

launched his business, the Custom Shop Shirtmakers. He now owns 73 Custom Shop Shirtmaker stores.

Mortimer Levitt, however, is not just an archetype in the fashion industry. He is also a philanthropist, Broadway producer, and author of four books. The custom shirtmaker is the founder and biggest contributor to the Levitt Pavilion for the Performing Arts. He contributed funds to the building of the arts center and has since helped raise half of the pavilion's annual budget. He is on the board of directors for the Lincoln Center Film Society, the Manhattan-based Young Concert Artists, and founder of the Manhattan Theater Club where not only was he on the board, but also produced over 20 plays. Levitt has also made significant contributions to Lincoln Center and endowed a scholarship fund at Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry, NY.

Mortimer Levitt, for the past 60 years, has provided jobs for his community, has raised funding for the arts, and has been an inspiration to the world of fashion. It is for these reasons and many more that I would like to recognize Mr. Levitt on his 90th birthday.

TAIWANESE PEOPLE AND THEIR STRUGGLE FOR SELF-DETERMINATION

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 1997

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, a few years ago, a Taiwanese-American constituent gave me a book entitled "Formosa Betrayed" written in 1965 by American diplomat George Kerr. The book describes a painful episode in Taiwan's history, which is today known as the 2-28 Massacre.

Tomorrow marks the 50th anniversary of the massacre.

After Japan had lost World War II, Taiwan was put under temporary administrative control of Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist Kuomintang. At the time, the Kuomintang was still fighting its civil war with Mao Tse-tung's Communists on mainland China. The Nationalists under Governor Chen Yi treated Taiwan as a conquered territory. Initial euphoria about the arrival of the nationalist troops in Taiwan soon changed to conflict when the new authorities turned out to be repressive and corrupt. That anger resulted in the 2-28 Massacre which claimed the lives of an estimated 18,000-28,000 Taiwanese in 1947. The event represents the beginning of 40 years of Martial Law on the island during which Chiang's mainlanders ruled the island with an iron fist.

Mr. Speaker, the date February 28 is etched in the hearts and minds of the Taiwanese people. Beginning this year, Taiwan dedicates February 28 as a national holiday.

On the 50th anniversary of the 2-28 Massacre, we recognize the sacrifice of the Taiwanese people and their struggle for self-determination and reaffirm our commitment to a free and democratic Taiwan and to the strong relationship between our two countries.

HAWAII HUMANE SOCIETY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 1997

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Hawaii Humane Society [HHS] and the caring individuals who are employed by, or volunteer at this facility. I am pleased to say that today the HHS celebrates 100 years of success in their service to our community.

The Hawaii Humane Society is a private, nonprofit charitable organization that promotes the humane treatment of animals to perpetuate the bond between humans and animals. Its animal welfare activities are based on a philosophy of encouraging responsible pet ownership through education, legislation, and prevention.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the 28,000 donors and volunteers who give their time for this worthwhile cause. The Hawaii Humane Society's programs are innovative and are models for animal welfare organizations across the country. With their significant contributions in encouraging respect for all living creatures the HHS continues to improve the humane treatment of all animals in our community.

I am proud to pay tribute to the Hawaii Humane Society, and I am honored to add my voice to the praises of the many friends who gather to salute this fine organization.

REGARDING PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS IN PAKISTAN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out against religious intolerance in Pakistan. Earlier this month, tens of thousands of Muslims angered by the alleged desecration of a Koran, and incited by local Muslim leaders, burned thousands of homes of Christian villagers, along with a hospital, a school, a Catholic church, and a dormitory. While this event by itself is despicable, the conduct of the local police in this affair is unforgivable. According to reports, local police actually told residents to leave their homes because they could not protect them from the mobs. Yet it took only a small army unit to halt the rampage, which destroyed shops and homes, and restore order to the village.

This is only the latest incident in what the Christian Voice of Pakistan reports is ongoing persecution of Christians by Muslims in Pakistan. The State Department's "Human Rights Report on Pakistan" points out that "Discriminatory religious legislation has encouraged an atmosphere of religious intolerance." In fact, section 295(c) of the Penal Code stipulates the death penalty for blaspheming the Prophet Mohammed. This provision has been used by Muslims to intimidate religious minorities in Pakistan.

I met yesterday with the Pakistani Chargé d'Affaires to ask the Pakistani Government to launch an immediate investigation of the inci-

dent with particular emphasis on the role of the local police, and to repeal those portions of the Penal Code which give license to Muslims to persecute Christians and other religious minorities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in calling on Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to speak out against religious discrimination and to work to create a climate of tolerance and religious harmony in Pakistan.

THE PLUMBING STANDARDS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1997

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 1997

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce The Plumbing Standards Improvement Act of 1997.

My bill would repeal the plumbing fixture flow restrictions that were enacted by the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1992. Specifically, they limited the capacity of all newly manufactured toilets to 1.6 gallons per flush, and showerheads to 2.5 gallons per minute.

Through originally enacted to conserve water, these restrictions have had a number of unintended consequences, which I believe make a strong case for their repeal.

First and foremost is their impact on the public safety and health of the American people. The most damning evidence comes from a recently-released study by the University of Cincinnati. It shows that the increased mist levels created by restricted flow showerheads have led to a higher incidence of respiratory illnesses. And as you all know, children and the elderly are usually the most susceptible.

In addition, I have heard from several plumbing contractors in my district. They tell me that these showerheads have resulted in more scalding episodes, by causing a delay between the adjustment of the hot water knob and the resulting temperature increase. Thus, people, especially children, are over-adjusting the hot water and sustaining minor burns.

Regarding the toilets, it is apparent that new 1.6 gallon models are not as effective as their prerestriction counterparts. Plumbers and plumbing supply stores have been overwhelmed with complaints from unsatisfied consumers, and black markets for the old 3.5 gallon models have popped up across the country since the restrictions were put in place.

But beware: if you or I buy a 3.5 gallon toilet off the black market or remove the restrictor plate from our water-saver showerhead, under current law we would be subject to Federal fines as high as \$2,500. Simply put, this provision is making criminals out of normal, law abiding citizens who only want a decent shower and a toilet that needs to be flushed only once.

Finally, even if my bill is passed and the Federal restriction is repealed, there is nothing stopping governments in water-scarce areas from passing these kind of restrictions. Some governments may find it necessary to do so, but it is a decision that seems best done at the State and local level.

I urge my colleagues to take a close look at this. It is my belief that if Congress knew about the safety and health risks alone, it

would not have included these restrictions in the first place. I think the bottom line is that the Federal Government should be out of the bathrooms.

NOTING THE PASSING OF LUELLA HYATT CLAY

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 1997

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Mrs. Luella Hyatt Clay, the mother of our friend and colleague, Congressman BILL CLAY. Mrs. Clay departed this Earth on February 21, 1997, at the age of 94. I am certain that my colleagues in this Chamber and others throughout the Nation join me in expressing our deep sorrow at the loss of BILL's mother. As we mourn her passing, we pause to reflect upon the life of Luella Hyatt Clay.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Clay was born in Black Jack and was the second of eight children. At the age of 5, the family moved to what is now St. Louis' Baden neighborhood because St. Louis County did not provide schools for black children. When she was 17, Mrs. Clay married Irving Charles Clay, Sr., a welder. They had seven children and were married 56 years. Mr. Clay died in 1975.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Clay was devoted to her family and church. She was affectionately known as "Sis" and loved by all who knew her. Mrs. Clay was one of the oldest members of St. Nicholas Catholic Church, which she and her husband joined in the 1940's. She also was a member of the church's Ladies Sodality.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to Congressman BILL CLAY, Mrs. Clay leaves to mourn her passing a son, St. Louis Alderman Irving C. Clay, Jr. She also leaves to mourn two daughters, Mary Elizabeth Lloyd and Flora Everett. In addition to her children, Mrs. Clay leaves behind 20 grandchildren, including State Senator William Lacy Clay; 30 great-grandchildren; and 14 great-great-grandchildren.

Mr. Wife, Jay, joins me in expressing our condolences to BILL and Carol and other members of the Clay family. It is our hope that the family will find comfort in knowing that others share their sorrow. Mrs. Clay was a very special individual who touched the lives of many. She will always be remembered.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNI- VERSARY FOR THE AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 1997

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Americans for Democratic Action, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

ADA is a prestigious organization whose achievements should be recognized. It is one of the largest and oldest liberal advocacy groups in the country, with a membership in excess of 25,000.

As one of ADA's past presidents, I am indeed honored to have this opportunity to highlight some of the accomplishments of this most important organization. Also, it is only fitting that I point out that New Yorkers have had a long and favorable association with the organization. In fact, many are founders of the ADA.

The list of New York citizens credited for founding ADA includes the following: union leader David Duminsky, historian Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., and former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. Also included on that list of notable New Yorkers is a Manhattan Borough President Stanley Isaacs, a Republican.

As a former president, I have first hand knowledge regarding the importance of this organization. During my tenure, 1989-1991, I was delighted to watch ADA grow in membership, stature and program. Our staff and membership doubled during that time and we waged relentless battles against the excesses of the Bush administration.

As an example, the ADA performed a thorough review of the Bush administration's foreign policy record relating to Panama and Granada, and concluded that a failing grade should be issued. Additionally, ADA evaluated the Bush administration's performance on budget issues, and once again issued a grade of F for programs which rewarded the wealthy at the expense of the Nation's neediest. ADA is also credited for telling the truth about the real rate of unemployment. The effort to provide more accurate unemployment information resulted in the release of similar such statistical information by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. ADA's leadership in this arena culminated in our being able to better gauge the number of job training programs required for those unemployed.

The ADA has been a leader on many different fronts, including civil rights and civil liberties issues, nuclear arms control, apartheid in South Africa, workers rights, women's issues, increases in the minimum wage and Federal budget and tax policies. Most recently ADA provided support for the international family planning resolution, which sought the early release of 1997 funds to international organizations.

The ADA is an invaluable organization, whose efforts need to be recognized. Its history is one of influence and effectiveness. May it continue for another 50 years.

HONORING IRISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 1997

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the significant contributions Irish-Americans have made to our country and draw attention to March as Irish-American Heritage Month. There are now more than 44 million Irish-Americans in the United States, or one in every six persons in our country. In California, there are presently 4 million people of Irish descent.

Irish-Americans have been helping to forge our country from the very beginning. At least eight signers of the Declaration of Independence were of Irish origin, including the Presi-

dent of Congress, John Hancock, who was a descendent of the Ulster family. Also noteworthy, Matthew Thornton, James Smith, and George Taylor were Irish-born.

The Irish love of freedom played an integral role in the fight for American independence. County Derry-born Charles Thompson made the first finished copy of the Declaration of Independence. John Nixon, whose father was born in County Wexford, was the first to read the document publicly. John Dunlop, born in County Tyrone, printed the first copy. Edward Fox, a Dublin native, contributed almost a million dollars—a staggering sum in those days—to help finance the Continental Army. He later died penniless because of his commitment.

Throughout our history, several prominent Americans have been Irish-Americans. Two hundred years ago, James Hoban and other Irish immigrants assisted in the construction of the U.S. Capitol building. One hundred and ninety years ago, Irish-born John Barry was the first naval hero of the American Revolution and is known as the Father of the United States Navy. Eighteen Presidents have proudly proclaimed their Irish-American heritage.

Irish immigrants have always been willing to take on the lowliest, most dangerous and backbreaking of jobs. Their accomplishments include the building of the eastern portion of the transcontinental railroad and working in our Nation's coal mines.

Because of the significant contributions of Irish-Americans, and their continued work toward the betterment of our country, the month of March has historically been recognized as Irish-American Heritage Month. I invite my colleagues to join with me in observance and recognition of the sacrifices and significant contributions of Irish-Americans by recognizing March as Irish-American Heritage Month.

WE MUST PROTECT OUR FREEDOMS

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 1997

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, continuing a tradition begun in the 98th Congress, today I once again introduce legislation which reaffirms the commitment of this body to protect the second amendment to the Constitution.

The Founding Fathers recognized the right of men to defend themselves, and guaranteed Americans that this right would be preserved by the second amendment. At the time of our Nation's founding, guaranteeing this right was an idea foreign to the monarchies that ruled most of the world. James Madison noted this when he wrote that the right to keep and bear arms was an advantage which Americans possess over the people of almost every other nation.

The 104th Congress did not bring the type of assault on the second amendment as we saw in the 103d Congress. However, unfortunately, the 104th Congress was unable to reverse or repeal some of the more egregious errors made in this area by past Congresses. Indeed, only the House succeeded in passing legislation to repeal one such law, the so-called Federal assault weapon ban.

Gun control laws have never worked to reduce crime in America. Washington, DC, has