

IN MEMORY OF MR. TINO
FULIMENI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a great man, Mr. Tino Fulimeni, for his years of dedicated service to the Cleveland and world community.

Mr. Fulimeni, originally from Vestaburg, Pennsylvania, hitchhiked to Cleveland after high school and found a job with Republic Steel Corporation. After joining the union he spent some time in the Army and later married Yvonne, another native from his hometown. The two soon settled in Berea, Ohio and he returned to the steel mill to serve on union committees.

In 1977, Mr. Fulimeni became a full-time staff representative for the United Steelworkers of America. He spent a great deal of time working with women and racial minorities to provide and ensure equality for all steelworkers. He represented over 21,000 steelworkers after he became director of the union's District 28. His hard work and dedication to the rights of workers did not go unnoticed. Mr. Fulimeni soon thereafter was appointed special assistant to the union's international president.

Mr. Fulimeni is truly a man of the people. His dedication and loyalty to all steelworkers earned him the respect of all his colleagues. He was known as a tough negotiator, a strong co-worker, and a close friend to many. In addition to his union work, Mr. Fulimeni was active in the American Legion. His strong leadership and patriotism were apparent to his peers who elected him post commander three times.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and remembering a truly great man, Mr. Tino Fulimeni. He has touched the Cleveland community and helped many steelworkers. He will be greatly missed.

HONORING TOM HAMILTON

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Tom Hamilton, who has been with the Forest Service for the past 37 years. Mr. Hamilton is retiring from federal service after serving as the Director of the Forest Products Laboratory, the nation's leading wood research institute located in Madison, Wisconsin.

Tom has led the Forest Products Laboratory (FPL) in its dedication to solving societal problems related to the forest and its products by using the best scientific resources available. While some may not be aware, FPL is the public side of the public-private partnership needed to create technology for the long-term sustainability of our forests.

Originally from Westfield, Wisconsin, Tom later graduated from UW-Madison, with a B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. from the UW's Department of Agricultural Economics. He spent much of his career with the Forest Service at various forest research stations, and later with the Forest

Service Washington Office. In 1994, Tom was appointed Director of FPL.

As Director, Tom has led more than 250 scientists and support staff conduct research on expanded and diverse aspects of wood use, including pulp and paper products, housing and structural uses of wood, wood preservation, wood and fungi identification, and finishing and restoration of wood products. In addition to traditional lines of research, Under Tom's leadership, the Forest Products Laboratory has responded to environmental pressures on forest resources by using cutting-edge techniques to study recycling, developing environmentally friendly technology, and broadening the nation's understanding of ecosystem-based forest management.

Through Tom's initiative, work is now ongoing at FPL towards new recycling technology, creating a new fiber resource, and reducing pressure on our precious forests.

Tom's leadership of this important research resource has been a national treasure, and his many years of service with FPL and the Forest Service are commendable. As he transitions to a new phase of life following his retirement from public service, he will truly be missed.

HONORING LILLIAN TICK ON HER
100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Lillian Tick on the occasion of her 100th Birthday.

Lillian Tick was born Lillian Ostrega, the oldest of five children to Isadore (Ichmayer) and Frieda (Frima) Ostrega, in the city of Wyshkov, Poland on the third day of July 1901.

Mr. Speaker, Isadore Ostrega left Poland for the United States in 1908 to search for a better life for himself and his family. In 1912, after years of hard work, he was able to bring his wife, Frieda, to join him. When Frieda left Europe, it was Lillian who obtained and supplied food for her family. It took eight years before Lillian's parents were finally able to save enough money to bring their children to America. Lillian, her three brothers—Louis, David and Hyman—and her sister, Dora, all arrived at Ellis Island in 1920.

Lillian eventually met and married Morris Tick, a lansman emigre from Poland. They had three children: Irving, who passed away in 1988, Theodore (Ted) and Natalie.

Mr. Speaker, Lillian Tick is affectionately called Mama Lilly by all who know her and cherish her. Mama Lilly's many friends and admirers include Rabbi Dr. H. Joseph Simckes, and Cantor Sol Zim and the other congregants and employees of the Hollis Hills Jewish Center, where she is nearly a permanent fixture.

Mama Lilly is a four-foot-nine-inch bundle of energy. To this day, she still cleans and dusts to the level of her own height, maintains her own room, and insists on doing the dishes each evening, as well as the family ironing, despite having fractured both hips and walking with the aid of a quadruped cane.

Mama Lilly reads the newspapers everyday, and attends Shabbat and High Holiday serv-

ices regularly. When she is able, she observes the various Yahrtzeit memorials in honor of her dear departed.

Mr. Speaker, if you ask Mama Lilly how she feels, the response is invariably, "I'm fine." When you meet Lillian Tick for the first time, you find a universal mother and grandmother. From then on you will always address her as, and you will always have, a "Mama Lilly."

The Hollis Hills Jewish Center is celebrating Lillian's 100th Birthday on June 23, 2001, so that all of Mama's many friends can share in this joyful occasion. She is beloved by all; her search for a new and better life in America, her independent spirit, and her life of hard work is the essence of our great nation: a land of immigrants yearning to breathe free.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to rise and join me now in honoring the 100th Birthday of Lillian Tick, who has touched the lives of so many people during her glorious years with us.

IN HONOR OF WALTER J. BRANT,
JR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Officer Walter J. Brant, Jr. for his dedication and devotion to his community.

Walter Brant, born in the Bronx, relocated to Long Island where he graduated from North Babylon High School in 1980. Officer Brant joined the New York City Police Department in August of 1993. Upon completion of the academy he was assigned to Police Service Area #2 where he has served the Cypress Hills Development Community for the last seven years.

While serving as a Community Policing Officer, Walter implemented the C.P.R. Bike Ride, which involved both the community youth, and Officers. Officer Brant has also participated in the 1999 City Wide Recruitment Campaign. He is presently active in the N.Y.P.D. after school program, A.S.P.I.R.E., and is involved with providing protection for the community's senior citizens. In addition, Walter has received the Law Enforcement and Community Achievement Awards and the CPR Award recognizing him for his commitment to the principles of Courtesy, Professionalism, and Respect.

Walter enjoys spending his free time with his friends and family. He devotes himself to the love of his life, Angela and their two children Jaclyn and Christopher. He also enjoys boating, carpentry and coaching his son's Little League baseball team.

Mr. Speaker, Officer Walter J. Brant, Jr. has devoted much of his life to serving his community through his duty as a police officer. He is a very dedicated individual who for many years has devoted himself to the youth of his community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

“A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
JAMES MAHONEY”

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, James Mahoney on the 12th day of May, 2001 was awarded a Doctorate of Public Service, conferred upon him by the Muskingum College Board of Trustees; and

Whereas, Dr. James Mahoney has profoundly influenced the educational experiences of thousands of students in Ohio as an elementary school teacher, a principal, and now as a school superintendent; and

Whereas, Dr. Mahoney successfully orchestrated the merger of three county educational service centers, creating the Muskingum Valley Educational Service Centers for which he serves as superintendent; and

Whereas, Dr. Mahoney was named “Educator of the Year” in January 2001 by the Ohio Association of Superintendents, illustrating his significant impact on the development of more than 25,000 students in his charge; and

Whereas, Dr. Mahoney has maintained a rigorously scholarly agenda during his twenty year career, authoring numerous publications on diverse topics in the educational arena;

Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the impressive accomplishments of James Mahoney, an outstanding citizen of Ohio whom I am proud to call a constituent.

HEALTHY SOLUTIONS FOR AMERICA'S HARDWORKING FAMILIES

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, for centuries immigrants from all over the world have helped make the United States one of the most powerful and wealthiest nations in the world. I am proud to represent a congressional district that is home to a large and vibrant immigrant community.

I am very concerned about the lack of access to health care for immigrants. A recent study by the Kaiser Family Foundation states that low-income immigrants are twice as likely to be uninsured as low-income citizens. Almost 59 percent of our nation's 9.8 million low-income non-citizens had no health insurance in 1999, and only 15 percent received Medicaid.

We need to do more to ensure that our nation's immigrants obtain quality health care. Preventive measures are much more cost effective than allowing individuals to become seriously ill due to lack of access to adequate healthcare services. We can and must provide better outreach to immigrant communities in their languages in order to reduce the barriers that currently make it difficult for immigrants to access health care.

Immigrants pay millions of dollars in local and state taxes and they deserve some form of health care. In fact, according to the National Academy of Sciences, immigrants pay approximately \$1,800 per year more in taxes

than they use in services, yet they never access public health services.

I support the “Healthy Solutions for America's Hardworking Families” Agenda which will remedy some of the problems faced by immigrant communities. That agenda includes the Legal Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act (H.R. 1143), which will give states the option of allowing low-income legal immigrant children and pregnant women access to Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP). This bill has wide support in Congress, as well as from the American Medical Association and the National Governors Association. Allowing children and pregnant women access to federal health care programs is simply sound public health policy.

The Women Immigrants Safe Harbor Act is another key piece of legislation. This measure would allow legal immigrants who are victims of domestic violence to apply for critical safety net services such as medical and food assistance. Immigrants who are victims of domestic violence are frequently economically dependent on their abusers and isolated from their support networks. Immigrants are even more dependent and isolated because of restrictions passed in the 1996 welfare reform law, which prevent a battered immigrant from access to the resources she needs to leave the abuser.

I also support the Nutrition Assistance for Working Families and Seniors Act (H.R. 2142) which would restore food stamp eligibility for low-income legal immigrants and improve the food stamp program overall. Many tax-paying legal immigrants work low-wage jobs and they need the additional support that food stamps provide.

We must not leave the immigrant community behind, especially the women, children, and elderly who so desperately need appropriate health care. I encourage my colleagues to support the “Healthy Solutions for America's Hardworking Families” Agenda to help the immigrant community. Our great country, as you might recall, was founded upon the great sacrifices that immigrants made for our democracy and economic prosperity.

SHAME ON MR. NATSIOS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is a disgrace that a high ranking U.S. government official is still collecting taxpayer dollars after making disparaging, discriminatory, and inaccurate comments about the people of Africa who are suffering from the ravages of HIV/AIDS. President Bush should dismiss Andrew Natsios, the new Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development at once.

Instead of offering the United States' assistance to help the infected people of Africa receive the treatment they desperately need, Mr. Natsios stated that our efforts will not work because Africans “don't know what Western time is,” and thus cannot take drugs at proper times. He went on to say that if you ask Africans to take medicine at a certain time, they “do not know what you are talking about.” How disgraceful. The Administrator of our nation's lead agency for international develop-

ment and assistance should educate himself about AIDS treatment and about the peoples of the world before he reveals astonishing ignorance as well as prejudice. It's time for Mr. Natsios to go and for the Bush Administration to instead appoint a real leader who will bring honor back to this distinguished agency.

I wish to share with my colleagues an op-ed, which appeared in the Washington Post on Friday, June 15, 2001 by Amir Attaran, Dr. Kenneth A. Freedberg, and Martin Hirsch, respected experts in the field of AIDS research and international development. They comment on Mr. Natsios' remarks and proposed plans for U.S. funding and involvement in Africa and they make a very persuasive case for Mr. Natsios' immediate dismissal.

[From the Washington Post, June 15, 2001]

DEAD WRONG ON AIDS

(By Amir Attaran, Kenneth A. Freedberg and Martin Hirsch)

Andrew Natsios, the Bush administration's new chief of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), has made a very bad start with regard to one of his agency's primary missions: dealing with the scourge of AIDS in Africa. Natsios has made comments recently on the prevention and treatment of the disease in Africa that are, to say the least, disturbing, if not alarming.

His comments appeared last week in the Boston Globe and in testimony before the House International Relations Committee. On both occasions he argued strenuously against giving antiretroviral drug treatment (the AIDS treatment used in the United States today) to the 25 million Africans infected with HIV.

Although Natsios agrees that AIDS is “decimating entire societies,” when it comes to treating Africans, he says that USAID just “cannot get it done.” As Natsios sees it, the problem lies not with his agency but with African AIDS patients themselves, who “don't know what Western time is” and thus cannot take antiretroviral drugs on the proper schedule. Ask Africans to take their drugs at a certain time of day, said Natsios, and they “do not know what you are talking about.”

In short, he argues that there is not a great deal the agency he leads can do to help HIV-positive Africans. Under his guidance, USAID will not offer antiretroviral treatment but will emphasize “abstinence, faithfulness and the use of condoms” as the essence of HIV prevention. (He also supports distribution of a drug that blocks transmission of the disease from mother to child, and drugs to fight secondary infections.) While this might save some of those not yet infected with the virus, it in effect would condemn 25 million people to death, and their children to orphanhood.

As the administration's man in charge of international assistance, including helping Africans with AIDS, Natsios should know better. His views on AIDS are incorrect and fly in the face of years of detailed clinical experience.

Take the issue of whether AIDS should be dealt with by prevention or treatment. In backing prevention to the total exclusion of treatment, Natsios favors only modest changes in the strategies that USAID has relied on for the past 15 years, which by themselves have clearly failed to stem the pandemic. This is why expert consensus now agrees that prevention and treatment are inseparable—or, in the authoritative words of the UNAIDS expert committee, “their effectiveness is immeasurably increased when they are used together.”