

HONORING VIRGINIA ANDREW

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to remember the life of Virginia Andrew from Steamboat Springs, Colorado, who passed away on Wednesday, July 25. At the age of 86, many will miss her as we all mourn her passing.

Virginia was a columnist for the Steamboat Pilot, the local paper in Steamboat Springs. She was employed there for more than 50 years. While her original column "Sidney News" was named after an area that no longer exists in the Yampa Valley, her memory will live on in the hearts and minds of the people that she touched. Throughout her career, Virginia covered a wide range of topics ranging from rural news to daily events. She even had issues pertaining to agriculture and politics.

Beyond the life of a journalist, she also operated a Farmers Union Insurance Office for 20 years starting in 1945. She also was a founding partner in the Unique Shop—a cooperative that provided second-hand goods and other items to the elderly population. Amidst all of her activities, the town was always able to recognize her when she drove by in her large blue Oldsmobile sedan.

Mr. Speaker, Virginia Andrews was a person who lived an accomplished life. She always cared for people and wanted only the best for them. I would like to extend my deepest sympathy and warmest regards to her family at this time of remembrance. My thoughts and prayers are with them.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DAMIEN COUNCIL CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the good works of the Knights of Columbus Damien Council No. 598 in Carbon County, Pennsylvania. On Aug. 18, 2001, the members will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the council's founding.

The council is one of the oldest in the Knights of Columbus, being the 598th founded out of the nearly 13,000 in existence today. Under the direction of Father James C. McConnon, a group of 47 men from the small town of Mauch Chunk, now known as Jim Thorpe, chose the name of their council to honor Father Damien de Veuster. Now designated as Blessed Damien following his 1995 beatification by Pope John Paul II, Father de Veuster is remembered for his selfless and courageous efforts to care for the nearly 1,000 lepers abandoned on Molokai Island in Hawaii. Father de Veuster himself died of leprosy in 1889.

Since its founding, Damien Council has served Mauch Chunk, later known as Jim

Thorpe, Lehighton, Nesquehoning and the surrounding communities. Among its many accomplishments, the council arranged to televise Advent and Lenten Masses for shut-ins on Blue Ridge Cable TV-13 in the 1970s and 1980s, well before the Catholic cable channel EWTN became available nationwide. The council also broadcast the recitation of the Rosary on WYNS Radio and the Stations of the Cross on WLSH Radio. Damien Council has also provided food baskets for families in need and has honored 39 priests from the area on the occasion of their ordination into the priesthood.

Damien Council continues to aid the church, local communities, families and young people through its various programs. Annual activities include celebrating a Memorial Mass for its deceased members, sponsoring Family Hour of Prayer services, participating in the "Adopt-A-Seminarian" program, jointly sponsoring the Pro-Life Essay Contest with the other councils in the Diocese of Allentown and coordinating the program for Carbon County, promoting the "Keep Christ in Christmas" program, sponsoring the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship and hosting the District 29 competition, raising funds for ARC, honoring the members' spouses with Ladies' Appreciation "Knight," celebrating the family by naming a "Family of the Month" and "Family of the Year" and presenting awards and altar server certificates to graduating eighth-grade students.

Damien Council has seen two of its members rise to statewide leadership over the years. Both Thomas P. (Patsy) Milan and William F. (Bill) Carroll served as state treasurers. Damien Council is currently led by Grand Knight Michael A. Heery.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the good works of the Knights of Columbus Damien Council No. 598 on the occasion of their 100th anniversary, and I wish them all the best.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Prescription Drug Affordability Act. This legislation ensures that millions of Americans, including seniors, have access to affordable pharmaceutical products. My bill makes pharmaceuticals more affordable to seniors by reducing their taxes. It also removes needless government barriers to importing pharmaceuticals and it protects Internet pharmacies, which are making affordable prescription drugs available to millions of Americans, from being strangled by federal regulation.

The first provision of my legislation provides seniors a tax credit equal to 80 percent of their prescription drug costs. As many of my colleagues have pointed out, our nation's seniors are struggling to afford the prescription drugs they need in order to maintain an active and healthy lifestyle. Yet, the federal government continues to impose taxes on Social Se-

curity benefits. Meanwhile, Congress continually raids the Social Security trust fund to finance unconstitutional programs! It is long past time for Congress to choose between helping seniors afford medicine or using the Social Security trust fund as a slush fund for big government and pork-barrel spending.

Mr. Speaker, I do wish to clarify that this tax credit is intended to supplement the efforts to reform and strengthen the Medicare system to ensure seniors have the ability to use Medicare funds to purchase prescription drugs. I am a strong supporter of strengthening the Medicare system to allow for more choice and consumer control, including structural reforms that will allow seniors to use Medicare funds to cover the costs of prescription drugs.

In addition to making prescription medications more affordable for seniors, my bill lowers the price for prescription medicines by reducing barriers to the importation of FDA-approved pharmaceuticals. Under my bill, anyone wishing to import a drug simply submits an application to the FDA, which then must approve the drug unless the FDA finds the drug is either not approved for use in the US or is adulterated or misbranded. This process will make safe and affordable imported medicines affordable to millions of Americans. Mr. Speaker, letting the free market work is the best means of lowering the cost of prescription drugs.

I need not remind my colleagues that many senior citizens and other Americans impacted by the high costs of prescription medicine have demanded Congress reduce the barriers which prevent American consumers from purchasing imported pharmaceuticals. Just a few weeks ago, Congress responded to these demands by overwhelmingly passing legislation liberalizing the rules governing the importation of pharmaceuticals. While this provision took a good first step toward allowing free trade in pharmaceuticals, and I hope it remains in the final bill, the American people will not be satisfied until all unnecessary regulations on importing pharmaceuticals are removed.

The Prescription Drug Affordability Act also protects consumers' access to affordable prescription drugs by forbidding the federal government from regulating any Internet sales of FDA-approved pharmaceuticals by state-licensed pharmacists. As I am sure my colleagues are aware, the Internet makes pharmaceuticals and other products more affordable and accessible for millions of Americans. One gentleman in my district has used the Internet to lower his prescription drugs costs from \$700 to \$100 a month!

However, the federal government has threatened to destroy this option by imposing unnecessary and unconstitutional regulations on web sites which sell pharmaceuticals. Any federal regulations would inevitably drive up prices of pharmaceuticals, thus depriving many consumers of access to affordable prescription medications.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to make pharmaceuticals more affordable and accessible by lowering taxes on senior citizens, removing barriers to the importation of pharmaceuticals and protecting legitimate Internet pharmacies from needless regulation by cosponsoring the Prescription Drug Affordability Act.

AMERICAN LEGACY
PRESERVATION ACT

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, today I submit for introduction a bill to preserve and maintain the final resting places of our nation's greatest leaders. Since the Constitution was ratified, the United States has had only 43 Presidents. Some, like Washington and Lincoln and Reagan, have been great men who changed the nation. Others, like Buchanan, were capable and gifted, but have not been judged well by history.

But while James Buchanan may not be on the list of great American Presidents, he was a good man who did a lot for Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and for America. And as a Member of Congress, he did more than any of his peers to protect the Constitution and the principle of judicial review.

While he may not have had the foresight that Lincoln had when it came to slavery, it is a little-known fact that Buchanan bought slaves in Washington, DC, in order to free them here in Pennsylvania.

But much like Abraham Lincoln, he was a self-made man who was born in a log cabin. As a young man, he served in the War of 1812. He was Lancaster's Congressman from 1821 to 1831. He served as Ambassador to Russia and Great Britain. He was a U.S. Senator, and then, finally, he became President.

He served during the most tumultuous time in our history. And while he was not as good a leader as his successor, he did succeed in holding the union together.

He died in 1868 and was buried in my district, the 16th district of Pennsylvania. It is, for a President, a simple grave. The office he held was an important one in his time. Today, it is the most powerful office in the world.

Every one of our Presidents deserves the honor of a well-maintained grave.

Many of us remember several years ago when President Grant's tomb in New York fell into disrepair. Its roof leaked, its walls were covered with graffiti, and it was a hangout for heroin addicts.

Buchanan's grave is very nice by comparison. But keeping it nice has been very difficult. The cemetery association is not a wealthy one, and it is mainly through the efforts of volunteers that it has been maintained at all. When Grant's Tomb fell into disrepair, the National Park Service stepped up to the plate and fixed it. Today it's a tourist attraction.

I'm introducing today the American Legacy Preservation Act, empowering the National Park Service to assist in the upkeep of Presidential gravesites.

Whether it be the grave of Lincoln or Buchanan, Washington or Grant, preserving the final resting places of our Presidents is clearly in the nation's interest. The gravesites have exceptional value in illustrating and interpreting the heritage of the U.S. and helping Americans to value our rich and complex national story. Every American deserves to know that the graves of our past Presidents will be treated with the same dignity as the office they once held.

INTRODUCTION OF MUSIC ONLINE
COMPETITION ACT

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join with my colleague from Utah, Mr. CANNON, in the introduction of much-needed legislation to facilitate the rapid introduction of services which will meet the public demand for efficient delivery of music over the Internet in a manner which also assures that copyright owners receive compensation for the use of their works.

I am among those who believe that most people are willing to pay a reasonable fee to be able to obtain musical selections over the Internet, and I applaud the planned introduction by the major record labels of websites that will make their music inventories available for streaming and downloading.

There are a number of obstacles to the effective introduction of online music services in current copyright law. A recent hearing in the Judiciary Committee highlighted several of the problems in current copyright law which are impeding the deployment of innovative, legitimate Internet music services to an eager listening public. Some of these problems are practical, such as trying to locate and notify all of the publishers of a particular musical composition. Other obstacles are technical, such as needing to produce multiple copies of a song in different transmission speeds and different media formats. Current copyright law permits the placement on a server of only a single copy.

The measure we introduce today, The Music Online Competition Act, is carefully crafted to remove these obstacles and thereby promote a legitimate online music marketplace that will benefit the public, the creators of copyrighted works and the technology industry. In particular, our bill makes the following changes:

Updates the "Ephemeral" Recording Exemption: Our bill expands the law that allows broadcasters and webcasters to make a single in-house (or "ephemeral") copy of a transmission program to enable multiple copies so as to accommodate the need for different bit rates (e.g., dial-up, broadband), different formats (e.g., RealPlayer or MediaPlayer), and caching throughout the network to ensure efficient and timely delivery of music to consumers. Our bill extends the ephemeral copyright exemption to encompass not only the transmission program but also the individual songs.

Expands the "In-Store Sampling" Exemption: Under current copyright law, "brick and mortar" music retailers pay no license fees to record CDs on a server so that customers may listen to music samples in the store. Our bill allows retailers to use a central server to serve multiple retail establishments and applies the exemption to online retail establishments (such as Amazon.com or CDNow) that offer music samples of 30 or 60 seconds to promote sales of the associated sound recordings.

Clarifies the Status of Incidental and Archival Copying: Our bill adapts existing law to two situations particular to Internet technology. First, the bill exempts from copyright liability

buffer copies made in the course of browsing or webcasting, as these buffer copies are mere technical incidents of the operation of the Internet and have no independent economic value. Second, the bill allows consumers to make archival "backup" copies of music that they lawfully acquire over the Internet in order to protect their collections against hard drive crashes, accidental damage or viruses. The bill leaves unchanged existing law with respect to computer programs.

Facilitates Administration of the Section 115 Mechanical License: Witnesses at a recent hearing representing the major music labels, RealNetworks, and MP3.com uniformly urged the creation of an effective mechanism for administering the existing Section 115 statutory license for musical works, which is currently administered with paper submissions and notices to copyright owners. Under our bill, the administration of the statutory license would parallel the administration of other statutory licenses by permitting users to notify the Copyright Office of the use of the statutory license and to deposit royalty payments and accounting information with the Copyright Office, so as to ensure that funds and information are distributed to the owners of the copyright. Our bill specifically instructs the Copyright Office to develop an electronic filing system to receive such notices as a replacement for the current paper filing system.

Assures Nondiscriminatory Licensing to Affiliated and Non-Affiliated Music Distribution Entities: Recording companies are now entering into the online music distribution business by establishing joint ventures with other record companies (e.g., MusicNet and Pressplay) and by acquiring well-known, formerly independent Internet services (such as CDNow, EMusic and MP3.com). It is anticipated that the distribution services owned by record companies will cross license each other, so that each site will be authorized to distribute over the Internet approximately 80 percent of all recorded music. If the major record companies do not also license independent non-affiliated distribution services, music will be distributed exclusively by a vertically integrated duopoly. In such a circumstance, there would be no competition in music distribution.

In 1995, Congress had a similar concern with respect to cable and satellite subscription services, which Congress addressed by requiring vertically-integrated companies that both owned content and distribution services to offer nondiscriminatory license terms and conditions to all similarly-situated distribution services. Our bill extends this existing non-discrimination provision to interactive performance services and digital distribution services.

Requires an Examination of Programming Restrictions: The sound recording statutory license for digital cable, satellite and webcasting services includes programming restrictions that, for example, restrict the provider from playing more than 3 selections from a particular CD or more than 4 selections from a particular artist within a 3-hour window. Broadcast radio is not subject to these programming restrictions. Certain digital music services contend that some of these programming restrictions impose undue burdens upon their service, reduce their ability to compete with broadcast radio, and unfairly preclude their ability to take advantage of the statutory license to deliver the type of services that consumers expect from a radio offering. Our bill