

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR
RETIREMENT, SONNY

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual who has tremendous leadership skills, not only in his chosen field but also in his community, state and nation. On Saturday, May 17, 1997, at 6:00 p.m., Mr. Claire "Sonny" Nye will be honored at a retirement party in Mt. Pleasant, MI. Sonny, his friends and family will celebrate his long, successful career working not only as a sheet metal worker but also as an elected official in the Sheet Metal Workers' Local 7 Zone 3.

Born on March 20, 1940, Sonny attended Albion College for 2 years, where he was a member of the football team. In 1964, Sonny became an apprentice for the sheet metal workers. Upon completion he became a journeyman and on January 5, 1968, he joined the Detroit Local 80 Union. In 1978, after a continuing prosperous career as a sheet metal worker, Sonny was initiated into the Local 543 in Traverse City. Sonny's consistent trust of his coworkers as well as his outstanding leadership skills demonstrated his ability to serve as a leader. On July 14, 1988, Sonny was elected as a business agent for Sheet Metal Workers' Local 7 Zone 3.

Since being elected, Sonny has received COMET training through the George Meany Institute. This program targets youth, training them to become apprentices. The program goes beyond teaching the skills they need by focusing on promoting unions and teaching young people that unions promote the workers best interests in the job.

We should all be grateful that individuals, such as Sonny, make room in their life for young people. He has coached little league baseball, 5th and 6th grade basketball, 7th and 8th grade football, as well as coaching a Mickey Mantle 16 and under baseball team to the State finals. In addition, he has also been involved in high school sports. Sonny has unselfishly given his time, energy and commitment to coaching. Playing sports can teach youth the importance of teamwork and hard work. Sonny is an excellent role model and provides a positive example for young people to follow.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and all of our colleagues to join me in congratulating Sonny Nye as he celebrates his retirement from a long, distinguished career with the sheet metal union and his leadership on behalf of working families and the American labor movement. We wish him the best for the new challenges ahead.

HONORING RON EDELSON

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of this Congress and our Nation the selection of Ron Edelson as the recipient of the Nassau Council Chambers

of Commerce Small Business Person of the Year Award from the Great Neck Chamber of Commerce. This award reflects the dedication and leadership that Ron Edelson has demonstrated on behalf of the Great Neck Business Improvement District and the Great Neck Chamber of Commerce.

The innovative concepts and creative marketing programs that Ron Edelson has developed truly are a tribute to his commitment to the Great Neck community. These programs have resulted in historic growth for the Great Neck business community and the enhancement of the wonderful quality of life for Great Neck and the North Shore of Long Island.

By recognizing Ron Edelson with this award, the Nassau Council Chambers of Commerce are paying tribute to individuals who are role models for the next century because they recognize that community service combined with business leadership are essential qualities as our communities grow and move forward.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to rise and join with me today in honoring Mr. Edelson for his achievements and to congratulate him on this award.

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY TO
ROSE AND ALFRED DICKSON

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Alfred (Jerry) and Rose Dickson's 50th wedding anniversary on June 7.

Jerry and Rose met at the St. Aloysius Church carnival in Chicago in 1943. Jerry served in the U.S. Navy and was stationed on the *S.S. Gablian* during World War II. His service in the Navy ended in 1946, and Jerry and Rose were married on June 7, 1947.

Jerry is retired after 40 years of service in the food industry in Chicago and Rose is a homemaker. The couple raised 7 children and have 13 grandchildren. I join with their family today in wishing them a wonderful celebration and many more happy and productive years together.

IN HONOR OF CAROL ELIZABETH
STORY AND THE PARKVIEW ELE-
MENTARY SCHOOL SCIENCE
OLYMPIAD TEAM

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Carol Elizabeth Story and Parkview Elementary School's Science Olympiad Team on a first place finish in the Northeast Ohio Elementary Science Olympiad.

Mrs. Carol Elizabeth Story, an 18-year resident of Fairview Park, OH, successfully served as coordinator and coach for Parkview Elementary School's Science Olympiad Team, leading them to a first place finish in the Northeast Ohio Elementary Science Olympiad

which was held at Cleveland State University on Saturday, March 22, 1997. Mrs. Story began coordinating this Parkview team by herself until she could coordinate a contingent of parent volunteers to assist in competitive training for events which include: No Bones About It (Anatomy), Estimania, Structures, Circuit Wizardry, Write It, Do It, Don't Bug Me, (Entomology), Leaf Powders, Orienteering, Aerodynamics, Pentathlon, Weather or Not (Meteorology), Reflection Relay, Rock Hound, Simple Machines, Starry, Starry Night, Super Pulley, and Phi Kappa Delta Science Bowl.

Mrs. Story has helped Parkview's team to a 5th, 4th, 2d, and most currently, a 1st place finish over 26 schools in northeastern Ohio. This is her 7th year as coordinator for the team. The 1997 winning Olympiad team included; Kris Aber, Jon Brady, R.J. Dieringer, Dough Ellett, Joy Hoefler, Christine Jackson, Laura Jackson, Emily Jones, Katie Lane, Katie Ludwig, Chris McGaw, Alison Maringo, Amanda Melenick, Elizabeth Sauer, Shannon Snow, Desiree N. Stark, Bryan Story, and Erick Williams.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Story deserves recognition for her knowledge, initiative, and instinct in preparing this formidable team of young people to compete with their peers in such a precocious scientific challenge. With her guidance, the dedicated team from Parkview Elementary was an outstanding success at the Science Olympiad.

IN TRIBUTE TO RICHARD W.
CARLSON

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Richard W. Carlson, president and CEO of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Mr. Carlson resigned last week from his position at CPB after 5 years of exemplary work for the public broadcasting industry.

During Mr. Carlson's tenure, public broadcasting faced a great challenge of consistently reduced federal funding. He responded to this challenge by calmly and effectively leading CPB through changes to make public broadcasting more effective.

Among his many accomplishments, Mr. Carlson has reduced CPB overhead expenses, protected program content from government editing, instituted a moratorium on adding new stations to TV and radio grant programs, devised a new TV station overlap policy and created a new grant program, the Future Fund.

However, these significant accomplishments take a backseat to his commitment to continuing and strengthening public broadcasting's mission of education. Education is at the heart of public broadcasting. Mr. Carlson has played an important role in making certain learning resources are available through public broadcasting and reach almost every home, school, and business in this nation.

In addition to the contributions he has made to public broadcasting, Mr. Carlson has accomplished many personal achievements. He has received several major awards for journalism, including the prestigious George Foster

Peabody Award and the 1997 American Broadcast Pioneer Award, which is presented to those who have contributed in a legendary fashion to the broadcast industry.

Mr. Speaker, public broadcasting has benefited substantially from Richard Carlson's stalwart and thoughtful leadership. His presence will be greatly missed. I know my colleagues will join with me in wishing him well in his future endeavors.

THE CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RIGHT TO KNOW ACT OF 1997

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today H.R. 1636, the Children's Environmental Protection and Right to Know Act of 1997. This bipartisan legislation—which has over ninety original cosponsors—builds on longstanding state and federal public disclosure programs. If enacted, this legislation will guarantee the public's right to know about the toxic chemicals in their homes and communities, and give parents the information they need to protect their children from toxic chemical hazards. H.R. 1636 means parents will have the tools to be smart consumers, whether they are buying household products or moving to new neighborhoods.

Because children have greater sensitivities to contaminants in our food and air, they are especially vulnerable to environmental hazards. And when they crawl on the floor or play in the dirt, they are exposed to environmental contaminants in ways that adults seldom are.

The Children's Environmental Protection and Right to Know Act is supported by the Children's Health Environmental Coalition, the Alliance To End Childhood Lead Poisoning, Physicians for Social Responsibility, the International Association of Firefighters, the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations, the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers, the National Council of Churches, the U.S. Public Interest Research Group, the Environmental Information Center, the Sierra Club, the Sierra Club Legal Defense, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Environmental Defense Fund, Citizen Action, the Environmental Working Group, OMB Watch, Friends of the Earth, and Public Citizen.

I want to summarize a few of the legislation's most important provisions.

The Federal Hazardous Substances Act [FHSA], administered by the Consumer Product Safety Commission [CPSC], addresses toxic threats and safety hazards by banning hazardous children's products and requiring warning labels on hazardous adult products. However, while CPSC can usually tell whether a toy, a crib, or other consumer product presents a safety hazard, CPSC often has little way of knowing whether toxic ingredients exist in a given household product.

The Children's Environmental Protection and Right to Know Act of 1997 will improve the Federal Hazardous Substances Act by

drawing from the successes of California's "Prop 65" law. Over the past ten years, Prop 65's public disclosure requirements have resulted in manufacturers removing lead from dishes and faucets, carcinogens from diaper pail deodorizers and shoe polish, and reproductive toxins from nail polish. And for every such example we know about, dozens of other businesses are quietly finding ways to make their products safer.

Under the proposal we are introducing today, manufacturers and importers of consumer products with toxic ingredients will publicly disclose the presence of the toxic ingredients to the CPSC without any new labeling requirements. In addition, our proposal will allow citizen enforcement of our consumer product safety laws. The experience with Prop 65 in California is that few such suits are ever brought. While I expect few lawsuits will similarly result from this legislation, citizen suits create a real incentive for businesses to voluntarily eliminate the toxic ingredients in the products they sell.

The act will also build on a second successful Federal program, the Toxics Release Inventory. The Toxics Release Inventory was created in 1986 in the wake of the toxic chemical disasters in Bhopal, India, and Institute, WV and was aimed at giving people more information about the toxic chemicals routinely released into their communities. The law's done that, and it's also resulted in a 40 percent reduction in the release of toxic chemicals.

The Children's Environmental Protection and Right to Know Act of 1997 will expand the Toxics Release Inventory to disclose the amount of toxic chemicals shipped in and out of a facility, stored on-site, and otherwise used.

This will create incentives to prevent the accidents that accompany such use. According to reports by the National Environmental Law Center and the state Public Interest Research Groups, from 1993 to 1995, 23,000 accident reports involving toxic chemicals were reported nationwide—an average of 21 each day. Worse still, 1 out of 20 of those accidents resulted in immediate injury, evacuation or death. The chemical plant fire last week in Arkansas, in which three firefighters died, was but one recent tragic example. These statistics are only the tip of the iceberg, since they neither account for under-reporting of accidents nor the chronic health effects due to the accidental releases. Under the proposal, businesses will also disclose their employees' exposure to toxic chemicals, creating an incentive to reduce those exposures.

We have statutes regulating chemical transportation and management, and occupational exposure to toxic chemicals to set minimum safety standards. But public disclosure will create the incentive to go beyond the minimum.

In New Jersey, where public disclosure of toxic chemical use has been in place for 10 years, production-related wastes have been declining steadily since 1990, while staying steady for the nation as a whole. In Massachusetts, a survey of businesses required by State law to report their toxic chemical use shows that 60 percent decreased their use of toxic chemicals per unit of total production since 1990. In addition, 67 percent of busi-

nesses that reported implementing toxics use reduction said they actually saw direct cost savings and 66 percent reported improvements in worker health and safety.

The economic benefits of focusing on toxic chemical use were apparently anticipated by industry during the passage of the New Jersey and Massachusetts laws. The New Jersey Pollution Prevention Act was supported by industry and actually signed into law at two New Jersey chemical plants. The Massachusetts law passed both houses unanimously because industry, as well as environmentalists, supported the law.

In drafting this legislation, I have worked Mr. SAXTON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. ANDREWS to ensure that legitimate industry concerns were addressed. Under this act, for instance, business could withhold from public disclosure legitimate trade secrets regarding their toxic chemical use. Second, this proposal includes provisions to ensure that public disclosure is not unduly burdensome. The Children's Environmental Protection and Right to Know Act of 1997 will require EPA to consolidate all Federal environmental reporting—including air, waste, and water reporting and the reporting required by this proposal—eliminating hours of business effort to find and interpret the applicable reporting requirements.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, the Children's Environmental Protection and Right to Know Act of 1997 will give parents information they need to protect their children from toxic hazards, provide businesses an incentive to voluntarily reduce their use and waste of toxic chemicals, protect legitimate trade secrets, and reduce the administrative burdens associated with environmental reporting. It will be good for our health and good for our economy. I ask for the support of all Members in passing this important piece of legislation.

TRIBUTE TO CATHOLIC SERVICES OF MACOMB

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my congratulations and best wishes to the Catholic Services of Macomb on the occasion of their 40th anniversary, and to His Eminence Adam Cardinal Maida, the keynote speaker at their anniversary dinner which took place on January 9, 1997.

Catholic Services of Macomb, a non-profit health and human service agency has touched so many individuals since its inception in December, 1957, when the Rev. Robert Monticello was commissioned by the Archdiocese of Detroit to open a Catholic social service agency in Macomb County.

The agency's mission and work provide family and individual counseling services, senior programs, and child welfare initiatives. Indeed, through the dedication of this humanitarian agency, Macomb County is a better place to live and work.

On this joyous occasion, I extend my very best wishes for continued success to the Catholic Services of Macomb as they go forward in their compassionate effort to service those in need.