

who took the time to help others. On behalf of the citizens of the 43d Congressional District, I wish to extend my thanks and appreciation to Sgt. Terry D. Gustin for his years of dedicated service to our community and extend my best wishes in his future endeavors.

**A TRIBUTE TO MR. JOSEPH
DINATALE ON HIS RETIREMENT
AS RIVERSIDE, IL, VILLAGE
PRESIDENT**

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant who recently completed 12 years of service, 8 of them as village president, to the people of Riverside, IL—Mr. Joseph H. DiNatale.

Mr. DiNatale was elected to the village board in 1985, and became president four years later. His leadership helped guide Riverside, one of the crown jewels of suburban Chicago, through an important period of change as younger families moved into the community of rambling Victorian homes and sleek Frank Lloyd Wright-style designs. Most would agree that Riverside is as strong a community, if no more so, as when Mr. DiNatale was first elected village president.

But Mr. DiNatale's service to his community did not begin as an elected official. He spent 7 years as an assistant Cook County State's attorney, prosecuting dangerous felons on behalf of his fellow citizens. For 22 years, Mr. DiNatale has served as governing member of the Chicago Zoological Society, which oversees the world famous Brookfield Zoo. He was also a member of both the parish council and school board of St. Mary's Church.

As a distinguished attorney, Mr. DiNatale has served as a law instructor with various police departments and as a judge at the Northwestern Law School Moot Courts. He has also received numerous professional and civics awards and recognitions. His most recent honor was being named as the Riverside Chamber of Commerce's Man of the Year. However, perhaps his most important achievement has been personal and shared with his wife, Adele, in raising their six children: Joseph Jr., Katherine, Marc, Maria, Cara, and Michael.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Mr. Joseph DiNatale on his years of dedicated community and public service, and extend my best wishes for all the best success for him and his family in the future.

**TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTHAMPTON
FULL GOSPEL CHURCH**

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today before my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to pay tribute to the Southampton Full Gospel Church, in Southampton, Long Island, whose congregants will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the church's founding this week.

Since 1972, the Southampton Full Gospel Church and its members have been vital and active participants in the community life of Southampton Town and throughout the East End of Long Island. Since being installed as pastor in May of 1973, Rev. Donald Havrilla and his wife Eileen have successfully worked to create a ministry that has brought to life the love and saving grace of God through the healing work of church members.

Knowing that to save men's and women's souls, often we must first save their bodies, church members have faithfully tended to their neighbors' physical needs. The life-saving ministries founded by the Southampton Full Gospel Church include a Christian Education program, Bible-based drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs, and pro-life efforts to end the abortion. Also, by working with local school officials, church members have assured that traditional family values are recognized in local public schools. Through their work, church members have come to personify the Gospel message by joyfully tending to the Lord's flock.

Reaching beyond their own community, in 1981 the Southampton Full Gospel Church established a mission in the town of Leogane, Haiti. Nurturing an effort that began by feeding 25 impoverished children, the mission work has grown to feed 1,000 malnourished children a day and employ 55 residents of this poor Haitian community. At the 3-acre church and education mission, another 850 children have their minds and bodies nourished at the K-8 school, while 80 mothers and their children are given medical care at the Momto program.

For the past 25 years, members of the Southampton Full Gospel Church have devoted their time, talents, and resources to provide physical and spiritual sustenance to their fellow man. In so doing, they have brought the Gospel message to life for all of us on Long Island who are privileged to witness their efforts. May God continue to bless us all with the works of the Southampton Full Gospel Church.

**REGARDING FATHER MARCOS
ZAMORA**

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Father Marcos Zamora and his many accomplishments upon the occasion of his departure from St. Paul the Apostle Church.

Since his ordination in 1990, Father Zamora has been serving his congregants as their priest, mentor, and friend. His sensitivity and concern for all people has been an inspiration to all and an example that is truly worthy of emulation. It is heartening to find an individual as fully committed to the service of others as Father Zamora. This commitment has helped to bring together different ethnic groups, those of different ages and backgrounds in the membership of St. Paul's Church. His vocal and passionate stance on many social issues has also helped to increase awareness within his community and to foster understanding. Father Zamora has sponsored workshops on

issues such as domestic violence and teenage pregnancy as a means of helping his community through education, individual empowerment, and communication.

Mr. Speaker, as Father Zamora prepares to assume a new position at the Good Shepherd Church, also in New York City, I congratulate him on his successes and extend to him the utmost thanks from those whom he has touched. I speak for everyone who knows Father Zamora when I wish him well in his future pursuits.

**NURSING HOME PUBLIC
INFORMATION ACT OF 1997**

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, when millions of Americans must make the difficult decision to put an aging relative in a nursing home, we trust the institution to care properly for our loved ones. But as a recent General Accounting Office [GAO] study points out, nursing homes across the United States don't always treat the 1.8 million residents like family.

At a time when the nursing home industry is undergoing explosive growth as a result of an aging population, my recently introduced Nursing Home Public Information Act of 1997 would allow families to make an informed choice when choosing a nursing home. By directing HHS to publicly disseminate information currently compiled in databases maintained or available to HHS concerning nursing homes, this bill takes a step in the right direction toward educating the public.

While most nursing homes adhere to Federal and State regulations, each year billions of dollars are lost to fraud and abuse. According to the GAO, Federal Medicare and Federal/State Medicaid programs paid nursing home providers more than \$35 billion in 1995. The Department of Justice estimates that as much as 10 percent is lost to fraud and abuse.

By aggressively targeting five states, the Department of Health and Human Services [HHS], through Operation Restore Trust, has obtained 74 criminal convictions and recovered \$67.3 million for Medicare. More than four dozen civil suits have collected \$72.8 million in fines and settlements, and companies have returned another \$47.4 million.

Convicting abusive providers, levying fines, recovering overpayments, negotiating settlements—all these actions are necessary to reduce fraud and abuse. But they will never be more than the second best way to do this. The best way is to prevent fraud, abuse, and waste from occurring in the first place. This requires informing the public. As a recent Government Reform and Oversight Human Resources Subcommittee hearing revealed, the public receives little or no information relating to fraud, abuse, and quality of care in nursing homes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join my efforts to assist millions of families across the Nation by supporting the Nursing Home Public Information Act of 1997.

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 "Nursing Home Public Information Act of 1997".

SEC. 2. DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.

(a) The Secretary shall publicly disseminate, through whatever means the Secretary determines appropriate, information compiled in databases maintained by or available to the Secretary concerning final adverse actions against and quality of care in nursing facilities.

(b) The Secretary shall determine the scope of the information disseminated under this section, but shall include—

(1) the name (and history of name changes), address, phone number, tax identification number, chairman of the board or director, and licensing State or other governmental entity, of each nursing facility involved in a final adverse action;

(2) the basis and sanction or remedy of each final adverse action;

(3) information about quality of care in nursing facilities, including information collected through the standard surveys conducted pursuant to section 1919 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r); and

(4) any information that would be helpful to consumers purchasing care or services in nursing facilities.

(c) In disseminating information under this section, the Secretary shall ensure that the privacy of individuals receiving, or who have received, care or services in nursing facilities is appropriately protected.

(d) The Secretary shall determine the appropriate format and means to disseminate information under this section, but shall consider—

(2) a toll-free telephone hotline;

(2) a public website; and

(3) a printed manual or pamphlet.

(e) The Secretary shall update the information disseminated under this section not less than monthly.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

(For purposes of this section—

(1) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Health and Human Services;

(2) the term "nursing facility" has the same meaning provided such term in section 1919 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r);

(3) the term "final adverse action" includes—

(A) civil judgments against a nursing facility in Federal or State court related to fraud, abuse, or improper billing;

(B) Federal or State criminal convictions related to fraud, abuse, or improper billing;

(C) actions by Federal or State agencies responsible for the licensing or certification of nursing facilities, including—

(i) formal or official actions, such as revocation or suspension of a license (and the length of any such suspension), reprimand, censure, or probation; or

(ii) any other loss of license or the right to apply for, or renew, a license of the nursing facility, whether by operation of law, voluntary surrender, non-renewability, or otherwise;

(D) exclusion from participation in Federal or State health care programs (as defined in sections 1128B(f) and 1128(h) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a-7b(f); 1230a-7(h)); and

(E) any other adjudicated actions or decisions that the Secretary shall establish by regulation.

(4) the term "tax identification" has the meaning provided such term in section 7701(a)(41)).

SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect not more than 2 years after the date of its enactment.

TRIBUTE TO STUYVESANT TOWN AND PETER COOPER VILLAGE**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute of the 50th anniversary of Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village, two large apartment complexes in the Borough of Manhattan, in the city of New York. On August 21, 1997, the owners, residents, and neighbors celebrated the 50th anniversary of the historic public-private partnership which created thousands of spacious apartments for reasonable rents.

Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village deserve honor here today as an outstanding example of private housing developed in the public good. In 1943, Frederick Ecker, chairman of Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., worked with the city government to rebuild a run-down section of New York known as the Gas House District. He committed resources to build a large housing development, in exchange for property tax incentives. All 3,000 families who lived in the area were first rehoused by Metropolitan Life in an extensive and successful relocation program. The first families moved into Stuyvesant Town on August 1, 1947 and by June 1, 1949 all apartments were rented.

Today, Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village together house 11,000 New York families. The Stuyvesant Town apartment buildings occupy 75 acres and comprise 89 apartment buildings, stretching from East 14th to East 20th Streets and from First Avenue to Avenue C in Manhattan. Peter Cooper Village is located between East 20th and East 23d Streets and also from First Avenue to Avenue C. The complexes have their own security force, supervised play and sports for children, a senior's lounge, annual flea market, holiday celebrations, among other amenities. A very unique quality of these complexes is their park-like setting—between the many buildings are trees, flowers, grass, and a centrally located fountain to give respite from the stresses of city life, just steps away outside the complex.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honor of the historic partnership which has housed thousands of families, generation after generation, for 50 highly successful years. Congratulations to the residents of Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village and to all at Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. who have contributed to the ongoing success of these historic apartment buildings.

TRIBUTE TO SELECTMAN JOSEPH R. LEFEBVRE, JR.**HON. JOHN W. OLVER**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished public service career of Mr. Joseph R. Lefebvre, Jr.

Joseph Lefebvre is currently a member of the board of selectmen of Adams, MA, one of my Berkshire County towns. He has served with distinction on the board since 1985.

Mr. Lefebvre has been contributing to Adams in numerous roles his entire adult life. In addition to being a town meeting member and holding the position of custodian of the Adams Library for over two decades each, Joseph Lefebvre has served as a member of the Housing Authority, Cemetery Commission, Board of Appeals, and even as a Constable—all during the 1970's and 1980's. His commitment to public service undoubtedly touched the lives of nearly every citizen in his community.

Mr. Speaker, on August 24, 1997, the town of Adams honored Joseph with an appreciation banquet. I have represented Berkshire County since 1991, and I want to add my name to the long list of citizens and officials who have paused to say, thank you, to Joseph Lefebvre for everything he has done over the years.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE MUST HAVE AUTHORITY TO RECALL TAINTED FOOD**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the recent recall of 25 million pounds of beef has caused deep concern in the minds of many Americans about the safety of the Nation's food supply. The largest recall of meat in U.S. history has awakened new fears in consumers who are increasingly skeptical about food safety.

America's food supply is the safest in the world. But it is not safe enough.

Mr. Speaker, in January 1998, new meat safety rules will go into effect which will replace the old sniff and poke method used by meat inspectors. The new system will require closer scrutiny by the meat processors and USDA inspectors and will require the use of new high-technology machinery by meat processors which will test meat for bacterial contamination.

Mr. Speaker, meat processors should not wait until they are legally bound to comply with these new regulations. Americans have come to expect the cleanest, safest food on the planet. Intense effort must be made to make the clean, safe food supply even cleaner and safer. Rigorous scientific checks at key points in the processing of meat must be implemented immediately to restore the public's confidence in our Nation's food supply.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, under current law the U.S. Department of Agriculture cannot compel a recall of tainted food. It can only ask producers to recall products voluntarily or it can withhold its inspection seal and the meat cannot be sold in the United States. But what about meat that has already reached the consumer?

Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman recently announced that he will ask Congress for the authority to recall tainted food. I strongly support this recommendation and I urge all my colleagues to work swiftly to enact this legislation. The time has come to restore public confidence in our Government's ability to ensure a safe food supply. We must give the Federal Government the power to compel a recall of tainted or potentially tainted food.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place in the Record a recent editorial which appeared in