PAYING TRIBUTE TO A LEADER IN COUNTRY IN MOURNING HIS PASSING

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a future in New York State politics and journalism, M. Paul Redd—the strong-willed publisher of the country’s only black-owned newspaper, the Westchester County Press. The weekly celebrated its 80th anniversary last year, just a few months prior to the passing of its longtime publisher and muse. Redd was an African American leader whose foray into journalism and politics made him a premier advocate for equality and fairness. With a seriousness of purpose, outpouring of passion, and great eloquence, he and his paper provided politicians towards responsible, progressive stances and held them accountable to the people and communities they served. He traversed the world of media and public service, blurring the line that separates them and serving as vice chairman of the state Democratic Party for a number of years.

A voice—when as clear, cogent, and powerful as his was—cannot be silenced, even in death, as the following WVOX radio tribute titled “M. Paul Redd Dies Suddenly” makes clear. He left a powerful legacy of words that resounded in the minds of those he touched, in the words of those he influenced, in the work we public servants have yet to do for our constituencies, our state, and our country.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO A LEADER IN NEW YORK STATE POLITICS AND JOURNALISM: M. PAUL REDD

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

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One of Westchester’s most prominent and durable African-American leaders has died. Word came within the hour from the office of NYS Assemblyman Alphonso Quinton Latimer that M. Paul Redd died suddenly last night of a massive heart attack. He was in his mid-80’s.

Paul Redd published the Westchester County Press, which was bought by the Manhattanville College celebrated its 80th anniversary as the county’s only black-owned newspaper.

Paul Redd was active in New York State and Westchester politics serving as Vice Chairman of the State Democratic Party for many years. He was married to political activist Oriol Redd and their daughter Paula Redd Zeeman is the County’s Director of Human Resources.

He was also a frequent guest on our radio and tv talk shows and discussion programs.

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM O’SHAUGHNESSY

The legendary publisher Roy Howard used to say: “You can’t have a great newspaper unless you have one man or woman who has something to say.”

Paul Redd had a lot of things to say... and he said them passionately, clearly, and with great eloquence.

His Westchester weekly had influence far beyond its circulation area... mostly because of that one man.

He went all the way back in this county to the time of Bill Luddy... Max Berking... Nancy Q. Keefe... Ogden Reid... Anthony J. Colavita... Bobby Rippa... Tony Giovine... Al Sulla... Dennis Mehiel... Paul Dennis... Whitney Young... Hugh Price... Guido Cribari... Nancy O. Keese.... Ernie Davis... Ed Brady... Jack Javits... Vin Draddy... Bill Butcher... Fred Powers... Brother Jack Driscoll... Al Sulla... Tony. Vetter... Francis X. O’Rourke... Wellington Mara... B.J. Harrington... William Congdon... Alvin Richard Ruskin... Angelo Martellino... Bob Alphal... Kirby Scollon... Ed Hughes... Daniel Patrick Moynihan... Hugh Carey... and our magnificent neighbor Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller.

He amplified all their voices.

And we will miss his...
The European Union has expressed “serious concern about the continuing systematic discrimination and harassment of the Iranian Bahais on the grounds of their religion.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN
OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I was detained and unable to cast a vote for rollcall vote No. 57, the motion to table the privileged resolution, H. Res. 143. I would have voted “nay” on that motion.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE SALESIAN SISTERS OF ST. JOHN BOSCO ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO YOUTH IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco for their 100 years of dedicated service to young people across the country, and particularly in our communities of Boyle Heights, Bellflower and Bell Gardens in the 34th Congressional District of California.

The Salesian Sisters, also known as the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, were founded by one of the great Italian educators of the 19th century, Saint John Bosco, with the collaboration of Saint Mary Domenica Mazzarello. During that time, Northern Italy was becoming increasingly industrialized and both of these religious leaders recognized the great need to establish schools for the disadvantaged, as well as the many abandoned youth in working class communities.

The history of the Salesian Sisters in this country begins in July of 1908 when four Sisters made the voyage from Northern Italy to the United States, setting out to replicate the good work they had accomplished in Italy. Like millions of others who emigrated to our shores at that time, the Sisters arrived at Ellis Island in the port of New York. Knowing no English and with limited resources, these pioneering women made a living taking in orders of sewing and embroidery while ministering to the Italian immigrants at St. Michael’s parish in Paterson, New Jersey.

Gradually, the Sisters began to broaden their work in this country by opening an orphanage and a small school. As more and more young women joined the Sisterhood, the reach of their mission expanded to New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Florida. In time, the Sisters opened centers in other parts of the country, including Louisiana, Texas, Colorado, Arizona, and California.

In 1921, the first Salesian Sisters arrived in California where they took over the care of an orphanage and, later, the care of the boys in the junior seminary operated by the Salesian Fathers and Brothers in the Central Coast area of California. They eventually established several schools throughout the state, and in 1950, the Sisters opened St. Margaret Mary School in Lomita in Southern California.

In the 34th Congressional District, the first educational center established by the Sisters was St. Dominic Savio School in Bellflower, opened in 1956. By 1960, the nearby aerospace plant employed thousands of workers—many of them school parents—and the school population was at a maximum. When the plant closed, many families relocated. The local population was replaced by different ethnic groups, making the area today one of the most diverse in the United States. The school adapted well to the demographic changes, and continues to thrive today serving the spiritual and educational needs of the community.

Another school in the 34th District administered by the Salesian Sisters is St. Mary’s Catholic School in Boyle Heights. St. Mary’s was established in 1907 by the Holy Name Sisters. During that time, Boyle Heights became highly industrialized and many people moved in from various countries seeking new opportunities. After World War II, much of the non-Latino population moved to outlying areas, and the community became increasingly populated by Mexican immigrants. By 1990, school enrollment at St. Mary’s dropped significantly and the Holy Name Sisters could no longer provide personnel for the school. The Salesian Sisters were then asked to take over the school, and they have been there to this day.

The Salesian Sisters also operated St. Gertrude’s School in Bell Gardens in the 34th District for 30 years.

Madam Speaker, on a personal note, I attended St. Mary’s Catholic School prior to the coming of the Salesian Sisters, and I am very pleased the school continues to serve local youth today under the Sisters’ devoted guidance. I might also add that my father, the late Congressman Edward R. Roybal, was a committed supporter of Salesian schools. He was instrumental in helping establish the Bishop Mora Salesian High School for young men in Boyle Heights, which many area boys attend today following their 8th grade graduation from St. Mary’s.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in honoring the noble mission of the Salesian Sisters in the United States in educating our youth over the past 100 years, and I extend to all of them my fondest wishes for many more years of dedicated service.