

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.

In addition to his professional career, Chief Cruz made it a priority to be actively involved in Guilford and the surrounding communities. Under his leadership, the Guilford Police Department was one of the first departments to join the efforts of the Yale Child Study Center and its Child Development Community Policing program. This program is designed to address issues of domestic violence, child abuse, and juvenile justice in a way which focuses on community, partnership, innovation and prevention—four elements which are all too often missing from our response to violent crime. By participating in annual conferences and sharing ideas and successes with leaders from other areas, these efforts have made a real difference in the lives of thousands of children who otherwise would fall through the cracks of our system.

With all of his work, at the Department and in the community, Chief Cruz still made time to be of great assistance to myself and my staff. He has been an invaluable resource to us all and I want to extend my deepest thanks and sincere appreciation for all of his support.

Chief Kenneth Cruz has demonstrated an unparalleled commitment and has left an indelible mark on the Town of Guilford—he will be missed. As he celebrates his retirement, I am proud to rise today to join his wife, Virginia; daughter, Dawn; his three grandchildren, family, friends, and colleagues in wishing him the very best for many more years of health and happiness.

IN HONOR OF WALTON-VERONA,
KY, INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

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 the Walton-Verona Independent School System, in Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District, which I represent.

The school district has set a state record by not having a dropout in three years. In that same time period, 209 students have graduated. And once again this year, nobody has dropped out, and 76 more students are on track to graduate in May.

As part of the district's anti-truancy program, the school attendance officer, who is a sheriff's deputy, checks on students who are truant for two consecutive days. The deputy actually goes to the student's home and takes the student to school in a marked cruiser. Also, a retired principal works with families to help solve problems that often lead students to drop out, such as health problems, eating disorders, pregnancy, and divorce.

The district's anti-truancy program, called SAFE, which stands for Schools and Families Empowered, was funded in part by a federal grant that is now expiring. The good news is that the Northern Kentucky Independent Health District is so impressed with the program that it's stepping in to help fund it.

Walton-Verona's dropout-free record is a noteworthy accomplishment, and is a wonderful example of what small school districts can do when they are forced to make the most of limited resources. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the outstanding students

and dedicated staff of the Walton-Verona Independent School District on such a remarkable dropout rate.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TOM G.
ROBERTS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I take this opportunity to pay respect to the passing of Tom G. Roberts, who recently passed away at the age of 55. Tom was a pillar of the Hotchkiss, CO, community and as his family mourns his loss, I think it is appropriate to remember Tom and pay tribute to him for his contributions to his community.

Tom was a shining example of a man thoroughly involved in his community. He was a member of the Hotchkiss Community United Methodist Church, the Hotchkiss Elks Lodge No. 1807, the Mt. Lamborn Masonic Lodge No. 102, and Sigma Phi Epsilon. In an effort to serve his community, Tom participated in several civic and business groups, notably the Hotchkiss Library Board, the Hotchkiss Chamber of Commerce, and the Delta County Livestock Association. Tom was a member of the North Fork Snowmobilers Association and was also a member of the Men's League and Mixed League at Valley Lanes, where he spent his free time playing one of his favorite games, bowling.

Tom was well known for his love of outdoor activities, including horseback riding and snowmobiling. As a result of his intimate knowledge of the local forest and his attention to the news, he was often referred to as the "unofficial wildfire reporter". Between his responsibilities as owner of Robert's Short Stop, Tom always loved to visit with residents and tourists visiting the area. Tom loved children, especially his own, and was often seen at the local little league games as a fan and a sponsor. Tom will be remembered as a loving husband, a devoted father, and a friend to all.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Tom G. Roberts for his contributions to the Hotchkiss community. His dedication to his family, friends, work, and community certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress. Although Tom has left us, his good-natured spirit lives on through the lives of those he touched. I would like to extend my thoughts and deepest sympathies to Tom's family and friends during this difficult time.

IN MEMORIAM OF RICHARD
LEONARD DIXON

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in great sadness to honor Richard Leonard Dixon, who passed away yesterday, February 25, 2002. Richard Dixon was a remarkable man who was committed to his community, his country, and above all, his family. He is survived by his wife, Geneva Farris Dixon and his son, Jeff Dixon.

Richard was concerned about southeast Texas and the people who lived there. He was a long time civic and community leader. His impact on the community could be felt everywhere, he was a positive force in southeast Texas.

Richard Dixon attended Lon Morris Jr. College, Wharton Jr. College, graduating from Sam Houston University. A member of the Trinity United Methodist Church, he began his career with the Brazosport Facts, was former State Editor for the Beaumont Enterprise, Assistant Director of Public Information at Lamar University, and finally a member of my staff.

Richard was active in community and church affairs in Beaumont and in Nederland. He was of the utmost character, and his attributes of selflessness and commitment to others are rare gifts that his community was lucky to have. Richard Dixon was a man who served his community with great pride and devotion.

His work was part of the fiber of southeast Texas, and with his passing a great loss will be felt in the spirit and the heart of our community. Richard was a long time friend with a sharp sense of humor and an unbridled spirit. Today, as a Congressman I have lost a trusted member of my staff, but as a person, I have lost a friend.

COMMENDING BRIAN SHIMER,
OLYMPIC BOBSLEDDER OF
NAPLES, FLORIDA

HON. PORTER J. GOSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute an individual from my district who never gave up. Brian Shimer, of Naples, Florida, came from behind on February 23rd and won a Bronze Medal in the 4-man bobsled competition.

Now Naples, Florida, is not known for its snowfall, but it is known for commitment to community and dedication to principles. It is an amazing feat that Brian Shimer managed to pursue his bobsledding passion for the past 16 years—never giving up and making sure America did not abandon its pursuit of the sport. Five times Brian competed in the Olympic Games, each time, seeking to turn all his years of training and desire into an Olympic medal. He endured injuries, setbacks, and hundredths-of-a-second heartbreaks. Still, Brian kept trying. His teammates changed, the bobsled designs changed and the biological clock ticked toward the ripe old age of 40, but Brian continued toward his dream.

This time in Salt Lake City, Brian Shimer won one of the two Olympic medals awarded to the United States in bobsledding—the first since 1956. In doing so he brought an incredible gift back to the sport he loves, and to his family, friends and all who supported his unquenchable passion. He also made a statement about Americans—that dedication and perseverance to a cause is what makes us strong and our country great. Brian was the one who carried the American flag for the American team during the closing ceremonies for the Olympic Games—a testimony to the respect he has earned among his fellow athletes.