

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE QUEENS MUSEUM OF ART

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents and the countless citizens who have enjoyed and benefitted from the unique, insightful, educational, and entertaining programs of the Queens Museum of Art as this great cultural institution celebrates its 25th year of service.

Originally conceived as the Queens County Art and Culture Center in 1972, the museum is located in the only building to serve as a pavilion at both the 1939 and 1964 World's Fairs. Since this early date, the Queens Museum of Art has grown into an institution that has become a mainstay of New York City's culture. Under the inspired leadership and support of dedicated community leaders and supporters of the arts, the museum has grown into an effective showcase for fulfilling its mission statement to show and collect the best of art, architecture and design from Queens in the 20th century.

I look forward to sharing with the members and supporters of the museum their great joy as they gather together on May 20, 1997 to celebrate this unique achievement. It also to the great credit of the museum that they have sought out key individuals who are not only community leaders, but strong supporters of the arts as they honorees. Joan Barnes, owner of London Lennie's Restaurant and Joseph Ficalora, president of the Queens County Savings Bank are this years honorees. In addition, the well known artist, Alex Katz, will be the recipient of the museum's 1997 Arts Achievement Award.

John Adams, our second President, indicated that he studied war and politics so that his children may study art and music. It is with such commitment that the Queens Museum of Art has succeeded in bring to our area a love, understanding and devotion of art.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join with me in honoring the Queens Museum of Art, and in wishing the museum and its supporters continued success in all their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent during roll call vote 128. If present, I would have voted "aye" on roll call 128.

CONGRATULATIONS MARTIN LUTHER MEMORIAL HOME

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that one of the most important elements in a

person's life is a safe and secure place to live. This becomes even a more significant need when people reach a time in their lives when they need assistance and care on a daily basis. I am very pleased to let my colleagues know that the people of Saginaw, MI, have the good fortune to have a renovated and expanded Martin Luther Memorial Home that will provide essential care to many seniors in the years to come.

Martin Luther Memorial Home was granted its charter on June 16, 1958, and operates four skilled nursing facilities with nearly 400 beds and one independent living community with 30 apartments. The Saginaw Home has 86 skilled nursing beds. Its renovations change three-bed wards into two-bed rooms, and convert two wings of two-bed rooms into private rooms. These converted beds are replaced by new beds contained in the expansion of the facility.

A very important component of the Martin Luther Memorial Home is its support from the Lutheran churches in the area, which help with volunteer services, gifts to the Furnishings Fund and Foundation and the strength of the many prayers and opportunities for prayer on behalf of the residents of the facility.

The primary beneficiaries of the expansion will be members of the more than 100 congregations of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Churches of Northern Michigan. The Saginaw Home, with its emphasis on the importance of "positive attitudes", its provision of daily activities and full service care, has been and will increasingly be a very important part of the Saginaw community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing congratulations and the best to the staff, the administrators, and the residents of the Martin Luther Memorial Home of Saginaw as it celebrates its dedication on Sunday, May 18.

IN HONOR OF OFFICER KEITH BRADDOCK AND OFFICER CHARLES PULVER

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, today is National Peace Officers' Memorial Day. I would like to take a moment to honor two North Dakota peace officers who were killed in the line of duty.

Keith Braddock was a Watford City police officer who was shot to death in March of last year while he was responding to a disturbance at the American Legion Club.

Charles Pulver was a game warden in Mountain, ND. He died from a massive heart attack that he suffered while he was investigating game violations in a wooded area.

Both of these men died while they were serving the people of North Dakota. As the families of these two men are in Washington, DC, to take part in the National Police Week activities and to see the officers' names added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, I want to share with them the gratitude of our entire state.

North Dakota is a small rural State. Our citizens pride themselves on knowing their neighbors. In communities like ours, any act of vio-

lence is a shock. The events that surround both of these officers' deaths are truly tragic. The unselfish service these men gave to protect our citizens has not gone unnoticed.

Officer Braddock and Officer Pulver made our communities safer because of their service. The ultimate sacrifices they made will be remembered by today's ceremonies and by the Officers memorial for years to come.

MELANOMA FOUNDATION KICKS OFF LIFESAVING "MOLE PATROL" IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the invaluable health service performed by the William S. Graham, or "Billy," Foundation for Melanoma Research in Castro Valley, CA.

The Billy Foundation is an incorporated, nonprofit foundation—and perhaps the only public foundation dedicated to supporting melanoma research. Established in 1996, the foundation is named in memory of Billy Graham, a 22-year-old man who succumbed to this deadly disease after a long, courageous battle.

The president and founder is Billy's mother, Karen L. Graham, who, with the help of a medical advisory committee and several cancer experts, has vowed to educate the public on early detection and prevention of melanoma, the most dangerous form of skin cancer.

Unfortunately, the incidence of melanoma is rising at an alarming rate. This year, nearly 40,000 people will be diagnosed. If treated in its very early stages, melanoma is a highly curable cancer. Without early detection, however, this potentially curable disease can be fatal. The Billy Foundation is spreading the word that far too many diagnoses are made in later stages—when the curability rate is only about 20 percent.

To help with early identification of melanoma and pre-cancerous conditions, and inspired by this being National Melanoma Month, the Billy Foundation has begun a unique lifesaving program called the MOLE PATROL. With a recently donated van, the MOLE PATROL's staff of volunteer dermatologists provide free melanoma spot-screenings throughout bay area. The MOLE PATROL will screen in high population geographic areas including coastal areas, beach resorts, amusement parks, schools and sports events. The van will also visit schools and community organizations to disseminate educational materials and information on the disease and the foundation. Finally, the foundation's findings will be used in the national statistics calculated by the American Academy of Dermatology.

With melanoma's high incidence and low cure rate, it is shocking that this deadly disease gets so little attention—and so little funding for research. We thank the Billy Foundation for alerting us to the seriousness of sun exposure and for heightening public awareness of the early stages of this potentially tragic disease.