

TRIBUTE TO BOB OLIVE

HON. MARTIN R. HOKE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 1996

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize America's most outstanding public television programmer, Mr. Bob Olive of WVIZ-TV in Cleveland. On June 21, Mr. Olive was named "1996 Programmer of the Year" by his peers in the Public Television Programmers Association for demonstrating excellence and expertise within public broadcasting.

This recent award brings much deserved recognition of Bob Olive's successful effort to attract record-breaking viewership to programming on WVIZ-TV. In the past 2 years, overall viewership of the station has risen more than 50 percent with certain time slots rising 200 percent, an absolutely remarkable increase in today's competitive television environment. In 13 of the past 15 months, the station has experienced a rise in the number of viewers.

Of special note is Mr. Olive's ability to program effectively for different segments of the television viewing community. WVIZ-TV is the most watched private or public network in Cleveland among young children. Mr. Olive was instrumental in the development of "KidTV on VIZ", a daily 12-hour period of creative programming designed to provide the educational initiative for children to learn.

A Cleveland native, Bob Olive graduated from Parma's Valley Forge High School, earned a bachelor of science degree in education at Bowling Green State University, and did graduate work in speech and communication at Case Western Reserve University. An electronics technician for the Navy from 1968 through 1972, Mr. Olive was destined to involve himself in a long and distinguished career within the field of the electronic media.

In an 18-year career with WVIZ-TV, a public television station broadcasting across the Cleveland viewing area, Bob Olive has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to quality programming. He served the station well, as the director of public affairs, community affairs, and also as an announcer.

He began his career in broadcast communications beginning in 1959 as a morning announcer for WSJH, the radio station for Schaaf Junior High School. After 9 years of dedicated service with WVIZ-TV, he served as news manager at WEWS-TV, an ABC affiliate in Cleveland, where he created the long running and very popular news program, "Live on Five", which is still aired, before returning to WVIZ.

In addition to his service to the Cleveland area, he extends his talents throughout the country, serving on the National Program Policy Committee as an advisor to the Public Broadcasting System.

Dr. Judy LeRoy, co-director of Trac Media Services, in presenting this award praised Mr. Olive for his "achievements in creative scheduling, audience enhancement, local outreach and program acquisition." She also noted his ability to make "constant, substantial audience gains over the past several years."

Mr. Speaker, I could not allow Mr. Bob Olive's exceptional service and achievements to go without notice. His programming achievements, especially in the area of children's

broadcasting, have provided the entire WVIZ broadcast audience with a first-rate television product. He has been instrumental in enriching the lives of the people of northeast Ohio and we are grateful for his outstanding contributions and service.

SMALL COMMUNITIES CDBG
MULTIPURPOSE FACILITIES ACT

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 1996

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to introduce legislation that will enable small towns across our Nation to fully benefit from the Community Development Block Grant Program available through the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

My bill would amend the community development block grant regulations to allow municipal employees in towns of 5,000 or less population to use not more than 25 percent of the square footage in facilities purchased, constructed or renovated with CDBG funds.

I am introducing this legislation after learning of a problem in the village of Grady, a small community in eastern New Mexico. Strapped for adequate office space, municipal employees sought and received what they thought was appropriate Government approval to move into a small space in a facility built with CDBG funds. But lo and behold, once the move took place, a further examination of Government regulations revealed that the village is prohibited by law from occupying any space in a building built with CDBG funds. The financially strapped village is now stuck with a \$13,500 expense to remain in the building.

A small town has a severely limited tax base. It cannot afford to construct separate buildings for every essential service offered its residents. It cannot afford to purchase duplicate office equipment and supplies nor to pay insurance, utilities and maintenance expenses on several buildings.

Citizens who are hired for municipal jobs in small communities, such as clerks, policemen, firemen, and emergency medical service employees, must often share job responsibilities. Not only is it not economically feasible, but it is very difficult for these employees to work from separate buildings in terms of job communication and coordination.

Small towns must provide vital services to their residents. To do so efficiently, municipal employees must be able to conduct business in decent, affordable, and convenient facilities. We must give our small communities special consideration and enable them to make the best use of limited funding resources. A multipurpose use of facilities purchased, built or renovated with community development block grants is the only answer.

TRIBUTE HONORING BETTCHER
INDUSTRIES

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 1996

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exciting news for a business in my district. Bettcher Industries of Vermilion, OH, is the proud recipient of the 1995 Industrial Engineers' Excellence in Productivity Improvement Award for the development and manufacturing of the Airshirz pneumatic scissors. Some past winners of this prestigious award have been: Boeing, Anheuser-Busch, Ford Motor Co. and Texas Instruments.

The award is given in recognition of "diligent and innovative achievements which increased productivity, eliminated human drudgery, and improved the quality of working life." Creation of the Airshirz pneumatic scissors dramatically increased worker productivity while reducing exposure to cumulative trauma disorders. After successfully introducing the Airshirz in the poultry processing industry in 1995, they have been installed in a range of industries where workers are involved in cutting light metals, fiberglass and flexible sheet, heavy fabrics, plastics, rubber, and other industrial materials.

Ohio continues to be a leader in developing new products. The ergonomically designed, hand-held Airshirz scissors fit comfortably into the palm of the hand and are fully controllable by a finger loop similar to that of regular scissors. Because cutting power is delivered by air pressure, not the worker's hand, the gripping force and muscle activity required to perform tasks are dramatically reduced.

Bettcher Industries is a company renowned for its civic pride and commitment to service. The company is not only a world-class performer, with offices in Switzerland, on the international stage, but a model citizen in its own community.

Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that Ohio has greatly benefited from the efforts of the employees of Bettcher Industries. I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the achievements of these dedicated achievers and encourage them to continue to uphold what has become the standard for excellence in America.

STE. ANNE'S DE
MICHILIMACKINAC TRICENTEN-
NIAL CELEBRATION

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 1996

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to bring to the attention of the House and the entire Nation the tricentennial celebration of Ste. Anne's de Michilimackinac Church on July 26, 1996. Although the exact date of foundation is not known, the church has baptismal records dating back to 1695. The tricentennial celebration was delayed a year in order to wait for the completion of *Fishers of Men*, a book written by Jesuit Brother Jim Boynton of St. Ignace, MI, detailing the extraordinary history of Ste. Anne's de Michilimackinac.

In 1670 Jesuits landed on Mackinac Island, situated between the Michigan's Upper and Lower Peninsulas in the Straits of Mackinac. The missionaries, along with members of the Huron tribe, intended to teach the Chippewa and Ottawa Indians the way of the Lord. However, within a year the Jesuits left Mackinac Island and relocated at St. Ignace, named for St. Ignatius Loyola. The island had proved to be agriculturally weak and the land to the north in the Upper Peninsula was perfect for growing corn. From St. Ignace the missionaries traveled to surrounding areas in attempt to spread the Catholic faith.

The Jesuits became the peacekeepers of the region. In the late 1670's French fur traders entered the straits to buy furs from the American Indians. Unfortunately, the French used less than honorable tactics. It came to the attention of the church that the fur traders were selling brandy to the Indians with the intention of taking the furs, without paying, once the Indians got too drunk to understand what was happening. The Jesuits got involved and the injustices came to an end.

The Jesuits constructed the area's first Roman Catholic church in 1742, within the walls of Fort Michilimackinac located today in Mackinaw City, at the top of the Lower Peninsula. In 1761 tempers flared between the American Indians and the British occupying Fort Michilimackinac. This led to the massacre of many British fur traders and members of the British Army. The Jesuits were responsible for establishing a peaceful relationship between the Indians and surviving British just 1 year after the massacre occurred. This provided an opportunity for the British to occupy the fort once again.

The English colony moved from Fort Michilimackinac in 1781 to prepare for any retribution from the American Revolution. Fort Mackinac was built on Mackinac Island in the same location where it stands today. The civilians established a town just below the walls of the fort. The congregation did not want to leave their church behind on the mainland. That winter, when the straits froze, the church was disassembled, the pieces dragged across the ice, and then the church was rebuilt on the island.

The congregation moved their church again 1827 when Madame Magdelaine LaFromboise donated a large piece of land to the Church. Because of the many renovations which have occurred on the building over the years, none of the original structure remains standing. The new building has been renovated to look just like it did in the 1890's. Father Jim Williams, Ste. Anne's current pastor, made numerous beautiful renovations for this tricentennial celebration.

This has been a very exciting year for Ste. Anne. Brother Jim Boynton completed his thesis, through his extensive studies about the history of Ste. Anne's, to earn his master's degree in history. His research has taken him from Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, MA, to Quebec City, Montreal, Paris, and Rome. His research resulted in "Fishers of Men." The book is a chronicle of Catholicism coming into the Straits of Mackinac and the history of Ste. Anne's. Brother Boynton, a native of St. Ignace, will be teaching at the University of Detroit Jesuit High School this fall. Fortunately, he will be able to attend the tricentennial celebration on July 26. Father Jim Williams will begin the celebration

with a Thanksgiving mass in the morning. The afternoon will include an ice cream social, and a pageant will be held in the evening honoring the church's builders and rebuilders.

From primitive beginnings, like the tiny mustard seed in Mark's gospel (Mark 4:30-32), Ste. Anne's has grown great inviting all to find shelter in her branches and comfort in her shade. For over 300 years, Ste. Anne's has welcomed visitors and nurtured Mackinac Island, body and soul.

Mr. Speaker, Ste. Anne's de Michilimackinac has a long, rich, proud history. Brother Boynton has been able to capture the fabulous story of Catholicism in northern Michigan in her book "Fishers of Men." On behalf of northern Michigan, the Catholic Church, and the entire Nation, I would like to congratulate Brother Boynton, Father Jim Williams, and the congregation of Ste. Anne's de Michilimackinac on 301 years of prayer and dedication.

TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR ROBERT BLAIR

HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 1996

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, Monsignor Robert Blair, who passed away last month, was a clergyman in the Cleveland diocese for more than half a century. While many were saddened by his death, so many more were enriched by his warm heart, his full life and his unparalleled devotion to the church.

At his funeral last month, Auxiliary Bishop A. James Quinn delivered a thoughtful, uplifting address that captures the spirit of Monsignor Robert Blair. I wanted to submit it to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as a lasting tribute to a remarkable man who, in the words of Auxiliary Bishop Quinn, "used well the time God gave him."

What follows are the June 11, 1996, remarks by Auxiliary Bishop A. James Quinn.

TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR ROBERT BLAIR

We are not here out of sympathy. Another mood prevails.

When someone like Monsignor Robert Blair leaves the rest of us behind to join the Lord in heaven, it leaves me with a sense that something must be said in terms of gratitude about graces that came to us through one of God's very best.

We give thanks to God, therefore, for the life and friendship of Monsignor Robert Blair, in our lives and in the lives of all touched by his priesthood.

The readings Bob chose for his funeral speak eloquently of the spirit of his life and the vision of his priesthood.

His readings reflect a priest who walked by faith, not sight. He faithfully served four bishops, but only one master. From simple things like birds and wildflowers, or coins and horses, he drew lessons of what to run after, with the wisdom of one who trusts in the Lord, knowing he has a dwelling place awaiting him in heaven.

When I was a kid hanging around an old fire house on West 112th Street in Cleveland, I came to understand how pairs of boots became sentimental to firemen. The boots of those lost in the line of duty or curbed by injuries were revered, not wasted or neglected. Firemen's boots, as hand-me-downs, met respect, like numbered jerseys in halls of fame.

They especially respected those who died with their boots on. To die in service, in the line of duty, being what they were trained to be, putting life on the line! Such values involve commitment, faithfulness, loyalty, dedication... and lots of love of who you are and what you do.

Let's "rap" a bit about Monsignor Blair who cherished his priesthood and couldn't quit, not even in retirement, because of who and what he was.

The story of his vocation.

I think of Frost's "The Road Not Taken."

"Two roads diverged in a yellow wood.

And sorry I could not travel both."

Bob, and his brother Ted before him, must have wondered what path in life to take, knowing "how way leads on to way" and there is "no coming back."

Two roads diverged in a wood, and Bob took the one less traveled. And that made all the difference! For him, and for us, it made a difference when young Bob Blair chose priesthood.

The Story of every man's vocation?

I venture Bob could have been anything he wanted. He had smarts, personality, wit, enthusiasm... even good connections. But Bob chose priesthood... more than once because he found himself in several classes due to tuberculosis.

Bob chose priesthood, and, hand to the plow, never looked back. Bob gushed the great grace of conviction that he had chosen well. Actually, it was God who chose Bob. But Bob accepted God's call, thank God.

We all have stories to tell.

Bob Blair added color and fun to life, but never at the cost of responsibility or pastoral care. He spent himself on people and on projects that prospered people. With all his wit Bob was serious minded and had volumes to preach about things of moment, things that make a difference.

In some ways Bob was a visionary, but a realist, too. He knew how not to let a vision sink over someone's "Why bother."

His blend of wit and wisdom kept his visions soluble in reality, so not to curdle into some forsaken sediment of impracticality.

Other higher up might get the credit, but we know Bob made things happen. He made a difference!

Like you, I'll miss Bob because he was a friend, not just one of those acquaintances we make in life, but a friend who understands what is literal in life. He good naturedly absorbed sharp edges and burrs that surface what is me and you.

For all his fun loving ways Bob was a gentleman. Not formal or fussy, not stiff or starched, but a fun-loving gentleman who saw the best in life before he let the worst get him down. A touch of class wrapped in laughter!

Like you, I account it a great grace we met. I thank God. I learned. I laughed. I struck it rich to be included among his friends. And so did you, I suspect.

These days since Wednesday past I skim a book of memories that run deep, and swell my estimation of the value that is friendship, a friendship that I pray is friendship ever more.

I treasure the measure of time we worked together, at the old Archbishop's house, in the Chancery and Cathedral.

I hope future years will not allow this brook of memory to trickle out of speed except to soak deeper into the recesses of gratitude. After all, old friendships are best because they withstand the tests of time and cross currents and counter-currents of life. As surely as the golden sun melts down to night, gold here can never last. But good friendships last forever in resurrection life.

Speaking of friends, by now Bob's paired off with Frank Carney. He liked Frank: the