

reigns over the church of Clarence Thomas, told the jurist, turn your back to the dark side, "sin no more" and make certain that the interest of white men are protected.

Well, I must admit Clarence's God has been doing a hell of a job. White males are 33% of the total American population. Yet they make up 80% of the US House of Representatives members, 92% of Forbes 400 richest people, 97% of school superintendents, 99.9% of professional athletic team owners and 100% of all US presidents.

Yes indeed, the God that reigns over this church certainly looks out for the interest of his followers. And what a savvy being this God, to get a person with dark pigmentation and supreme power to preach the gospel according to the powerless white male. Who would ever question such a messenger? In choosing the Accidental Jurist, this God has certainly selected a worthy disciple. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Clarence.

In June of last year Clarence Thomas voted with the majority on the Supreme Court to end affirmative action programs involving school desegregation and voting rights in three separate cases. Since those decisions, Thomas appeared publicly to explain his vote. Thomas has stated, policies like affirmative action, which address the issues of equal access, are racist.

If affirmative action policies are racist where is the proof? The class of people who are the victims of a racist affirmative action program according to Thomas are white males. And yet, white males, outnumber every other group combined in nearly every job category even though they make up only 33% of the population.

It seems that the good justice is saying we need to eliminate affirmative action and return to the days when the only policy in effect was "the good old boy policy." Thomas appears to believe that we can and should trust those who benefit from the good old boy affirmative action program to do right by all of us. In Justice Thomas' world, white men will make certain everyone will benefit.

This type of thinking on the part of Justice Thomas reminds me of stories of slaves and citizens who truly believe "if I work really, really hard, someday those who benefit by my efforts will do right by me." The trickle down theory.

The trickle down theory didn't end slavery—it took a war and 10's of thousands of dead bodies to do that. The trickle down theory didn't end lawful segregation—it took riots, marching and murder to do that. The trickle down theory did not make slaves into citizens or give women the right to vote—it took a constitutional amendment to do that. And the trickle down theory will not eliminate the need for affirmative action no matter how much Clarence Thomas believes his mean spirited god is telling him that.

At a time when the discussion about affirmative action is already muddled by some who believe that white males as a whole are truly suffering in the implementation of the policy, at a time when the debate is confused and inflamed by some with the use of the phrase "preferential treatment", it is insane to add to the discord the opinion of a man who imagines he hears voices from God about what he should type on his word processor.

TRIBUTE TO MORRIS AND SYLVIA RUBIN

HON. ROBERT G. TORRICELLI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mr. TORRICELLI: Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to congratulate Morris and Sylvia

Rubin of Fort Lee, NJ, on their 50th wedding anniversary. This remarkable couple was married on July 14, 1946 at Lou G. Siegel's restaurant in Manhattan. They lived in the Bronx between 1946 and 1975 until they moved to Fort Lee, where they have lived ever since.

Sylvia worked as a typist at the New York Public Service Commission for 18 years before she retired in 1993. Prior to her work for the commission, she raised Barbara and Barry, two wonderful and loving children.

Sylvia's husband Morris was employed as a garment worker in the garment industry for 40 years and as a part-time postal worker as well.

The Rubins have enjoyed the fruits of togetherness for five decades. Their love and devotion to each other and their friends and loved ones has always been apparent. They have been wonderful parents and grandparents to their only grandchild, Michael.

In life, it is the special moments that should be cherished, and a 50th wedding anniversary is one of those times. I wish both of them another 50 years of wonderful matrimony.

TRIBUTE TO HELPING HAND REHABILITATION CENTER

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I salute an important organization that has been serving developmentally disabled residents in my district and surrounding areas for more than 40 years, the Helping Hand Rehabilitation Center.

The organization was started in the 1950's, a time when citizens with developmental disabilities were often sent to facilities far outside of the mainstream of society. However, a group of dedicated individuals from La Grange, IL, and nearby communities envisioned something better for these citizens: an organization that would help them become integrated into the mainstream of society as fully as possible.

Helping Hand Rehabilitation Center was the end result of this vision. Helping Hand offers a wide range of services for the developmentally disabled and their families, from early intervention child developmental programs to vocational work training for adult residential community living facilities. The lives of more than 500 disabled individuals are touched by Helping Hand each year through these programs.

Now in its fifth decade of service, Helping Hand is about to embark on a new program with the grand opening of its SubCon Industries Business Center. Unlike sheltered workshops that Helping Hand has operated in the past, the new center will be a profit generating, tax paying operation that will place disabled individuals with nondisabled workers.

The disabled and nondisabled working together have an opportunity to learn from each other, and this kind of professional environment enables the disabled to become totally integrated into the work world, giving them a strong feeling of personal achievement and success.

Mr. Speaker, I extend to Helping Hand my best wishes and congratulations on establish-

ing the SubCon Industries Business Center and thank the organization for its many years of serving the developmentally disabled citizens in my district.

TRIBUTE TO JEFFREY GORDON ENSTROM

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Jeffrey Gordon Enstrom from the Seventh District of Illinois in receiving the distinguished rank of Eagle Scout.

Not every young American who joins the Boy Scout earns the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout. Only 2.5 percent of all Boy Scouts receive this ranking. To earn the award, a Boy Scout must fulfill requirements in the area of leadership, service, and outdoor skills. He must earn 21 merit badges, 11 of which are required from areas such as citizenship in the community, citizenship in Nation, citizenship in world, safety, environmental science, and first aid.

As a distinguished member of troop 40, Jeffrey Gordon Enstrom has received 43 merit badges and attended the World Jamboree in Korea and Hawaii. He has done work as a counselor with his church, and he participated in the "Help Feed the Children" project in his community, as well as in New York. He has also developed a computer lab for unwed mothers. I hope that more young Americans follow his lead by becoming more involved in their communities.

On June 28, 1996, Jeffrey Gordon Enstrom received this honor of Eagle Scout at a recognition ceremony at the United Lutheran Church in Oak Park, IL. I ask that my colleagues join me saluting Eagle Scout Jeffrey Gordon Enstrom in recognition of this tremendous honor.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL STERN, WAR CORRESPONDENT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Michael Stern, a renowned war correspondent who today celebrates his 86th birthday. Mr. Stern has led a distinguished career as an outstanding journalist who has also used his expertise as both a historian and an educator. He is deserving of special recognition here today in honor of his vast contributions to America's understanding of the realities of war.

Mr. Stern, the author of seven books and the producer of five feature motion pictures, has written extensively about his wartime experiences. His story on the B-17 flying fortress, Memphis Belle, America's four-engine bomber, has served as the basis for motion pictures and was selected by the World Publishing Company as one of the 100 best stories of World War II. Additionally, his story "Nuts," written on the European front, has

been an integral tool for historians writing about the Battle of the Bulge. To document his own vivid account as a war correspondent, he published his memoir, "Into the Jaws of Death."

Mr. Stern has not only documented the events he has witnessed, but has also made every effort to educate Americans through his personal accounts of his wartime experiences. He has served as a lecturer at the Newhouse School of Communication at Syracuse University and has made countless appearances on television to expose the American public to the realities of war. In addition to his role as educator, Mr. Stern currently acts as a trustee of the Intrepid Museum Foundation, a trustee of the Fisher House Foundation, executive vice president and chief operating officer of the Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research at Rockefeller University, and the editor-in-chief of Fisher House Magazine.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today in honor of Michael Stern, who has dedicated his life to bringing the reality of war home for Americans to understand and appreciate. I ask that my colleagues join with me in this well-deserved tribute to Mr. Stern and in celebration of his 86 years of experience and dedication to wartime journalism and education.

GORDON MCALLISTER: A SPECIAL INDIVIDUAL

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, whenever people ask me what ever happened to people who care about their community and their neighbors, I have the good fortune to tell them about people like Gordon McAllister, a special individual who for many years has served his community professionally, personally, and has taken the time to help people remember valuable lessons from our past.

Gordon McAllister has served as a police official in several capacities ever since his graduation from high school. He served as an Air Police officer with the United States Air Force. He then worked as a security officer for General Motors for 3 years, followed by another 3 years as a State Commissioned, Michigan State Railroad Police Detective.

For the past 27 years, Gordon has served as a member of the Bay City Police Department. For 8 years he was a patrol officer, and for 19 a detective corporal. During this time he earned 14 department commendations and numerous letters of merit from citizens and businessmen. Even more notable is that while performing in an exemplary fashion he continued to better himself by obtaining a bachelor of arts degree in Criminal Justice from Saginaw Valley State University.

He has personally been involved in many charitable events. Most notably he has been the local chairman for the National Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics for several years.

Most recently, Gordon earned the National Merit Award from the Sons of the Civil War for coordinating a salute to Civil War Veterans including songs and poems of the era, at the Vassar, Michigan, Riverside Cemetery. This program was a tribute to all veterans, particu-

larly those from the Civil War, and marked the 100th anniversary of the dedication of a monument which bears the names of more than 200 Civil War veterans at the cemetery, including his great, great-grandfather, William Bassett Stark, who served in the 34th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry.

With all of this public service, Gordon still believes his greatest success is investing in his family and their future—his help with his three children Darren, Darneal, and Brandon, attaining their college degrees.

Mr. Speaker, what happened to people who care about their community and their neighbors? One of them—Gordon McAllister—lives in Bay City, MI. I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in recognizing his wonderful contributions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NORMAN SISISKY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably absent during tests related to my chemotherapy. Had I been present during consideration of H.R. 2391, the Compensatory Time Act, I would have voted against the bill.

AGENT ORANGE BENEFITS ACT OF 1996

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Agent Orange Benefits Act of 1996. The legislation provides necessary medical care and compensation to a new class of citizens who have sacrificed their health in the defense of our Nation—the children of agent orange-exposed Vietnam veterans who were born with Spina Bifida.

The legislation, proposed by the administration after close coordination with veterans services organizations and the disabilities community, is the result of a process set into place by the Agent Orange Act of 1991. The act established the process in which the National Academy of Sciences' [NAS] Institute of Medicine [IOM] issues reports every 2 years on the existing scientific evidence relating to Vietnam veterans' exposure to agent orange. The IOM's latest report confirmed what Vietnam veterans have known all along—that agent orange has and will continue to exact a high price on themselves and their families. The report specifically found that there is limited suggestive evidence of an association between agent orange exposure to vets and the occurrence of spina bifida in their children.

The bill I am introducing today is consistent with legislative action we have taken in the past with respect to veterans who suffered from conditions in the "second tier" of the NAS report. As with previous legislative relief we have granted veterans, my bill ensures that the VA has the authority to provide health care and appropriate compensation. Specifically, the bill gives the Secretary of the VA the authority to provide the extensive medical help

needed by children suffering from spina bifida, including important case management services. The bill also gives the Secretary the flexibility to contract for care from private sources to ensure that appropriate medical services are provided.

I applaud the administration's quick and decisive movement on this issue. In particular, Secretary Brown should be congratulated for the strong action he took in ensuring that the administration proposed comprehensive legislation that guarantees that these children will be properly cared for and compensated.

I hope that we can take quick action on this legislation. The bottom line is that we have sick children who have paid the price because of their father's service to our Nation. They need and deserve the best that our nation can give them. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO HISPANIC-AMERICAN VETERANS

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute our Hispanic-American veterans and to share with you a few of the experiences of these brave men and women. On August 23 and 24, 1996, the California Occupational Foundation, under the leadership of Gus Hernandez, will be having a dinner and parade to recognize the contributions of our Hispanic-American veterans.

It is important that we recognize our Nation's Hispanic-American veterans, men and women who answered the call to defend freedom and democracy. Since the American Revolution, Hispanic Americans have courageously served, and in many cases died for our country. During the Civil War, an estimated 10,000 Hispanic-American soldiers fought in either the Union or Confederate Armies. Because of a language barrier, few Hispanic Americans saw any combat during World War I. But by World War II, with the language barrier broken, approximately 500,000 Hispanic-American soldiers helped the Allies defeat the Axis powers. Hispanic Americans have also served in Korea, Vietnam, and in Operation Desert Shield/Storm. Today, there are approximately 1 million living Hispanic-American veterans. Currently, Hispanic-Americans make up 5 percent of our Nation's active duty armed forces personnel.

Among these heroes is Marine PFC Guy Gabaldon, who with distinction captured more enemy soldiers than anyone else in the history of U.S. military conflicts. PFC Gabaldon captured over 1,000 Japanese soldiers during World War II. Also included are eight men who selflessly gave their lives for our country, continuing a tradition of honor rooted in a small street in Silvis, IL. Although the street is only large enough to accommodate 22 families, it has produced 84 brave men who fought in either World War II, Korea, or Vietnam. Once named Second Street, this small block has been renamed Hero Street U.S.A. and stands as a monument to these American heroes.

Most notable are the 41 Hispanic Americans who have been awarded our Nation's most prestigious and highest military decoration, the