gordo." For more than 44 years he maintained a large and faithful following while introducing an American audience to Mexican customs and traditions.

Mr. Arriola began animating directly after high school at Screen Gems, then with Columbia on "Krazy Kat." He pursued his art working in the MGM Cartoon Department on the story sketch of the cat and mouse series "Tom and Jerry," then created the incomparable "Gordo" strip.

Mr. Arriola has earned many awards and honors which exemplify his great contributions to society. In 1957, "in recognition of his pioneering and bringing design and color to a 'new high' in the field of newspaper comic strips," he was awarded a distinguished artist citation by the San Francisco Artists Club. Mr. Arriola was also honored with the Citizen of the Year award from Parade of Nations, Inc., which stated, "'Gordo' exemplified the positive attitudes and educational efforts that best produce intercultural understanding." The California State Assembly and Senate awarded Mr. Arriola with a great honor from the people of California by declaring a "Gus Arriola Day," thus, immortalizing this great man.

Mr. Arriola was also awarded two National Cartoonist Society awards, both in 1957 and 1965 for best humor strip. In addition, he was honored by the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, for his tribute to author Rachel Carson.

Mr. Arriola has also contributed his artwork to support numerous community causes. He has lent his creative talent to the Alliance on Aging, Beacon House, Carmel Art Association, Carmel Foundation, Carmel Public Library Foundation, Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula, Crosby Golf Youth Center, Friends of Sunset Foundation, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Hospice of the Central Coast, Monterey History and Art Association, Monterey Jazz Festival, Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art, Ombudsmen, Pacific Grove Art Association, Pacific Grove Museum of National History, Red Cross, Salvation Army, and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. He is a humanitarian willing to help people by contributing his influential work to their issue.

In response to a question about his retirement, Mr. Arriola quotes from the late writer and naturalist John Burroughs stating: "I still find the days too short for all the thought I

want to think, all the books I want to read, all the walks I want to take and all the friends I want to see." I continue to wish the best for Gus Arriola, who I know is finding new and creative ways to make his mark on the world.

CHURCH ARSON PREVENTION ACT  
OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 1996

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my outrage over the arsons that have destroyed over 110 churches across the country. These vile and cowardly acts threaten our constitutional right to worship freely and safely. H.R. 3525 is a good first step in preventing these heinous attacks on religious freedom. In my opinion, however, it is just a first step and there is far more this body can and should do.

Mr. Speaker, the deliberate burning of churches, synagogues, and mosques constitutes a national emergency, and stopping the fires should be our top priority. Every means available to us should be put to use, including the use of the National Guard. We need to make available increased funding and resources for our law enforcement agencies so that they may be better able to prevent and solve these acts of hatred. It is essential that we create a national clearinghouse to monitor, compile, and scrutinize information relating to these fires. Furthermore greater support and funding for watchdog groups needs to be made available.

We need to encourage the establishment of a national dialog on the impact and prevention of these depraved acts. It is only through increased cooperation and strict enforcement will be able to prevent future attacks on our sacred places of worship.

I encourage my fellow Members of Congress to stand together with the American people and tell those who are perpetrating these crimes that we will not be victims of their hate and cowardice.

TRIBUTE TO GRAMERCY  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Gramercy Neighborhood Associates which has done so much to improve the quality of life in the Gramercy Park neighborhood of my district.

The Gramercy Neighborhood Associates is primarily involved with the area from Park Avenue South to Third Avenue, and from 17th Street to 22d Street. Thanks to the hard work of the staff, members, and sponsors who make all of the association's work possible, GNA has become a model for a community-based organization.

GNA works to beautify the neighborhood by holding a clean & green day each spring. Also, the association plants and maintains sidewalk trees and tree-garden fences. GNA

keeps in touch with the needs of the neighborhood by holding monthly board of directors meetings at which key local issues of safety, traffic, sanitation, and quality of life are discussed and acted upon.

The Gramercy Neighborhood Associates also plays a vital role in the preservation and protection of the Gramercy Park Historic District, and is presently seeking the designation of extensions to the historic district as well as the landmarking of individual buildings of architectural, cultural, or historic merit in the area.

I am proud of the hard work that the Gramercy Neighborhood Associates has put into the community. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me today in tribute to the Gramercy Neighborhood Associates and all of the hard work that they have done to improve the quality of life in our community and throughout the city of New York.

THE CROSS IN THE WOODS

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 1996

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, and Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, it is an honor for me to bring to the attention of this body and the Nation the 50th anniversary of the founding of Cross in the Woods being celebrated on June 23, 1996. The Cross in the Woods is the largest crucifix in the world and is located in Indian River, MI. Made of bronze and redwood and weighing 14 tons, it stands 55 feet high and is 22 feet wide.

The idea for Cross in the Woods began in 1946 when Rev. Charles Brophy, a young priest from Cheboygan County, succeeded in having State officials transfer to Cheboygan County the 13 acres of Burt Lake on which the cross now stands. Once obtained by the county, Reverend Brophy purchased the site from the county for \$1.

In 1954, the cross was raised and sculptor Marshall Fredericks began his work of designing and sculpting the crucifix. This is unique to most crucifixes in that it depicts Jesus Christ without a crown of thorns and missing the wound to his side. It was the intention of Mr. Fredericks to have a crucifix showing that Jesus Christ was at peace with his beliefs and the sacrifice he made by dying on the cross.

Over 200,000 citizens from across the country visit the cross annually. In addition, the current pastor at the cross, Rev. Donard Paulus maintains a mailing list of over 20,000 people who receive regular newsletters keeping interested parties informed of ongoing events.

Also located on the grounds is a chapel where services are held weekly that regularly attract a capacity number of parishioners and visitors. Plans are underway for the construction of a church that would provide a view of the cross and other statues located on the grounds.

Mr. Speaker, the Cross in the Woods reminds us that God's ways are opposite of our own human ways. As the cross was a symbol of death in the Roman Empire, it is now a symbol of victory in our faith. For it is said in Romans 8:38-39:

"For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present