

The Colliers are the proud parents of two wonderful children, Daniel, age 14, and Katie, age 12. The Colliers represent citizenship at its best, and I am pleased to recognize these fine Americans in the pages of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

IN HONOR OF "BLACK WOMEN'S DAY" RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING CHARITABLE WORK AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF LOCAL WOMEN

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 28, 1996*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to local African-American women for their distinguished public service and selfless commitment to their communities. October 20, 1996, will mark the 29th year celebrating Black Women's Day, and the accomplishments of women who continue to provide such vital charitable work for people from all walks of life.

This day recognizes the enormous difference that compassionate individuals can make in the lives of so many in our society who are less fortunate. I commend the efforts of these women and the profound impact that their work has had on the community for so many years. As caring members of the community, these women have and continue to serve as positive role models for individuals and families who have lost hope due to unfortunate circumstances in their lives.

As we approach a new millennium, the need for individuals who contribute to the empowerment and improvement of our communities will be of utmost importance. Our communities today are filled with families in need of emergency assistance. The women being honored on Black Women's Day, recognize the urgency in providing such assistance. Their work transcends racial barriers and focuses more importantly on the human spirit. For this, they have earned the fond admiration of their communities and of mine as well.

The 29th annual Black Women's Day Awards Banquet will honor Catherine Burno, Reba Jenkins, Oclean Pitchford, Frances Richardson, Frances Thompson, Ruth Henderson, Eola Jett, Deborah Reid-Davis, Carolyn Surles, and Estelle Williams for their distinguished works of charity. Also being honored at this event for their contributions are Dr. Phillip M. Bonaparte, Esteemed Honoree, and Lyle Young, Man of the Year.

I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring these remarkable women for all that they have done for our communities. I am proud to have them living and performing such outstanding works of charity within my congressional district. I greatly appreciate the efforts of all those being honored at the banquet and encourage them to continue their work for many more years.

HONORING ZEIGLER-ROYALTON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 188

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 28, 1996*

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Zeigler-Royalton Community Unit School District No. 188, Zeigler, IL, located in my congressional district, for having been ranked by the Illinois Tax Foundation as being among the top school districts in the State of Illinois.

The Illinois Tax Foundation, a nonpartisan organization, analyzed the standardized test performance of each Illinois school district for the years 1993-1995. Each district was compared with similar Illinois districts, based on the percentage of low-income students in all districts. Despite the fact that this school district has a very high enrollment of low-income students, its academic performance far surpassed larger school districts with a high enrollment of upper income students.

This is a tribute to the outstanding leadership of the school officials and the dedication and deep commitment of the teachers to providing their students with the best education possible. I commend them for their invaluable contribution to ensuring our children become productive members of society and extend my congratulations to all of them for their remarkable achievement.

TRIBUTE TO ALEXANDER MANOOGIAN

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 28, 1996*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as the House adjourns today, I want to be certain that we take the fullest note of one of this year's most regrettable events, the death of Alexander Manoogian.

Mr. Manoogian was a towering figure in the Armenian-American community and beyond. He built the Masco Corporation into a major business entity in this nation. He used his wealth with immense generosity for the benefit of his immediate community and the nation at large.

We are thankful that he was given a long and full life. That will only make it more difficult to fill the vacuum which his death leaves for us all.

In further remembrance of Alexander Manoogian, I now insert into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD an article written after his death by Dennis Papazian, a distinguished scholar as well as a leader in the Armenian-American community.

A BEFITTING TRIBUTE TO A GREAT MAN

(By Dennis R. Papazian, Ph.D.)

The Alex Manoogian era of Armenian history, spanning 95 years, has come to a close. His earthly remains were laid to rest with great dignity and solemn ceremony at the majestic, cathedral-like St. John's Armenian Church of Greater Detroit, which he helped to design and build, on Thursday, July 18, 1996.

The dan gark (wake) and funeral, both held in the church, were presided over by His Ho-

liness Karekin I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians from Armenia and carried out with the ministrations of several diocesan Primates, a host of bishops and archbishops, and a score of other clergymen and deacons representing the Armenian Church in America, Armenia, and in the diaspora. Also represented at the funeral were clergy of the Armenian Protestant churches, the Armenian uniate Catholic Church, the Armenian Prelacy, as well as many sister American churches.

A delegation of government officials from Armenia, led by former vice-president of the Republic and current President of the Constitutional Court, Mr. Gagik Haroutunian, had flown in from Armenia to show their deep respect and abiding affection for the Honorary Citizen of Armenia and the "National Hero of the Armenian People."

Leaders of the Armenian community and virtually every Armenian organization and political party in the diaspora were represented at the funeral, including members of the Diocesan Council, the Board of Directors of the Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU), the Armenian Assembly of America, the Armenian Democratic Liberal Party, the Armenian Revolutionary Federation, and a host of others. Leaders of the American community, from business, government, and philanthropy, were visibly in attendance.

Distinguished American political figures in attendance included the governor of Michigan, the Honorable John Engler; the former governor of Michigan and current American Ambassador to Canada, the Honorable James Blanchard; various members of the state House and Senate; and representatives of Senators Carl Levin and Spencer Abraham as well as of the Michigan US Congressional delegation, including the Hon. Sander Levin. The dan gark was also attended by the Honorable Dennis Archer, mayor of Detroit, as well as by other civic dignitaries.

The cavernous church was filled to overflowing on the occasion of both the dan gark and the funeral with mourners who had come from literally all over the world to pay their last tribute to a great Armenian-American. Distinguished personages arrived from as far as Armenia and Australia and from Canada to Latin America, to pay homage to perhaps the greatest Armenian philanthropist and leader of the 20th century. Mr. Manoogian's rich and active life spanned 95 years, from the turn of the century to the present, from the genocide of 1915 to the inauguration of the second free and independent Armenian Republic.

The homily at the *dan gark* was delivered by His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, from New York, who was introduced by the pastor of St. John's Church of South field, MI, the Very Rev. Fr. Baret Yeretzian, who also expressed his love, respect, and devotion for Mr. Manoogian. Archbishop Shane Ajemian from Jerusalem read the Epistle and Archbishop Vatche Hovsepian, Primate of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, chanted the Gospel. Archbishop Hovnan Derderian, Primate of Canada, recited the "*Christos vorti*," Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian of New York read a message of condolence from His Holiness Aram, I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, in Lebanon.

The formal eulogy at the funeral, filled with insight and pathos worthy of the solemn occasion, was delivered by His Holiness the Catholicos who drew attention to Mr. Manoogian's love for his own people, for the world community, for the Armenian Church,

for the good works of the AGBU, for Armenian education and culture, and for all people great and small in America and throughout the world. Before making his formal remarks, the Catholicos prayed for the souls of the 230 persons who had tragically lost their lives the previous day in the TWA plane crash. Fr. Zaven Arzumanyan of Florida read the Epistle and Archbishop Karekin Nersesian of Armenia chanted the Gospel. Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian recited the "Christos vorti."

The Catholicos chose for the scriptural theme of his address a reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew 26:31-46. "'Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me.' Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?' And the King will answer, 'I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.'"

Surely, said the Catholicos, this exemplifies the life of Mr. Alex Manoogian.

At the end of the funeral, His Holiness the Catholicos united the mourners in inviting all of them to join in the singing of the *Hayr Mer*. (the Lord's Prayer). As the pipe organ soared, the voice of the congregation filled the cavernous church with brilliant song with testified to the faith and hope of the people.

The clergy and the congregation marched in solemn procession from the church into the Armenian Cultural Building for the memorial meal which was attended by nearly 1,000 mourners. His Eminence Archbishop Vatche Hovsepian gave the invocation. Loving comments on the personal life of Mr. Manoogian were made by Mrs. Louise Simone, President of the Armenian General Benevolent Union, and Mr. Richard Manoogian, Chairman of the Board of MASCO Corporation, Mr. Manoogian's daughter and son.

Mr. Gagik Haroutunian delivered the condolences of His Excellency Levon Ter Petrosian, president of Armenia, and offered his own words, of sympathy on behalf of the entire delegation from the Republic of Armenia. Mrs. Simone then read telegrams of condolence from President Bill Clinton of the United States and President Levon Ter Petrosian of Armenia.

Telegrams were also announced from His Beatitude Torkom Manoogian, Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem, and His Beatitude Karekin Kazanjian, Armenian Patriarch of Constantinople (Istanbul), which were among the thousands receive from dignitaries and common folk from all over the world. Archbishop Karekin Nersesian of the diocese of Ararat in Armenia give the benediction.

"Today the entire Armenian nation is mourning, as we take part in the funeral services of our Patriarch," said Mr. Haroutunian during his remarks. "Alex Manoogian's death is a tremendous loss not only for the Armenian people. . . . Mr. Manoogian was an epoch-making phenomenon who shaped history. He gave charity a new meaning and new content; he set an example for teaching how to live with one's people and nation. He taught how to impart devotion and love."

The color-saturated interior of the sanctuary, illuminated by shafts of light pouring through the narrow, richly colored stained glass windows and by dim golden lamps sus-

ended from the great parabola arches, was tastefully decorated by large bouquets of white roses with cascading ivy. The black robes and cowls of the numerous clergy stood in stark and solemn contrast to the resplendent, although muted church.

The Komitas Choir of St. John's Armenian Church was conducted by Maestro Khoren Meikhanedjian of New York and accompanied by Mrs. Louise Yardumian of St. Petersburg, FL. Soloists included Ms. Maro Partamian of New York and a quartet comprised of Mrs. Violet Cholakian, Mrs. Arlene Baylerian, Mrs. Denise Karakashian, and Mrs. Barbara Widener of metropolitan Detroit, who sang moving sharagans (hymns) during the funeral service.

Closed circuit television carried the services into the lobby, the chapel, and the nursery of the attached Cultural Building where elegant tables were set up to supplement the 700-seat Cultural Hall from where the ceremonies of the hokejash (memorial meal), served to almost 1,000 persons, were also telecast.

Entombment services, held by the His Holiness the Catholicos and the numerous clergy from Armenia, Europe, and America, took place at Woodlawn Cemetery following the hokejash with only family members in attendance. The casket was covered by earth brought from Armenia by Mr. Haroutunian, and the tomb was sealed by the Catholicos with a cross. The site will be marked by a elegant kachkar (cross-stone) brought from Armenia by the Catholicos.

"No one was invited to the funeral," said the pastor of St. John's, Fr. Baret Yeretizian, "that is not the custom. Everyone, clergy and laity, attended of his own desire out of love and respect for Mr. Manoogian. The funeral and dan gark, attended by 2,000 persons over two days, were a fitting memorial to a great and generous man."

"Mr. Manoogian's genius lay in his determination to resurrect the Armenian people after the genocide of 1915," said Dr. Dennis R. Papazian, a professor of history at the University of Michigan, Dearborn, and a resident of Troy, MI. "to rebuild the Armenian Church, to encourage a free and independent Armenia, to preserve and expand Armenian culture, and to help the Armenian people return to their rightful place in the family of nations and in world history. We have truly lost a great champion of the Armenian people."

"We must also not lose sight of the fact that Mr. Manoogian was a great American. In fact his life was a monumental testimony to the greatness of America. Where else in the world could a man rise from a poor immigrant to a captain of industry, from a homeless boy to a great world-wide philanthropist? Surely Mr. Manoogian represented the American dream, and he never forgot it. He gave to all sorts of American causes. We are all the poorer for his passing. He will be sorely missed."

The pallbearers were Mr. Manoogian's grandsons and nephews: James Manoogian, Richard Manoogian, Jr., David Simone, Mark Simone, Brian Manoogian, Douglas Manoogian, Chris Christo, and Paul Christo.

Security for the various dignitaries in attendance was provided by the Michigan State Police and Masco Corporation. The Parish Council of St. John's Church, along with the Pastor, were active in preparation and administration. Cynthia Oknaian provided coordination with the various groups involved on behalf of the Church.

HONORING JOSEPH DiRENZO, JR.

HON. ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor Joseph DiRenzo, Jr., a friend, fellow Princeton alumni, constituent, and NCAA referee.

Born and raised in Union City, NJ, Joe DiRenzo graduated from Princeton University, which he attended on scholarship in 1956. While a Princeton he was an All East tight end on the football team. He later played pro football with the Montreal Alouettes in the Canadian Football League. He also served in the U.S. Army.

In 1963 he received his first assignment as a collegiate referee. During nearly 30 years as a referee he officiated more than 250 games, including seven bowl games; legendary coach Paul "Bear" Bryant's last football game; and the famous 1984 game in which Doug Flutie delivered a game-winning "Hail Mary" pass against the University of Miami.

As a referee, Joe DiRenzo displayed both common sense and great mastery of the rules of the game. One of Jose DiRenzo's fellow referees said of him: "He was an outstanding official who has no problem making decisions and was hardly ever criticized by a coach. Joe was a credit to the game of football."

In addition to his officiating career, Joe DiRenzo was a successful executive in several oil and real estate companies. He was a 30-year resident of Severna Park, MD, and had been active in several community organizations.

Joe DiRenzo passed away unexpectedly on September 13. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Cathy, his son, Coast Guard Lt., Joe DiRenzo III, his daughter, Donna Graves, his mother, Emilia DiRenzo, and two grandchildren.

My thoughts and prayers go out to all of them during this time of sadness.

For myself, I am proud to call Joe DiRenzo my friend and mentor.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE CLIFTON HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, next month, my friends at the Clifton Heights Fire Department will celebrate their 100th anniversary. Accordingly, I want to pay tribute to these Americans who have put their lives on the line daily to protect the citizens of Clifton Heights, PA.

In 1896, by order of the courts, the Clifton Heights Fire Protection Association and the Clifton Heights Hose, Hook, and Ladder Co. received their charters. For nearly 60 years, the two companies operated separately to provide the citizens of Clifton Heights with superb fire protection. In 1956, putting all rivalry aside, the two companies agreed to disband and join together to form one entity—the Clifton Heights Fire Co.

Since 1956, the Clifton Heights Fire Co. has been one of the best trained and most aggressive companies in Pennsylvania. With support