

Deacom Albert Bailey, Sr., was presented with the Outstanding Christian Community Leadership Award. Deacon Bailey has actively served his community through a number of activities for the past 40 years through the Little League Program, the Chicago Public Schools system, and as a Sunday school teacher.

Mr. Roderic Pierce, Sr., received the Outstanding Community Businessman Award. He is a lifelong resident of Englewood, and has provided job opportunities within the community through his business establishments.

Ms. Sybil Hunley is the recipient of the Julia Broy Educator Award. Ms. Hunley is a teacher in the Chicago Public School System and has taught three generations of students over the past 37 years.

Ms. Patricia Ann Hill was awarded the Adult Education Achievement Award. As a single parent who returned to school and earned a bachelor of arts degree from Chicago State University in 1987, Ms. Hill is an inspiration to other students who may be struggling with their decision to return to school.

The Appreciation Award for Outstanding Service to Block Club was presented to Mrs. Eva Graves. Mrs. Graves served as vice president of the Block Club for 35 years, and is a founding member.

Mr. Speaker, we are all fortunate that dedicated individuals such as these, are part of our communities today. I wish each of them and the entire Englewood Block Club organization continued success in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 513, I was unavoidably detained on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay", and I ask unanimous consent that this statement be placed in the appropriate portion of the RECORD.

TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND R. KIMBLE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Raymond R. Kimble, the township manager and director of public safety for the Township of Belleville, NJ as he was honored on Thursday, October 16, 1997, for 33 years of outstanding public service.

Ray was born and raised in the township of Belleville, attended the public schools and was a star athlete on the Belleville High School football team. He graduated from William Paterson College with a B.S. in public administration and a master's degree in urban and community affairs.

Ray served his Nation proudly in the U.S. Army from November 1958 to October 1960 and began his service to the Belleville police department on February 16, 1964 when he received his initial appointment. Ray was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 1967, lieutenant in 1973, captain in 1981, deputy chief in

1986, and eventually to the rank of chief of police on April 1, 1992. Throughout his career as a police officer, Ray either served or supervised the police department's patrol division, detective bureau, records and identification bureau, internal affairs division and crime prevention unit. He has been recognized numerous times for actions above and beyond the call of duty, including the April 1970 apprehension of a suspect wanted for murder in Belleville, the June 1970 rescue of a woman submerged under water in her car after a motor vehicle accident, and the June 1977 apprehension of a suspect exiting a liquor store after committing armed robbery.

As chief of police, Ray was responsible for many improvements made in the Belleville police department including new guns and radios for the officers, the expansion of the narcotics squad, the creation of the Silver Lake sub station and the addition of 15 police officers through State and Federal grants. Ray helped bring about the addition of over \$1 million in State and Federal funds to the department, the establishment of the community policing unit and training bureau, and the expansion of the internal affairs unit. He was additionally instrumental in the building of the new public safety complex.

Ray is the former vice president of the Essex County Police Chief's Association and a member of the New Jersey State Police Chief's Association, Belleville P.B.A. Local 28 where he served on the executive board. He also devoted his time as a member and officer of the Belleville Little League.

He is married to the former Marie Marinaro and is the father of four children, Raymond Kimble, Jr., Esq., Steve Kimble, Esq., C.P.A., Linda Conley, and Lisa Gabriele, and the grandfather of Raymond.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Ray's family, friends, and colleagues, the Township of Belleville and the members of the law enforcement community in recognizing Raymond R. Kimble's many years of dedication and invaluable contributions to the public safety of Belleville and its citizens.

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION ACT OF 1997 INTRODUCED

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Economic Development Information Act of 1997. This bill establishes and expands an online resource of Government-wide Economic Development Information in the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

BACKGROUND: THE SUCCESS OF THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC CONVERSION INFORMATION

Over the last decade, hundreds of defense bases have been realigned and closed and more than 100,000 defense civilians have lost their jobs. Pursuant to the 1995 round of base realignment and closure, additional bases are slated for closure in the next 4 years. To help communities and displaced workers adjust to this defense downsizing, Congress established the Office of Economic Conversion Information [OECI] in the Economic Development Administration [EDA] in November 1993.

The Office of Economic Conversion Information is an important part of the Federal Government's efforts to share information on defense adjustment and economic development. The OECI serves as a "one-stop shop" central clearinghouse for a wide range of users, ranging from individual displaced workers and economic developers to communities facing major base closures and businesses affected by defense downsizing. It helps these groups pick their way through the maze of Federal defense conversion and economic development programs in an easily usable format—a toll free 1-800 phone call, fax, or use of OECI's Internet site—and provides information on how others have responded to defense downsizing. With a database of more than 1,000 files, the OECI is not limited to sources of Federal funding and support. It also includes State and local program descriptions, case studies, guidance manuals, raw economic data, and various publications related to base reuse, worker placement programs, and the commercialization of defense technology. In addition, the OECI has created a new system, the PARCELS Military Base Property Marketing System, to further assist communities impacted by military base closures. This system helps communities create their own Internet home pages to describe and market base closure properties for private investment.

In its almost 4 years of operation, the OECI has responded to more than 143,000 queries. It currently serves approximately 5,000 customers each month. Moreover, the average OECI Internet user is not merely visiting the site, they are using it—the average user downloads 3 to 5 documents. Because of this success, EDA's OECI was awarded the American Economic Development Council's Arthur D. Little Technological Excellence Award in April 1996.

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION ACT OF 1997

The success of the OECI in assisting workers, communities, and businesses in adjusting to downsizing should not be limited to base reuse and defense conversion. The Economic Development Information Act of 1997 creates the Office of Economic Development Information in EDA—expanding the OECI to help all economically distressed communities.

Pursuant to this bill, the OEDI will serve as a central information clearinghouse on economic development, economic adjustment, disaster recovery, industrial retention, and defense conversion. In addition, the OEDI could link users to an expanded PARCELS system that would list all Government-owned properties that need economic redevelopment. The bill authorizes such sums as may be necessary to establish the OEDI.

I am hopeful that when the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure considers its bill to reauthorize the programs of the Economic Development Administration and Appalachian Regional Commission later this Congress, this bill will be a part of the chairman's mark.

When a community's top employer shuts down, it doesn't matter to the community or its workers whether that employer is a defense installation or a steel plant. It shouldn't matter to EDA and its information network either. The Office of Economic Development Information provides the resources to ensure that all of our Nation's economically distressed communities have the information necessary to help

them create jobs and compete in the global economy.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2169,
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2169, the Transportation appropriations conference report. I want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for providing \$1,000,000 to develop the Boston Urban Ring.

The Urban Ring will make public transportation more efficient around Boston. It will stimulate economic growth, and it will enhance the chances of persons on welfare to find jobs, by providing an efficient, inexpensive form of transportation for them to travel between home and work.

The Urban Ring will stimulate economic growth because it will create an affordable transportation system for all commuters to travel the Boston area without using their cars. The business community will be well served because the Urban Ring will expand the accessibility of its labor force. This will help businesses to increase redevelopment potential of underutilized or vacant land and buildings that were used in the region's older industrial economy.

The Urban Ring will help the chances of welfare recipients to find jobs. These days, many factories and businesses build their new facilities in the suburbs. But many welfare recipients live in the city. The Urban Ring will provide inner city residents affordable transportation to find jobs in the suburbs, and to keep those jobs.

Finally, I want to thank the conferees for providing \$250 million for Amtrak's Northeast Corridor Improvement Program. Amtrak's passenger service contributes to cleaning up air pollution in my district. It reduces the number of cars on the road every day between Boston and New York by 27,000.

The Transportation appropriations conference report is fair and adequate, and it is a great help to the Boston area. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the conference report.

TRIBUTE TO HENRY B. GONZALEZ

SPEECH OF

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 1997

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the distinguished Member from Texas and the ranking member of the Banking Committee, Mr. GONZALEZ.

Representative GONZALEZ has served in elected public office for more than 40 years, and has served with distinction in this House since the 87th Congress in 1961. Mr. GONZALEZ served as chairman of the Subcommittee

on Housing and Community Development beginning in 1981 until the 104th Congress when he became ranking member of the committee.

During his time here in the House, Representative GONZALEZ dedicated much of his time to helping low-income families and distressed communities across America obtain affordable housing and development opportunities.

I have had the privilege of working closely with the distinguished gentleman since becoming chairman of the subcommittee in 1994. Although we have often held different perspectives on public policy, we both believe that our most vulnerable populations must be protected. I thank him for his leadership and lifelong commitment to helping our Nation's poor.

IN RECOGNITION OF 22 YOUNG MUSICIANS
FROM CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL
IN COLUMBUS, IN

HON. DAVID M. MCINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 22 young musicians from Central Middle School in Columbus, IN, who will be performing this week at the Holocaust Museum in Washington as part of the school's annual tour of the Washington area.

These young musicians, under the direction of Ms. Sue Hartin, will perform "Inscription of Hope" by D. Z. Randall Stroepe. This song is based upon words inscribed on a cellar wall in Cologne, Germany, where Jews were hiding during the Second World War. According to Ms. Hartin, "The purpose of this performance is to give the students a deeper, more personal understanding of the reality of the Holocaust. This music gives a unique insight to simple historical facts."

The actual text of the piece reads:

I believe in the sun even when it is not shining, and I believe in love even when there's no one there. And I believe in God even when he is silent. I believe through any trial, there is always a way. But sometimes in this suffering and hopeless despair, my heart cries for shelter, to know someone's there. But a voice rises within me saying "hold on my child, I'll give you strength, I'll give you hope, just stay a little while." I believe in the sun even when it is not shining. And I believe in love even when there's no one there. But I believe in God even when he is silent. I believe through any trial, there is always a way. May there someday be sunshine, may there someday be happiness, may there someday be love, may there someday be peace.

I am happy to congratulate these young students on their hard work and wish them the best of luck for their performance this week.

CONGRATULATING JIM GURETSKY,
CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL
CREDIT UNIONS

HON. JON CHRISTENSEN

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr.

Jim Guretsky on his recent appointment to the chairmanship of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions [NAFCU]. During my term in Congress, I have worked closely with Jim on a number of issues and have found him to be a man of outstanding ability and knowledge. I feel credit unions across the Nation will benefit from Jim's leadership and business acumen. He has been president of the SAC Federal Credit Union in Omaha, NE, since 1984. Also, he has pledged that as chair of the NAFCU, he will work with the other directors on the NAFCU board and with members of the credit union community to help ensure all Federal credit unions receive the education, information, and representation they need to remain competitive and to maintain safe and sound operations. I look forward to working with Jim Guretsky to attain these goals, and wish him a successful tenure as chairman of NAFCU.

TRIBUTE TO REUBEN HARPOLE

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, on October 25, the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee [UWM], his family, friends, and admirers will celebrate Reuben Harpole's 31 years of service to UWM and his lifetime of service to Milwaukee.

I have known Reuben for years, and it is hard to recall a more dynamic, engaging personality. These qualities and his love of people have guided Reuben through the tough times. In the 1960's, he was not daunted by the challenges of selling white businesses advertising space in a newspaper serving African-American readers. When racial tension in Milwaukee threatened to explode in violence, Reuben did not retreat. He enlisted the partnership of a UWM professor, surveyed African-American families, learned that their most urgent desire was that their children should be able to read, and the two men founded a program at UWM to teach them.

Reuben Harpole's commitment to education is incomparable. He established a central city teacher project, was instrumental in the foundation of Milwaukee's Harambee Community School and has been a driving force at UWM's Center for Urban Community Development for the past 31 years. UWM has established in his honor the Reuben Harpole Education Scholarship. Every year, the scholarship will help one UWM school of education student to reach toward Reuben's goal. I can think of no more fitting recognition of Reuben's unique dedication to the education of our children.

Reuben Harpole brings energy and vitality to every undertaking. He put the king in networking, and his unabashed enthusiasm is irresistibly infectious. I do not doubt for a second that, as he has for over 30 years, Reuben Harpole will continue to get things done.