

IN MEMORY OF REV. MAC
CHARLES JONES

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Ms. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a nationally respected clergyman, Rev. Mac Charles Jones. Reverend Jones' untimely death is a loss for the Kansas City community and the Nation.

Reverend Jones served as a deputy general secretary for the National Council of Churches and was en route to a meeting of that group's racial justice committee when he died. He also served as a member of the World Council of Churches central committee.

As an ordained minister in the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc., he served as pastor of St. Stephen's Baptist Church in Kansas City, MO. Because of Reverend Jones' initiative and drive St. Stephen's was the annual host of the local celebration honoring the birthday of the Reverend Martin Luther King. Reverend Jones was instrumental in convening the 1993 National Urban Peace and Justice Summit at St. Stephen which drew more than 100 current and former gang members together to discuss improving inner-city conditions.

Last June, Reverend Jones organized a group of clergymen, many from affected churches, to meet with President Clinton, Attorney General Reno, and Treasury Secretary Rubin to focus the Government's attention on the arson fires at African-American churches. His efforts played an important role in raising the national consciousness about this problem. A noted evangelist, Reverend Jones was an important leader in Kansas City. He made a difference in the lives of its residents. I ask the House to join me in expressing condolences to his wife, Jannela, and his children Ayinde Jones and Lacey Jones.

ASSISTED SUICIDE RESTRICTION ACT

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call my colleagues attention to the Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act of 1997, which I am introducing in the House of Representatives today. This bipartisan bill, which already has 100 cosponsors, will prevent the use of Federal tax dollars to subsidize or promote the practice of assisted suicide.

A Wirthlin worldwide poll conducted last November indicated that 87 percent of taxpayers objected to their tax dollars subsidizing assisted suicide. The Supreme Court has heard arguments arising from Second and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeals that ruled that assisted suicide is a constitutional right. Unless the Supreme Court overturns these opinions, physician-assisted suicide could become a legal, routine practice throughout our Nation, and taxpayers could discover that they are funding assisted suicide, regardless of their conscientious objections to the practice.

The Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act of 1997 will preempt the use of taxpayer

dollars by preventing programs funded by the Public Health Service block grants and others, such as Medicaid, Medicare, Indian health care, the military health care system and the Federal Employee Benefit plans, from paying for assisted suicide, euthanasia, or mercy killing.

The bill does not affect a patient's right to reject or to discontinue medical treatment. It respects the wishes of the patient, and it respects the sanctity of the doctor-patient relationship. It does not create any limitation regarding the withholding or withdrawing of medical treatment or of nutrition or hydration, nor does it affect funding for alleviating pain or discomfort for patients.

In sum, the bill has the modest goal of keeping the Federal Government out of the business of assisted suicide. Mr. Speaker, I believe that we must be proactive in addressing this issue—rather than be forced to deal with it after the fact—and that is what we hope to accomplish with this legislation.

I urge my colleagues to give this bill their serious consideration and support.

TRIBUTE TO THE LAKE AREA UNITED WAY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, the United States has been built by great citizens who unselfishly dedicate their time to community service and volunteerism. The Lake Area United Way and its volunteers have worked diligently to assist those in need throughout Indiana's First Congressional District. The Lake Area United Way has organized a black tie fundraising gala in which all proceeds go to benefit its umbrella organizations. This affair will take place at the Raddison Star Plaza in Merrillville, IN on March 22, 1997.

This outstanding benefit would not take place without devoted individuals to make the event possible. These volunteers include: Mr. Vic DeMeyer, manager of Corporate Consumer & Community Development for the Northern Indiana Public Service Co.; Mr. Tom McDermott, president of the Northwest Indiana Forum; Mr. John Davies, senior team leader of the Northwest Indiana Forum; Mr. Norbert Dreyer, area manager of Ameritech-Indiana; Mr. Jeff Fox, branch manager for Bank One, Merrillville N.A.; Mr. John Gauder, director of marketing for U.S. Cable of Northern Indiana; Ms. Pat Giannini, community relations consultant for Amoco Oil Co.; Ms. Barbara Haas, group vice president of consumer service for the Northern Indiana Public Service Co.; Mr. Jim Hornak, president of the United Brotherhood Carpenters & Joiners; Ms. Kaydell Knarr, administrator for the school city of Hammond; Mr. George Kuebler, public relations manager for St. Anthony Medical Center; Mr. Peter Manous, attorney-at-law for John M. Kopack & Associates; Ms. Jan Moran, president of Moran Designs Corp.; Mr. Daniel Root, general manager for the Center for Visual & Performing Arts; and Ms. Delores Williams, assistant vice president of Nursing for Northlake Methodist Hospital.

In addition, this event could not be possible without the dedicated Lake Area United Way

staff, including: Mr. Louis Martinez, president; Ms. Mary Ellen Nichols, executive assistant; Ms. Diane Karp, vice president of fund raising; Mr. Bob Scott, director of the fund raising campaign; Ms. Colleen Gallagher, senior manager of the fund raising campaign; Ms. Janiece Cerjeski, campaign associate; Mr. Steve Hunter, campaign assistant; Mr. Alex Monanteras, vice president of finance and administration; Mr. Pat McNiece, director of information systems; Ms. Mariann Munro, manager of financial accounting and human resources; Ms. Tracy Williams, finance assistant; Mr. David Sikes, director of allocations; Mr. Jerry Powell, director of labor and information and referral; and Ms. Chelsea Stalling, director of marketing and communications.

The mission of the Lake Area United Way is to bring together the resources of our community to assist people in helping themselves and one another. The Lake Area United Way is an organization that strives for continuous improvement in the quality of relationships with one another, volunteers, and all individuals and businesses in the community. The Lake Area United Way strives to achieve this goal by treating all people in a courteous and professional manner in order to instill confidence and trust in their organization. Their hallmark is the delivery of timely, high-quality service by being accessible and responsive to ensure satisfaction. At the same time, the organization works hard to effectively communicate the appropriate information in order to achieve the individual and organizational goals. The Lake Area United Way also strives to identify and resolve problems in a timely and satisfactory manner, while disseminating information about the funded services that help people, as well as the places where help is available.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other colleagues to join me in commending these distinguished volunteers and staff members of the Lake Area United Way for their continuing effort to improve the quality of life for Indiana's First Congressional District. In closing, I would like to extend my congratulations to the Lake Area United Way, as well as best wishes for a successful gala on March 22.

TRIBUTE TO MS. THALIA DONDERO OF LAS VEGAS, NV

HON. JOHN E. ENSIGN

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Thalia Dondero of Las Vegas, NV, who is being honored on March 12, 1997, at the Bishop Gorman High School Knight of the Gael. Throughout the years, this event has chosen to honor citizens who have made outstanding contributions to the Las Vegas community and to the State of Nevada.

During her tenure as a Clark County commissioner, Ms. Dondero served three terms as chairman of the board of county commissioners. In addition, she was elected by her fellow commissioners to chair the University Medical Center Board of Trustees, the Liquor and Gaming License Board, the Kyle Canyon Water District Board of Trustees, the Big Bend Water District Board of Trustees, and to serve as president of the Las Vegas Valley Water District Board of Directors. She was also appointed as a member of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, the Regional

Planning Council, the Regional Flood Control District, the Nevada Business Service Job Training Board, and the Equal Opportunity Board.

Over the years, Ms. Dondero has been appointed to numerous boards and committees on the State and Federal level. Her gubernatorial appointments include the Governor's DUI Task Force, the Commission on Nuclear Projects, the Nevada Energy Commission, the Nevada Commission on Aging, the Tourism Commission, the Nevada State Parks Board, and the Nevada State Intergovernmental Board. At the request of the Department of Agriculture, Ms. Dondero served as a member of the National Forest System Law Enforcement Advisory Council, and the Department of the Interior appointed her to the National Bureau of Land Management Committee.

Ms. Dondero's commitment to the community is evident in her involvement as former executive director of the Frontier Girl Scout Council, former president of the Nevada and Clark County Parent-Teacher Associations, and former chairman of the Council of Social Agencies. She is an active member of an impressive number of civic organizations including the Soroptimist Club, the Nevada Dance Theater, the United Way Service, Inc., Rotarian International, Opportunity Village, and the Las Vegas Center for Children.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to personally commend Ms. Dondero for her years of distinguished public service and dedication to both the Las Vegas community and the State of Nevada. Ms. Dondero exemplifies the virtue of service to others. I join all southern Nevadans in wishing her the best in her newest endeavor as a regent of the University and Community College System of Nevada.

SLEEPY HOLLOW

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker:

In the bosom of one of those spacious coves which indent the eastern shore of the Hudson, at that broad expansion of the river denominated by the ancient Dutch navigators the Tappan Zee, and where they always prudently shortened sail and implored the protection of St. Nicholas when they crossed, there lies a small market town or rural port, which by some is called Greensburgh, but which is more generally and properly known by the name of Tarry Town.—Washington Irving.

These immortal words penned by Washington Irving more than 150 years ago describe a beautiful Hudson Valley village which I am proud to represent in Congress. Now, however, Washington Irving's fiction has become fact: the village of North Tarrytown, has been renamed the village of Sleepy Hollow to recognize the importance that Washington Irving's story, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," plays in the annals of America literature.

In December of 1996 the village of North Tarrytown, NY, in the town of Mt. Pleasant, officially changed its name to the village of Sleepy Hollow. I rise today to pay tribute to the village of Sleepy Hollow and to recognize the truly historical nature of this village that is

nestled in the "bosom of the one of those spacious coves which indent the eastern shore of the Hudson. . ."

The village of Sleepy Hollow is home to not only the great legend which Washington Irving created, but also sites of historical significance such as Patriots Park where American patriots, during the Revolutionary War, captured the British spy Maj. John Andre as he made his escape after having been given the plans to West Point by Benedict Arnold. Sleepy Hollow is also home to the Sunnyside Estate which was the home of Washington Irving and of Kykuit, home to four generations of the Rockefeller family.

The village of Sleepy Hollow, NY holds a special place in the hearts of all Americans, from young children enjoying the thrill of reading Washington Irving's story for the first time, to the rest of us who appreciate the true courage and sacrifices made by American patriots during the Revolutionary War. Therefore, I rise today to pay tribute to the village of Sleepy Hollow and the townspeople who worked so diligently to see this name change become a reality. They have helped to preserve a piece of American history and future generations of Americans will be truly grateful for their efforts.

TRIBUTE TO LYNDA BURTON

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lynda Burton, a dedicated community leader who is being honored as an inductee into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Lynda Burton has served the community as an attorney at the Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County since 1981, representing low-income clients in family law, domestic violence, landlord-tenant, and consumer protection cases. She has made important contributions to the County Task force on Violence Against Women, the Family Law Center, Sor Juana Inez, and the Center for Domestic Violence Protection. She gives generously of her time to Planned Parenthood and is a strong supporter of human rights in Latin America. She participated in the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing and has brought the news of this and many other important meetings to the Spanish speaking women of San Mateo County. She is an exemplary public servant, dedicated to making our legal system accessible and effective for the poor and disadvantaged.

Mr. Speaker, Lynda Burton is an outstanding citizen and I salute her for her remarkable contributions and commitment to our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and congratulating her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

TRIBUTE TO THE POLISH SINGING CIRCLE

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Polish Singing Circle on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary.

Founded in September of 1897, the Polish Singing Circle was created to promote American and Polish culture through song. Throughout its 100 year history, the Polish Singing Circle has continued to exhibit a strong and dedicated commitment to the Polish community, the city of Buffalo, and to the spirit of community service and volunteerism that has always been the hallmark of our western New York community.

The Polish Singing Circle has helped raise funds for charitable organizations such as the American Red Cross, the Immaculate Heart of Mary Orphanage, and the Villa Maria Academy.

The commitment of service exhibited by this historic group has also been expressed through military service, as many members defended our Nation during times of war. And, in a great show of patriotism, members of the America Polish Singing Circle came home from war and dedicated their time to performing for the injured veterans hospitalized in the VA Medical Center. This unselfish gesture truly highlights the Polish Singing Circle's exceptional 100 year history.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to join with the group's members, and indeed, our entire western New York community, to honor the Polish Singing Circle on the occasion of its 100 anniversary. On behalf of the 30th Congressional District of New York, please accept my personal best wishes for another hundred.

LONG BEACH AUTHORS FESTIVAL—A MODEL FOR OTHER CITIES TO FOLLOW

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Long Beach Authors Festival. Celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, this highly successful program was founded by Long Beach high school teacher Joan Hansen.

Ms. Hansen started by bringing authors on campus to speak and interact with students. Authors would describe the writing process and students became motivated to read the author's book, leading to other books. From this beginning, the program has grown to reach every school in the Long Beach Unified School District—every child, from kindergarten to 12th grade, is reached. To prepare for the Authors Festival, teachers and librarians will have devised reading and writing activities to prepare their students: Reading their author's books, illustrating favorite scenes, outlining questions to be asked, and writing poems or proclamations of welcome for their authors.

This year, 104 authors are involved in the program, making a total of 118 visits to the