

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MR. WADE  
BRUNSMANN

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 21, 1997

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I want to ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. Wade Brunsmann, who was selected by the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council in the St. Louis Metropolitan Region to receive their Achievement Award in 1996.

I have known Wade for many years, through our joint service on the St. Clair County Board. Wade is a dedicated public servant; he is a Navy veteran of World War II, and has served on the county board since 1954, except for an 8-year gap. He is also an outstanding family man, married and the father of four grown children and five grandchildren. He is the retired owner/operator of Brunsmann's Heating and Refrigeration Service.

Wade Brunsmann has been a leader in the St. Clair County region. He currently serves as chairman of the County Board's environmental committee, and has served as such for the past 7 years. He has been an aggressive leader on zoning, land use, and landfill issues for all citizens. He also serves as a volunteer with Belleville Area College's Programs and Services for Older Persons, is a member of St. Theresa's Catholic Church and is an active and outstanding member of the Democratic Party.

Of course, for all of these contributions and his overall dedication to serving the public, East-West Gateway awarded him with their Achievement Award. I fully agree, and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on this fine recognition.

HONORING PIKESVILLE  
VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 21, 1997

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Pikesville Volunteer Fire Company on its 100th anniversary.

It all began on February 4, 1897 when a group of local citizens met for the first time to discuss the need for organized fire protection, they met at the Odd Fellow's Hall. During this meeting, the group nominated several names for the fire company, The Pikesville Volunteer Fire Company won the election by an overwhelming margin of 23 to 6. The following year, a fire hall was built and a community wide dedication celebrated its opening.

Known as the company of first, the Pikesville Volunteer Fire Company is a leader in volunteer fire protection. Its members are made up of both civilian and military personnel. In fact, each year, a memorial service honors members of the Fire Company who served their country as well as their community.

Today, their membership roll is over 150 (a third of whom are active service) which provides enough manpower to keep the Pikesville Volunteer Fire Company responsive to the thousands of calls each year from the community.

I hope my colleagues will join me in extending congratulations to the Pikesville Volunteer Fire Company in celebrating its 100-year history in Baltimore County, and in thanking these volunteers for contributing to the growth and safety of the Pikesville community.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH INAUGURATED

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 21, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to express my best wishes to Secretary James Howell, M.D. MPH, and Executive Administrator Annie R. Neasman, R.N., M.S., as they assume the leadership of the State of Florida's new Department of Health.

The Florida Legislature voted in 1996 to create the Florida Department of Health as a separate entity. The legislature charged the Secretary and staff with promoting and protecting the health and safety of all Florida residents and visitors in partnership with county governments.

On February 3, Secretary Howell and the Florida Department of Health staff in Dade County will gather at Miami Dade Community College Wolfson Center with their local partners to inaugurate the department.

I congratulate them on this day as they embark on their mission to make Florida healthier. I know that under the leadership of Secretary Howell and Administrator Neasman, their dedicated staff and their community partners will rise to the many challenges ahead.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO IRWIN  
ROSENBERG

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 21, 1997

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Irwin Rosenberg, who for the past 8 years has played Santa Claus at the Pacoima Community Youth Culture Center's Christmas party. I have not met many Santas named Rosenberg; then again, I have not met many people like Irwin. A successful businessman, Irwin somehow finds the time to remain active in many organizations and on behalf of numerous causes. Like few others, he is there for his community.

Irwin is irreplaceable. Not only does he immerse himself in outside activities, more often than not he ends up in a leadership role. For example, he is the past president of the Granada Hills Little League; past president and past chairman of the Government Relations Committee, San Fernando Chamber of Commerce; commissioner of the Los Angeles County Private Industry Council; and senior vice-chairman of the board of directors of New Directions for Youth. There is hardly a sector of the San Fernando Valley that has not been the recipient of Irwin's time and efforts.

In honor of his many charitable and civic contributions, Irwin has been the recipient of numerous awards. In 1989, he was given the

California Association of Physically Handicapped's Humanitarian of the Year Award; in 1990, he was named Kiwanian of the Year (San Fernando); 2 years later he received the J. Leo Flynn Citizen of the Year Award from the San Fernando Chamber of Commerce.

Of all his civic and professional duties, I know that nothing gives Irwin more pleasure than being Santa to many underprivileged kids every year at the PCYCC Christmas party. He is every bit as happy to see the kids as they are to see him.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Irwin Rosenberg, whose tireless work in the community is a shining example to us all. I am proud to be his friend.

THANK YOU DR. MALEEHA LODHI

HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 21, 1997

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of my colleagues and myself to place in the RECORD a bipartisan statement of appreciation for the outgoing Ambassador of Pakistan, Dr. Maleeha Lodhi, who is returning home shortly after completion of her tenure as Ambassador to the United States of America.

Ambassador Lodhi worked with dedication and resolve to strengthen the traditional friendship between the United States and Pakistan, paving the way for greater cooperation between our two nations. Through her untiring efforts, significant progress has been made towards redefining United States-Pakistan relations in the post-cold-war period.

In our interaction with Ambassador Lodhi, we always found her to be a highly persuasive advocate of her country in a forthright and objective spirit. We admire her commitment to democracy, freedom, and human rights, qualities that created a common bond with us.

Both the United States and Pakistan have been served with distinction by Ambassador Lodhi and we wish her the very best for the future.

TRIBUTE TO TWO IMPORTANT  
AMERICAN PATHOLOGY ORGANIZATIONS

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 21, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two outstanding organizations, the College of American Pathologists (CAP) and the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP). This year, CAP will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary, and ASCP will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary.

Dr. Rob McKenna, who is the President of ASCP, and Dr. Ray Zastrow, the current CAP President and a good friend, have led these organizations with the help of their many members through a long history of protecting patients by providing high quality laboratory and patient care. ASCP is the largest organization of pathologists and medical technologists in the world, and CAP is the largest

organization of board-certified members in the world.

These organizations and the members who practice pathology and laboratory medicine provide a substantial contribution to medical science and patient care through accurate medical test results that enable physicians to make accurate diagnoses and recommend appropriate treatments.

CAP started as an outgrowth of ASCP and they have worked closely ever since. Their common bond has been a symbol to both patients and fellow professionals of their dedication to professional excellence.

Congratulations, CAP and ASCP, on your many years of committed service to the field of medicine.

"IMMIGRANTS ARE NEW YORK  
CITY'S GREATEST ASSET"

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 21, 1997*

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, throughout his years as U.S. Congressman, mayor of the city of New York and as mayor for life of the city of New York, Ed Koch has secured for himself the title "The Voice of Reason." Mayor Koch has a unique capacity to find common sense solutions for the problems that plague our society. Even more importantly, he is not afraid to be controversial. He is a true New Yorker who knows how to get to the heart of the problem. This quality was most recently typified in his recent column entitled "Immigrants are New York City's Greatest Asset" which appeared in the New York Post on January 17. I commend this column to my colleagues because it touches so meaningfully on the issue of immigration which is being exploited and demagogued by too many politicians today.

IMMIGRANTS ARE NEW YORK CITY'S GREATEST  
ASSET

(By Ed Koch)

Ellis Island is holy ground: My parents landed there separately in the early 1890s. Before 1924, there were no limits on the number of people permitted to enter this country. If you survived the voyage in steerage and did not suffer from a contagious disease, you gained entry.

My parents and millions of others came here looking for a better life. They sought economic opportunity and freedom from anti-Semitism. They did not believe the streets were paved with gold. But, like millions of others, they did believe America would be free of the daily cursing they endured from their non-Jewish neighbors in Poland. And they believed America would offer them and their children a future denied them elsewhere.

Several years before my father's death, my sister and her son Jared sat down with him and taped some of his early memories. She asked, "Daddy, what did you do for fun in the winter?" He replied, "Mostly we went inside to get warm."

My mother's home in Poland was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. I recall asking her, when I was quite young, "Mama, why do you always refer to Kaiser Franz Joseph as the 'good Kaiser Franz Joseph?'" She replied "Sonny, because he didn't kill the Jews."

For years, I always wondered if she was right. After her death, I read that Kaiser

Franz Joseph issued a decree that there was to be no Jew-bashing in his domain. Mama was always right.

I've visited Ellis Island a number of times, both before and after its renovation and designation as a federal museum. Like many others whose parents or grandparents came through the Great Hall, I was elated when given an opportunity by the new museum to mark my parents' passage with metal markers.

Now, when I go to the island, I visit those markers. I touch my lips with my finger-tips in a symbolic kiss and then touch my parents' names inscribed on the metal plates.

My parents, who were marvelous people with very few worldly goods and a very limited education, nevertheless made it, raising three children—my brother, Harold, the eldest; my sister, Pat, the youngest; and me—and becoming part of America's middle class.

My mother died at age 62, my father at age 87. Mother lingered in excruciating pain before her death, an experience that has made me believe in physician-assisted suicide. I will never forget her screams of unending pain as she pleaded with me, "Eddie, please let me die." And I, in tears, replied "Mother, you're getting well," when I knew that she was not.

My father, a gentle and beloved man with an enormous number of friends, died easily, quickly and painlessly. We thanked God for allowing him to pass over to the next world in such peace. We were not so appreciative of the painful passage of our mother.

I've always been bewildered by the Catholic acceptance of pain in the onset of death. If I understand the concept correctly, the pain of one dying individual is in some mystical way a great benefit for humanity and provides enormous good for others.

Two princes of the Catholic Church—Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, whom I met briefly and admired, and Terence Cardinal Cooke, with whom I had a warm friendship—both embraced death and pain.

My mother told me early on, "Ed, don't mix in someone else's religion." So I won't. While I do not fear death, having had a full life, I do ask God to allow me to pass over without pain when the time to go arrives.

Why am I dwelling on the lives of my parents? Because recently there has been a spate of stories on immigrants, particularly those who came to New York in the last 10 years.

The City Planning Commission issued a report entitled "Annual Immigrant Tape Files, 1990-94, U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service Population Division." I won't list its many conclusions — all favorable — concerning the impact of legal immigrants on the City of New York. But these conclusions reinforce the need to fight the mean-spirited efforts by Congress to punish immigrants.

It isn't wrong to require sponsors of immigrants to fulfill their legal obligations to support those they brought here who otherwise would become public charges, as the new law mandates.

But it is wrong to deny legal immigrants who arrived before this law went into effect the SSI coverage and welfare benefits they'd been receiving. The new laws stripping legal immigrants of welfare inclusion should have been prospective and not retroactive.

Recently I read the comments of Massachusetts Gov. William Weld, a Boston Brahmin, on the value to our country of the immigrant: "I have long said that in the 1920's and 1930's the best Americans were Europeans, and principally European Jews who had reason to know what made this country special. In the 80's, the best Americans were Asians, for the same reason." I silently cheered.

According to the City Planning Commission report, legal immigrants are coming to

the U.S. in even larger numbers, and increasing percentages of the total number of these immigrants hail from parts of the world that did not participate in large-scale immigration when my parents came here, including Africa, Asia and Latin America.

These immigrants, like their predecessors—my parents among them—add to the richness of this country. They give us the benefit of their intelligence, their labor and their children. In the words of Martha Stewart, "It's a good thing."

My father never learned to write anything besides his name in English, although he could read. He worked hard all of his life, generally holding two jobs to support his family. He retired from his small fur coat manufacturing business at 75, but, bored, he went to work for Bloomingdales' fur coat storage six months later.

When elegant ladies asked him to store their coats, he would ask them to write their name and address on a ticket. He would invariably look at the ticket and say, "I see by your address that my son is your congressman."

It made no difference if these women lived in Brooklyn or Jersey City. My father saw me as representing the entire United States.

We should acknowledge the enormous contributions of immigrants, embrace them and warmly welcome them. Immigrants are New York City's greatest asset, today and for the future.

Updating the philosophy of the good Kaiser Franz Joseph, "Let there be no immigrant-bashing in the U.S."

HONORING ROSALIE KUNTZ OF  
PASADENA, TX

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 21, 1997*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of my constituents, Rosalie Kuntz of Pasadena, who is a civic leader in her community and a pioneer for women in the insurance industry. Mrs. Kuntz is active in a wide range of community activities and served as the first female president of the Texas Association of Life Underwriters. The following article from the January 8, 1997, Houston Chronicle describes her many accomplishments and honors:

HER JOY IS IN THE JOURNEY—ROSLIE KUNTZ  
REVERED BY PASADENA COMMUNITY

(By Pat Swanson)

Willingness and commitment have not only earned Rosalie Kuntz success, but respect in her profession and in the Pasadena community she calls home.

Kuntz is celebrating 41 years in the insurance business. And, at age 72, she continues to be heavily involved in civic activities for the Pasadena-area community.

Kuntz and her husband Gerald (Jerry), a retired surveyor for Shell Oil Co., have lived in Pasadena 48 years. The couple are owners of the Kuntz Insurance Agency. Their children, Rita, Linda and Kyle have given them eight grandchildren. The Kuntz' are long-time members of St. Pius V Catholic Church.

Scott Loomis, an insurance man who has known Rosalie Kuntz for 30 years, said, "Rosalie is one person who could handle herself in a man's world before it was fashionable. While some men were intimidated by Rosalie, others wanted her on a project because they knew she would do a good job."

Parker Williams, president of San Jacinto College South, said, "Rosalie is known by