

to ensure that the Spirit of Christmas touches all of South Tucson's children.

Twenty-nine years ago, Mr. Gonzales held a neighborhood Christmas party for his own children and a few of their friends. Because the party was so successful and appreciated, he gave another one the following year and every year since. Throughout the years, the celebration has radiated from Mr. Gonzales' small stucco house and onto West 31st Street. Now, on the day of the party, the street is blocked off and there are refreshments, balloons, clowns, mariachi music, piñatas, face painters, live radio broadcasts, and presents.

During the festivities, Santa Claus arrives to hand presents out to the children, sometimes in a red fire truck and other times in a helicopter. However he arrives, children, parents and volunteers alike thrill to the renewal of Christmas magic and the promise of a better tomorrow. Because of the happiness the celebration generates, Tucson's residents have come to call it the "Miracle on 31st Street." This year's event is expected to benefit approximately 4,000 local children, who undoubtedly will have a memorable Christmas because of Mr. Gonzales' kindness and compassion.

Mr. Gonzales, a former sheet metal worker now on disability, works all year to organize and develop resources for the Christmas Eve celebration. Always modest, Mr. Gonzales insists that "It's the volunteers that make the party," and he, along with 200 other volunteers, works tirelessly to ensure the success of the annual event. Many of the volunteers are Mr. Gonzales' union friends, and he has been praised by his union president, who said "I wish we all could be as selfless and as giving as Brother Gonzales." Volunteers also come from businesses, radio stations, friends, neighbors, nonprofit groups, and government agencies who enjoy generating positive feelings for the children and within the volunteer corps.

Although many of the children who come to the party are from low income families who may not have another Christmas celebration, Mr. Gonzales welcomes all children to join in the festivities. He understands that childhood dreams are nurtured through a caring community that transcends the individual's situation and emphasizes positive concepts: sharing, love, involvement, generosity, and kindness. The block party on West 31st Street in South Tucson has become a beacon for those ideals.

I commend Ramon Gonzales for his dedication and personal sacrifice that has generated so many positive emotions and wonderful memories for thousands of children. He is an outstanding model for our nation of one person truly making a difference. May his energies and commitment continue for many years to come.

PROMOTING HEALTHY HEARTS
AND HEALTHY LIVES: DEAN
ORNISH, M.D.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to pay tribute to Dr. Dean Ornish, a man who has dedicated his career to building healthier

lives. Dr. Ornish is considered by many as the leading authority on the effects of diet and lifestyle on health and well-being. His groundbreaking research has resulted in the discovery that comprehensive changes in diet and lifestyle can reverse even severe coronary heart disease without drugs and surgery. Dr. Ornish has produced valuable research that can empower individuals and build healthier communities. He is a talented, dedicated researcher whose work must not go unappreciated or unnoticed.

Dr. Ornish is the founder, president and director of the non-profit Preventive Medicine Research Institute in Sausalito, California, where he holds the Bucksbaum Chair. He is Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, and a founder of the Center for Integrative Medicine at the university. Dr. Ornish received an M.D. from Baylor College of Medicine, was a clinical fellow in medicine at Harvard Medical School and completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Dr. Ornish is the author of five best-selling books, including New York Times bestsellers: Dr. Dean Ornish's Program for Reversing Heart Disease; Eat More, Weigh Less; and Love & Survival. His research and writings have been published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, The Lancet, Circulation, The New England Journal of Medicine, the American Journal of Cardiology, and elsewhere. A one-hour documentary of his work was broadcast on NOVA, the PBS science series, and was featured on Bill Moyers' PBS series, "Healing & The Mind." His work has been featured in virtually all major media; he was on the cover of the March 16, 1998, issue of Newsweek magazine.

Dr. Ornish has received several awards, including the 1996 Beckmann Medal from the German Society for Prevention and Rehabilitation of Cardiovascular Diseases, the U.S. Army Surgeon General Medal, and the 1994 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award from the University of Texas, Austin. He is listed in the Dictionary of International Biography, Who's Who in America, and in Men of Achievement. He was recognized as one of the most interesting people of 1995 by People magazine and by LIFE Magazine as one of the 50 most influential members of his generation.

Mr. Speaker, I have great admiration for Dr. Dean Ornish. He is truly a remarkable individual whose outstanding research and effective programs have improved the overall quality of life for many people. His proven research on behavior modification has the potential to revolutionize the way modern medicine approaches heart disease. Dr. Ornish's promotion of healthy hearts and healthy lives is an inspiration for all Americans.

HONORING WILLIE AND VERONICA
ARTIS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am very honored to rise before you today to acknowledge the achievements and contributions to the

Flint, Michigan community of a wonderful couple who have cultivated a successful business partnership, as well as a life partnership. On Tuesday, October 19, members of the Charles Stewart Mott Community College Foundation will gather and, in the spirit of Minority Business Month, will honor Mr. and Mrs. Willie and Veronica Artis of Genesee Packaging, Inc.

It was in 1979 that Willie Artis and Buel Jones founded Genesee Packaging. Using an opportunity granted from minority business programs sponsored by General Motors, Artis and Jones ventured into business together and reached over one million dollars in revenue within the first year. In the 1980's, once again due to the benefit of General Motors, the company expanded with Genesee Corrugated, Inc. Now, instead of creating the packaging, they were manufacturing the materials to create the packaging as well.

Following the retirement of Buel Jones, Willie Artis began overseeing daily operations of the companies. The companies, which eventually merged, served to be profitable, not only to its owners, but to the community as well. Currently, Genesee Packaging employs nearly 300 people in three plants throughout the Flint area. The company constantly serves as one the city's strongest economic resources.

As Willie Artis can claim to over 28 years of experience in the packaging field, his wife, Veronica can claim an equal amount of experience in the business administration field. After obtaining an education from such schools as the University of Wisconsin, Dartmouth, and Harvard, Veronica began a noted work history with Ameritech, holding positions including District Training Coordinator, Personnel Manager, Marketing Manager, and Purchasing Manager. Veronica joined Genesee Packaging in 1989 as Vice President of Administration, and currently sits on the company's Executive Staff.

Mr. Speaker, not only will the Mott College Foundation celebrate the contributions of Mr. and Mrs. Artis, but, to further establish the impact they make on Flint residents, the evening will also mark the creation of a scholarship in their name. I am pleased to be witness to all they have done on a corporate level, and what they have done in serving as positive role models for young people. I ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in congratulating Willie and Veronica Artis. Together they have made our community a better place.

TRIBUTE TO CENTRAL BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Central Baptist Church in Willisville, Illinois.

As this millennium is nearing an end, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the history of small towns and cities which have committed themselves to their communities. Many churches and religious institutions have been the source of providing American citizens with comfort and strength during troubled times. In my congressional district, one church in particular has provided this type of example. For

the past one-hundred years, community members of Willisville, Illinois and other neighboring communities have been gathering to worship and honor their religion in what is known as the first Free Baptist Church in Illinois.

The history of the church is instructive. At the request of A.J. Rendleman of Campbell Hill, Illinois, the first formal meeting to establish the Free Baptist church was convened on Sunday, July 30th 1899 at precisely 3:30 p.m. Soon after on October 24th, the first Free Baptist Church was formed. Today, this church is a reminder of the dedication and the desire to reach a higher goal. One hundred years after the first official sermon, we find ourselves honoring an institution that has withstood diversity as well as achieved a great sense of unity within the community.

While the Central Baptist Church has not witnessed significant change in the past 100 years, the building itself was rebuilt in 1917 due to a tornado that destroyed the old structure. The bell that used to hang from the church, now sits in front of the building. The name was changed from the Freewill Baptist Church to Central Baptist Church, but its ideals have remained the same. Members gather for Bible studies mid-week, an annual Baptist camp in conjunction with the Southern Illinois University, and many other youth camp activities. On Saturday, October 20th, 1999, church officials and other members of the community plan to bury a time capsule in tribute to the history of the church, as well as to promote future years of prominence.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor the Central Baptist Church and wish it continued success as it enters another century and continues to provide the citizens of Willisville with spiritual growth, unit and guidance.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ITALIAN CEMETERY AND MAUSOLEUM OF COLMA, CALIFORNIA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the 100th Anniversary of the Italian Cemetery and Mausoleum of Colma, California. This institution has made a significant contribution to the Italian-American community of the Bay Area, and I want to recognize the institution and pay tribute on this centennial observance.

The Italian Cemetery serves as dignified resting place for Italian-Americans. To date, some 50,000 individuals have been laid to rest in this beautiful location, and many of these are prominent Italian Americans who have played a leading role in the growth and progress of our area.

Mr. Speaker, the Italian Cemetery is not only a distinguished burial ground, but it is also a place of beauty to which the entire Bay Area looks with pride. The cemetery contains some of the most beautiful and architecturally acclaimed mausoleums that have been built throughout our entire nation.

The Italian Cemetery was first used in 1899, one year after it was established by La Societa Italiana Di Mutua Beneficenza, the oldest continuous Italian organization in the

United States. After more than 75 years of service to the community, the Italian Cemetery became a nonprofit corporation, with the goal of maintaining the cemetery for future generations.

The Italian Cemetery's service to the Italian community of California is commendable and deserves our recognition and commendation. I would like to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Italian Cemetery and Mausoleum on its 100th anniversary.

COMMEMORATION OF ROBERT H. GODDARD'S "ANNIVERSARY DAY"

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of Robert H. Goddard's self-proclaimed "Anniversary Day." Robert Hutchings Goddard, referred to as the "Father of Modern Rocketry," was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, in 1882, graduated from South High School in 1904, and attended Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1908.

In 1911, Goddard received his doctorate at Clark University and subsequently became a professor of physics there. Through experimentation, Goddard discovered that liquid fuel was more efficient than solid fuel. Soon thereafter, in 1926 he successfully launched the world's first liquid fuel rocket in Auburn, Massachusetts, a feat comparable in history to that of the Wright brothers' flight at Kitty Hawk. Goddard is also credited with learning how to control rocket flight, and equipping rockets with parachutes so that they could land safely.

October 19, 1999 marks the 100th anniversary of an event that gave purpose to Goddard's life. On October 19, 1899, at the age of 17, he climbed a cherry tree in his Worcester backyard and experienced a vision of space travel that would consume him for the rest of his life. This resolve was noted in his diary each year thereafter as "Anniversary Day," in memory of the day that focused his purpose in life.

Mr. Goddard, himself, was quoted as saying "the dream of yesterday is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow." I urge all my colleagues to join me in recognizing this ideal, and Robert H. Goddard as the "Father of Modern Rocketry."

COMMENDING THE NOAA CORPS

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the recent activities of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Corps). Also known as "America's Seventh Service," the NOAA Corps is composed of a cadre of about 250 commissioned officers. Officers of the Corps have served our nation for decades with their unique scientific and engineering skills.

The dedicated scientists, engineers, and officers of the NOAA Corps serve with expertise and dedication throughout the nation, and in

remote locations around the world. For example, NOAA Corps pilots fly hurricane research aircraft, providing critical weather prediction information. Recently, the NOAA corps flew repeated missions into the eye of Hurricane Floyd as it battered the Mid-Atlantic Coast. These officers gathered data which was critical to predicting the strength and path of the destructive hurricane. NOAA Corps aviators fly many of these missions each and every hurricane season.

Following the tragic disappearance of the aircraft piloted by John F. Kennedy, Jr., the NOAA Corps provided critical support in the search and recovery efforts. From July 17th through July 23rd, the officers and crew of the NOAA Ship RUDE worked around the clock to assist in the mission to recover the downed plane. With its side-scan sonar capability, the NOAA Corps ship was instrumental in locating the wreckage of the aircraft.

In recent months, the NOAA Corps has participated in the Sustainable Seas Expedition (SSE) project. From April through mid-September, the NOAA Ships *McArthur* and *Ferrel* served in a cooperative program with National Geographic to study NOAA's National Marine Sanctuaries in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, and in the Gulf of Mexico. The purpose of the SSE is to explore, document, and provide critical scientific data on America's coastal waters, and to develop a strategy for the conservation and restoration of the nation's marine resources. NOAA's ships will participate in the five-year project, using new technologies to pioneer deep exploration of the extensive marine sanctuaries.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in commending the hard-working men and women of the NOAA Corps for their superb leadership and dedicated service to the nation.

EXPATRIATE LEGISLATION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today Congressman BOB MATSUI and I are introducing legislation to prevent tax avoidance through the device of renouncing one's allegiance to this country. I am pleased that my colleagues Messrs. GEPHARDT, BONIOR, STARK, COYNE, LEVIN, McDERMOTT, KLECZKA, LEWIS of Georgia, NEAL, McNULTY, DOGGETT, TIERNEY, FRANK of Massachusetts, BROWN of Ohio, LUTHER, and VENTO are joining us as cosponsors of this legislation.

I understand that our motives for introducing this legislation will be attacked. Therefore, I want to leave no question about why we demand an effective response to the tax avoidance potential of expatriation.

Citizenship in this country confers extraordinary benefits. Our citizens are able to enjoy the full range of political and economic freedoms that our government ensures. With the benefits of citizenship comes the responsibility to contribute to the common good.

This country is fortunate in that it can depend on the voluntary compliance of its citizens to collect its taxes. In that respect, we are unique in the world. The willingness of our citizens to continue voluntarily to comply with