

prepaid group practice in the United States. His important personal contributions to the enactment of sound health care policy have been invaluable and have improved the Nation's health care delivery system.

During the 25 years that I have known Bob, he has strongly supported health legislation that would extend coverage to all Americans and that would otherwise benefit the country as a whole, not merely an interested segment of the health care industry. The first question he would ask about legislation was whether it was good public policy; only then would he consider its impact on Kaiser Permanente. Bob's thoughtful advocacy on behalf of prepaid group practice has been partially driven by his belief that it is the most effective way of assuring that quality health care will be available to a broad spectrum of the community, including low-income individuals. I have appreciated his informed, ethical, and intelligent approach to government relations during my time in the California Assembly and in Congress.

I have also appreciated Bob's efforts on behalf of the environment. As an outdoorsman, Bob recognizes the value of preserving this Nation's open spaces and biological diversity. He has been an active crusader for protection of the land, animals, and plant life for existing and future generations.

I hope that Bob's retirement from Kaiser Permanente will not deprive Congress of his good counsel on future issues.

SALUTE TO FREDERICK C.  
BRANCH OF PHILADELPHIA

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 8, 1995*

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Frederick C. Branch on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his commission as the first African-American officer in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Fifty years ago, Frederick C. Branch was appointed second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps. On November 17, 1995 the Philadelphia Chapter of the Montford Point Marine Association will present a Marine Corps Birthday Ball and Ceremonial Dinner honoring Frederick C. Branch for his many historic accomplishments.

Educated at Purdue University and Temple University where he received a B.A. degree in physics, Mr. Branch is currently the head of the science department at Murrell Dobbins Area Vocational School in north Philadelphia and has been for the past 15 years.

Mr. Branch is not only a distinguished military officer, but he has also been involved in many community activities. Branch was a past president of Tioga Methodist Men of Tioga United Methodist Church; a charter member and organizer of Penndelphia Detachment, Marine Corps League. In addition, he helped organize a national association of the first African-American men accepted in the Marine Corps which later was officially named the Montford Point Marine Association, Inc.

I wish my colleagues will join me today in congratulating Frederick C. Branch for so distinguished a career. I wish Frederick Branch the very best as he continues his service to the north Philadelphia community.

TRIBUTE TO WESTERN SPRINGS  
MAN AND WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 8, 1995*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two outstanding residents in my district—Mr. John Kravcik and Ms. Joyce Person—the Western Springs Man and Woman of the Year. These two people represent the volunteer spirit that has not only helped make their community great, but out entire nation as well. They will be honored for their efforts to better their village on Saturday, November 4 at the Western Springs Grand Ball.

Ms. Person, a 27-year resident of Western Springs, has combined her love of natural beauty with her love of her community. In addition to her long service to the village's Garden Club as president, she was also the secretary of the Village Party Caucus for 10 years, a volunteer organization that helps select qualified candidates for village offices. She is also a dedicated volunteer at La Grange Memorial Hospital. Yet, Ms. Person understands that true community service extends far beyond the bounds of one's village. In that regard, she organized the Hostage Remembrance Day to honor the Americans held in Iran in 1979 and 1980.

Mr. Kravcik, a resident for 33 years, has been active in government, professional, and religious organizations. He served on the Western Springs Planning and Zoning Commission from 1983 to 1991, when he was elected to a 4-year term to the Board of Trustees. He has been involved in leadership roles at his church, St. John of the Cross, and Nazareth Academy, a local high school. Mr. Kravcik and his wife, Joan, were co-chairmen of a Vietnamese refugee settlement committee, helping to find housing, employment, and other necessities for eight families who came to Western Springs.

Mr. Speaker, I salute these two outstanding Americans for their tireless efforts for Western Springs, and I hope they are able to enjoy many more years of service to their community.

TRIBUTE TO SISTER MARY URBAN  
HARRER

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 8, 1995*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend to our Nation's attention and to my congressional colleagues, the life of Sister Mary Urban Harrer.

For more than a quarter of a century, she has been so closely connected with the St. Clare's Riverside Medical Center that her name is synonymous with its special mission and reputation.

Sister Mary Urban fills many roles at the hospital. She is chairman of the board of the medical center, a founder and mover of the annual Harvest Festival, a relentless fundraiser and organizer, an astute businesswoman, and a health care professional with years of hands-on experience in nursing and

hospital administration. Her love of God and her service to mankind knows few equals.

But there is a role that transcends even these. First and foremost, she is a religious member of the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother.

This month that role is highlighted as she celebrates her 60 years in the convent.

Her long road began in Bavaria where she was born, one of 12 children of Louis and Wally Harrer. Sister Mary Urban entered the convent at Abenburg. But within a short time she was transferred to Rome and the congregation's motherhouse. In 1935, she came to the United States—a journey she had long wished for and a dream come true.

In America, she entered the novitiate in Milwaukee, WI, and completed her formation for the religious life, taking her first vows in 1936 and her final vows in 1941.

Transferred to St. Francis Regional Medical Center in 1939, she entered the 3-year diploma nursing program and graduated as a registered nurse in 1942. Ten years later, she earned a bachelor's degree in nursing education from Marquette University.

For 28 years, she served at St. Francis as staff nurse, head nurse, nursing supervisor, and administrator.

She was known not only as a dedicated nurse but one who fought valiantly for her patients. The story is told of the time in Wichita, KS, when she was assisting in a Caesarean delivery. An infant was declared dead by the doctor, but she thought it was too soon to give up. She worked until he was breathing on his own. For the next 18 years, Sister Mary Urban received a bouquet of roses on the baby's birthday.

In 1967, she was transferred to Denville, leaving an 800-bed regional medical center for St. Clare's Hospital, then a 180-bed community hospital.

As the hospital's administrator, she soon became known for her indomitable spirit, her courage, her gift for fundraising, her deep sense of caring, and her strong faith in God.

Daily, she made rounds of patients, moving quietly from room to room to ask how they were doing and promising to speak to the Lord on their behalf.

She had so much energy that her feet seemed hardly to hit the ground as she hurried up and down stairs and hallways. To some she was known as the "flying nun."

All of her work paid off. In the years of her tenure, St. Clare's grew in size and in the scope of its services. In 1972, a building program almost doubled the hospital's size. In 1984, when a four-story tower was constructed, it was named appropriately, Urban Tower.

It was not only the hospital which profited from her presence. So did the larger community. In 1983, the Denville Rotary Club was setting up its first Citizen of the Year Award. Members said they were looking for a person whose actions had contributed most to the residents of Denville area. The unanimous vote was Sister Mary Urban.

Today, as Chairman of the Board, she continues to be involved in the day-to-day life of the medical center where she brings determination to her work as she does for the Harvest Festival, the successful 1-day country fair which she inspired.

She has the ability to inspire others to the same kind of Herculean efforts. And they

come back year after year to do the same incredible job again.

Their efforts—and hers—have paid substantial dividends. In the first 19 years, the Festival has raised \$2.6 million to support hospital services and programs and to fund construction and equipment purchases. This October was the 20th Harvest Festival.

Her wonderful combination of perseverance, determination, and caring has made her a major asset to the medical center. Many believe that Sister Mary Urban is largely responsible for building the public support which has in turn fostered the growth of the medical center and made it what it is today: A 417-bed regional health care center.

The young farm girl who entered a Bavarian convent 60 years ago has made a difference to a town she did not then know existed.

God has blessed St. Clares Riverside, Sister Mary Urban has said, by building it into a fine hospital. Those who know her believe that she helped make that happen.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I ask that we recognize and salute Sister Mary Urban Harrer's life and service.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 8, 1995*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Jewish War Veterans of the United States on the occasion of their 100th anniversary. As the oldest continually active national association for veterans, the Jewish War Veterans has long served this Nation in times of war and in times of peace. The organization has worked actively to combat racism and bigotry throughout our Nation and the world, to uphold American ideals and free institutions, and to assist veterans of all races and creeds.

From the days of Asher Levy's first establishing his rights of citizenship by defending the walls of New Amsterdam—present-day Manhattan—to the conflict in the Persian Gulf, American Jews have fought and died in American Armed Forces. Official records show that American Jews have consistently served in the Armed Forces in greater numbers than their percentage in the population.

The Jewish War Veterans of the United States have sought to uphold this proud tradition of service to the Nation throughout their century of existence, fighting for veterans benefits, civil, and human rights. Throughout the Nation, Jewish War Veterans posts offer veterans from all walks of life, counseling and assistance in obtaining their veterans' benefits.

When Martin Luther King, Jr., led his march on Washington in 1963, it was the Jewish War Veterans who were the only veterans' organization to demonstrate for equal rights with him. Whenever Neo-Nazi or Ku Klux Klan groups have surfaced, the Jewish War Veterans have been there to protest in body and voice, through picketing, and consultation with, and assistance to law enforcement officials. The Jewish War Veterans are also active in a wide variety of civic improvement projects, including volunteering at Veterans' Association Hospitals and numerous homeless shelters,

providing college scholarships and urging our Nation's leaders to continue a strong commitment to those who have served our nation so valiantly.

The Jewish War Veterans of the United States represents an outstanding tradition of patriotism and service to America. It is my honor to say thank you and to congratulate them on their 100th anniversary.

#### TRIBUTE TO WESLEY MILLER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 8, 1995*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a gentleman who has spent his life serving his country, his union, and his community. Until his recent retirement, Wesley Miller was the first and only recording secretary the Toledo area UAW-CAP Council has had in its 27 years. Wesley has also served as president of UAW local 48 at the National Castings Corp. and more recently, as president of that local's retiree chapter.

Born in Columbus, OH, Wesley had the good sense to move to Toledo in 1952. During the Second World War, he served his country as a staff sergeant in the Air Force stationed in New Guinea. Wesley married Clara Furgeson in 1960 and can boast of five children, nine grandchildren, four great grandchildren, and counting. Wesley's leadership in his union and his community has helped to improve the lives of all the citizens of Toledo.

Wesley Miller deserves our thanks and our best wishes.

#### REMEMBERING THE ISLAND

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 8, 1995*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to insert in the RECORD excerpts from a newspaper column written by Mr. Jim Comstock of Richmond, WV. This article about Father Jesus Baza Duenas, the Chamorro martyr/priest beheaded by the Japanese during their occupation of Guam in World War II, was part of Mr. Comstock's column, The Comstock Load, which appeared in the West Virginia Hillbilly on October 26, 1995. The biographical sketch was mainly based upon the recollections of Monsignor Oscar Calvo as related to Mr. Comstock back in the mid-1940's. The article, according to Mr. Comstock, originally appeared in a Communications Center newspaper back on Guam in the last few months after the war:

#### REMEMBERING THE ISLAND

One day recently I combed through the collection of souvenirs and such which I brought home with me following my days spent on the island of Guam, in the Marianas, during World War II. All have been gone over for a last reminiscence glance, and are packed up to be sent to the museum in the Capital City of Agana. It was my delight in the last few months after the war, and I was waiting my turn to leave for home, to have edited a newspaper for the Communications Center, and now I am going to fill my

allotted Load space with one of my stories. Take it away:

On a rare sunny morning in the year 1940, the people of Inarajan went to the St. Joseph's Church in great expectancy. The first native priest of the island was going to say his first mass . . . That was in 1940 and the priest had less than two years to serve his flock and God, because at the end of 1941, the Japanese came and made the sword the faith. But those few months that Father Duenas was padre, he had won a place in the hearts of the people of the Island.

Father Duenas was taken out by a troop of Japanese soldiers on Barrigada and, after digging his own grave, was beheaded. I heard this story when I first went to the Island. I wondered why the Japanese would kill a man who had won such a place for himself in the hearts of the conquered people. I learned the story of his death, which happened just three weeks before our Marines landed at Blue Beach. The Reverend Oscar Calvo was in his bamboo and reed church, just behind the famous Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral, which the Spanish built in 1903 and the Americans leveled forty years later to get the Japanese occupiers out and off the island.

Father Calvo was the kind of fellow you could believe. You felt that his heart and his actions were as white as his pearl-like teeth. He finds it hard to express himself in English, but he is the man to tell you the story of Father Duenas.

"Father Duenas was a good man. He was good to work with and the people liked him very, very much. He was born March, I think, in let me see, 1911, I believe. He attended the elementary school here and when he was fifteen he went to the Seminary San Jose in Manila and studied under the direction of the Jesuit Fathers. I can say that he was greatly respected and that he won a high place there, both in the Minor and the Major Seminary."

I took out a cigarette and offered one to Father Calvo. He lit it and continued:

"When Father Duenas was graduated from the seminary, he asked to be returned to Guam, and on June 11, 1938, he was ordained to the priesthood in the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral. He was assigned for some months to Inarajan."

He paused reflectively. I wondered when it would be proper to ask him how so many of the Chamorros kept their teeth so white. He started speaking again, with each sentence raising at the end.

"I wish I could tell you why the Japanese took the life of Father Duenas, but I can't. It is just hard to say. I knew that he didn't like the Japanese, and that he often said things to people that I knew couldn't be trusted. You have heard of Mr. Tweed?" I nodded, for I well knew of Chief Radioman Tweed who had hidden out in the jungles till the Americans came. And I knew that contrary to the stories in the American papers, the people of Guam had only disgust for Mr. Tweed. "The Japanese wanted very much to find Mr. Tweed and very much they talked with Father Duenas but he would not tell them where Mr. Tweed was hiding." The word hiding went way up in the air. "It wasn't anything that he did, that caused the Japanese to kill Father Duenas, it was more what he did not do that the Japanese killed him. The priests that the Japanese sent from Tokyo, he did not try to get along with and would not eat with them when they came to Inarajan and did not stay when they said mass."

Here I had to stop Father Calvo. "Do you mean that the Japanese sent priests here to Guam?"

"Oh, yes. Did I not tell you? When the Japanese took out all of the nationals to Tokyo,