

Teresa and Henry would make a home with their two children Sylvia and Jessie and achieve the American dream. Many would be content, but Henry believes idle hands do not build communities.

Henry's patriotism and community spirit can be witnessed in the many dedicated hours every week he spends in support of the American G.I. Forum. This national organization that advocates on behalf of the Veterans and Latino community has worked tirelessly to combat injustice, increase educational opportunities, and build the quality of life of our communities. Henry has served as State Commander of the American G.I. Forum for the last 2 years and has held office in the past as State Treasurer and Commander of the Bay City Chapter. He also served on the board that was instrumental in bringing the traveling Vietnam Wall to my hometown of Bay City, MI, bringing great credit to the American G.I. Forum and paying great tribute to his late brother Tomas V. Martinez who died in the service of his country.

Henry also has an impressive record of achievement of service to his community in other areas. He serves on the UAW/GM Committee of Civil Rights advocating for social justice and the elimination of discriminatory employment practices. He has served as a Board Member of the Bay Area Runners Club, Tri-City SER Board, Cinco De Mayo Parade Committee, Community Center Recreation Board, and Migrant Outreach Center advocate. He has shown his commitment to our youth coaching YMCA flag football, Boys and Girls Club Soccer, recreational softball teams, and always willing to give a hand to any program in need. Henry also translates medical prescription instructions.

Mr. Speaker, on this the occasion of Henry's retirement after more than 32 years working for General Motors Powertrain in Bay City, I ask you and all our colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Enrique "Henry" Martinez. With his years of hard work for his family, for our veterans, for our youth, and for our whole community he has certainly earned the fruits of a well deserved retirement. He has set an example for all who follow in his footsteps and he embodies the true meaning of community spirit. May his life be blessed just as his efforts have blessed our community.

WELCOMING GENERAL ROSSO
JOSE SERRANO OF THE COLOMBIAN
NATIONAL POLICE TO OUR
COUNTRY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, he has become a regular fixture at our International Relations and Government Reform hearings and briefings on the illegal drug trade in the hemisphere. Gen. Rosso Jose Serrano is at home in the Halls of the U.S. Congress. I commend him on his selection of my congressional district in South Florida as the place he and his family will now call home.

For several years, General Serrano has been an invaluable source of information on the intricacies of the Colombian drug trafficking network. He has been sought out by

the Congress DEA, and the Drug Czar to share his insight and experience in these matters.

In the 1990's, General Serrano commanded the antinarcotics police of the DANTI. He worked hand in hand with our DEA in fighting the drug lords in Colombia. Together they destroyed the Medellin Cartel and brought its leader, Pablo Escobar to justice in December 1993. This outstanding victory could not have happened without the actions of this self acclaimed "ordinary man from the farmlands of northeast Colombia."

After more than 40 years in law enforcement, General Serrano retired from the Colombian National Police. Today, I join my colleagues in welcoming him to the United States and thank him for all that he has done for his country and for ours.

MEMORIAL DAY SPEECH BY MIKE CARONE, KOREAN WAR VETERAN

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, on Memorial Day 2000, a constituent and Korean war veteran, Mr. Mike Carone, gave the following speech during ceremonies in McHenry, IL:

"On June 25 of this year, it will be 50 years since Truman's police action—the Korean War—began. It lasted three years, until July 27, 1953, when an armistice was affected by President Eisenhower.

It was a United Nations action that included 20 countries. We were a major participant with seven Army divisions, four Army regiments and one Marine division on the ground with participation from both Navy and Air Force. One-and-a-half million Americans served in Korea during the three years of the war, and 200,000 of them engaged in combat during that period.

It signaled the beginning of the end of communist expansion in Asia and the end of the Cold War because we actively resisted and stood our ground. The United Nations, including the South Korean Army, lost one-quarter million lives. Thirty-six thousand American lives were lost in combat, of which over 4,000 were Marines. Total United Nations wounded totaled over one million. Over 100,000 Americans were wounded in action, of which 24,000 were Marines.

Today, there are still 8,100 Americans missing in action.

Hardly a police action.

I dare say there is hardly a page or even a paragraph written about the Korean War in the history books our children read.

I was getting out of Marine boot camp at Parris Island when it started and remember the drill instructors trying to find out where Korea was at. Korea was called the "Forgotten War" because it started five years after the Second World War and our country was in a peacetime mode. World War II vets came home, got a job, got married, bought a house and car and had babies. But the Russian and Korean communists, with approval of the Chinese communists, were not in a peacetime but an aggressive expansionist mode and invaded South Korea.

Our country at that time was war-weary and, after the Korean War started, wanted it to end quickly so they (we) could forget it. That wasn't the communist plan, and the Chinese entered the war with infinite human resources. Over 1,000,000 communist forces

lost their lives, and they failed to expand communism in Asia.

I was a machine gunner in ACO 1st Battalion 5th Regiment of the 1st Marine Division from January 1951 to January 1952 and earned four Battle Stars. Many Marines were killed and wounded during that year. It was and is Marine Corps tradition that our dead and wounded are never left behind—sometimes at the cost of the living.

I remember when our battalion would be relieved for a few days rest, sometime every one-and-a-half to three months. We would assemble in formation, and the names of those killed-in-action during the previous engagement would be read. Sometimes it took 10 minutes, and other times it would take 45 minutes to read the list. Then the bugler would sound taps to honor the dead as we will do late today.

I, like many Korean War veterans, eventually returned to civilian life, got a job, got married, went to college, bought a house, had kids and tried to put the war experiences behind us but could never forget our buddies who were killed or later died of their wounds.

Thirty years after the Korean War, I could not longer suppress those memories and became active in veteran organizations and attempted to find those Marines that I served with in the Korean War. I have found some of them, we talked about those war experiences we shared and tried to put to rest those memories.

Today, 49 years after the Korean War, those war experiences have dimmed, but I shall never forget those I knew who gave their lives in many of the battles in that far-away land so long ago.

In conclusion, let us never forget those who gave their lives in that forgotten war who were never forgotten by their families and buddies, and that they be remembered by us along with all the American veterans who gave their lives in all the wars our country fought in defense of our freedom."

A TRIBUTE TO H. LYNN CUNDIFF,
PH.D., PRESIDENT OF FLOYD
COLLEGE

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a personal friend and a friend to the people of the seventh district of Georgia, Dr. H. Lynn Cundiff, president of Floyd College, a 2-year unit of the University System of Georgia. Floyd College serves students who commute from throughout a large portion of north-west Georgia and northeast Alabama. Dr. Cundiff is leaving his post of president to assume the presidency of Salt Lake Community College. Georgia's loss is Utah's gain.

Dr. Cundiff came to Floyd College in 1992, as only its second president, from the position of executive vice chancellor of the Alabama College System. Dr. Cundiff received a bachelor of arts degree from William Jewell College in physical education and mathematics, a master of arts degree from Northeast Missouri State University in educational administration, and a Ph.D. from Southern Illinois University in educational leadership. He attended the Harvard Leadership Institute, and attended Oxford University along with 45 community college leaders from around the world in August, 1998. He has authored several scholarly

publications and has presented a number of papers at national, professional conferences.

Since coming to Floyd College, Dr. Cundiff has been actively involved in the community, having served on the board of the Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce, chaired the 1995 Rome/Floyd County United Way Campaign, chaired the 1996 Race to the Olympics Commission for the Rome area, and is a member of the Rotary Club of Rome. Dr. Cundiff and his wife, Glenda, are very active in the North Rome Church of God, where they have been involved in providing pre-marriage and family counseling.

Under Dr. Cundiff's guidance and leadership, Floyd College, which was founded in 1970 to provide educational opportunities for the physical, intellectual, and cultural development of a diverse population in seven northwest Georgia counties, has grown to become an institute offering a large and varied community-education program. It operates extension centers in Cartersville, Haralson County, and Acworth. The college pioneered the development of cooperative programs with Coosa Valley Technical Institute as early as 1972, and now also offers joint programs with North Metro Technical Institute in Acworth, GA as well. With the advent of distance learning technologies, speciality programs, off-campus centers, collaborative arrangements, and cooperative degree programs with technical institutes, the college has expanded its scope of influence far beyond the institution's original geographical area.

Under Dr. Cundiff's leadership, the philosophy of the college is expressed in the beliefs that education is essential to the intellectual, physical, economic, social, emotional, cultural, and environmental well-being of individuals and society; and that education should be geographically and physically accessible and affordable. In support of this philosophy, the college maintains a teaching/learning environment which promotes inclusiveness and provides educational opportunities, programs, and services of excellence in response to documented needs.

Dr. Cundiff will be leaving Floyd College, effective July 31st, to assume the presidency of Salt Lake Community College in Utah. However, the results of his personal commitment of excellence in education will forever remain in the minds and spirit of the citizens of the hills of northwest Georgia and northeast Alabama. We are forever grateful for the years he has given to us, and we wish him much success in his new endeavors.

RENEWAL FUNDING FOR HOMELESS RENTAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, just recently, the President signed into law the Military Construction Appropriations conference report. This bill includes critically needed funding to renew rental housing assistance for very low income disabled, veterans, mentally ill, and other families and individuals at risk of homelessness.

Late last year, some 40 projects nationwide did not receive renewal of expiring grants

under either the Shelter Plus Care or SHP Permanent housing programs as part of the McKinney Act homeless program funding awards for fiscal year 1999. As a result, thousands of families—including 180 in Erie County in the area I represent—were at risk of having their entail subsidies expire at some time this year.

In response, in February of this year, I introduced H.R. 3613, legislation to provide emergency one-year funding for these expired and unrenewed projects out of the Section 8 Housing Certificate account. This legislation was later offered as an amendment by the Ranking Member of the VA-HUD Appropriations Subcommittee to the House Supplemental Appropriations bill, and the amendment was adopted.

The good news is that the MilCon conference report provides funding to renew all these projects for one year, as proposed in my legislation. The bad news is that the Senate rejected the House approach of funding renewals from the Section 8 account, instead requiring that funding be taken from the fiscal year 2000 homeless program account.

This means that \$5 million less in critically needed homeless funds will be available later this year under the FY 2000 grant competition.

It also means that at least for now, we continue the year-to-year uncertainty families and grant applicants face with regard to renewals. As a result, we continue a policy that is incomprehensible: Automatically renewing rental assistance subsidies nationwide for all low-income families—with the sole exception being the most vulnerable, poorest families who receive rental assistance under the Shelter Plus Care and SHP Permanent housing homeless programs.

This fall, in the VA-HUD conference report, we will have a chance to get it right—that is, to renew Shelter Plus Care and SHP permanent housing renewals automatically out of the Section 8 account for both fiscal year 2000 and fiscal year 2001, and to launch us down the path of doing this on a permanent basis in subsequent years.

Through both the supplemental spending bill and the recently passed fiscal year 2001 VA-HUD bill, the House has affirmed its support for renewing these grants through the Section 8 account. I urge the Senate to accede to this very reasonable approach.

In any event, I am pleased that this bill gives-at-risk families assurance of assistance for another year, while we work out this issue.

BIG BAND SOCIETY CELEBRATES 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the efforts of the Big Band Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary this week.

The names of landmark recording artists such as Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, the Dorsey Brothers and Duke Ellington, may not meet with instant recognition with those Americans who grew up with MTV. But for millions of music lovers, those artists represent the beloved sounds of their generation.

The Big Band Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania is to be commended for keeping this musical tradition alive. One way they do this is by holding their annual gala dance each summer at the Irem Temple Country Club in Dallas, Pennsylvania.

Under the leadership of dedicated people like Pat Perillo, its president, and Charlie Aten, its treasurer, this organization, with its devoted members, has drummed along tirelessly to promote the tunes and the personalities of the Big Band era and to bring that original sound and enduring spirit to younger audiences.

Mr. Speaker, for many Americans, the Big Band sound is much more than a style of music—it is uniquely American and evokes moving memories for a generation filled with patriotism, pride and love of country.

I am pleased to honor the Big Band Society for their part in keeping alive this important tradition of our nation's culture. I send my best wishes to the members of the Society on their 30th anniversary as well as my wishes for continued success.

TRIBUTE TO THE PUERTO RICAN PARADE AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor the activities of the Puerto Rican Parade and Cultural Organization of Northwest Indiana. On Sunday, July 16, 2000, I had the privilege of attending this year's kickoff of the organization's festivities, at the Puerto Rican Dia Del Camp Kickoff Picnic in East Chicago, Indiana. On Thursday, July 20, 2000, the organization will be hosting its 18th Annual Dignitary Banquet at Hijos de Borinquen in East Chicago, Indiana. The annual celebration for Northwest Indiana's Puerto Rican community will culminate on July 22, 2000, with the traditional festival at East Chicago's Block Stadium, and the community parade on July 23, 2000.

I especially would like to congratulate Ms. Betty Paine, President of the Puerto Rican Parade and Cultural Organization of Northwest Indiana, as well as all other members for their time-honored dedication to the preservation of their Puerto Rican heritage. Joining the celebration at the Dignitary Banquet will be Mayor Luis Oliver, of Lares, Puerto Rico, and Jose Luis Gonzalez, Director of the Tourism Board in Lares.

The history of Puerto Rico is one of great pride and honor. In 1493 Columbus found the island of Borinquen (the Amerindian name for Puerto Rico) to be inhabited by Taino Indians, a subgroup of the Arawak thought to have arrived on the island 1,000 years before from South America. The Taino Indians who greeted Columbus showed him gold nuggets in the river and told him to take all he wanted. The town founded near this river was named Puerto Rico, or "rich port," with the island being named "San Juan Bautista," for St. John the Baptist. It was not until later that the two names were switched.

The rich culture of the people of Puerto Rico evolved progressively over the centuries. Immigrants brought influences from Europe, Africa, Asia, and other Caribbean islands to Puerto Rico, and blended them to create a unique