

AN EVENING HONORING ANDREW
P. POTOS

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Andrew P. Potos as he retires from WITI-TV in Milwaukee, WI, after a successful career that spans over three decades.

Andy was born and raised in Milwaukee, and throughout his career he has demonstrated a love for our community through his active role in making Milwaukee a better place to live. Before he began his career at WITI-TV, Andy served his community as a history and English teacher at Washington High School in Milwaukee. He then went on to join WITI in 1961, the beginning of a 36 year commitment to making WITI a topnotch news organization.

When Andy Potos joined channel 6 in 1961 as an account executive, he decided that someday he would serve as General Manager. As it turns out, that goal would be met in 1981, and he would serve as one of Milwaukee's longest tenured television general managers. Even when his career path took him to Chicago or New York, he knew he would some day be back in Milwaukee. Since 1981, Andy has been at the helm of WITI and has made it one of the best television stations in the country. His leadership and managerial skills are second to none.

However, there is much more to Andy than just television. He is as committed to Milwaukee as anyone I know. Over the years he has taken a proactive role in improving our community at all levels. He has served as a board member of Junior Achievement of Southeast Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Heart Association, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and the Milwaukee Chapter of the NAACP just to name a few. Whether it was managing a television station, or raising funds for charity, Andy Potos has been there for Milwaukee.

I would like to join everyone at WITI-TV in saying that Andy will surely be missed by all. May you enjoy a very healthy, happy retirement, and all the best in your future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO KNOX PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Knox Presbyterian Church on the occasion of its 100th anniversary of providing outstanding ministry and spiritual leadership to the people of the city of Los Angeles. On February 2, I had the distinct pleasure of attending the church's 100th anniversary service.

The Knox Church is exceptional in its service to the community in many ways, providing spiritual leadership to an ethnically diverse parish and congregation. Embedded in its mission statement is a commitment to utilizing our existing diversity to attract, welcome and retain persons of various backgrounds who are accepting of ethnic diversity. The Knox Church

truly fulfills the ideals of the Christian faith in its welcoming embrace of all peoples. I personally bore witness to this at the 100th anniversary service. The congregation is comprised of people of all ethnicities coming together in the glory of God. In this way, the Knox Church is a praiseworthy example of co-existence and mutual support for the city of Los Angeles, the Nation, and the world.

Rev. Mark F. Buchanan is the current pastor of the Knox Presbyterian Church. He is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary and has brought to Knox youth, enthusiasm, and a strong vision of the future. Under his guidance Knox has developed and is implementing its new long range plan that will take the church into the new millennium.

The Knox Church takes great pride in the quality and scope of its music program. The program is led by music director Glenn Riske, who has served as music director for over 26 years. The church's handbell choir is one of the many highlights of the music program. It has performed all over southern California, including at the Easter sunrise service at the Hollywood Bowl and the televised Christmas program at the Music Center Los Angeles. In recognition of the Knox church's century of exemplary service to the community, I would like to take this opportunity to share with my colleagues the historical retrospective of this great church.

On November 8, 1896, a small group of people came together for a worship service held in Cutler Hall in what is now downtown Los Angeles. They were led by Rev. William Stewart Young, a pioneer of Presbyterianism in southern California. The church soon moved to a new location at the Southgate Masonic Hall at Main Street and 30th Street. The Knox Presbyterian Church was formally organized at this location on Sunday, January 10, 1897. Reverend Young was officially installed as the first pastor on November 25, 1902. During his tenure the Reverend Young increased the church's membership and oversaw the erection of its first home on 30th Street. This location was officially dedicated on January 12, 1902. Reverend Young continued to lead the Knox Church until 1907. The Reverend Young was succeeded by the Reverend Edward J. Harper who served Knox from January 13, 1907, until June 1910.

The Reverend Henderson C. Shoemaker was called as supply pastor on July 7, 1910, and was officially installed as pastor on March 2, 1911. During Rev. Shoemaker's tenure, the Knox congregation moved to a new location at the corner of Figueroa and 43d Streets. The building was completed and formally dedicated on November 30, 1913. The Reverend Harry Hillard followed Reverend Shoemaker serving as pastor from July 19, 1914, through September 25, 1918. During Reverend Hillard's pastorate, Knox membership rose to 300.

On March 9, 1919, Rev. Leslie Logue Boyd was called to Knox and on April 27, 1919, was installed. Under his leadership Knox celebrated its 25th anniversary. He was followed by Rev. William Hiram Manshardt, who was installed as the rector on February 24, 1924. It was during his ministry that the church debts were cleared and a manse was purchased at 557 West 46th Street. Pastor Manshardt served Knox for 15 years.

The Reverend Chester M. Buley was installed as pastor on January 29, 1939. On that same day the congregation heard, for the first

time, the Dr. William and Sarah Young Memorial Organ. Rev. Calvin A. Duncan took over leadership of the Knox Church in May 1944. He presided over the church's 50th anniversary on February 2, 1947. On May 23, 1954, Rev. Arthur P. Rech was installed. Under his 25 years tutelage the Knox Church moved to its current location in Ladera Heights and all of the facilities as they now exist were constructed. During this period numerous projects, which continue to flourish today, were instituted. Among them are the LAX Food Pantry, Masters Mates and Laderians. Rev. Rech stepped down as pastor on December 2, 1979.

On June 28, 1981, Rev. James E. Kenney was installed as pastor and served for 10 years. Interim pastors, Rev. Jack Peters, Rev. Gary Wilburn, and Rev. John Dean, served until the February 20, 1994, installation of Rev. Mark F. Buchanan.

Few would argue about the increasingly important correlation that exists between the church and a healthy community. For over a century, the Knox Presbyterian Church has contributed to that prosperity by offering a ministry that nurtures the soul and empowers the mind. By providing spiritual empowerment to the community it continues to shine as a beacon of hope for the future. I am proud to recognize and commend Rev. Mark Buchanan and the congregation of the Knox Presbyterian Church for their ministry and leadership to the Los Angeles community. Please join me in extending our profound best wishes for continued success in the future.

THE TRUTH IN EMPLOYMENT ACT
OF 1997

HON. HARRIS FAWELL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. FAWELL. Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that many of our colleagues have now heard of the union organizing tactic known as salting. I am equally sure that most of them have been greatly disturbed by what they have heard; and, for good reason. In recent years, salting has evolved into an abusive practice which, sadly, has little to do with legitimate union organizing. Instead, salting has become a tool—or perhaps better stated; a weapon—for putting nonunion companies out of business.

This unfortunate fact was made clear during the 104th Congress, when the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities held three hearings which highlighted the problems associated with union salting. The testimony from those hearings included stories about union organizers and agents who had sought or gained employment with a nonunion employer when, in fact, they had little, if any, intention of truly working for that company. In many cases, the organizers and agents were there simply to disrupt the employer's workplace or to increase the cost of doing business by forcing the employer to defend itself against frivolous charges filed with the National Labor Relations Board [NLRB]. For most of these companies—many of which were small businesses—the economic harm inflicted by the union's salting campaigns was devastating.

Equally troubling, Mr. Speaker, is the brazen manner in which union salts go about their business of inflicting economic harm on non-union employers. Indeed, most union salts make clear when they apply for a job that their loyalties lie elsewhere and that they have no interest in working to promote the interests of the company.

One might ask why an employer would hire an individual that he knows is there to hurt his company. The complicated answer to this question, Mr. Speaker, lies in broad interpretations of who is covered by provisions of the National Labor Relations Act [NLRA], which prohibits employers from discriminating against employees because of their union interests or activities. These interpretations have had the practical effect of presenting employers with a Hobson's choice: either hire the union salt who is sure to disrupt your workplace and file frivolous charges resulting in costly litigation; or, deny the salt employment and risk being sued for discrimination under the NLRA. Either way the employer is faced with a hiring decision that may threaten the very survival of his or her business.

In an effort to remedy this situation, Mr. Speaker, last year I introduced the Truth in Employment Act of 1996. And, while I was disappointed that we concluded the 2d session of the 104th Congress without addressing the problems of union salting, I was pleased that a significant number of our colleagues were also sufficiently concerned to join me as co-sponsors of that legislation.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, the problems of abusive salting persist today; and, they continue to take a heavy toll on employers in the form of costly litigation, lost productivity, and destroyed property. For those reasons, I am today reintroducing for consideration by the 105th Congress the Truth in Employment Act of 1997. This legislation is virtually identical to the bill I introduced during the last Congress. In short, the bill would amend section 8 of the National Labor Relations Act to make clear that an employer is not required to hire any person who seeks a job in order to promote the interests of another employer or organization for whom that person is acting as an agent. When enacted, the bill will help restore of the balance of rights that salting upsets and that is fundamental to our system of collective bargaining.

I want to again make clear, Mr. Speaker, as I did during the last Congress, that this bill is in no way intended to infringe upon any rights or protections otherwise accorded employees under the NLRA. Employees will continue to enjoy their right to organize or engage in other concerted activities protected under the act. And, employers will still be prohibited from discriminating against employees on the basis of union membership or union activism. The bill merely seeks to alleviate the legal pressures imposed upon employers to hire individuals whose real purpose for seeking the job is to disrupt the employer's workplace or otherwise inflict economic harm designed to put the employer out of business.

Mr. Speaker, at its core, the National Labor Relations Act—indeed, our entire collective bargaining system—is about balancing the rights and protections of both employers and the men and women who work for them. At its worst, salting upsets that balance in a way not contemplated when the NLRA was enacted. Surely, Congress could not have intended the

NLRA to be used as the legal shield that union salts now commonly invoke in defense of their abusive behavior. Moreover, common sense tells us that employers should be entitled to some measure of confidence when making hiring decisions that the job applicants they consider are motivated by their desire for work and promote the interests of that employer—not another organization bent on disrupting or putting that company out of business.

The Truth in Employment Act will help restore that confidence, Mr. Speaker, while at the same time protecting the rights of employees and their union representatives. Once again, I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE USCG AIR STATION, SAVANNAH, GA, FOR A JOB WELL DONE

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, when no one else was able to help, U.S. Coast Guard helicopter 6573, based at the USCG Air Station in Savannah, GA, swung into action to carry a 3-year-old burn victim from Statesboro, GA to much needed treatment in Savannah, GA. The air station staff's heroic actions are detailed in the following letter from Bulloch Co. EMS/Rescue Director Lee Eckles:

BULLOCH COUNTY EMS/RESCUE,
Statesboro, Ga, October 27, 1996.

Adm. ROBERT E. KRAHEK,
Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, Washington,
DC.

DEAR ADMIRAL KRAHEK, I realize how busy you must be, but when it comes to expressing ones thanks for saving the life of a child, I felt like you just might have a few minutes to read this letter.

On September 25, 1996, our department was dispatched to respond to a "burn patient" some ten (10) miles away from our station. With no other information available, we responded. Arriving at the scene, our staff found a three year old female with second and third degree burns covering over seventy percent of her body. Within twenty-five minutes of our dispatch time, the child was receiving primary care treatment at our local hospital.

It was clear from first observations that this three year old would need the specialized care of the "Burn Center" ninety miles to our west, in order to have any chance of survival. Due to the extent and severity of the burns and the fact that she had suffered extensive airway burns, transport time to the burn center would have a significant impact on her survival. Air transport was the only option. The regional Trauma Center in Savannah, fifty miles to our east has the only civilian medivac helicopter available in all of South Georgia. Upon making the request, I was notified that their helicopter was out of service for maintenance. They did however, quickly refer us to the military M.A.S.T. helicopter unit at Fort Stewart. As I dialed the phone, I remembered from my military tour of duty with the Coast Guard (1978-1981), the bureaucratic process that would have to be overcome in order for a military aircraft to be approved for use on a civilian medivac mission. The desk sergeant quickly transferred my call to the duty officer. My first comment to the Major was to

apologize for my sense of urgency, but a child's life was on the line. Simply stated, I ask if his M.A.S.T. Helicopter could be airborne in five minutes or less for a medivac flight. His response was brief and very direct "It will take me at least thirty minutes to find someone who is capable of giving authorization," I thanked him for his time, and hung up the phone.

I realized at that point we were out of options. One of my staff members, feeling helpless said "why don't you call the Coast Guard, I know they have a helicopter." With nothing but the cost of a phone call to lose, I called the Coast Guard Air Station in Savannah Georgia. One again, I explained the urgency of my request. This time however, the response was different. Within five minutes, USCG 6573 was airborne and enroute to the Statesboro Municipal Airport. To make a long story short, the Coast Guard answered the call for help when no one else was available. The medivac mission was carried out without a hitch. Our every request was quickly accommodated.

Every one involved, from the pilots and air crew to the individuals operating the telephone played an extremely crucial role in the critical care transport of Stacie Martin. At this point in time, I am not certain about Stacie's outcome because of the extent and severity of her injuries. One thing I certainly know, is the role played by All Coast Guard Personnel involved will be credited with every positive milestone that Stacie overcomes on her long road to recovery.

For four years, stationed at USCG Group Charleston, being a SAR small boat coxswain, the Coast Guard Motto, Semper Paratus, seldom took on a very significant meaning. However, on Wednesday, September 25, 1996, being "Always ready" had a much greater meaning than each and every day of my brief Coast Guard career. On that Wednesday, it seemed that the bureaucracy worked against Stacie, until Coast Guard assistance was requested. No bureaucracy, no delay, no excuses, simply immediate response, few questions, and extraordinary execution of duty and responsibility by all USCG personnel involved. I have always been proud of the many roles that I was involved in while a member of the Coast Guard, but never as impressed as I was on Wednesday the 25th.

I realize how truly insignificant our language and my own vocabulary really is when trying to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to everybody at the Coast Guard Air Station in Savannah, and to the personnel at the District Office in Miami. This is truly a case of one of the most outstanding humanitarian missions ever undertaken by my former branch of service.

There were probably many people who were involved whose names I did not have a chance to document, but those names I do have are as follows:

Captain Clark—OSR Miami.
Captain Thomas W. Sechler—OIC, Coast Guard Air Station Savannah.
Lieutenant Richard Craig—Pilot.
Lieutenant Thomas Gaffney—Pilot.
Glenn Boggs—AD1.
William (Bill) DeCamp—ASM2.
Lieutenant Pat Ryan.
Rob Jerger—AM3.
Mike Forchette—AE1.

I know these people and all others involved in this mission were only doing their job, but, speaking in behalf, of the family of Stacie Martin, the Bulloch County Department of Public Safety, Bulloch County EMS/RESCUE, and our entire community, I wish again to express a very heartfelt thanks. The entire United States Coast Guard came through in our time of need. It was truly an answered prayer.