

Today Father Charles Kavanagh leads the church. He is the 16th pastor of St. Raymond Nonnatus Parish. The parish now provides the community with various social services, including the Family Outreach and Youth Program, St. Raymond's Head Start, an expanded East Bronx Hunger Program, the After School Program, and the senior center.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Parish of St. Raymond Nonnatus for its glorious history and service to our South Bronx community.

WHAT IS JUST ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert into the RECORD and encourage Members to read the following editorial by Henry Payne which appeared in the Wall Street Journal on Tuesday, September 16, 1997.

'ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE' KILLS JOBS FOR THE POOR

(By Henry Payne)

Last Wednesday the Environmental Protection Agency delayed its approval of a proposed plastics plant in the predominantly black southern Louisiana town of Convent. It was the EPA's first ruling based on the idea of "environmental injustice" or "environmental racism"—the claim that polluting industries locate in minority areas because their residents are politically powerless to stop them. "It is essential that minority and low-income communities not be disproportionately subjected to environmental hazards," EPA Administrator Carol Browner wrote in her decision obstructing Shintech Inc.'s plans for a \$700 million manufacturing facility.

But if Ms. Browner had bothered asking the residents of Convent what they think, it would have been clear that the injustice is being perpetrated not by industry but by environmental elitists and their political allies, who falsely claim to represent local citizens while promoting their own ideological agenda. "None of these people are speaking for our community," says Carol Gaudin, a black resident of Convent and the organizer of a local pro-Shintech group, the St. James Citizen Coalition. "These environmental groups never came here and asked me if I wanted the plant. They can't just come in here and take it from us."

Gladys Maddie, a black mother who lives within a mile of the plant's proposed location, agrees. "We have witnessed groups such as Greenpeace descend on [Convent] like a plague of locusts," she wrote to the local newspaper. "We find the exploitative use of the color of our skin and our socio-economic condition sickening and insulting."

A recent poll by the local NAACP chapter found that 73% of the people in the black communities near the proposed plant favor it. But the Clinton administration is listening instead to the radical environmental group Greenpeace, which has waged a long war against the plastics industry. Greenpeace has offered its political and organizational muscle to the small group of mostly middle-class Convent residents who oppose the plant.

Louisiana's Department of Environmental Quality—charged by the EPA to regulate state industry—found in May that Shintech's plans satisfied the state's demanding emissions standards. But Greenpeace and its allies, determined to stop the plant, invoked President Clinton's 1994 executive order on environmental injustice, which compels federal agencies to consider whether minorities bear an unfair burden in the location of industrial facilities.

In Convent, the charge of environmental racism is laughable. Louisiana has actually practiced economic affirmative action by declaring the area a state enterprise zone. The state encouraged Shintech to locate in Convent, offering it tax breaks in return for hiring 35% of its work force from the surrounding population. Shintech operates a similar plant in Freeport, Texas, a prosperous, mostly white Gulf Coast city south of Houston. When Convent residents, including Ms. Maddie and Ms. Gaudin, visited Freeport earlier this year, they saw a standard of living they'd like to bring home.

Ms. Maddie's brother Roosevelt Teroud does backbreaking seasonal labor in Convent's sugarcane fields for \$6 an hour. To him, Shintech's more stable \$12- to \$15-an-hour jobs look like an opportunity, not an injustice. And the cultivation of sugarcane entails environmental hazards of its own: fields sprayed with insecticides and the resulting runoff that pollutes local water. Convent residents understand that industrial development entails environmental trade-offs, but they also think industry is their key to a better future. "The big plants up the river came in and gave those communities opportunities," says Nanette Jolivet, a lawyer representing Convent resident, "My clients want the same opportunity."

Forty-five miles away, the taxpayer-subsidized Tulane University Environmental Law Clinic represents plant opponents before the EPA. I asked Tulane lawyer Lisa Lavie what the citizens of Convent can do about economic development if her side wins. Her reply: "That area has some beautiful old plantations. They could build a cultural tourism industry."

"That's horrible!" Carol Gaudin gasps. "My ancestors were slaves on those plantations. These white opponents don't understand—we don't want to remember our past. We want a future."

Aligned against media-savvy, full-time environmentalists and their Washington allies, Convent residents know they have an uphill battle. They're not getting much help from the national black leadership. Lobbied by Greenpeace, both the Rev. Jesse Jackson and the Rev. Joseph Lowry of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference spoke out against the plant this summer.

"They blatantly ignored the opinions of all the local elected African-American officials," says an outraged Ms. Jolivet, noting that neither Mr. Jackson nor Mr. Lowry contacted Convent's local councilmen, all of whom voted in favor of the plant.

The EPA didn't give environmentalists everything they wanted. They had hoped for a firm definition of environmental racism that would set a plant-killing precedent for other such cases. The EPA only called for more study; it did not kill the Shintech plant outright. But the opponents' strategy seems to follow a common pattern: Throw up enough bureaucratic roadblocks and Shintech will eventually give up.

Sadly, this strategy works. In Claiborne Parish, La., where the federal Atomic Energy Board held up construction of a \$850 million nuclear fuel enrichment facility this

May on grounds of environmental injustice, one investor—Northern States Power—has announced that it will pull out after a seven-year (and counting) regulatory process. "At some point these companies just throw up their hands in frustration," sighs Mary Boyd, a spokeswoman for the Claiborne facility.

For the residents of Convent, eager for the 165 jobs and \$5.6 million in school revenue that the Shintech plant will bring, the EPA's obstruction is unconscionable. "Why do these people want to take away our jobs?" asks Gladys Maddie. "If we run Shintech away, we're finished."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 1997

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 415, I was unavoidably detained on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTH JERSEY HERALD AND NEWS

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the momentous occasion of the 125th anniversary of New Jersey's North Jersey Herald and News.

The Herald and News had its beginning in 1872. Debuting as a weekly newspaper, the Herald and News has a storied and remarkable history which has impacted the people of northern New Jersey. For more than 125 years, the Herald and News has stood as a symbol of the character of its loyal readers. The commitment and dedication shown by its founders and its ability to adapt to a changing world have made the newspaper an important part of Passaic County's history.

The Herald and News has always maintained a respected, balanced, and detailed coverage of the people and events which have been brought to life on the pages each day. The Herald and News is more than just a newspaper—it is an institution in the everyday life of northern New Jersey. It has a heritage unique in the annals of American journalism and American history. The men and women who make the newspaper today are proud of its glorious traditions and continue to build on this impressive legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I would like for you to join me, our colleagues, the men and women of the Herald and News, and the people of northern New Jersey in recognizing the North Jersey Herald and News' 125th anniversary. As we celebrate the 125 years of its service to the community, it is only proper that we extend our heartfelt congratulations on a remarkable tradition and best wishes for continued success and prosperity well into the new century.

ALABAMA TEACHER IN BOSNIA
AND HERZEGOVINA HELPS DE-
VELOP SUPPORT FOR DEMOC-
RACY AND FREE ELECTIONS

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 1997

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Joan Byington Stough of my congressional district, who participated in CIVITAS@Bosnia and Herzegovina, an intensive program from August 1–17, 1997, designed to train teachers from throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina with materials and methods developed to educate for democracy. Joan Byington Stough is a counselor-teacher at Dalraida Elementary School in the Montgomery County School System, Montgomery, AL.

Ms. Stough was part of a team of 20 American educators who were assigned to 16 locations throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina, including the Republika of Srpska. The Americans teamed with 18 teachers from the Council of Europe in nine of these sites. This education for program reached 550 teachers from both entities of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The summer training program was developed by the Center for Civic Education, which supplied me with this information, as part of a major civic education initiative in Bosnia and Herzegovina supported by the U.S. Information Agency and the United States Department of Education. It built on a program which began in 1996. I am told that the U.S. Information Service in Sarajevo provided valuable assistance to the program. The goals of the program are to provide teachers with the tools necessary to help prepare students and their communities for competent and responsible citizenship, including participation in elections and other opportunities to take part in the political life of their communities. Achieving this goal will contribute to the reconstitution of a sense of community, cooperation, tolerance and support for democracy and human rights in this war torn area.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend Joan Byington Stough for her dedication and commitment during the summer training program. Her work is helping to achieve the overall objective of building democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

TRIBUTE TO HUNTS POINT MULTI-
SERVICE CENTER, INC.

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 1997

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Hunts Point Multi-Service Center, Inc., for 30 years of service to the South Bronx community. The anniversary was celebrated on September 14 at 630 Jackson Avenue, in my South Bronx congressional district.

Ramon S. Velez, the center's founder and president, understood the need to establish a center that could provide South Bronx residents with a wide variety of services right in the community. The Center started as a Federal demonstration project, established with

the collaboration of Federal, State, and local governments.

Throughout its 30 years of service, the center has been a model of excellence in providing our community with quality health care, counseling, substance abuse services, education, training, child care, and housing services.

With the collaboration of a qualified staff, the center expanded its network to include additional services in conjunction with other local organizations and medical centers. Among these are: the South Bronx Mental Health Council, the Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center, United Bronx Parents, the Bronx Perinatal Consortium, the New York State Division of Parole, the Osborne Association, Argus Community, and the Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center.

Highlights of the 30th anniversary celebration were the inauguration of a new health center and dedications for a new Head Start Center and the South Bronx School of Technology. It also featured a community parade, an ethnic festival, and performances by many artists, including Tito Puente.

The achievements of the Hunts Point Multi-Service Center are measured by the people it has served. Thousands of residents have been employed and benefited from the center's education and training programs. And hundreds of thousands of people, from children to senior citizens, have received quality health care.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to honor the family and friends of the Hunts Point Multi-Service Center, Inc. for their 30 years of success and dedication serving the South Bronx community.

IN 1995, MEDICARE PAID 393 DOCTORS MORE THAN \$1 MILLION FOR SERVICES; 3,152 DOCTORS RECEIVED BETWEEN \$500,000 AND \$1,000,000. NOW A GREEDY FEW WANT MORE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the Medicare agency tells me that in 1995, Medicare paid 393 doctors more than \$1 million for services; 3,152 doctors received between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000. Now a Greedy Few want more.

Despite the ability of doctors to make a fortune from Medicare by providing lots of services to beneficiaries, a few doctors are pushing an amendment by Senator KYL to let doctors privately contract with Medicare benefits.

Strip away the rhetoric, and a private contract is a contract between a doctor who holds his life in your hands in which he demands that you give up your Medicare benefits and that you promise not to file a claim with Medicare. Instead, you agree to let him charge you anything he wants—because you are desperate for your health. We like to think of contracts between equals, negotiated fairly. There is no equality, there is no fairness in these contracts.

Want an example of a private contract? Look at today's Washington Post, page B-3, where a doctor in Manassas, VA is being investigated for charging a Medicare-eligible pa-

tient \$12,000 for the injection of a massive dose of aloe vera into the stomach in order to combat lung cancer. The investigation is due to the fact the man died in the doctor's office after the injection. Medicare does not cover quackery. It does not pay \$12,000 for an injection. But this man and this doctor had a private contract. There will be a lot more of this murderous nonsense if the Kyl amendment succeeds.

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 23, 1997]

VA. DOCTOR'S TREATMENT OF MAN WHO DIED
IS SCRUTINIZED

(By Leef Smith)

A Texas man who had lung cancer died in the spring in the office of a Manassas physician to whom he had gone for a costly intravenous treatment that is not officially sanctioned but that he hoped would save his life, according to Virginia State Police.

The man, Clarence Holland Lander, 83, became "violently ill" shortly after the \$12,000 treatment was administered, and he died May 17, according to records in Prince William County Circuit Court.

The physician, Donald L. MacNay, an orthopedic surgeon, is under investigation in connection with Lander's death and with the treatment allegedly employed—intravenous administration of "a concentrated form of aloe vera and other substances," police said. Aloe vera, a cactus-like member of the lily family, is known to have some healing properties.

Police said that their investigation is continuing and that MacNay has not been charged with any offense. MacNay, who investigators said still is licensed to practice medicine, did not return phone calls to his Manassas office yesterday.

An assistant to MacNay, Ronald Ragan Sheetz, 41, of Manassas, was arrested Thursday and charged with nursing without a license. According to an affidavit that accompanied the request for the arrest warrant, MacNay ordered Sheetz to give Lander the aloe vera injection.

"This procedure was carried out by the subject believed to be Ronald Sheetz who has no medical license of file, under Dr. MacNay's direction and presence," the warrant states. State Police spokeswoman Lucy Caldwell said MacNay also is under investigation in connection with Sheetz's action.

"We're looking into questionable medical practices, drug transactions and suspicious cancer treatments of this doctor's office," Caldwell said. "At this time we're trying to determine how wide-reaching the practice here may be. It's still too early to say."

A spokeswoman for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration said that the intravenous aloe vera treatment has not been approved by the agency and that officials with the National Cancer Institute said they are not studying aloe in connection with cancer treatment.

At the same time, the healing properties of aloe are being studied by researchers exploring alternative medicines to treat diseases, and papers and advertisements about oral aloe-based concentrates are found easily on the Internet. Experts say that as many as 50 percent of the cancer patients in the United States try some kind of therapy that is not officially sanctioned.

Such treatments include special diets, vitamins, mental imagery, wearing magnets, coffee enemas and consuming cartilage and oil from sharks.

Lander's son, James Lander, said that his father was in excellent health before the terminal cancer was diagnosed and that he jumped at the chance to beat the disease. He said his father learned about the aloe treatment from reading an article and found MacNay through word-of-mouth referrals.