

Help (CATCH), as it celebrates its 20 years of service and commitment to the community. CATCH is a non-profit organization incorporated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on November 12, 1976. The Corporation was established to assume responsibilities for the operation of the Community Mental Health and Retardation Center in Catchment Area 2B, located within the Southwestern portion of Philadelphia.

On July 1, 1979 CATCH assumed full responsibilities for the operations of the Community Mental Health Center, giving the Center the operational name of CATCH Community Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center. The Center is currently under the leadership of Raymond A. Pescatore, Chief Executive Officer with Edward C. Mintzer, Jr., Esq., serving as Board Chairman.

CATCH is a full-service, accredited Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center committed to serving citizens of Philadelphia.

CATCH continues to attract the attention of the community through its reputation of reliable service, leadership qualities and strong commitment. In keeping with its reputation of high quality care, CATCH serves the community offering the following services: Residential and Emergency Services, Mental Health Services and Developmental Disabilities Services.

In recognition of its years of service, I join the Citizens Acting Together Can Help, Inc., as it celebrates its 20 year anniversary.

IN HONOR OF MRS. STELLA M. ZANNONI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 13, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Mrs. Stella Zannoni, a retiree of the honorary consul of Italy for the State of Ohio, who died in August.

Mrs. Zannoni took an active part in her community. She was appointed honorary consul by the Italian government in 1978, as well as being the co-owner and secretary-treasurer of Cleveland Imported Groceries and Wines Inc. At the store Mrs. Zannoni assisted customers in obtaining answers to questions about pensions, property matters and visas. In view of all who had the pleasure to know her and to work with her, she managed to help and touch the lives of tens of thousands of Clevelanders. The current honorary consul of Italy member was quoted saying that Mrs. Zannoni set an example for the Italian community with her selflessness and strength.

Mrs. Stella Zannoni received several honors and awards for her service in the Cleveland community as well as in the Italian Community. She was a steadfast believer in the art of the possible, of providing opportunities to all, and in the idea that anything was possible with the proper amount of hard work, diligence and sense of hope and optimism. She had spirit, spunk and outgoing joy for others. Mrs. Stella Zannoni will be greatly missed.

My fellow colleagues please join me in honoring the memory of Mrs. Stella Zannoni, a true beacon in the Cleveland community.

TRIBUTE TO BRADLEY JAY RICHES

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 13, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Deputy Brad Jay Riches for the Blue and Gold Posthumous Award for his tremendous service as Deputy Sheriff for the Orange County Sheriff's Department. Deputy Riches began his service originally as a Paid Call Firefighter with Orange County Fire Authority and as an Emergency Medical Technician before joining the Orange County Sheriff's Department in 1989.

Deputy Riches attended the Sheriff's Academy and graduated as a Deputy Sheriff in 1990. He worked in the Musick Facility and the Central Main jail prior to his transfer to the Patrol Division in 1998. Deputy Riches began his assignment with the City of Lake Forest Police Services Unit in December 1998.

On Saturday, June 12, 1999 at approximately 1 am, Deputy Riches was making a routine patrol check of a convenience store in Lake Forest when he was suddenly and without provocation, shot and killed by a suspect. Law enforcement officers put their lives at risk daily to ensure the safety of our citizens. Deputy Brad Riches paid the ultimate price for our safety, with his very life.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to recognize Deputy Brad Riches for his tremendous service and sacrifice for the citizens of Lake Forest, California. His brave service to our community will not be forgotten.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 13, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Alliance for the Mentally Ill, an outstanding non-profit association which will celebrate its 25th Anniversary on October 14, 1999.

The Alliance for the Mentally Ill is a special organization whose membership includes individuals who suffer from mental illnesses and their families. These dedicated people contribute almost all the funding for this nationwide group. Their hard work and commitment to the improvement of the lives of the mentally ill is truly remarkable.

Mr. Speaker, the founders of Alliance for the Mentally Ill first met in San Mateo County, California, in 1974 to discuss their concerns about the treatment of their mentally ill children. The organization has grown tremendously since then, but it still has the same intense personal concern for the people it serves. In 1979 a national group was established, based in Washington D.C. I am happy to say that the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) now has representatives in all fifty states.

As its membership grew from ten people to over two hundred thousand, the fundamental mission of the Alliance has remained the

same—to fight discrimination, to educate the public and those who are suffering, and to strive towards better treatment and research for an illness that has been historically misunderstood. This organization fights the traditional isolation and fear of mental illness with knowledge and compassion.

The Alliance for the Mentally Ill provides a network of support groups and educational services to assist families of the mentally ill at the local level. It has now assumed a vital role in our nation's health care community and is working closely with professionals on a variety of programs. Some of the programs it has helped to implement include a local mental health care center and an agency that provides supported housing. Newsletters and speakers keep the community active and informed about the important issues affecting the mentally ill. The organization has promoted a greater awareness of mental illness and encouraged our community colleges to implement peer counseling programs. As always, the Alliance has focused on helping adolescents and children, who are so much in need of special support.

Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to the Alliance for the Mentally Ill on this important 25th anniversary. This outstanding organization deserves our gratitude and our congratulations for a quarter century of selfless and dedicated service to the people of our nation.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JESSIE COLLINS TRICE

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 13, 1999

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a distinct honor to pay tribute to one of Miami-Dade County's unsung heroines, the late Jessie Collins Trice. Her untimely demise from the scourge of lung cancer last Friday, October 8, 1999 will truly leave a deep void in our midst.

Mrs. Jessie Collins Trice represented the best and the noblest of my community. Having dedicated a major portion of her life in championing the health care of African-Americans and Hispanics throughout Florida, she tirelessly advocated a monumental struggle toward ensuring the creation of the Health Choice Network to provide comprehensive primary and preventive health care to low-income and uninsured populations in minority communities. Her mission undergirded her belief that health care was a right for the poor and the underserved.

Ms. Trice was a multi-dimensional public servant, a civic activist par excellence, an indefatigable community-builder, a loving mother and a doting grandmother, completely unselfish in all her endeavors. The genuineness of her stewardship on behalf of our community was buttressed by her utmost consecration to her vocation as God's faithful servant, bringing hope and optimism to thousands of ordinary folks whose lives she touched so deeply, never holding anyone at arm's length.

What we most know about Jessie Trice is that she was a trailblazer in the realm of health care. She was the first Black to receive a nursing degree from the University of Miami, the first and only Black to serve as Director of

Nursing for the Miami-Dade County Department of Public Health, the only Black to have served as Chairperson of the Florida State Board of Nursing, and founder of the Miami-Dade Black Nurses Association. She also served as the past President of the Florida Association of Community Health Centers and the National Association of Community Health Centers.

For the past eighteen years, she held the distinction of President and CEO of the Economic Opportunity Family Health Center, Inc., the largest minority employer in the Liberty City community. Through a staff of 300 employees, more than 9-million dollars are added annually to the local economy. Her record of sustained service has been recognized at the local, state and national levels. This was evidenced by her appointment in 1991 to the National Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality by then Secretary of Health Louis Sullivan and the Florida Work Group on Health Care by the late Governor Lawton Chiles. Along with Elizabeth Taylor, she was featured in the Miami Herald as the distinguished "Miamian," after testifying before the U.S. Senate for increased funding for those afflicted with the HIV-AIDS virus.

This remarkable lady was my friend and confidante. I am deeply saddened by her passing away. She will indeed be an indelible reminder of the noble commitment and awesome power of public service on behalf of the less fortunate. Her faith was deep and genuine, and her love for our community defined her dynamic friendship and understanding. No one who knew Jessie—and being struck by her sunny disposition and optimism—went away not acknowledging the presence of a caring and compassionate community leader.

Jessie Collins Trice's life was akin to that of a burning candle. A candle's lifelong service is to shed its light to illuminate the darkness of pessimism and hopelessness—until it is consumed. She conscientiously consecrated her life by serving God through her fellow human beings—especially the women and children from the innercity. I do remember cogently her challenging words: "Our children are our future, and if we don't expend every effort to help our children, we won't have a future."

This Friday, October 15, 1999 at a funeral mass at the Archdiocese of Miami's St. Mary's Cathedral, I join the Miami-Dade County community to celebrate her life and her friendship. Undoubtedly, Jessie Collins Trice would urge us that her death does not represent an irrevocable termination or a grim finality. She would rather have us firmly believe that she will live on in the good deeds she amply left behind. She will carry on through the wonderful thoughts and memories we all have of her.

Like the God whom she served faithfully during her earthly sojourn, she came and lived among us that we may have life—and have hope more abundantly. This is the wonderful legacy Jessie Collins Trice left behind. And this is the gift with which she blesses us. May Almighty God grant her eternal rest!

LABOR CELEBRATION

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 13, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues a

very special celebration taking place in my district this week. The Greater Wilkes-Barre Central Labor Council will gather to recognize the contributions of organized labor over the last century. I am pleased and proud to have been asked to participate.

A number of my good friends at the Labor Council will preside at this event: President Sam Bianco, Vice-President Joseph Capece, Secretary Lois Hartel, Treasurer Joseph Gorham and Trustees Ed Harry, Ed Hahn, Ed Walsh, David Williams, and Jerry Kishbaugh. The banquet will feature a comprehensive slide show that depicts the struggles of labor over the last century, highlighting such victories as anti-child labor laws, free public education, voting rights, equal pay for equal work, Social Security, job-safety, workers compensation, civil rights, the eight-hour work day, the minimum wage, and other triumphs. The program will also highlight the historic contributions of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Central Labor Council, which received the 1998 National AFL-CIO Model Cities in Community Services Award.

The Greater Wilkes-Barre Central Labor Council was founded in September 1894 by a group of six men: John J. Casey and Daniel Shovlin of the Plumbers and Steamfitters Union, Pat O'Neill and John Gibbon of the Stone Cutters Union, Amos Ayers of the Carpenters Union, and David Brovea of the Painters Union. In the beginning, fear of being blacklisted and jailed forced the Council members to hold secret, hidden meetings. The first such meeting was held in an old stone yard until rain forced the gathering to move under a bridge. There, in the rain-soaked autumn air, the Labor Council was founded.

John J. Casey went on to head what was then called the Central Labor Union, or CLU and the Building Trades Council. By 1902, 118 local unions were affiliated with the CLU. In 1903, United Mine Workers President John Mitchell told the American Federation of Labor convention in Boston that Wilkes-Barre was the "best organized city in the United States." Within the next few years, it was common to see as many as 300 members at the bi-monthly meetings.

The father of Labor Council was John J. Casey, who sought to unite all the trade unions in the event of a major problem with local contractors. Casey, a central figure in the history of the local labor movement, came from an inspiring background. Born in a company-owned mining shack in the anthracite region, Casey lost his father in a mining accident at age eight. With no compensation laws in place at that time, Casey was forced to leave school and become a breaker boy, working ten-hour days for pennies. It was here that the seed of labor activism was born in John J. Casey.

John J. Casey realized legislation was needed to obtain equal labor rights and social justice for working men and women. He successfully ran for State Representative and, later, for the United States Congress. When he won his congressional seat in 1912, John J. Casey became the first labor leader ever elected to that body. During his tenure, he was instrumental in the passage of laws prohibiting child labor and supporting vocational education in public schools.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud of the labor unions in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The unions not only brought fair labor prac-

tices to the area, they saved lives, protected our children, and are responsible for much of the wonderful quality of life we enjoy here. I join with this hardworking group of dedicated individuals in paying tribute to their origins, their heroes, and the rank-and-file laborers whose rights they so fiercely protect every day. I applaud the Greater Wilkes-Barre Central Labor Council for bringing the proud history of local labor unions to the attention of the Luzerne County community and send my sincere best wishes for continued success.

TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 13, 1999

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of Taiwan's National Day, I wish to convey my best wishes to the people of Taiwan, congratulating them for their successes in the past and extending my sympathies to all the earthquake victims and their families. My prayers are with them.

Taiwan is a model of success in Asia. Through hard work and ingenuity, Taiwan has emerged as one of the strongest economies on the Pacific Rim and is a showcase democracy in the world. The accomplishments of Taiwan, whether economic or political, are truly impressive.

I am confident that Taiwan's future successes will remain impressive, despite the recent earthquake which has severely damaged Taiwan's economy and infrastructure. God-speed and good fortune to our friends in Taiwan as they rebuild their nation.

TRIBUTE TO TODD OFFORD

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 13, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Todd Offord as Reserve Firefighter of the Year for the City of Lake Forest. When Todd was 16 years old he began as a Fire Explorer and was certified in Fire Control and auto extrication. He also attended the Fire Explorer Academy at El Toro Marine Base. In 1989, Todd became a Paid Call Firefighter and has since attended the Driver/Operator academy, become certified as an Emergency Medical Technician, and attended the Orange County Fire Departments 562 hour Firefighter Academy.

In his time as a Reserve Firefighter, Todd has helped with yearly Christmas decorations, community fairs, serving food to the homeless and many other volunteer projects. Todd is currently employed by the El Toro Water District in customer service and continues to be a valuable asset to the Reserve Firefighters in Lake Forest.

Mr. Speaker, reserve firefighters provide key services in protecting communities and citizens, as well as our Nation's forests. Todd Offord has gone above and beyond the call of duty in his service to the Orange County Community. I am proud to recognize Todd Offord as Reserve Firefighter of the Year.