

dedicated member of New Haven's Democratic Town Committee. Aaron is a former member of the City Plan Commission and is currently a member of the City's Disability Commission. Throughout his many years in New Haven's political arena, he has and continues to be a reflection of all that a public servant should be.

Though enjoying retirement from his fifty-year career as an executive with Robby Len Industries, a women's bathing suit manufacturer, Aaron continues to stay extremely active. He is an avid student, continuing to learn through the variety of senior courses offered at our local colleges and universities. He and his wife, Mitzi, recently celebrated their fifty-ninth wedding anniversary and enjoy spending time with their three children and four grandchildren. I am also told that he spends a great deal of time playing with his favorite family member, Tina—the family dog.

Aaron Aronow has remained committed to serving in his community. He is an active member of B'nai B'rith and is currently involved with Congregation Beth Israel in the restoration of the historic Orchard Street Synagogue. This synagogue, one of the oldest in New Haven, was once part of our vibrant Jewish community. In restoring this cultural landmark, Aaron hopes that it will once again become a central meeting place for New Haven families.

As family and friends gather to wish him well, I am sure Aaron will take a moment to reflect on his lifetime of achievements. I am so proud to have this opportunity to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to Aaron Aronow for his many contributions to our community and to join his many friends and family in wishing him a very happy 80th birthday!

COMMEMORATION OF LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, Lithuanian American communities across this nation will be gathering this week to reflect and celebrate the 84th year commemorating Lithuanian independence. In Southfield, Michigan, this community will be gathering on Sunday, February 10, 2002 at the Lithuanian Cultural Center.

On February 16, 1918 the Lithuanian people proclaimed an independent state ruled by the people, free from German military control. For most of the 20th century, however, authoritarian regimes prevented Lithuanian nationalists from enjoying the fruits of liberty and democracy. In 1990, after five decades of oppression under Soviet control and a relentless passion for freedom and democracy, the Lithuanian people once again proclaimed their independence.

The United States' relationship with Lithuania is strong and growing stronger. Today Lithuanian and American leaders, governments and people are able to enjoy a great partnership. A significant goal of this partnership is the commitment to the security of the Baltic region and the promotion of democracy and freedom around the world. To achieve this goal, the Republic of Lithuania is making great economic, social and political progress in an

effort to secure membership to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The role of NATO in preserving peace and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area is essential for all people; Lithuanians must not be the exception.

Mr. Speaker, I join the people of Lithuania, those of Lithuanian ancestry around the world and Lithuanian Americans in celebrating the 84th Anniversary of Lithuanian Independence. I salute all of them for the tremendous contributions to freedom and human dignity which they have made.

IN HONOR OF BLAKE HASELTON

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Blake Haselton. Mr. Haselton is Superintendent of Oldham County Schools, a district which lies in Kentucky's 4th Congressional District, which I represent.

Last month, Mr. Haselton was named Superintendent of the Year by the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents. He is also being considered for National Superintendent of the Year by the American Association of School Administrators.

Since he began in Oldham County in 1973, Mr. Haselton has served as a high school biology teacher, athletic director, director of guidance services, and principal. He also served as the district's director of pupil personnel before being named superintendent in 1991.

His colleagues praise him as an education leader who is "stays on top of both the academic and financial elements of operating a school system," and "makes his decisions on what's best for kids." The Oldham County Teachers Association says Mr. Haselton is everything teachers want in a superintendent: child-centered, focused on teachers' needs, and an aggressive planner. The chair of the Oldham County Board of Education says Mr. Haselton is a "leader amongst leaders . . . a master teacher" who "Inspires the best in others."

Mr. Haselton also serves his community by doing volunteer work for several recreational, civic, and scouting organizations.

I rise today to congratulate Blake Haselton on being named Kentucky Superintendent of the Year, and to wish him well as he vies for the national. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Haselton for his nearly three decades of outstanding service to the people of Oldham County, Kentucky.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROBERT L. BRAY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual from Grand Junction, Colorado. Over the years, Robert L. Bray has distinguished himself as a business executive, a community leader, and a vital participant in maintaining our civic responsibilities through-

out the region. Robert's achievements are impressive, and it is my honor to recognize several of those accomplishments today. Robert is a generous soul whose good deeds and actions certainly deserve the recognition he has recently received.

Robert is the owner and operator of Bray and Co./GMAC Real Estate in Grand Junction, a successful business he has run for years. He has carried on a long tradition of quality guidance and service to his many clients in the area, resulting in a busy operation dedicated to remaining true to high standards of honesty and integrity. His success in the industry has led to several honors including the revamping of the developmental codes in the city, allowing residents to build in areas beneficial to the community residents and businesses.

Throughout his success, Robert and wife Vicky, have remained active in their community that has provided his business the resources to prosper throughout its history. They have actively volunteered their time and energies to community organizations such as Hilltop Community Resources, the Mesa County Library, as well as devoted their efforts to the continuation of a prosperous education system in their volunteer work with Mesa State College.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Bray's achievements have recently been rewarded by his community through the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce. The chamber named Robert the Citizen of the Year, an award given to an outstanding and well deserving individual who has selflessly given of themselves to directly benefit their community. It is now my honor to congratulate Robert on his most recent and well-deserved award from this organization by bringing his good deeds to the attention of this body of Congress, and this nation. Robert, you have been a model citizen for Grand Junction and I extend my thanks for your efforts. Keep up the good work and good luck to you and your wife Vicky in your future endeavors.

HONORING CHRISTIAN HIT RADIO WAY-FM'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor radio station WAYM-FM 88.7 on the occasion of its 10th Anniversary.

"WAY-FM," the name by which it is best known, has truly made a difference in the lives of countless individuals throughout Middle Tennessee, and indeed, across the Nation on its national network of radio stations.

I first became acquainted with WAY-FM through my daughters, Elizabeth and Rachel Clement, who loved to listen to the music of Contemporary Christian artists such as D.C. Talk, Third Day, Sonicflood, and Jennifer Knapp over the airwaves. Upon a personal visit to the station, I was immediately impressed with the work and mission of the staff and its uplifting vision to impact the lives of children, teenagers, college students and adults, under the moniker: "WAY-FM, it is not just a radio station, it is a ministry."

Robert "Bob" and Felice Augsburg founded WAY-FM Media Group, Inc. in 1985. In the

beginning, WAY-FM Media Group's sole purpose was to oversee the formation and operation of WAYJ, a non-commercial radio station in Fort Myers, Florida. The Board of Directors possessed a strong desire to establish a positive Christian radio alternative for the area youth and young adults. The impact of the new format was profound and immediate, resulting in tremendous growth.

In the early 1990's, Bob Augsburg visited Nashville to garner and gauge support for a WAY-FM station in Nashville. Finding a foundation of support, Augsburg formulated a team and as a result, WAYM Nashville officially signed on the air on March 11, 1992 from studios in Franklin.

The expansion of the ministry into Middle Tennessee and Northern Alabama enabled WAY-FM to broaden its mission of using radio to encourage youth and young adults in their Christian walk and to challenge them to make a difference in the world. Providing music as well as inspirational content, the station regularly opens its doors to area church youth groups allowing them to play guest deejay for a night. It also offers call-in programming for teens in crisis, numerous outreach programs and missions trips.

Community involvement is not only a priority, to the ministry of 88.7 WAY-FM, it is a core value. WAY-FM has sponsored many community events over the past ten years including record breaking food, blood, and winter clothing drives; collecting cell phones for S.A.V.E. (Survivors Against Violent Environments); promoting and sponsoring numerous concert events and free Brown Bag concerts; making van appearances at countless community events; providing mission trip opportunities for listeners; and most recently collecting several thousand Valentine's Day cards for the children at Madison Children's Home. All of these activities are in addition to the on air presence of sharing God's love and power through music, interviews and daily scripture readings. WAY-FM believes in the work of local churches and supports their efforts through free Public Service Announcements.

In the spring of 1998, WAY-FM began a fund drive to build a new facility to an outpouring of assistance from the community. This Brentwood location was completed in October 1999 with a move in to a virtually debt free facility due in part to the tremendous support of listeners and area businesses.

WAY-FM has achieved success throughout Tennessee winning local awards for its quality programming, as well as awards from national organizations such as the Gospel Music Association (GMA) for Station of the Year honors. Its signal is now broadcast across the Southeastern United States and on satellite via Sky Angel, with expansion to the Western United States expected in the near future.

May WAY-FM continue to grow and prosper as it changes lives through the ministry of music in the years to come.

HONORING THE INAUGURATION OF BISHOP JERRY WAYNE MACKLIN TO THE EPISCOPAL OFFICE OF JURISDICTIONAL BISHOP OF THE NORCAL METROPOLITAN JURISDICTION OF THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the elevation of Bishop J.W. Macklin to the Episcopal Office of Jurisdictional Bishop of the NorCal Metropolitan Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ.

Bishop Macklin, a native of San Mateo, California, founded the Glad Tidings Church of God in Christ in 1978 in Hayward, California. The neighborhood of South Hayward, once riddled with crime, drug use and violence, was in need of someone to challenge the hearts of citizens and improve the community's conditions. Bishop Macklin was a perfect match. As a result of his role in preaching the gospel, creating an innovative ministry, and networking in the community, the neighborhood has undergone a dramatic transformation, and is known today as the Glad Tidings Community Campus.

Bishop Macklin also serves the Church of God in Christ as Chairman of the Auxiliaries in Ministry Convention in Memphis, Tennessee. In that position, he presides over the Church's Summer Convention, which draws more than 20,000 delegates. In the past, he has served as president of the International Sunday School Department, and as a member of the Publishing Board for the National Church of God in Christ.

A wide variety of groups have come forward to show their gratitude for Bishop Macklin's distinguished dedication to the ministry and his community. He has been the recipient of numerous citations, honors, special recognitions, and awards. These include the John Pappas Humanitarian Award, Bay Area's Most Influential Black Religious Leader, outstanding Leadership and Community Service from the City of Hayward, NAACP, Hayward Unified School District, Alameda County Board of Supervisors, California State Legislature, and the Congress of National Black Churches.

In addition to the many honors and awards Bishop Macklin has received, he also established Northern California's Community Development, a non-profit housing corporation for South Hayward revitalization, and the Institute for Success, Welfare to Work Program for Southern Alameda County. His continual involvement in these programs demonstrates his dedication to enhancing community life and helping to improve individual lives.

I am honored to join the colleagues of Bishop J.W. Macklin in commending him for his many years of dedicated and exemplary service to the Church of God in Christ. He has left his indelible mark of excellence on the South Hayward community.

HONORING DETECTIVE RAY KERN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Detective Ray Kern on the occasion of his retirement from the Madera County Sheriff's Department. Detective Kern retired January 2, 2002, after 32½ years in law enforcement, 28 of those years with the Madera County Sheriff's Department.

Detective Ray Kern started his career in law enforcement with the Chowchilla Police Department in June of 1969. In December of 1973 he began working for the Madera County Sheriff's Department. After working in the jail for eighteen months, Ray Kern was transferred to the mountain division working patrol. In 1982, he was assigned to work in the Detective's Unit. The last several years of his career he also worked with the Sheriff's Department Search and Rescue.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Detective Ray Kern for an exemplary career of service in law enforcement. I encourage my colleagues to join me in congratulating Detective Kern on his retirement and wishing him many more years of continued success.

HONORING POLICE CHIEF KENNETH CRUZ OF GUILFORD ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding member of the Guilford community and a dear friend, Kenneth Cruz, Chief of the Guilford Police Department on the occasion of his retirement. He has been an active member of the law enforcement community for over three decades and has served with the utmost dedication and integrity.

Recent times have brought a renewed public respect for our nation's law enforcement officials and the very real dangers they face. From the tragic events of Columbine to the devastating attacks of September 11, the skill, dedication and commitment of our law enforcement officials has been tested. From these tragedies lessons have been learned and higher expectations have been made for those who dedicate their lives to protecting our communities. In these times, we have looked to our police officers for guidance and reassurance.

Chief Cruz started his career with the New Haven Police Department in 1968 where he served for sixteen years. In that time, he achieved the rank of commander and left to accept an appointment as Chief of the Guilford Police Department where he spent the remainder of his career. He was elected President of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, a statewide organization that diligently promotes the needs of Connecticut's law enforcement community. During his tenure he worked with state and federal legislators to ensure that the voices of Connecticut's police officers were heard.