

Best wishes for a wonderful celebration and every continued success.

BILL CLINTON.

EXTRAORDINARY COMMUNITY
ACTIVISM

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of an extraordinary story of community activism in Windsor Terrace, Brooklyn, a neighborhood guided by the strength of its parish. Local neighborhood bartender, Jimmy Houlihan, in a casual conversation with Rev. Dennis Farrell of Holy Name Church, learned of the ailing physical condition of the church's grade school. Anyone from Windsor Terrace knows that Farrell's Saloon, the bar where "Houlie" works, is also a solid neighborhood landmark well known for its involvement in community events.

As one who understands the importance of helping his fellow neighbors, Houlie immediately began soliciting others to paint the schools' 33 classrooms. He called upon Charlie Kawas, a firefighter for the New York Fire Department and a graduate of Holy Name School, to gather support among his friends and neighbors for this altruistic undertaking. Since almost everyone in the community had either gone to Holy Name or had children who currently attended, it was not long before their volunteer list reached 300 enlistees.

Through the efforts of Kawas, the entire community of Windsor Terrace became actively involved in the preparation and planning of this painting project. Local merchants also devoted resources to the painting crew, providing coffee, bagels, food, and beer. Farrell's donated money for the party afterward and the parish donated the paint.

The people of Windsor Terrace prove once again that community activism still exists in America. Men and women gave up a day off, donated money and resources and joined hands with their fellow parishioners to improve the appearance of their local school. This overwhelming tale serves as an inspiration to every community in every city in America. I commend these courageous and thoughtful citizens for exhibiting the true spirit of community and public service.

TRIBUTE TO SAMUEL BRAEN

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special resident of the Eighth Congressional District. Tonight in my congressional district there will be a ceremony honoring Mr. Samuel Braen, the 1995 Man of the Year for the Boys and Girls Club of Paterson. Mr. Braen was selected for this honor in recognition of his long history of involvement in civic and business interests throughout northern New Jersey and particularly for his philanthropic activities especially those focusing on youth. Mr. Braen joins a select group of 29

distinguished men and women who have helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Boys and Girls Clubs in Paterson through the annual man of the year honor.

Samuel Braen is the chairman/CEO of Stone Industries, Inc., located in Haledon, NJ. The company is in the crushed stone and aggregate business. They are major suppliers of stone, aggregate, and asphalt in the northern New Jersey and southern New York area. Mr. Braen represents the fourth generation of his family in this industry.

Mr. Braen has lived in Wyckoff, NJ, all of his life. He was educated in the local schools and after graduation Ramapo High School he attended Shelton College before his involvement in the family business. He has many years experience in the road construction, aggregate and road building industry. Many major highways, bridges, schools, and hospitals were built in Bergen and Passaic Counties by the Braen family.

Mr. Braen is married to the former Janet Knapp and they have six children and two grandchildren. Sam spends most of his week-ends involved with his children in sports activities such as football, basketball, tennis, and golf.

Mr. Braen is very involved in many civic, business, and trade organizations. Some of these organizations include the board of trustees of the Wyckoff Library, advisory board of the Atlantic stewardship bank, the past president of the Wyckoff Rotary Club, executive board of the Passaic Valley Council of the Boy Scouts, Society of the Valley Hospital, life member of the Wyckoff Fire Department and Exempt Association, and the board of trustees of Steven's Institute of Technology.

Mr. Speaker, I know you will join me in congratulating Sam Braen for the contributions he has made to his community.

TRIBUTE TO ROLAND JONATHAN
LEWIS

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Roland Jonathan Lewis, who was honored for his outstanding contribution to the community on October 6 at the 1995 St. Benedict the Moor Neighborhood Center's Dinner Dance, in the South Bronx.

Mr. Lewis is one of eight individuals who were recognized for their remarkable success in helping rehabilitate individuals who had been struggling with substance abuse. The rehabilitation program is being implemented at St. Benedict the Moor Neighborhood Center.

Mr. Lewis earned his bachelor of arts degree from Columbia University, and both a master's in regional planning and a juris doctor's from Rutgers University.

Lewis is currently a partner at Dellapa & Lewis where he had been successful in facilitating the development of affordable housing projects. He is married to Faye Lewis and has two children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleague to join me in honoring Roland Lewis for the generous service rendered for the benefit of our community.

FUNDING FOR JUDICIAL GENDER,
RACIAL FAIRNESS TASK FORCES

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of funding for judicial gender and racial fairness task forces.

The Violence Against Women Act of 1994 authorized research and education programs to enhance judicial knowledge and awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault. The act authorized \$700,000 for Federal court task forces studying gender and racial bias in the Federal judicial system. The Commerce, Justice, State, and judiciary appropriations bill as passed by the House included the full \$700,000 authorized by VAWA; the Senate version did not fund these important task forces. I would like my colleagues on the conference committee to stand firm for the House position and also that you fully fund the VAWA.

It is essential that funding for these important task forces be retained. To date, at least 40 reports on gender bias and racial bias have been issued by Federal and State task forces on gender and racial fairness. Many of the improvements suggested by these reports have been implemented.

Several years ago the court system in my home State of Missouri conducted a gender bias study which was received favorably by the legal community and the State judiciary. This study revealed that gender bias is a very real problem in the courts. It identified several key problems which ranged from the unequal treatment of women and minority witnesses, to statements of outright bias from judicial officers directed both to lawyers and to litigants.

To preserve the integrity of our judicial system, it is essential that bias be identified and eliminated. Gender and racial bias task forces are part of a longstanding effort on the part of Federal courts to look closely at their own performance in an effort to improve the administration of justice. Continued funding for these task forces is essential if the judicial process is to be fair to all, regardless of gender or race.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support funding of these task forces for their continued efforts to ensure that all persons are treated equally in our Federal courts.

IN HONOR OF CHIEF DAVID G.
WALCHAK

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to rise to pay tribute to David G. Walchak, Chief of Police for the city of Concord, NH, as he becomes the 83d President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Chief Walchak has a long and distinguished record of service as a law enforcement officer, going back to his days as a patrolman for the LaCrosse, WI, Police Department in the 1960's. David Walchak also excelled in law

enforcement positions in Minnesota and, for many years, in Maine, where he served as the director of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and the law enforcement director of the Maine Municipal Association.

For the past two decades, David Walchak has served as the chief law enforcement officer for the city of Concord, NH, the capital of our great State. He has earned the respect and admiration of the citizens of Concord, the city's elected leaders, his police department, and his colleagues from around New Hampshire and around the country.

Chief Walchak has served as the First Vice-President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and serves on numerous professional and civic boards at the local, State, and Federal levels. His long record of dedication to the field of law enforcement speaks volumes about his character, his honor, and his respect for the law.

I know that his family and friends are very, very proud of his accomplishments, and I know that he will do a fantastic job as President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chief Walchak in his new role representing law enforcement officers from around the country and across the globe.

COMMENDS PRESIDENT CLINTON
FOR SUPPORTING ENDA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend President Clinton for supporting the Employment Non-Discrimination Act [ENDA]. This act seeks to extend Federal employment discrimination protections currently provided based on race, religion, gender, national origin, age, and disability to include sexual orientation under title VII of the Civil Rights Act. It does not create any special rights for lesbians and gay men.

The bill prohibits employers from subjecting an individual to different standards or treatment because of that individual's sexual orientation. Hiring quotas are expressly prohibited. ENDA applies to Federal, State and local governments, including U.S. Congress. There are certain exemptions to this legislation which include small businesses, the Armed Forces, and religious organizations.

ENDA ensures that all Americans will be able to keep their jobs based on their performance and quality of work, regardless of sexual orientation. The bill is designed to protect the rights of all Americans to participate in the job market without the fear of unfair discrimination. Professional skills and job performance should be the sole factors by which employers judge their employees.

I am pleased that the President decided to endorse this very important piece of legislation. Currently, discrimination in employment on the basis of sexual orientation is legal in 41 States. Forty-one States. It shocks me that this blatant discrimination continues in our society. Solid, upstanding citizens in all walks of life—businessmen and women, doctors, lawyers, teachers, artists, and others—are subject to unfair treatment in the workplace simply be-

cause of their sexual orientations. The fact that sexual orientation has nothing to do with the quality of work product does not seem to matter in the face of this most onerous discrimination. Legislation such as ENDA is definitely needed. While the Federal Government is still trying to pass this bill, many local jurisdictions in my State of California have already enacted antidiscrimination laws.

I am an original cosponsor of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act. This bill is about ending discrimination in the workplace. Every American gay or not, deserves the right to equal opportunity. Discrimination continues to exist in our society and must be fought. We all must be willing to create jobs for all people who want to work and we must dedicate ourselves to end the hate which continues to plague our country.

RECOGNITION OF JUDE
HARRINGTON

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, far too often the work of the men and women who are charged with preserving our Nation's natural resources goes unnoticed. These individuals, many of whom dedicate their lives toward maintaining America's treasures are rarely recognized for the importance of the service which they provide.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to such an individual from my own congressional district; Mr. Jude Harrington of Huntingdon, PA. A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Harrington began his career with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1980 as a student intern with the Pittsburgh district. He received a bachelors degree in parks and recreation from Slippery Rock University in 1982. After graduating from Slippery Rock, Jude has served the corps at several different locations and in the process has earned a solid reputation as a man of integrity and conviction.

Since 1992, Jude has served as the supervisory ranger for Raystown Lake. His work at the lake has enabled it to become one of the largest tourist and recreation attractions in my district. In fact, last year 1.3 million people traveled to rural Pennsylvania to visit Raystown Lake. Mr. Harrington's primary responsibilities at Raystown are centered upon the management of the lake's natural resources and recreation programs.

Recently, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers selected Jude Harrington as the National Resources Management Employee of the Year. The corps hand-picked Jude out of a field of a possible 1,200 candidates from across the Nation. They recognized what we in the Ninth District have known for years, that Jude Harrington is the best of the best when it comes to natural resources management. His work on behalf of Raystown Lake is a testament to both his love for the area and his commitment to the preservation of natural resources. I will close by thanking Jude Harrington for his service to Raystown Lake and congratulating him on being recognized for this honor which he richly deserves.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL A.
BENJAMIN

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Michael A. Benjamin, an active community leader and a dear friend who was honored for his outstanding contribution to health community issues on October 6 at the 1995 St. Benedict the Moor Neighborhood Center's Dance Dinner, in the South Bronx.

Michael A. Benjamin is one of eight individuals who were recognized for their remarkable achievements in helping rehabilitate individuals who had been struggling with substance abuse problem. The rehabilitation program is being implemented at St. Benedict the Moor Neighborhood Center.

A Bronx resident, Mr. Benjamin started his career as an alcoholism counselor. He served in this capacity at various centers over a 7-year period, including Hunts Point Multi Service Corp., Prospect Hospital, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Health Center, and Our Lady of Mercy Medical Center.

After his exemplary career as a counselor, Michael worked as a special assistant to Assemblyman Hector Diaz. I had the privilege of bringing him on board in this same capacity while I was serving the N.Y. Assembly, just before I was elected to Congress.

Michael presently serves as parliamentarian of the executive committee of the Bronx Democratic County Committee and is a member of the community advisory board of the Morrisania Diagnostic and Treatment Center. He also served as chairman of the Youth Services Planning Committee and has sat on various committees and boards, including the South Bronx People For Change Anti-Drug Committee, the New York Lung Association Minority Task Force, and the Community Advisory Board at the Bronx Alcohol Treatment. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in political science at Syracuse University and has done graduate work at State University of New York.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Michael Benjamin for his success and lifelong commitment to community health issues.

PROVIDING RELIEF FOR AKZO
NOBEL CHEMICALS

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation on behalf of a company in my congressional district, Akzo Nobel Chemicals of Chicago, that seeks to provide Federal relief to them for their past overpayments of U.S. Customs import duties.

In 1992, the Federal Government mistakenly collected excess import duties and Akzo Nobel has now exhausted all administrative remedies to recover money that rightfully is theirs. The U.S. Customs Service seems to agree with Akzo that the imported goods in question should have carried with them a lower duty