

Church in Lakewood, OH on the 25th anniversary of their senior group on July 13, 1997.

The Golden Agers were formed in July 1972 by Father Humensky and Abbott Theodore Kojis for seniors of the parish. Approximately 59 members of the church attended the first meeting at which Lucy Misencik was appointed the first president of the Golden Agers by Father Humensky. Lucy served as president for 2 years until her death in 1974. At this time Helen and John Kolesar were appointed copresidents. By 1975 there were 270 members of the Golden Agers.

Marie Vaxman was appointed president of the organization in 1980 by Father Onderjka, the current priest of the parish. Marie presided over the organization until 1990. During this time card parties were instituted to defray expenses for pilgrimages and other trips taken by members.

After Vaxman's term, Mary Jacko served as president until 1992, at which time Lenore Steve filled the position. Clara Zbin took over the duties of head of the organization until February 1996. Irene Tomcik is the current president of the Golden Agers. Members of this nonprofit organization enjoy social get-togethers on the third Wednesday of each month.

My fellow colleagues, please assist me in extending congratulations to the Golden Agers of SS. Cyril and Methodius Church on the 25th anniversary of their valuable organization.

BAN ON SMOKING IN FEDERAL BUILDINGS ACT

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to prohibit smoking in any indoor portion of a Federal building. The Ban on Smoking in Federal Buildings Act covers all federally-owned and leased buildings, including those used by the Federal judiciary and the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. The bill defines the term "Federal building" as any building or other structure owned and leased for use by a Federal agency. The bill exempts U.S. military installations and health care facilities run by the Department of Veterans Affairs, as well as any area of a Federal building used primarily as living quarters.

As chairman of the House Public Works and Transportation Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Grounds in the 103d Congress, I introduced similar legislation in 1993. That legislation would have limited smoking in Federal buildings to separately ventilated smoking areas. The bill was approved by the House in 1993 but was not considered in the other body.

Smoking in buildings used by executive branch agencies is limited to designated areas that are separately ventilated, although many Federal agencies have already imposed total bans. Smoking is also prohibited in Federal courtrooms. Smoking is permitted in some rooms of the U.S. Capitol, and Members of Congress can set their own smoking policies for their offices. In my view, there should be a uniform smoking policy for the entire Federal Government—one that protects the health and

safety of nonsmokers. In light of what is being done in the private sector, a total ban on smoking in Federal buildings makes good sense.

In studies conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, indoor air pollution was identified as one of the top five environmental risks to public health. Environmental tobacco smoke [ETS] has been determined to be a major indoor air pollutant. Although there are other harmful pollutants in the air of most workplaces, very few of those pollutants are capable of being isolated and removed from the workplace environment. ETS is a known health hazard that can easily be removed from the Federal workplace.

In addition to the known health hazards posed by ETS, in 1993, officials from the U.S. Department of Labor testified before the Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Grounds that the Federal Government has paid out hundreds of thousands of dollars in workers' compensation claims to nonsmoking Federal employees who have been disabled or impaired due to workplace exposure to ETS. Unless a uniform ban on smoking in Federal buildings is imposed, the U.S. taxpayer will continue to pay workers' compensation claims to Federal employees disabled or impaired by ETS.

Mr. Speaker, I would note that a number of States have imposed a total ban on smoking in State buildings. In addition, numerous localities have passed ordinances banning smoking in restaurants and other facilities. Many privately owned and operated facilities—from sports arenas to shopping malls to movie theaters—have banned smoking. My legislation is a logical and commonsense measure that will protect the public health of all those who work in, use or visit Federal buildings. The bill will also save taxpayer dollars by eliminating the cause of costly workers' compensation payments to Federal employees impaired or disabled by workplace exposure to ETS. Finally, the Ban on Smoking in Federal Buildings Act will, for the first time, put in place a uniform smoking policy for all three branches of the Federal Government. I urge all of my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

H.R. —

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Ban on Smoking in Federal Buildings Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) environmental tobacco smoke is a cause of lung cancer in healthy nonsmokers and is responsible for acute and chronic respiratory problems and other health impacts among sensitive populations;

(2) environmental tobacco smoke comes from secondhand smoke exhaled by smokers and sidestream smoke emitted from the burning of cigarettes, cigars, and pipes;

(3) citizens of the United States spend up to 90 percent of a day indoors and, consequently, there is a significant potential for exposure to environmental tobacco smoke from indoor air;

(4) exposure to environmental tobacco smoke occurs in public buildings and other indoor facilities; and

(5) the health risks posed by environmental tobacco smoke exceed the risks posed by many environmental pollutants regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency.

SEC. 3. SMOKING PROHIBITION IN FEDERAL BUILDINGS.

(a) SMOKE PROHIBITION.—On and after the 180th day after the date of the enactment of this Act, smoking shall be prohibited in any indoor portion of a Federal building.

(b) ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) EXECUTIVE BRANCH BUILDINGS.—The Administrator of General Services shall issue regulations, and take such other actions as may be necessary, to institute and enforce the prohibition contained in subsection (a) as such prohibitions applies to Federal buildings owned or leased for use by an Executive Agency.

(2) JUDICIAL BRANCH BUILDINGS.—The Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall take such actions as may be necessary to institute and enforce the prohibition contained in subsection (a) as such prohibition applies to Federal buildings owned or leased for use by an establishment in the judicial branch of the Government.

(3) LEGISLATIVE BRANCH BUILDINGS.—

(A) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The House Office Building Commission shall take such actions as may be necessary to institute and enforce the prohibition contained in subsection (a) as such prohibition applies to Federal buildings owned or leased for use by the House of Representatives.

(B) SENATE.—The Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate shall take such actions as may be necessary to institute and enforce the prohibition contained in subsection (a) as such prohibition applies to Federal buildings owned or leased for use by the Senate.

(C) OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS.—The Architect of the Capitol shall take such actions as may be necessary to institute and enforce the prohibition contained in subsection (a) as such prohibition applies to Federal buildings owned or leased for use by an establishment in the legislative branch of the Government (other than the House of Representatives and the Senate).

SEC. 4. PREEMPTION.

Nothing in this Act is intended to preempt any provision of law of a State or political subdivision of a State that is more restrictive than a provision of this Act.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—The term "Executive agency" has the same meaning such term has under section 105 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) FEDERAL AGENCY.—The term "Federal agency" means any Executive agency and any establishment in the legislative or judicial branches of the Government.

(3) FEDERAL BUILDING.—The term "Federal building" means any building or other structure (or portion thereof) owned or leased for use by a Federal agency; except that such term does not include any building or other structure on a military installation, any health care facility under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or any area of a building that is used primarily as living quarters.

(4) MILITARY INSTALLATION.—The term "military installation" means a base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship, or other facility under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense, including any leased facility. Such term does not include any facility used primarily for civil works (including any rivers and harbors project or flood control project).

IN MEMORY OF BILL CLEAVINGER

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, the family farm lost one of its very own when Bill Cleavinger passed away after a generation of working the soil, tending to his family, and nurturing his community.

Bill remained most at home on the family farm and at his best when he spoke up for farming families. First as Texas Sugar Beet Growers Association president and later executive director, he rose to the position of national spokesman as American Sugarbeet Growers Association president. Because he always lived his life close to farming, folks could readily understand and count on what Bill Cleavinger had to say about production agriculture.

As a boy, he helped his father with farm chores, then after college and service in the military, Bill returned to the family farm to work alongside his father. In the rural Panhandle community of Wildorado, Bill and his wife June raised their family on down-to-earth values while they worked the good earth to raise each year's crop.

In his life, Bill Cleavinger was father, farmer, school board member, director of church music, and director of a local bank. To those of us who knew him, Bill was much more than those titles could possibly suggest.

Even with his passing, there will be a next generation of family farmers who will come to know about men like Bill Cleavinger through an internship established in his name to honor personal leadership, persistence, creativity, patience, and integrity.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH ROSENBERG

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph Rosenberg of Bridgeport, CT, as he celebrates 50 years of living in the United States.

For nearly a half-century Joseph has been an outstanding American citizen and role model for his peers.

As a survivor of several World War II Nazi concentration camps including Auschwitz, he is a living testament of courage, bravery, and the desire for freedom.

Upon Joseph's arrival in the United States, he joined the Army and served his new country proudly. We are deeply grateful for his contributions to the Bridgeport community and our Nation.

We should all be proud to have a fellow American as patriotic as Joseph Rosenberg. As he often says, "There is no place like the United States. People don't know what freedom really is. It's great."

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS.
EUGENE C. BERCHIN**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Eugene C. Berchin, who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on July 20, 1997.

The Berchins are an extraordinary couple whose love and support for one another has continued to grow over the past 50 years. Though they have celebrated many happy events and milestones throughout their marriage, they were faced with an overwhelming challenge when Marjorie Helene suffered an unfortunate and disabling stroke a few years ago. Fully facing this challenge, Eugene has devoted himself to caring for Marjorie Helene in every way, seeing that she is comfortable and receiving the best care possible.

Eugene and Marjorie Helene met shortly after Eugene's discharge from the U.S. Army, where he was a captain stationed overseas with the 89th Infantry Division. After their marriage, Marjorie Helene graduated from UCLA and obtained her teaching credential, and taught life sciences at Polytechnic High School. During that time, she was the primary source of income as Eugene attended dental school at USC and later attended law school.

The Berchins have two children, a son, Joel Mitchell, and a daughter, Sondra Ellen. Joel is a physician who practices in the San Diego area and Sondra is a lawyer who attended UCLA School of Law. She was a law clerk for both Justice Thurgood Marshall and Second Federal District Justice Oaks. The Berchins are also the proud grandparents of Kyle Taylor and Caitalin Lee.

Eugene and Marjorie Helene Berchin are a living tribute of the greatest strengths of the institution of marriage and the American family. They having continually loved and supported one another, their children, and their grandchildren in each event of their lives, whether joyous or sorrowful.

Eugene very proudly expresses that Marjorie Helene is a beautiful today as the day he met her and that she still enjoys the music of the Big Band Era.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Berchins as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary and in wishing them and their family every happiness in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO THE STAFF OF THE
IRWIN BANK**HON. RON KLINK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my warmest congratulations to 170 people celebrating a 75th birthday—the staff of the Irwin Bank & Trust Co. in Pennsylvania.

Its central strength has been to observe a good rule of thumb for politicians: Never forget those you serve. As it has grown, Irwin Bank has stayed loyal to its customers and loyal to the community.

In particular, I heartily commend the bank's commitment to re-invest in the area it serves. Playgrounds, libraries, and concerts have been funded through its grant program; local people affected by natural disasters have been helped by the bank's low-interest community loan scheme. Companies have a responsibility to society just as individuals do, and Irwin Bank deserves recognition for its exceptional work in Pennsylvania.

Over the past 20 years, I have grown accustomed to the bank's friendly neighborhood service. The staff do indeed treat their customers as the friends they are. I invite all Members of this House to join with me in congratulating Irwin Bank on 75 years of community service, and wishing all the staff the best of luck for the future.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
LAW INSTITUTE**HON. JON D. FOX**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to bring to the attention of my colleagues a fascinating program that I recently learned about since I joined the International Affairs Committee. The International Development Law Institute was founded in Rome in 1983 and has operated as a public international organization since 1991.

The Institute's mission is an intriguing one. Its founders, Michael Hager, William Loris, and Gilles Blanchi, all recognized that one of the impediments to development for many countries was the lack of trained lawyers and legal advisors who could provide the essential services required to foster private sector development, governance, and economic law reform.

To overcome these barriers, the Institute offers, both in Rome and onsite in individual countries, practical training in lawyering—how to negotiate and draft an agreement; how to resolve disputes—international commercial law—how to set up a joint venture, how to foster technology transfer—and economic law reform—how to deal with issues of corporate governance and bankruptcy—as well as courses addressing public law issues like environmental laws. The Institute has trained more than 4,600 lawyers from 153 countries preparing them to meet the evermore challenging demands of modern international trade.

I am proud, Mr. Speaker, that one of the member states of IDLI is the United States. I have met Mr. Hager and was impressed with IDLI's commitment to its mission. It is my hope that our country will continue its support of this valuable Institute to provide critical resources to those countries which so very much need them.

ELECTIONS IN MEXICO

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, 2 days ago, the United States and all the nations of the Americas witnessed one of the most dramatic