

Through the years, the Michigan Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame's publications, programs, and traveling exhibits, have enabled the people of Michigan to learn more about outstanding women leaders in our State. These leaders have made an enduring contribution to our State and our society. Without the MWSA, their work might not ever have been acknowledged.

The Michigan Women's Studies Association and the Historical Center and Hall of Fame have been a catalyst in bringing the diverse roles of women to the forefront in Michigan. Through their work, the accomplishments of hundreds of women have now become an important part of the social fabric and collective memory of the State.

Michigan's history is rich in the achievements and contributions of our State's women. I am proud that we have a way of honoring the women who have been shining examples to us all.

ON THE NEED FOR IRS OVERSIGHT

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. COX of California. Mr. Speaker, the Internal Revenue Service has too much power in Americans' lives. This recent example, from the Associated Press, shows why greater congressional oversight of IRS mismanagement and taxpayer abuse is so vitally necessary.

IRS IS FOUND TO HAVE RETALIATED OVER AN INSULT

(By Margaret Katz)

DENVER (AP).—In hindsight, insulting the IRS agent during an audit was probably not a good idea.

But Carole Ward, who this week moved to Albuquerque from Colorado Springs, let fly with this gem: "Honey, from what I can see of your accounting skills, the country would be better served if you were dishing up chicken-fried steak on some interstate in west Texas, with all the clunky jewelry and big hair."

A short time later, federal agents raided Ward's business and then released confidential information about her taxes to the media in what Ward called "character assassination."

This week, a federal judge reprimanded the IRS for its actions and awarded the woman about \$325,000 in damages and attorney's fees.

"By this award, this court gives notice to the IRS that reprehensible abuse of authority by one of its employees cannot and will not be tolerated," U.S. District Judge William Downes said after the non-jury trial. "Part of that responsibility requires that you accept criticism, however inaccurate and/or unjustified, in silence."

Ward, 49, said she is not proud of what she said to auditor Paula Dzierzanowski during the 1993 audit. The meeting was one of several regarding income taxes owed by the children's clothing stores owned by her son, Tristan, then 20.

Two weeks later, IRS agents seized and padlocked the stores with a so-called jeopardy assessment demanding \$325,000 in back taxes from Ward. Such an order is considered extreme and is normally used when the IRS fears it is in danger of never collecting the taxes, said Ward's attorney, William C. Waller.

Ward's family depended on the stores as their sole source of income, and the seizure put them in desperate straits. She said her family even lost their electricity because they were unable to pay bills.

Why the IRS targeted Ward rather than her son is unclear, said Dennis Mark, another of Ward's attorneys.

"They took the position that Carole Ward owned the stores," Mark said.

By July, Ward had hired a tax attorney and the parties had agreed that the actual amount owed by Ward was about \$3,500.

"It was over and done," Waller said. But then the IRS went public with information about Ward that was the crux of her lawsuit.

IRS District Director Gerald Swanson and his assistant Patricia Callahan appeared on a Colorado Springs talk show and disclosed tax return information. They also discussed the original \$325,000 dispute and allegations against Ward even though the case had been settled, Waller said.

The IRS also disclosed information to TV's "Inside Edition" in the form of a fact sheet about the dispute.

The IRS agents said that since Ward had already gone public with information about the dispute, they were within their rights. However, the judge found their behavior negligent.

Another IRS agent, James Scholan, further disclosed information about the dispute in a letter published in a local newspaper. Scholan said he had obtained that information from newspaper accounts, but the judge ruled that he had obtained it as an IRS employee, committing a "blatant violation."

Ward was also upset about notices posted in the windows of the stores during the seizure that she said implied she was a drug smuggler.

The judge found that the IRS had caused mental distress, emotional damage and humiliation to Ward.

"Public servants cannot be arbitrarily selective in their treatment of citizens, dispensing equity to those who please them and withholding it from those who do not," the judge said.

The IRS had no comment on the case. Nor did the Justice Department's tax division.

Ward said she is glad to be vindicated. But her son's stores are still struggling, she said, and the fight took a huge toll on her personally.

"When you take on these people . . . it would be wonderful if I felt like dancing on graves, but by the time you get the victory, it doesn't feel like a victory," Ward said. "They take out the joy."

LITTLE WONDERS OF THE WORLD: WINNERS OF THE ART OF CO-OPERATION

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to highlight the great achievement of Ms. Shadia Borum, president and CEO of the Little Wonders of the World, Inc., and the 10 young talented wonders of Public School 137, located at 121 Saratoga Avenue in Brooklyn. On May 30, 1997, each of these children received \$1,000 in U.S. savings bonds held in trust until their 18th birthday or entrance into college.

Little Wonders of the World, Inc., is the only organization of its kind; a Brooklyn based, not for profit 501(c)(3) education management company. The purpose of this organization is

to raise children's educational standards and to uplift their self-esteem by increasing their opportunities for intellectual growth. This organization's dedication to children is exemplified by its development of educational programs, the organization of special events and creation of motivational contests for inner-city school children between the ages of 4–12 years of age in grades K–6.

Little Wonders of the World, Inc., created "The Art of Cooperation Contest." This contest is a motivation contest, open to children in third, fourth, and fifth grades, that promotes cooperative behavior between the children, teachers, and family. The goal of this contest is to have all the participants develop their own successful method of cooperation through poetry, art or essay. This year's winners are: Chinae Albritton, Wesley Bankes, Christin Barratt, Crystal Brown, Crystal Foster, Crystal Hawley, Kenneth Jenkins, Chanelle Lugo, Luis Ortiz, and Roberto Ortiz.

I am delighted that the Little Wonders of the World, Inc., is available to the young children of Brooklyn. I commend Ms. Shadia Borum and Little Wonders of the World, Inc., for its vision and execution in developing this outstanding service center.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to authorize and direct a land exchange which will greatly benefit the town of Sitka, AK. This bill has several components to the exchange. First, it will ensure that an important water system now currently under an easement will be conveyed to the city of Sitka in order to provide its residents with an assured water supply into the future.

This exchange will also provide for a spectacular inholding on Admiralty Island National Monument to be added to the monument. Admiralty Island is considered to be an area holding outstanding conservation values within the American conservation system. The land exchange authorized in the bill I am sponsoring will ensure that this private inholding is included in the monument and in the wilderness.

The final component of the exchange will be the extinguishment of a reversionary interest on land owned at Sitka by the Alaska Pulp Corp. The corporation also owns the valuable inholding at Admiralty Island and the lands which the city of Sitka wishes to have conveyed to it. In return for the extinguishment of the reversionary interest, the corporation will convey the inholding to the monument and the water system lands to the city.

This exchange is supported by the city and borough of Sitka, and the city administrator has requested me to sponsor this legislation and expedite the exchange.

This exchange is truly in the best interests of all involved. The U.S. Government even comes out ahead on value. Recent appraisals for the various lands and interests exchanged show that the Admiralty Island land is valued at more than the reversionary interest which will be exchanged. As a condition of my legislation, the corporation is required to waive its

right to any compensation for this difference in value.

In summary, as a result of this exchange the Admiralty Island Monument land ownership pattern will be consolidated, the city of Sitka will receive valuable lands in fee ownership on which parts of its water system are located, and the corporation will be free of a problematic reversionary interest in its property. As a bonus, the Federal Government realizes a net benefit in the value of the exchange. This is a sound deal in the best interests of all parties.

It is my hope that this legislation can pass this body and the Congress in the near future.

HONORING THE DETROIT RED WINGS STANLEY CUP VICTORY

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, the Detroit Red Wings were rewarded for their excellence last Saturday night by sweeping the Philadelphia Flyers and bringing home the Stanley Cup for the first time in 42 years. Several images from the Red Wings triumphant run for the Cup will forever be imbedded in the hearts and memories of Wings fans everywhere. The steel-jawed determination of head coach Scotty Bowman, who became the first coach to win the Stanley Cup with three different teams; the spectacular performance of playoff-MVP goaltender Mike Vernon, who turned away shot after opposing shot; or the gritty play of Brendan Shanahan, Darren MacCarty, the "Grind Line"; and of course the international flair of the team, led by the likes of Sergei Fedorov and Igor Larionov.

However no player demonstrated the unwavering intensity and unselfishness of the team more than the captain Steve Yzerman. After years of personal triumphs, Yzerman's leadership finally brought home the Stanley Cup to the great State of Michigan. His perseverance and unwavering dedication gave one of the classiest players in pro sports the recognition he has so long deserved.

The Red Wings are an example of a team working together in the pursuit of excellence. Their play and accomplishments should be applauded, along with the integrity and commitment to overcome the many obstacles that stood before them. The State of Michigan is proud to salute the 1997 Stanley Cup Champions, the Detroit Red Wings.

HONORING AARON EDD JACKSON HENRY, "DOC"

HON. MIKE PARKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. PARKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special man and a great American who has recently passed away. Aaron Edd Jackson Henry, better known to friends and family as "Doc," was born July 2, 1922, and died May 19, 1997.

During his life, Doc Henry served as 1 of the 200 U.S. soldiers during World War II to

live in a multiracial experiment leading to the 1945 congressional bill outlawing segregated military housing, he organized the Coahoma County Branch of the NAACP in 1953, he was president emeritus of the Mississippi State Conference NAACP, and he owned and operated the Fourth Street Drug Store which is famous locally for being a center of civil rights activity.

Doc Henry also served on numerous other boards and organizations, such as the National Caucus and Center for Black Aged, the Federal Council on Aging, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Southern Regional Council, the Mississippi Council on Human Relations, Mississippi Action for Progress, Inc., and the Civic Communications Corp. He was involved in such civic organizations as the American Legion, the Elks, the Masonic Order, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Yet through all of this community involvement, he still made personal time for his wife, Noelle Celestine Henry, and his daughter, Rebecca Elizabeth Henry.

Doc Henry's quest for equality took him across the Nation and around the world. He was instrumental in enacting laws that impacted the core of human rights in our Nation. For these accomplishments, he has been recognized with honorary doctorates from Mississippi Baptist Seminary, Tougaloo College, Rust College, Mary Homes College, Prentiss Institute, Queens College, and Boston University. He also received accolades such as the Distinguished Mississippians Award, the Clarksdale Hall of Fame Award, the NAACP's Living Legacy Award, the Jammie Whitten Award, and the prestigious Hubert H. Humphrey Award.

Though the voice of a great humanitarian has ceased to resound to believers of civil rights everywhere, Doc Henry will live forever in our hearts and memories.

TRIBUTE TO ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Hammond, IN, on the joyous occasion of its centennial celebration this Sunday, June 22, 1997. The day's festivities will begin with a Mass of Thanksgiving at 3:00 p.m., officiated by the Most Reverend Dale J. Melczek. Following the mass, a gala reception will begin at 4:30 p.m. in the parish's Panel Room Banquet Hall. The reception will include dinner, several guest speakers, and live performances by the Lubo Pala Slovak Folk Band, the Vychodna Slovak Folk Dance Ensemble, soprano, Dorothy Hoover, the St. John adult choir, and the Stanley Paul Orchestra.

The founding of St. John the Baptist Church is one of struggle and triumph. In the spring of 1897, after successfully petitioning Bishop Joseph Radermacher for a Czechoslovakian priest to serve those in the community of Slovak heritage, a welcoming committee met Father Benedict Rajcany in Hammond on April 17, Holy Saturday. His first mass was offered

on Easter Sunday 1897 at Sacred Heart Church in Whiting, IN, since no Slovak church existed at the time. Soon after, the Slovak Catholic Union Branch 130 transformed its meeting hall into a church, which was dedicated on July 4, 1897. The church was dedicated to St. John the Baptist because the new pastor stated he felt like "one crying in the wilderness" in his new assignment in the United States.

By the time World War I began in 1914, the church had been enlarged to accommodate 650 parishioners. By 1921, the first regular assistant, Father Michael Kosko, was appointed to the church. During his ministry, Father Rajcany continued to place emphasis on the English language and on the Americanization of his parishioners. Some objected, but their reluctance was soon overcome. At approximately the same time, priests from St. Joseph College in Rensselaer, IN, journeyed to assist the parish on weekends.

By 1925, it became apparent that a new and larger church would be needed. That same year, the future pastor of St. John, Reverend John Kostik, C.P.P.S., arrived as a permanent assistant. Later, at the suggestion of Father Rajcany, Father Kostik was appointed pastor of St. John by Bishop John F. Noll. Also during that year, the parish was placed under the supervision of the Society of the Precious Blood, and it continues to be served by priests of the society to this day.

Groundwork for the new church, the work of Chicago architect Herman Gaul, began in May, 1930. Knowing the economic seriousness of the times and the dangers of bankruptcy, Father Kostik placed the success of the \$300,000 venture in the hands of St. Therese, the Little Flower of Jesus. Amazingly, during this period of financial disaster, the parish lost only \$340, and the entire debt was retired by 1942. The new Romanesque style church, with its 190-foot steeple, stands as a tribute to God from those founders of Slovak heritage.

In the late 1940's, much-needed additions to the parish were begun. Plans conceived by then-pastor Father John F. Lafko, C.P.P.S., were carried out by his successor, Father Gabriel Brenkus, C.P.P.S. In 1948, construction on the first phase of the new school, consisting of classrooms, a convent, and the Panel Room Banquet Hall, began. After its completion in 1951, the second phase of construction, consisting of an auditorium, gymnasium, and additional classrooms, began in 1955. The final addition to the St. John the Baptist complex was a new rectory, which was completed in 1967.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating the parish family of St. John the Baptist, under the guidance of Father John Kalicky, C.P.P.S., and former pastor-in-residence Father Edward Homco, C.P.P.S., as they prepare to celebrate their centennial in 1997. Their slogan, "We Remember, We Celebrate, We Believe," reverberates throughout the community in a celebration of faith—faith in God, faith in country, and faith in people. In this spirit, St. John has enhanced the quality of life within the Hammond community through its religious, educational, and cultural contributions for the past 100 years.