

is one of only two remaining of the 33 that once were the economic heart of Redlands.

Redlands Foothill Groves has harvested 57,257,959 field boxes of citrus since it was founded on Sept. 15, 1924. The fruit is marketed today through Sunkist Growers, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating association president C.R. McKeehan, general manager Tim Farmer and the 220 growers of Redlands Foothill Groves as they celebrate this milestone in good taste.

TRIBUTE TO ANNA MAE BOX

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to pay tribute to an outstanding mother, community activist, leader and citizen who fit the category of unsung heroine.

Ms. Anna Mae Box was born on January 5, 1928, on the westside of Chicago to Earlie and Lula Woods and lived there for the rest of her life. She grew up, went to Alfred Tennyson Elementary, John Marshall High and Chicago State University.

On December 7, 1942, she married Mr. Eugene Box Sr., and in 1959, they moved to 4114 W. Arthington Street in Chicago, where they raised their children and spent the rest of their lives.

As a resident of 4114 W. Arthington, Ms. Box became a dedicated community worker, striving to prevent erosion of values and urban decay. She worked untiringly with Presentation Catholic Church and School and the Daniel Webster Public School. When the Chicago Public School System began a program of aggressively pursuing involvement and participation of citizens, Ms. Box became one of the very first school community representatives and all of the schools in her district came to know and to love her. I too, Mr. Speaker, was privileged to know, love and respect both her and her family, because for many years I lived in the very small community, two blocks over. Therefore, my knowledge is first hand. Her vibrancy and spirit of positivity was a highlight of her presence, her work and her being. On September 18th, 1999, upon initiation by the Honorable Michael D. Chandler, Alderman of the 24th ward, the Chicago City Council will be renaming the 4100 block of West Arthington Street, to Anna Mae Box Street.

I salute this act to honor the life, work and legacy of a great woman and wish her family well as they carry on in her tradition. Edwina Box-McGee, Willie Box, Jr, Patricia Box-Baker and all of the family have my best wishes as you celebrate and renew your own commitments to community service.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CELEBRATE THE CENTENARY OF THE STATE COUNCIL IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the Order of the Knights of Columbus is an international

Catholic family and fraternal service organization founded in 1882 in New Haven, Connecticut, by a 29-year-old parish priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, as a means for mutual social and financial support (self-insurance) among young Catholic men and their families. From its original 30 members from St. Mary's Parish, the Order has grown to more than 1.6 million members worldwide and, unlike many other similar fraternal organizations, is still growing.

With its strong American orientation, in contrast to the focus on ancestral homelands and languages of ethnic or immigrant-centered societies, the fledgling organization had a broad appeal in the United States, expanding first through New England and then down the Atlantic Coast. In the Order's 15th year, 1897, Washington Council No. 224 was instituted in the District of Columbia.

Within two years of the establishment of the Order in the District of the Washington Council, four other councils were instituted in the District: Keane Council No. 353 and Carroll Council No. 377 in 1898, and Spalding Council No. 417 and Potomac Council No. 433 in 1899. The first public appearance of the Knights of Columbus, as an Order, in the Nation's Capital was at the dedication of the Franciscan Monastery on September 17, 1899.

With four councils and several hundred members in the District, the Supreme Council, the governing body of the Order, relinquished its direct supervision of these four councils by instituting the District of Columbia State Council on April 27, 1899. The State Council is the intermediate level of government within the Order's organizational structure whereby the councils within the State jurisdiction, in accordance with the Bylaws of the Order, can legislate their own affairs and elect State officers. This includes the Deputy Supreme Knight, or State Deputy, who serves as the chief executive officer for the jurisdiction. State Councils, in turn, collectively elect the leadership of the Supreme Council.

Mr. Speaker, in the more recent years of the 20th century, another 12 councils have been instituted in the District of Columbia, including councils at Catholic University of America and Georgetown University. The 17 councils in the District of Columbia have a combined membership of approximately 1900 Knights and their families.

Mr. Speaker, the Knights of Columbus are dedicated to four major principles: Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Patriotism, the promotion of responsible citizenship and good government, is the special focus of the Fourth Degree of the Order. The Knights, in colorful capes and chapeaux at ecclesiastical and patriotic functions are members of the Color Corps of the Fourth Degree, the "visible arm" of the Knights of Columbus.

Of these four principles, Charity is the basic principle of the Order. Within the Order's "Surge ... with Service" program, the major program areas are service to Church, Community, Family and Youth. Within these program areas, in 1998, the Knights of Columbus Order-wide raised and distributed \$110,692,742 for charitable and benevolent causes. In addition, Knights worldwide volunteered a total of 55,033,160 hours of service to others.

Of these total numbers for 1998, the 17 councils within the jurisdiction of the District of

Columbia raised and distributed \$177,008 and volunteered a total of 109,756 hours in service to others in the four primary programs. Notable within these figures is the support to care of the elderly through The Little Sisters of the Poor (a relationship dating back to 1899), and to persons with developmental disabilities through support of the Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy Institute for the past three decades.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the 117-year history of the Knights of Columbus and, most particularly the 100-year history of the District of Columbia State Council, the Order has been in the forefront of service to the Church, the Community, Families and Youth and, most especially, in service to the United States. The greatest gift of the Knights of Columbus to mankind is the truly personal commitment of time and energy individual knights and their families give of themselves to charitable and benevolent causes. The Knights of Columbus, within the jurisdiction of the District of Columbia State Council are dedicated to maintaining and, indeed, increasing the level of service to others in the new Century and Millennium fast approaching.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in saluting the District of Columbia State Council of the Knights of Columbus for a century of selfless service and patriotism.

TRIBUTE TO LANE KIRKLAND: CHAMPION FOR WORKING PEOPLE IN AMERICA AND AROUND THE WORLD

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, America lost one of its most prominent and honored patriots on August 14 when Lane Kirkland, the president of the AFL-CIO from 1979 to 1995, passed away. He devoted his life to advancing the interests of our nation's working families, and what he achieved has benefited millions of our country's citizens.

Mr. Kirkland will long be remembered for reunifying the labor movement, welcoming the United Auto Workers, the Teamsters, and other major unions back into the AFL-CIO. He will also be remembered for his steadfast advocacy for civil rights. As a national labor leader during the 1960's, he rallied organized labor behind the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other anti-discrimination measures. He will also be remembered fondly for his passion as a self-professed "pure and simple and unreconstructed" supporter of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal, one who believed in the responsibility of government to help create hope and opportunity for those less fortunate. The influence of Lane Kirkland's convictions, however, did not stop at America's borders. He fought for freedom and human rights around the world, and future generations will long remember him as a man who helped create the first cracks in the Iron Curtain.

Throughout his half-century in the leadership of the AFL-CIO, Kirkland never shied away from his principal belief that the labor movement must not ignore the struggles of its oppressed counterparts abroad. He placed the full weight of America's unions behind condemnation of racist apartheid in South Africa

and opposition to dictators in Cuba, Chile, and China. Kirkland forcefully and decisively undermined the Marxist claims of Fidel Castro and Leonid Brezhnev to the sympathies of the world's workers. He sent a message to the peoples of the world that America's working men and women would fight against any form of totalitarianism and repression. Kirkland's actions ensured that this message would not be ignored.

During the early 1980's, a small collection of shipyard workers in Gdansk, Poland, courageously organized in opposition to their Communist government. During the course of that decade, the Solidarity labor movement under the leadership of Lech Walesa grew to embody the desires of the Polish people for freedom and democracy, and it brought Polish society together in the successful effort to topple an unjust dictatorship. The unwavering support of Lane Kirkland for Solidarity provided enormous assistance to the movement and added to its strength at a critical time when the Polish Communist leadership sought to stamp it out. At Kirkland's direction, the AFL-CIO channeled money, organizers, machines, and other assistance to Walesa's foot soldiers. At the end of the decade-long struggle the Polish dictatorship collapsed, and Walesa became Poland's democratically elected president. As Henry Kissinger noted, "The success of Solidarity owes a lot to Lane."

Mr. Speaker, in 1994 Lane Kirkland's extraordinary contributions were recognized by President Bill Clinton, who awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his commitment to democracy and human rights around the world. President Clinton's words about Mr. Kirkland are both moving and accurate: "Throughout the Cold War, when some leaders saw only the threats to our freedom overseas and neglected the barriers to freedom and inequality within our own land, Kirkland showed America that you can stand up to communism abroad just as forcefully as you can stand up for working men and women here at home."

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in offering condolences to Lane Kirkland's widow, Irena, and to his children and grandchildren. It is most appropriate, that we honor and pay tribute to this outstanding leader. Lane is a credit to the American labor movement, as well as a credit to all who fight for human rights and civil liberties both here in America and around the world.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2684) making appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my serious concern with the Veterans, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies for fiscal year 2000. I recognize the difficult balancing of priorities which the Chairman and the Ranking Member must do with the array of competing interests within this bill. But I find it ironic that the House in the space of one month can pass a tax bill that gives special breaks to select groups but cuts funding for the neediest of all—undermining our efforts to fuel the dream of home ownership for all Americans, reducing our efforts to create jobs, and revitalizing the forgotten corners of our towns and cities. America should do what is right.

The Subcommittee funded VA Health Care at \$1.7 billion, but the veterans' organizations submitted to the Congress the Independent Budget which calls for an increase of \$3 billion—a more realistic estimate of the need. This bill does not go far enough to provide for the growing health care needs of our veterans as we enter the 21st Century. America should do what is right.

I am seriously concerned about the adequacy of the Veteran Administration's response to the medical needs of 650,000 veterans with chronic mental illness. I am specifically concerned that as a result of (Veteran Health Administration) VHA's decision to rapidly downsize psychiatric hospitals, veterans with mental and substance abuse disorders are not receiving proper treatment and the services that they need and deserve.

In particular, dollars saved by eliminating beds from inpatient psychiatric facilities are not being redirected to serve veterans with mental illness in the community. Between FY 1995 and FY 1997 the number of seriously mentally ill veterans treated at inpatient facilities decreased by nearly 20%. Currently, there is no indication that the twenty-two (Veteran's Integrated Service Networks) VISNs are compensating for the lack of inpatient care with either adequate alternative care settings or community-based services for veterans with mental illness.

Frightening, over two-thirds of VHA outpatient facilities do *not* provide mental health care. Neither do they provide case management services for these veterans. Case management is essential for mentally ill veterans because of a pervasive lack of financial and family support. In addition, many members of this group need continued attention because they suffer from the dual diagnosis of mental illness and substances abuse.

I am deeply concerned that the structural changes within VHA and the lack of community-based services threaten many veterans with homelessness. Sadly, 40% of all homeless males are veterans.

I offered report language that emphasizes the need to reinvest resources in alternative community-based mental health services, including prescription drugs. The current situation of veterans who require treatment for mental illness should be a source of shame and embarrassment, and America should do what is right.

The sad reality is that not everyone is sharing in the economic prosperity of the booming '90's. Instead of being financially able to invest in a home, over 12 million people are paying over 50 percent of their salary on rent. This bill fails to help these families. In fact, the bill will cost northwest Ohio 448 housing units for

cash-strapped families next year. This bill also takes major swipes at many of our neediest citizens and their communities, ranging from cutting funding that keeps children safe from lead paint poisoning to denying housing for people with AIDS and for seniors. America should do what is right.

The bill cuts Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) by \$250 million, which would result in a loss of vital community development projects, and the 97,000 new jobs that would be created. Just in Toledo, our city would lose \$3.8 million of current funding. The State of Ohio would forego over \$7.3 million in community development assistance so vital to revitalizing all corners of our State. For the last 6 years, the Majority has been preaching community empowerment, CDBG is the essence of community empower. By giving communities the flexibility to create their priorities to invest CDBG funds, it empowers them to address their community's need as they see fit.

The bill denies the Administration's request for incremental housing vouchers resulting in 128,000 families being denied housing vouchers.

The bill would increase children's exposure to lead paint poisoning by cutting the Lead Hazard Control Grant program.

The bill would slow the fight against housing discrimination by cutting the Fair Housing Assistance and Fair Housing Initiatives Programs. In my community, these funds have given the opportunity for many minority applicants to achieve the American dream of owning a home.

The bill also fails to fund the rehabilitation of almost 28,000 units that would create quality housing for low- and moderate-income renter and owner families.

The bill would result in almost 16,000 homeless people and persons with AIDS being denied essential services because of the cuts in homeless and Housing Assistance for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) programs.

I would like to thank the Chairman and the rest of the Subcommittee Members for their support of report language that I offered that would help the residents of public housing by offering, what most Americans take for granted, which is adequate amount financial services located near where they live. Unfortunately, in our country, financial services are less common and less likely to be located in poor to low-moderate income neighborhoods. HUD, in conjunction with the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) will study the feasibility of opening credit unions in public housing. With the introduction of credit union in public housing, we can cut down on welfare fraud and encourage financial independence.

The bill cuts NASA by \$1 billion. This cut will harm future space exploration programs, force NASA to slash programs and personnel and cripple our nation's basic scientific development for decades. This bill will drastically hurt our ability to maintain the balance of trade advantage in the first "A" in NASA—Aeronautics. This budget inhibits our ability to advance future developments of technology that will allow America to compete in the aeronautics industry in the 21st Century. We must do what is right.

In conclusion, I am here today to urge my colleagues to do better for America, for the men and women veterans to whom our nation