

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me today in celebration of the Ukrainian-American Youth Association's 50 years of service to the Ukrainian-American youth population. Many young persons have surely benefitted from the work of this tireless group, and our nation has surely benefitted from the Youth Association's instruction on the virtues and responsibilities of good citizenship and the value of freedom. Let us honor this distinguished group and let us wish them 50 more years of fantastic service to our population.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, due to the death of my father, I did not attend the session of June 28, 2000 and June 29, 2000. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows on the roll call votes indicated:

#352—yes, #353—yes, #354—yes, #355—no, #356—yes, #357—no, #359—no, #360—no, #361—no, #362—no, #363—yes, #364—no, #365—yes, #366—no, #367—no, #368—no, #369—no, #370—no, #372—yes.

REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, Taiwan is a free democratic nation in the Pacific and a shining example of economic success and total democratization. Taiwan's accomplishments are too numerous to mention here, but I do want to note that Taiwan's success is directly attributable to its people's industriousness and its leader's wisdom. Today nearly everyone in Taiwan is middle class, and is enjoying the country's many amenities—such as good food, adequate housing, a good transportation system, excellent schools and crime-free neighborhoods. Politically, people can freely express their opinions and elect their leaders at every level. Press freedom and human rights are also guaranteed by Taiwan's constitution.

Therefore, to my friends in Taiwan, I want to go on record stating that you have done a wonderful job and congratulations on your 89th National Day.

HONORING THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAMILY SERVICES

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Family Services as they celebrate 100 years of exemplary service in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. This organization was established when three local non-profit organizations merged. Family Services

of Pottstown, the Lower Montgomery County Service Society, and the Main Line Neighborhood united to provide the community with outstanding social services.

The 13th Congressional District of Pennsylvania benefits from many programs implemented by Family Services. The services provided by this group address a variety of needs including counseling, access to housing, medical care, delivery of meals, identifying peer support systems, and locating resources to prevent future problems.

Family Services works on many programs that have become an integral part of our community including: Meals on Wheels; Project HEARTH (Helping Elderly Adults Remain in Their Homes); Project HOPE, which provides HIV/AIDS Prevention and Support Services; Families and Schools Together; and Safe Kids. Family Services also provides workshops and seminars such as "Family Violence Prevention", "Dating Violence Prevention", and "Partnerships for Community Building", which help families confront many of today's challenges.

It is an honor to recognize the remarkable impact this organization has on the community. Family Services has enhanced the quality of life for many of my constituents and it is a privilege to represent such an extraordinary organization.

IN HONOR OF RITA CESTARIC

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Rita Cestaric who has been an outstanding citizen of my district and our state. Rita Cestaric's entire life has been one of devotion to her family, her friends and her community. Her passion for service to community helped to encourage the involvement of many people in public life, including myself. She was ever the activist, prodding and pushing, moving mountains on behalf of her city and her nation. She was a civic and political force for decades in North Olmstead, Ohio.

The home of Rita and her devoted husband, John Cestaric, was always a hub of activity in the community. With John's patient support, the Cestaric household was an important stop in any political campaign. Her children, Rita, Carole and John were always in amazement at the endless stream of activity which characterized the Cestaric home. They saw firsthand the impact of their mother's dedication and understood how significant her help was to so many people.

Public officials came to the Cestaric home not only to meet the people of the neighborhood, but they were drawn to Rita. She gave wise counsel to generations of public servants who sought her assistance. She always had a sense of what was in the public interest. Her wisdom was the wisdom of the people and when she spoke you always knew that hers was unmistakably the voice of many. She was an exemplar of the power of women in politics. She was a singular force for encouraging many women to become involved in the civic life of their communities.

Rita Cestaric was an optimist. She faced all challenges in life with equanimity. She suf-

fered the loss of her dear husband John, and still she moved ahead to continue her contributions of her time and her efforts. And when she at last faced her most serious personal challenge to her health, she did so without complaint, but with great inner strength and beauty.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Members of the House of Representatives of the United States of America join with me in paying tribute to the life of Rita Cestaric, and expressing gratitude for her love of country and her service to community.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. WILLIE MCCOY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Willie and Agnes McCoy on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. Sixty years of marriage is an accomplishment that is worthy of recognition, and I'd like to add my wishes for a happy 90th year to Mr. Willie McCoy. He celebrated his 90th Birthday on the 4th of September.

In June of 1940, Willie McCoy and Agnes Green met in Jacksonville, Florida. After an instant connection and brief courtship, Willie and Agnes were married on November 16, 1940. They were wed in the home of a friend by Rev. H.H. Robinson, whose words to them were "always respect each other, and never be too proud to say I'm sorry." Upon this foundation of respect and humility, coupled with love, honesty, and trust, an exemplary marriage was forged.

Throughout their many years together, they have been blessed with seven children, sixteen grandchildren, many great-grandchildren, and a number of wonderful nieces, nephews, and close friends. One of their children, Willie, is a very good friend to me and my family.

To each other, they are gifts from God. To us, they are an example of true love and friendship. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. and Mrs. Willie McCoy on their 60th wedding anniversary, and Mr. Willie McCoy on his 90th birthday.

RECOGNITION OF YOUTH CIVIC LITERACY MONTH AND THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY'S CIVIC LITERACY PROJECT

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Youth Urban Agenda/Civic Literacy Project of Wayne State University. As a result of their efforts to encourage youth participation in the political process, the month of October 2000 is being recognized as Youth Civic Literacy Month in Wayne County Michigan.

The Youth Urban Agenda/Civic Literacy Project started at Wayne State University in 1986 in an effort to promote programs to

teach students about civic responsibility and provide them with the tools they need to build a real political agenda. This month the Project will convene an international telecommunications event entitled "A Youth Urban Agenda in the New Millennium." The event will be held in Detroit, Michigan with the participation of students and teachers from one hundred twenty middle schools, high schools, adult education programs and post-secondary institutions in Southeast Michigan. They will be linked with teachers and students from major U.S. and non-U.S. cities.

In an era when so many people have become disillusioned with the political process and have stopped participating, it is vitally important that we energize our young people to become involved. It is my pleasure to acknowledge and commend Wayne State University and the Youth Urban Agenda/Civil Literacy Project for its leadership and vision in preparing young people to fully participate in the political process.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent yesterday, Monday October 2, 2000, and as a result, missed roll call votes 503 through 505. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on roll call vote 503, "yes" on roll call vote 504, and "yes" on roll call vote 505.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 503, H.R. 4049, the Privacy Commission Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yes". Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 504, H.R. 4147, the Stop Material Unsuitable for Teens Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yea". Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 505, H.R. 3088, the Victims of Rape Health Protection Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yea".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably absent on a matter of critical importance and missed the following votes:

On H.R. 4049 (rollcall No. 503), to establish the Commission for the Comprehensive Study of Privacy Protection, introduced by the gentleman from Arkansas, Mr. HUTCHINSON, I would have voted "Nay"

On H.R. 4147 (rollcall No. 504), to amend Title 18 United States Code, to increase the

age of persons considered to be minors for the purposes of the prohibition on transporting obscene materials to minors, introduced by the gentleman from Colorado, Mr. TANCREDI, I would have voted "Yea".

On H.R. 3088 (rollcall No. 505), to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide additional protections to victims of rape, introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. WELDON, I would have voted "Yea".

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH A. BALZANO

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I make special note of a very important person who has served the State of New Jersey, the City of Camden, and the Delaware River port community for 50 years.

Mr. Joseph A. Balzano, or Joe as we call him, serves as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the South Jersey Port Commission, Port of Camden. The South Jersey Port Commission hired Joe in 1951 as an equipment operator. He quickly moved into management, serving as the Port Operations Manager from 1961 to 1982, then as Deputy Director of the Commission from 1982 to 1989, and finally as Executive Director and CEO since 1989. On August 22, 2000, he began his 50th year working for the Port of Camden.

My friend Joe has had a very interesting career with many highlights. One of these highlights was his integral role in helping to bring the retired Battleship USS *New Jersey* (BB-62) to its namesake home of New Jersey, and to its final resting place as a national museum docked in the Port of Camden.

Joe was born and raised, attended school, married and raised his family in the City of Camden. He has received many honors and awards over the years—too many to list here—and is among the best senior executives in the maritime industry.

The Port of Camden is thankful that Joe Balzano's knowledge, wisdom, leadership and dedication have blessed New Jersey and the Delaware River port community for five decades. Moreover, we are fortunate that his presence will continue to grace the streets of Camden for years to come.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the 3rd Congressional District of New Jersey, I thank Joe Balzano for his distinguished service and dedication to the Port of Camden and to the State of New Jersey.

COMMEMORATING UNITY DAY

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I commemorate Unity Day, which is being celebrated in Germany today. October 3, 2000 marks the 10th Anniversary of Germany's Reunification.

Growing up, I learned about two countries called Germany—the West and the East—an

ally and an enemy. For over 40 years, this country was divided; families were separated, and most strikingly, vastly different political ideologies governed these two nations.

However, the highly dynamic 20th Century allowed the generation which witnessed the division of this great nation see it reunified on October 3, 1990. What once seemed impossible became unstoppable as the Berlin Wall opened on November 9, 1989, and streams of excited people crossed into the west. While these people were separated by geography and government, their German heritage and common memory of one country kept them together.

While the desire to reunite these two nations was strong, significant economic, political, and social challenges faced the newly united Germany. Despite these issues, the German government and her people pressed forward, refusing to look back.

Today, Germany has much to celebrate. Now united, this country has defined itself, both as a sovereign nation, and within the context of multinational institutions such as the European Union, NATO, and the United States. In addition, Germany has remained a strong ally of the United States.

As Germany celebrates the realization of freedom and democracy under one flag, let this Congress recognize and offer its congratulations on this milestone of achievement, the 10th Anniversary of German Reunification.

A TRIBUTE TO THE GERMAN SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the German Society of Pennsylvania. Founded in 1764, it is the oldest German American organization in the new world. In celebration of its founding, the Society will hold its 236th Anniversary Ball and its annual German American Day festivities.

The first German immigrants came to the new world after being invited by William Penn to come to his colony. Ultimately, thirteen families settled in what became known as Germantown, one of Philadelphia's oldest sections of the city. These families left their homes in the Rhineland City of Krefeld and arrived in Philadelphia on October 6, 1683, a date celebrated by German Americans as the beginning of their history in the United States.

The flow of German immigrants continued and the poorest of them suffered many hardships and cruelty. As a result the Society was founded, for the express purpose of aiding these distressed immigrants. And, because of the Society's advocacy a series of measures to protect immigrants were enacted.

Today, the Society maintains its presence in the First Congressional District in its historic 1888 landmark building, which is on the national list of historic places. The Society also continues to steadfastly fulfill its mission to serve its members and those who share interests in German and German American culture, heritage and values through its presentations of educational lectures, cultural and arts programs, and seminars.