

TRIBUTE TO THE GOOD COMPANY
PLAYERS

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Good Company Players of Fresno. Good Company Players is an exceptionally talented theater production company where Fresnoans can view the performing arts.

The Good Company Players opened its doors in 1973 in the ballroom of the Fresno Hilton. After three summers there and two summers at other Fresno auditoriums, Good Company Players moved to its current location at Roger Rock's Music Hall. With its yearround performances, Good Company Players became the centerpiece in Fresno's Tower District, a cultural and entertainment hub in the central valley. Finally, 1982 marked the opening of Good Company's Second Space Theater which accommodates performances from school groups and junior programs.

Good Company is the premier production company throughout the Fresno area and has entertained 1,250,000 people. Over 1,683 performers have participated in a total of 7,500 shows. Currently, Good Company offers 12 performances a year and several acting workshops for both children and adults.

As Fresno's gateway to Broadway, Good Company boasts several acclaimed alumni. Specifically, Audra McDonald—who plays Eponine in *Les Misérables*—is a two-time Tony winner. Other Broadway veterans include Sarah Uriarte, Duane Boutte, Sharon Leal and Tony nominee Bob Westenberg. Along with Broadway, Good Company has launched many of Fresno's residents into television, technical and choreographic careers.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to the Good Company Players of Fresno. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the Good Company Players many more years of success.

IN HONOR OF THERESE ROCCO,
MOM'S HOUSE 1997 COURAGEOUS
WOMAN

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, the contributions made by Therese Rocco to our local communities and our Nation serve as a testament to the lasting impact that can be achieved by a single individual. It is with extreme pleasure that I congratulate Therese on being named Mom's House Courageous Woman of 1997.

Therese's accomplishments are as extensive as they are impressive. Her efforts have won praise from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, several mayors of Pittsburgh, the International Association of the Chiefs of Police, Allegheny County Commissioners, the Pennsylvania State Service Commission, and *Newsweek* magazine, to name a few. Therese has been rightly recognized not only for her skill and dedication, but for her foresight re-

garding emerging needs in the criminal justice system. Clearly, Therese is a woman of great courage who has demonstrated the vision and spirit that is necessary to raise awareness and bring about real change.

A female pioneer in police enforcement and public administration, Therese brought to light the need for community policing and greater representation of women officers, as well as the plight of underprivileged and abused children. That these issues are still of concern today illustrates that Therese was way ahead of the curve when she began examining them over 30 years ago. Without question, Therese is an excellent choice for this award, as her life has the power to inspire young women who may have doubts about the validity of their own worth and aspirations.

I, along with my distinguished colleagues from western Pennsylvania, salute your most recent award, Mom's House Courageous Woman of 1997. Please accept our most sincere congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

HONORING THE 68TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the founding family and faithful members of the St. John's Baptist Church of Jersey City, NJ. On October 25, 1997, at the Newark Airport Hilton in Elizabeth, NJ, the church will celebrate its 68th anniversary of service.

St. John's Baptist Church was inspired and founded by Rev. Franklin Saunders, Deacons B.J. Johnson and George Bedtison, and a handful of faithful members in 1929. That same year, the newly established church at 121 York Street in Jersey City, NJ was incorporated by the State of New Jersey. Before settling in to its current location at 525 Bramhall Avenue in 1948, the church relocated three times within Jersey City: The corner of Monmouth and Grand Streets, 291 Grand Street, and 70 Monticello Avenue. The latter purchase, during the Depression in 1936, required two men of substantial employment—Deacons Johnson and Bedtison as signatories on a note for \$4008 to qualify for purchase of that property.

The church has not only survived for 68 years but also thrived, while enriching the community. The church's numerous humanitarian public service projects and the friendly nature of its members has helped make Jersey City and the surrounding area a better place to live. For 68 years, members and clergy have worked diligently to ensure the success of the church and the community.

Among the faithful St. John's members and contributors over the years are Reverend Sammie Hawkins, Jr., Reverend Brawner, Associate Ministers Reverend Richard Hare and Leroy Witcher and Reverend R.L. Williams. Reverend Hawkins, the church's new administrator, originally from East Dublin, GA arrived permanently on December 28, 1990 with his lovely wife, Sister Latchal Hawkins, and daughters, Ebony and Valerie.

It is an honor to have such an outstanding congregation in my district. I ask that my col-

leagues join me in recognizing the excellent work of the St. John's Baptist Church.

SUPPORT MORAN SUBSTITUTE TO
D.C. APPROPRIATIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2607) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Moran amendment to the D.C. appropriations bill. I find the arguments of the gentlelady from the District of Columbia, the members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and the minority members of the Appropriations Committee to be most persuasive. This bill breaks the rules of the House. Once again, the Republican majority is attempting to legislate on an appropriations bill. They have thrown everything but the kitchen sink into this bill. They cannot pass their social agenda on a national scale, so they are starting small with one city.

The Moran substitute eliminates some of the more egregious provisions of the bill. First, it deletes the provision that establishes a new program to provide educational scholarships to low-income students. In our country, every child is guaranteed the right to a free, public education. We have all heard the horror stories about the terrible state of disrepair of the DC schools. There is no doubt about the fact when we have statistics from reliable sources like the GAO telling us that in 1996, 49 percent of the schools in the District had at least one building in need of extensive repair and 68 percent had at least one unsatisfactory environmental condition.

Rather than aggravating the situation, we should be working to improve the DC public schools. Unfortunately, the misguided Republican Leadership has chosen to "fix" this problem by including a proposal to provide up to \$3,200 per student so that 2,000 children from low-income families could attend private schools. This plan will drain \$45 million in Federal funds away from the public schools already in dire straits and will do absolutely nothing for the 97 percent of students in the District who remain in the public schools.

Only two private schools in DC have tuition rates lower than the amount provided by the "scholarships". This plan does not provide any great "choice" for most families in the District. It simply adds two schools to the many public schools they can currently choose. Those two schools, however, still have the option of saying "no" to any student who does not meet their standards for admission. In fact, even if they did not decline admission to students based on their admission requirements, they would have to decline admission to the large majority of students simply due to inadequate space.

The public schools of the District will continue to fund facilities, staff, and administrative

support regardless of what Congress does. Instead of taking tax dollars out of the DC schools and placing those schools at risk of even greater disrepair, we must direct funds to fix the problems so all of the children in the District have an opportunity to learn in a safe, well-equipped public school. The \$45 million in question would be much better spent on school renovation, basic repairs, and improvements in academic performance.

General Becton—who was appointed by the Control Board created by Congress only last year—is implementing a program to improve academic quality, corporate and community relationships, infrastructure and management in the District's schools. The five schools where the reforms are in place have shown dramatic improvement in only 6 months. The public schools in our Nation's capital should be a shining example for the rest of the country, but they will never be if we do not give the programs already in place a chance to work.

Second, the Moran substitute eliminates the provisions of the committee bill that allow for the waiver of the Davis-Bacon Act. The Republicans are once again using the unions as a straw man to gain support for their position. They are trying to say that the Democrats are bowing to the pressure of the union bosses. Well, Mr. Speaker, I don't even know what a union boss is. The union members I know are hardworking men and women working for a boss. I oppose this provision because it just doesn't make good economic sense.

Research has shown that construction costs in States with prevailing wage laws are lower than in States without such laws. In addition, Davis-Bacon ensures that we have a skilled workforce that produces a quality product that will last for many years. This year, the District's schools were 3 weeks late opening because of the crumbling schools. Why would we want the District schools to go through this ordeal again a few years down the road because their schools were rebuilt with shoddy construction?

Third, the Moran substitute eliminates the provision that sets limits on punitive damages in medical malpractice suits in the District. When people go to the doctor, they place their trust in that doctor. They expect and deserve to receive competent, ethical, professional treatment—and most receive it. Clearly, we have the finest medical professionals in the world. However, when citizens are maimed or killed due to medical malpractice, they or their survivors deserve a remedy.

The District ranks 45th nationwide in doctor discipline records—one of the worst in the country. Without an effective disciplinary board, punitive damages are the only means to punish physicians for egregious wrongs. By capping punitive damages, we dramatically reduce the ability of the District's civil justice system to deter wrongdoing by negligent doctors. The citizens of the District deserve better.

Mr. Chairman, today I stand with the members of the Black Caucus in opposition to this bill. We cannot continue to ignore the needs of the District. Now is not the time for this ill-conceived, irresponsible plan to advance the Republican legislative agenda to a simple appropriations bill. I urge my colleagues to support the Moran substitute and stop this social experimentation.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP LARRY D. TROTTER

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, on October 26, 1997, the Sweet Holy Spirit Full Gospel Baptist Church will come together to honor a great man. Their senior pastor, Bishop Larry D. Trotter, will celebrate 16 years of leadership within this august body and almost a lifetime of service to the community as well.

As a child, Bishop Trotter had an extraordinary desire to serve God. He attended Sunday school regularly and dedicated his life to Christ at the young age of 12. His unwavering dedication continued throughout high school and into adulthood.

It was not until 1981 that Bishop Trotter was called to minister at Sweet Holy Spirit Full Gospel Baptist Church. Once there he led the body from a membership of only 20 active parishioners to one with over 3,000 parishioners.

Bishop Trotter's work extends far beyond the church. His ministry has taken him around the world to countries such as Uganda, Kenya, Belgium, and Israel. Bishop Trotter developed a C.A.R.E.—Counseling, Activity Resource and Education—Center and organized several antidrug and anticrime marches throughout the city. Bishop Trotter has maintained these and other commitments while having time to reach out to thousands through his weekly radio and television broadcasts.

I am pleased to be here today in honor of Bishop Larry D. Trotter. I with the bishop and the Sweet Holy Spirit Full Gospel Baptist Church many continued years of growth and success.

TRIBUTE TO VA-HACU HEALTH CARE INTERN PARTNERSHIP

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Veterans Administration and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities [HACU] for undertaking a new partnership aimed at increasing Hispanic participation in health care professions. The program is being launched this morning at the Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital in San Antonio. VA Under Secretary for Health Dr. Kenneth Kizer and HACU President Dr. Antonio Flores will be present at the kick-off ceremony.

The program's goal is to place Hispanic interns in VA facilities across the country, providing them hands-on experience in a variety of VA health care settings. Students accepted into the summer internship program will work at medical centers, outpatient clinics, nursing homes and community-based clinics, thus providing a broad spectrum of experience opportunities.

The interns will complement over 100,000 health care professionals who are trained at VA facilities across the country. This experience is designed to educate interns who are pursuing careers in health care services, rang-

ing from physical therapy to health care administration. I commend the VA for its commitment to develop a workforce which reflects the communities served by the VA health care system.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KEVIN MCCARTHY

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend CAROLYN MCCARTHY, and her son Kevin who will be getting married very soon.

Each of us are familiar with the circumstances that inspired CAROLYN to seek election to this House. Since the day she arrived, her commitment to making our society safe and to improving the lives of those she represents has been an inspiration to us all.

I know that CAROLYN is immensely proud of her son, who has demonstrated remarkable strength in overcoming odds most of us would find insurmountable.

Kevin McCarthy is truly a "profile in courage," and I am proud today to join those from our class in wishing he and his fiancée Leslie Nolan all the love and happiness in the world on their wedding day.

One phrase that is too often thrown around these days is "family values." If anyone really wants to know the meaning of that phrase, they need to look no further than CAROLYN and Kevin McCarthy.

It is a privilege to serve in this body with CAROLYN, and to honor her son Kevin for the life he has led—and wish him all the best in his new life with Leslie:

BACKGROUND ON THE WEDDING OF KEVIN MCCARTHY AND LESLIE NOLAN

Kevin McCarthy and Leslie Nolan met last fall during his mother's successful 1996 Congressional campaign. Previous to her employment with NASA, Leslie had worked for 10 years on Capitol Hill. With the political season heating up, she got the itch to get back into the game and contacted a friend at EMILY's List, a campaign resource group for female candidates, where she was hooked up with the McCarthy campaign. She arranged to take 6 weeks of vacation and came to Long Island to volunteer for the campaign. She became the candidate's travel assistant.

Leslie returned home in November to her job as a Senior Policy Analyst at NASA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. The couple began a long distance relationship via the telephone, train and New York shuttles. They became engaged on April 26, 1997 at Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania. Kevin got down on one knee and proposed with a diamond engagement ring and a card in front of Longwood's beautiful waterfall. Leslie received a dozen roses each day the week before the engagement!

Their wedding will be celebrated by Deacon John Reinhart at the Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Mineola. 225 guests are expected. The couple will celebrate their nuptials with a wedding ball at the historic Ohoka Castle in Huntington. They will honeymoon in the Caribbean and are planning to make their home on Long Island.

Kevin McCarthy is the only child of Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy and the late Dennis McCarthy. Kevin is a Mutual Funds Clerk with Prudential Securities in New