

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO REV. DONALD W. MORGAN

HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 1996

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding individual, Rev. Donald Walker Morgan of Wethersfield, CT; who is retiring as the senior minister of the First Church of Christ in Wethersfield, CT. During his 18-year tenure as the spiritual leader of the historic Wethersfield Church which dates back to 1635. Reverend Morgan has significantly contributed to the growth of the church membership bringing it to over 2,800 members—the largest, fastest growing congregational-UCC Church in New England.

Born in Lexington, MA, Donald Morgan served in World War II as a member of a B-17 Flying Fortress bomber crew. For over 2 years, he was part of the 8th Air Force Division in Great Britain, and flew numerous missions over Germany. He then matriculated at Tufts University in Boston where he received a bachelor of science degree in clinical psychology. Reverend Morgan earned a master of divinity degree from the Union Theological Seminary in New York, and was ordained to the Christian ministry in 1953.

Since 1953, Reverend Morgan has served in churches in Northfield, VT; Litchfield, CT; Rutland, VT; and Lakewood, OH. In June 1978, Reverend Morgan accepted the senior minister position at First Church in Wethersfield, CT. Reverend Morgan brought new vitality and a dynamic vision reaching well beyond the confines of the historic colonial community. He expanded the services of the church by providing new ministries in a myriad of social and religious areas and hired professional staff to handle the administrative affairs of the church.

The Reverend Donald W. Morgan is currently chairman of Churches Uniting in Global Mission, a national movement of pastors and churches and is frequently a featured speaker at the Robert Schuller Institute for Successful Church Leadership. He is the author of "How To Get It Together When Your World Is Coming Apart," published in 1988, and "Sermons In American History," an acclaimed volume which addresses selected issues in the American pulpit from 1630 to the present. Reverend Morgan's ministry and church have been cited in two recent publications "How To Reach Secular People" by George Hunter, and "Good News From Growing Churches" by Robert Burt.

He is married to the former Alice Grace Gingles of Bowling Green, KY, a graduate of Wellesley College and Union Theological Seminary who had served until recently as the director of Caring Ministries at the First Church in Wethersfield, CT. They have 6 children and 13 grandchildren.

Reverend Donald Morgan is a nationally respected spiritual leader who with dedicated fortitude and vision transformed a colonial era church into one of the most dynamic, energetic religious institutions in New England.

Having participated in a service or two at First Church, I can attest to the great works of Reverend Morgan and the impact he has had on the lives of those in his congregation and community. His calling to First Church was fortunate for the church community, the town of Wethersfield, the greater Hartford region and the State of Connecticut.

We recognize his achievements. We have learned from his example. He has touched the lives of many in so many ways. We sincerely extend our wishes of gratitude and wish him the best upon his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO DR. NEAL R. BERTE

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 1996

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, Birmingham-Southern College in Birmingham, AL, one of the Nation's top liberal arts colleges, is observing the twentieth anniversary of Dr. Neal R. Berte as its President. Dr. Berte came to Birmingham-Southern on February 1, 1976 from the University of Alabama, where he was the Vice President for Educational Development and the Dean of the New College. Under Dr. Berte's two decades of leadership, Birmingham-Southern College has seen its enrollment more than double, its students' test scores rise to among the highest in the Southeast, its faculty size which includes some of the finest scholars in the country, increase more than 60 percent, its endowment grow from fourteen million dollars to more than eighty-two million dollars, the construction of seven new buildings with more planned, and its graduates accepted to the nation's top medical and law schools at rates far exceeding the national average. These achievements have not gone unnoticed. Respected publications such as U.S. News and World Report, Money, and The Princeton Review consistently name Birmingham-Southern College as one of the country's outstanding liberal arts colleges. Dr. Berte's untiring dedication to education has been recognized by many organizations, including the American Council on Education, which named him one of America's Leaders in Higher Education, and the Council For Advancement and Support of Education, which selected him as one of the 100 Most Effective College Presidents. Dr. Berte is also a respected civic leader in Birmingham who is dedicated to improving the quality of life for his city and state. He is chairman of Leadership Birmingham and the Birmingham Business Leadership Group, which is made up of the chief executive officers of 45 of Birmingham's largest businesses. Dr. Berte has served as chairman of the Birmingham Area Chamber of Commerce, and campaign chairman and president of the United Way of Central Alabama. For his civic and community leadership, he has received many honors, including being named Birmingham's citizen of the year and being inducted into the city's Distinguished Gallery of Honor. Working with Dr. Berte dur-

ing his 20 years at Birmingham-Southern College is his wife, the First Lady of Birmingham-Southern, Anne Berte, a tireless civic and community leader in her own right. I want to congratulate Neal and Anne Berte on the outstanding job they have done at Birmingham-Southern College during the past 20 years, and I wish them continued happiness and success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES-RUSSELL'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, on April 28, 1996, Charles-Russell International will gather its 150 employees, well wishers and followers to celebrate 25 years of creative hairstyling and entrepreneurship. The vision toward new trends in hair styling and hair care can be credited to a man arriving on the American scene some three decades ago.

Born in Leicester, England in May 1938, Edward Joseph Russell Breakwell earned his stylist stripes in the hairdressing industry as an apprentice to Steiner's of Mayfair, in London. At 21 years of age he owned his first salon and traveled as a guest lecturer to the United States. Impressed by the country, he moved to the Washington, D.C. area and worked for the Vincent and Vincent chain of salon, eventually acquiring one of them. Later, he entered into a joint venture with another businessman, Charles Morra, and together they established the first Charles-Russell salon on Quaker Lane in Alexandria, VA.

Today, the Charles-Russell enterprise consists of 12 salons throughout the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The joint venture between Charles and Russell has contributed greatly to the economic development of the community, including restaurant ownership and a major construction company, C-R Properties.

There is much discussion nowadays about immigrants coming to the United States and the myth that they take from our society and our social safety net. To the contrary, the hard work and contributions of Charles-Russell, has added to the wealth of this country and has translated into careers and the well-being of many families. Russell Breakwell epitomizes this vision and contribution to our society.

Russell Breakwell today, is an American citizen who participates not only in the business arena, but in the civic affairs of his community in Lake Barcroft, VA. He is married to the former Laurie Jones, who along with their 5-year-old child, Charles, reside in Lake Barcroft and the Florida Keys. A source of much pride and father-son kinship 22-year old Alexander Breakwell is following in this father's footsteps as a hairdresser at Charles-Russell.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues here assembled join me in saluting Charles-Russell International for its spirit and vitality as a progressive employer. It is fitting that on its 25 anniversary Charles-Russell plans to announce an innovative salary and employee health benefit plan. The company is to be praised for rewarding and motivating hard work and loyalty among its many employees.

DON'T REWRITE HISTORY!

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 1996

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, much has been said in the U.S. Congress regarding events in the eastern part of the Ottoman Empire toward the end of World War I. Yet I urge my colleagues to consider all sides and not rush to judgment.

Many of my colleagues condemn Turkey and its predecessor, the Ottoman Empire, for perpetrating genocide against its Christian Armenian population 80 years ago. Genocide is the most heinous of crimes, and before we make such charges, we should be absolutely certain of the facts.

Many of our Nation's renowned historians and academics specializing in Ottoman history tell us that the events in question require more scholarly study. Historical evidence does not justify the genocide charge. While it is not disputed that Armenians died in eastern Anatolia during the period from 1915–1922, over 2 million Turks and other non-Christians also died. Although many died as a result of intercommunal fighting, many more died because of starvation and epidemic disease.

No reasonable person can dispute the unfortunate events in eastern Anatolia some 80 years ago. But do we dare ignore the deaths of 2 million non-Christian people, many at the hands of Armenian revolutionary groups who had allied themselves with Russian forces which were invading Ottoman land for territorial gains?

Ottoman responsibility lies in the Empire's inability to protect its civilian population, Christian and Moslem alike, from threats of wide-scale fighting, famine, and disaster.

There is little to be gained from inflaming past animosities, which are invariably grounded in the complex political and military dynamics of the time. It is far more productive for all parties to look toward the future. Armenia and Turkey would only benefit from improved relations. Turkey was among the first countries to recognize Armenia upon its secession from the Soviet Union. Just after taking office, Turkish Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz emphasized Turkey's readiness to develop close relations and cooperation with Armenia in every field once the Nagorno-Karabagh conflict is resolved. He also expressed his government's determination and willingness to open the border posts with Armenia once the declaration of principles is reached between Armenia and Azerbaijan regarding the settlement of the conflict. Armenian President Ter Petrosian, while addressing the Association of Armenian Manufacturers and Businessmen last March noted Turkey's importance as an economic partner for his country, referring to Turkey as Armenia's shortest path to the outside world.

The U.S. Congress should encourage progress in Turkish-Armenian relations. Any efforts which would hinder these developments inevitably threaten Armenia's economic viability.

Western interests are served through the stabilization of the Caucasus. The Caspian Sea region contains oil and gas reserves second only to the Middle East. A pipeline passing from Azerbaijan through Armenia and Turkey to markets in the West would not only create an important alternative energy source for the West, but also would create necessary conditions for economic growth and development for the region. Commercial cooperation would lead to enhanced relations. By providing economic strength, this pipeline would also ensure the independence of new states, and would help bolster democracy and democratic institutions.

Mr. Speaker, now is the time for all states in the Caucasus, Muslim and Christian, to put their differences behind them and work together for a prosperous future. I urge my colleagues interested in stability in the Caucasus to oppose any efforts to undermine regional cooperation.

TRIBUTE TO RAY LUJAN

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 1996

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, March 22, 1996, a happy outing at the beach ended in tragedy and grief for a father and his two young sons. The father, a surfing enthusiast, brought along his sons, aged 3 and 5, to Talofofo Bay, one of the most popular surfing spots in my home district, Guam. Since the water was rough that day, many surfers were drawn to the bay. The two boys played at the water's edge while the father challenged the waves on his surfboard.

Sometime after lunch, several people noticed that the two boys were gone. Their father was still surfing, but the boys were nowhere in sight. Word soon spread along the beach that two small boys were missing, and a search began. Police and Fire Rescue were called, and the search widened. At approximately 2 p.m. the 3-year-old was found floating face down in the water. He was unresponsive, but was later revived and transported to the hospital. The search for his older brother continued until nightfall and was resumed at daybreak the next day. The body of the 5-year-old was recovered just before 9 a.m.

As islanders, the people of Guam are particularly sensitive to water-related tragedies such as this, especially when they involve children and youngsters. This incident received considerable media attention from the initial call for help to the discovery of the second little boy's body the next day. News accounts credited an unidentified surfer with the rescue of the first little boy.

I wish to share that surfer's name because he truly is a lifesaver and merits this recognition. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ray Lujan is well-known within Guam's surfing community, but he is not one to seek publicity for himself or sing his own praises. He much prefers the sun on his back and a good wave under his surfboard. During the many years that he has spent pur-

suing the waves, Mr. Lujan has witnessed many water-related tragedies. To his credit, many of the near tragedies are just that, because Mr. Lujan got involved. He has rescued swimmers who were swept over the reef. He has pulled drowning swimmers and surfers out of the water and brought them safely back to shore.

In this incident, Mr. Lujan not only discovered the 3-year-old. In a desperate bid to keep death from claiming a victim, he also performed mouth-to-mouth resuscitation on the little boy, even though he has had no prior training. Today, that little boy is alive and well on his way to a full recovery. The Guam Fire Department has since nominated Mr. Lujan for an award recognizing his admirable and selfless contribution to the rescue of this young boy.

Mr. Speaker, I take great pride and pleasure in praising Mr. Ray Lujan and in commending him for being a valuable member of the Guam community. I am confident that Mr. Lujan's humanitarianism will remain forever as deep as his enthusiasm for surfing.

TRIBUTE TO THE WINNERS OF THE STICKNEY POST, AMERICAN LEGION ORATORICAL CONTEST

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 1996

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to two outstanding young women from Edison School in Stickney, IL, who were the winners in the American Legion, Stickney Post's Sixth Annual Oratorical Contest for eighth grade students.

Sarah Ellen Jones received a medal and a check for \$50 for her oration on the duties and obligations of a citizen under the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights, Sara Chapin, the runner-up, received \$25. Other participants in the contest were Allen Aguilar and Gregory Bizarek of Home School in Stickney and Julie LaPointe and Jacqueline Galvan of St. Pius X School in Stickney.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate these fine young people for participating in this important exercise in civics and wish them continued success as they develop into the leaders of the future.

A TRIBUTE TO CAROL BERGER, A QUEENS ACTIVIST AND CIVIC LEADER

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 1996

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Carol Berger for her leadership in spearheading community activism and civic volunteerism throughout Kew Gardens, NY. Carol has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life in numerous neighborhoods, often doing more than what was needed to successfully serve her community. I have always admired the civic-minded spirit that has thrived in Queens and feel especially proud of Carol for energizing community participation that has established Kew Gardens