

Rollcall vote 74: I would have voted "Aye".
Rollcall vote 75: I would have voted "No".

CONGRATULATING FRESNO AREA
CONGREGATIONS TOGETHER
(FACT)

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fresno Area Congregations Together (FACT) for their service to the community of Fresno. They recently celebrated their 2nd Annual Awards Banquet.

FACT has played a vital role in the community of Fresno since 1997. FACT's mission is to develop neighborhood leaders, while improving the quality of life in areas throughout the city. FACT members fulfill their obligation to seek social justice, dignified relationships, and healthier communities in a meaningful, hands-on manner. The 10 congregations/organizations that form FACT are: Anabaptist Community Action, First Mexican Baptist, Grace Lutheran, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Our Saviour's Lutheran, St. Alphonsus, St. Helen's, St. John's Cathedral, San Antonio Maria Claret, and San Ygnacio Episcopal Mission.

FACT uses a systematic approach to addressing community concerns. Congregational committee's meet with neighborhood residents to listen to their memories, concerns, pressures, sources of pain, and hopes for a better tomorrow. After community concerns are identified, research is conducted to learn about causes and possible solutions to the concerns. The concerns are then brought to the attention of the public official responsible for facilitating positive results.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate FACT for their exemplary community service in the city of Fresno. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing FACT many more years of continued success.

HONORING LIGHTHOUSE OF
OAKLAND COUNTY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2001

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great honor to recognize one of the crowning jewels of my district. On April 26, government and community leaders will gather in Pontiac, Michigan to formally unveil the new program headquarters of Lighthouse of Oakland County, the Robert and Mary Flint Campus of Caring. This wonderful facility, named after its two primary benefactors, was completely constructed with the selfless donations of time, materials, and money from hundreds of individuals who realize the significant impact Lighthouse has made in the community.

Lighthouse of Oakland County began in 1972 as an ecumenical ministry at Pontiac's St. Vincent de Paul Church, designed to assist low-income families and senior citizens in need. Nearly 30 years later, it remains committed to these ideals, providing a full range of human services to help lift the less fortunate

from poverty to independence and self-sufficiency. With an army of volunteers and charitable donors, Lighthouse provides service through three subsidiaries Lighthouse Emergency Services, Lighthouse PATH, and Lighthouse Community Development.

With branches in Pontiac and nearby Clarkston, Lighthouse Emergency Services responds to families and seniors with an immediate need for food, medicine, transportation, or temporary shelter. Last year, the two branches assisted more than 76,000 people, many of whom are among Oakland County's working poor.

Lighthouse Pontiac Area Transitional Housing, or PATH began in 1991 and provides a safe, structured environment for 24 women and their children referred by homeless shelters. PATH offers counseling, job training, child care, and instruction in parenting and life skills. With an 84% success rate, many women have gone to become independent and productive members of society.

In 1992, Lighthouse Community Development initiated a neighborhood revitalization program whose goal was to increase affordable housing for low-income families. Through the efforts of community volunteerism and donations, a cluster of vacant and abandoned houses was transformed into the Unity Park housing development. Community Development continues to renovate and repair homes, build new single family housing, maintain neighborhood yards, and also provides financial management training.

Lighthouse's value has been recognized by many, as evidenced by its many collaborations with churches, community programs, and businesses. They have received numerous rewards and citations and serve as one of Michigan's best managed non-profit groups.

Mr. Speaker, I am exceptionally proud to have Lighthouse of Oakland County in my district, and I am grateful for people like Robert and Mary Flint, the Lighthouse staff, and its Executive Director, Noreen Keating. With the new facility, the Campus of Caring will provide programs for computer training center, business and banking, senior independence, and life skills, among others. Through their work, many disadvantaged citizens will indeed reach their full potential. I ask my colleagues in the 107th Congress to please join me in congratulating Lighthouse.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JIM LEEDY

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2001

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and lifelong resident of my 34th Congressional District in Norwalk, California. Mr. Jim Leedy recently passed away and I am proud to honor him for his devout community service in organizations like the Knights of Columbus, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Blind Association and the Rancho San Antonio Boys Home.

Jim was born in Los Angeles in 1935 and educated in the Los Angeles Public Schools. He married his high school sweetheart Kathleen in 1956 and was drafted into the Army in 1958, spending his time in Korea. After an honorable discharge, he and his wife bought a

home in Norwalk, where they lived for forty wonderful and memorable years and raised two children, Jim and Theresa.

Jim was a truck driver by trade, however most of his life was spent helping others in various capacities. He became active in the Knights of Columbus in 1972 and was preparing to become a 4th degree Knight when he passed away. Under the leadership of Jim as Community Director, the Norwalk Knights of Columbus won-top honors in Community Service at the State convention in 1977. Since then, Jim has remained very active and involved in many different service areas of the Knights of Columbus, as well as the VFW. During the last two years of his life, Jim served as Family Director for the Knights of Columbus under two different Grand Knights. Even when he was not holding a specific office, Jim constantly worked on programs to better the community, organizing and raising funds for numerous charitable organizations.

Jim was also actively involved in St. Linus Church and gave much of his time to helping others. During the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, Jim would use his truck to pick up and deliver food baskets to the needy. He also picked up and delivered wreaths and trees for Christmas and palms during the Easter season for the church. In addition to the service organizations that Jim belonged to, he took it upon himself to volunteer to deliver baked goods from local markets to the Norwalk Senior Citizens Center, Rio Hondo Woman's Shelter, Norwalk Social Service Center, and woman's detention center in Norwalk. He did this Monday through Friday every week of the year. The people he delivered bread to affectionately called Jim the "Bread Man", and he could always be counted on for a great big "bear hug" and a smile no matter what task he was undertaking.

Neighbors and friends used to say that there was nothing Jim would say "no" to when he was asked to do for others. I am grateful to have known Jim Leedy and experience his warmth and compassion that touched so many around him. I wish to express my deepest sympathies to Jim's wife Kathleen, his children, Jim and Theresa, grandchildren and step grandchild.

COMMENDING THE ACADEMIC
ACHIEVEMENTS OF STUDENTS
AT HAYS HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2001

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I offer congratulations to the twenty-nine students from Hays High School in Hays, Kansas for their excellence in academic competition: Kristin Alstatt, Tara Bauer, Travis Beam, Chelsea Boldra, Sarah Braun, Kelly Brooks, Ashleigh Dyck, Elise Eilts, Brandon Fross, Rebekah Girard, Daran Herrman, Bojun Hu, Brandon Klaus, Brandi Legleiter, Matthew Leiker, Abby Maska, Fatou Mbye, Jayna Montoia, Charlotte Moore, Kayla Schippers, Jill Seib, Evan Shaw, Kevin Wasinger, Michael Wasinger, Sonya Wesselowski, Jeremy Wilson, Michael Wilson, Joslin Woofter, Alexandra Zehner.

This past weekend, Hays High represented the state of Kansas in the national finals of the

We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program. These Kansas seniors joined over 1200 students from across the United States to compete in Washington, DC. These young scholars worked diligently to reach the national finals and through their experience have gained a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy. I commend each of these students for their hard work and success.

I would also like to recognize their teacher, Sue Boldra, for helping prepare these young students. Ms. Boldra's commitment and dedication to nurture and encourage our youth shines through the accomplishments of her students. The First Congressional district has been proud to be represented by Hays High for the past four years on the national level in this prestigious competition. I commend Ms. Boldra for her excellent job promoting education and patriotism among the youth of Kansas.

I also applaud Professor Richard Heil at Fort Hays State University for his three years of service as a judge at the We the People national finals. Dr. Heil's commitment to this program has helped students from across the United States take a strong interest in the principles that govern our nation.

It is an honor to recognize such a meritorious group.

HONORING ELMA MANKIN, HERNDON ROTARY CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2001

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor a friend of Northern Virginia, Ms. Elma Mankin, who is being recognized by the Herndon Rotary Club as Citizen of the Year at a ceremony on April 25, 2001 in Herndon, Virginia.

Ms. Mankin has dedicated herself to making our community a better place. As an active philanthropist, she spends countless hours volunteering in Herndon's many historical sites. She is involved with the Herndon Historical Society, the Herndon Women's Club, Reston Hospital, Herndon United Methodist Church, the Council for the Arts in Herndon, and other local organizations.

A lifelong member of Herndon, Ms. Mankin has seen it grow from a one-stop-light town to the booming technological corridor it is today. She began her career as a secretary at Herndon High School and eventually moved to the Herndon Elementary School. She retired when she gave birth to her two daughters. After the last of her children grew up, she looked for ways to remain active in the community.

She went to Northern Virginia Community College to receive her associate's degree in fine arts. Her works became well-known, but she decided to keep art as a hobby. Ms. Mankin continues to enjoy art, but her real joy is her love of volunteering. She became involved in over ten organizations after finishing her degree.

Ms. Mankin continues her volunteer efforts, visiting Reston Hospital once a week to assist in the rehabilitation center. She also partici-

pates in a social group for local women called "Lunch and Fun Bunch." She serves as a trustee on the Herndon School Board, a lifetime member of the Historical Society, and has served as a town election official for 22 years. Her countless hours of service make our district proud to have such a fine citizen.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I wish the very best to Ms. Elma Mankin as she is recognized as the Citizen of the Year. She certainly has earned this recognition, and I call upon all of my colleagues to join me in applauding this remarkable achievement.

HONORING PAUL BESSELIEVRE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor Paul Besselievre, the recently retired C.E.O./Owner of Valley Trane, who was recently featured in an Executive Profile for the Fresno Business Journal newspaper. The question and answer Executive Profile, printed in the Fresno Business Journal on February 26, 2001, reads as follows:

Q. What is the best thing about your job?

A. Dealing with professionals within the company and the community.

Q. What is the worst thing about your job?

A. Those 7 a.m. meetings.

Q. What is your best professional accomplishment?

A. Training many young engineers and other professionals to be successful in the industry, and hopefully, in life.

Q. If you could effect any change in the business community, what would it be?

A. To get back to doing business with a handshake, where a man's word is his bond, and lawyers are used mostly to write your will.

Q. What is your best personal accomplishment?

A. My wife of 39 years is still my sweetheart. Every Friday is date night. And we still make out.

Q. What is a good yardstick of success?

A. Good friends and a family that loves you.

Q. Best decision?

A. I asked Carol Poljansek to marry me.

Q. Worst decision?

A. To skate across Bear Butte Lake before the ice was thick enough. This should stimulate thought.

Q. What is the community service project or event closest to your heart?

A. I belong to too many organizations to pick one. Each has a special place in my heart, or I wouldn't be a part of it. I couldn't pick a favorite child. Any organization or project that improves the livability of my community is close to my heart.

Q. Best advice you've ever received?

A. One night in 1965 while working late, Earl Nightengale came on the radio and asked a simple question. What do you say when someone asks, "Will you do me a favor?" Most people ask what it is. He encouraged them to just say "sure." It's an attitude. Expect the best of people. If they ask for something unreasonable, you can always recant. What you learn when you expect the best of people is that you usually get it. This change in attitude becomes a way of life. That 10-minute broadcast had a profound impact on me. Life as an optimist is a lot more enjoyable.

Q. Favorite book?

A. The Children's Stories of the Bible. My parents read it to my sister and me, and Carol and I read it to our children.

Q. Favorite recreational activities?

A. Camping, skiing, fishing, cooking. Any activity outdoors, especially in the mountains.

Q. Where did you spend your most recent vacation?

A. A trip to Kansas City to spend Thanksgiving with my children, grandchildren, mother, sister, niece, nephew, and friends who are also family.

Q. What type of car do you drive?

A. A 1983 Buick Riviera convertible.

Q. What is your favorite restaurant?

A. Every ethnic restaurant. We will never run out of favorites. This area is rich with them. Indian, Thai, Chinese, Japanese, Basque, Italian, Mexican, Cajun, Vietnamese, Armenian, etc.

Q. What was your first job?

A. Emptying wastebaskets in an office building after school in Lemmon, South Dakota when I was 10 years old. Moved on to a lawn mowing and snow shoveling business when I was 12.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my friend Paul Besselievre for his years of dedicated and distinguished service to his community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Besselievre a pleasant retirement and many more years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2001

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably detained in Hawaii on official business during which two rollcall votes were taken. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 85, Motion to Instruct Conferees on the FY 2002 Budget Resolution, "Yes".

Rollcall No. 86, Motion to Suspend the Rules on HR 428 concerning the participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization, "Yes".

COMMEMORATING ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 86th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, in hopes that we will work to ensure that our country's foreign policy reflects a respect for human rights, and renounces ethnic cleansing and genocide. This Special Order brings forth an opportunity to pay tribute to the memory of the 1.5 million Armenians that lost their lives as a result of this tragic event.

As we arrive at this anniversary once again, the United States should now more than ever promote healing with Turkey and the Armenian community in this nation and abroad. By acknowledging the great tragedy of the Armenian Genocide, we would be doing something