

TRIBUTE TO FRANK LONG

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Frank Long, a farmer from Sinking Valley, Pennsylvania. Frank was recently awarded Pennsylvania State Fairperson of the Year by the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs for his tireless efforts as President of the Sinking Valley Farm Show. Frank has been a dairy farmer for 38 years and he brings a lifetime of experience not only to the Sinking Valley Farm Show, but to the many other organizations in which he serves.

Frank demonstrates his dedication to his community as an active member of the Blair County Chapter of the American Red Cross, where he serves on the board of Directors and as a part of the Disaster Team. He is a charter member of the Southern Alleghenies Resource, Conservation & Development, and a charter member and chairman of the Southern Alleghenies Conservancy. Frank also sits on Blair County Farm Park and Recreation Board, and was appointed in 2000 by Governor Tom Ridge to three committees dealing with agriculture, land use, and the "Growing Greener" program.

Through his 25 years as director of the Sinking Valley Farm Show, Frank has worked to improve the fair facilities and attractions at the fair. His colleagues credit him with making the fairgrounds more appealing for year-round use and for expanding the old grounds into a larger facility. Frank has devoted his life to promoting agriculture in Pennsylvania, and I applaud his efforts. Again I congratulate Frank Long on being awarded Pennsylvania State Fairperson of the Year.

IN HONOR OF THE CATHEDRAL VILLAGE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of the Cathedral Village Townhouse Development, which was sponsored by Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr., the Cathedral-Second Baptist Church, and the Church Community Development Corporation. The ceremony took place on Friday, February 22, 2002, followed by a luncheon at the Family Life Center in Perth Amboy.

A newly-completed affordable townhouse facility, the Cathedral Village Townhouse Development will improve the quality of life for many families. This project was made possible thanks to the dedicated efforts of the Cathedral-Second Baptist Congregation and funding and support from the State of New Jersey; Governor James E. McGreevey; Department of Community Affairs Commissioner Susan Bass Levin; City Council Members Peter Jimenez, Frank Sinatra, David Szilagyi, Geraldine Bolanowski, and Robert Sottilaro; the HUD Home Program; the Reinvestment Fund/CLI, and First Union Bank.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Grand Opening and Ribbon

Cutting Ceremony of the Cathedral Village Townhouse, a truly memorable and historic event for the community of Perth Amboy.

CONGRATULATING FRIENDS OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION HONOREES

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tom Shultz on the occasion of his being honored as the 2002 Farm Advisor recipient of the Award for Outstanding Achievement. Other finalists were Marsha Campbell-Mathews, Pam Geisel, Brent Holtz, Maxwell Norton, Steve Sibbett, and Bill Weir. I also extend my congratulations to Beth Grafton-Cardwell as she is honored as the 2002 Extension Specialist recipient of the Award for Outstanding Achievement. Other finalists in that category were Rob Atwill, Joe DiTomaso, John Maas, and James Olten.

Tom Shultz is a Tulare County Farm Advisor with 22 years of extension work supporting the dairy community with particular emphasis on his development and implementation of guidelines for site selection, animal density and manure management to help dairymen meet regulatory requirements in an economically viable manner.

Marsha Campbell-Mathews is a Stanislaus County Agronomy Farm Advisor with a program dealing with lagoon water management as a nutrient source for crops. Pam Geisel, a Fresno County Environmental Horticulture Farm Advisor, developed an education program for urban neighborhoods called Garden of the Sun. Brent Holtz is a Madera County Pomology Farm Advisor. He researched and developed cultural controls for Brown Rot without heavy reliance on fungicidal spray programs. Merced County Farm Advisor Maxwell Norton assisted and educated small farmers new to this country while conducting significant research experiments with strawberries. Steve Sibbett, a Tulare County Farm Advisor, contributed extensively and valuably to the cultural development of walnuts. Bill Weir is a Merced County Farm Advisor with continuing achievements in the growing of ultranarrow row cotton.

Beth Grafton-Cardwell is a Riverside Extension Entomologist with numerous research and extension efforts to help citrus growers reduce their need for broad spectrum pesticides to combat pest problems while maintaining fruit quality and acceptable economic return.

Rob Atwill, a Davis Veterinary Extension Specialist, identified and articulated cost-effective strategies to minimize surface water contamination by livestock. Joe DiTomaso is a Davis Weed Science Extension Specialist and has expanded effective control strategies for the resilient and economically devastated Yellow Starthistle. Davis Veterinary Extension Specialist John Maas delivered thorough information to livestock producers through the Feedlot Certification and Cow-Calf Quality Assurance programs. James Olten, a Davis Animal Science Extension Specialist, worked on the development and delivery of the California Feedlot Certification and Cow-Calf Quality Assurance programs.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize these men and women as they receive recognition by the Friends of Agricultural Extension for the 2002 Award for Outstanding Achievement. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating these honorees for their contributions to agriculture and their community and wishing them many more years of continued success.

HONORING MONSIGNOR LEONARD TOOMEY ON THE OCCASION OF BEING NAMED GRAND MARSHAL OF THE TRENTON ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Monsignor Leonard Toomey, who has been named the Grand Marshal of this year's City of Trenton's St. Patrick's Day Parade. Just a few days after he leads the annual parade through historic Trenton, Msg. Toomey will celebrate the 54th anniversary of his ordination as a priest, which occurred on March 13, 1948.

Technically, Monsignor Toomey is "retired." Yet he is more active in his community than people half his age. He serves as an assistant pastor at several Diocesan Parishes, and devotes many of his homilies to the children he loves so much.

Perhaps best known for his 26 years as pastor of Sacred Heart Church on South Broad Street, Trenton—the oldest Catholic Parish in the state of New Jersey—Monsignor Toomey was a pillar of the community during one of the city's most turbulent time periods of the late 1960s.

While at Sacred Heart, he worked to make sure the Church's external image was restored and preserved to match its lofty lineage and legacy of service. In the mid-1970s, he launched a successful campaign to restore all of the parish's buildings and grounds.

His service to the Church, to the city of Trenton, and surrounding areas has been so effective on many fronts. In addition to serving as pastor at several churches, Monsignor Toomey founded the Children's Youth Organization Day Camp so area children had a safe and fun place to go during the summer.

He also brought God's guidance to the brave men and women of the Trenton Fire Department, as well as to the inmates at New Jersey's State Prison in Trenton, a maximum security facility where those convicted of the state's worst crimes are housed.

Monsignor Toomey has held numerous posts throughout the Diocese and has given his time to several local boards including those for public housing projects, museums and historical societies, and St. Francis Hospital.

I always enjoy marching in Trenton's St. Patrick's Day Parade, and this year's experience will be equally meaningful for I will be marching behind a man who truly has been a bedrock of the city of Trenton for the better part of a century.

I join Monsignor's many admirers, friends, proteges and parishioners in thanking and congratulating him on another well-deserved recognition and milestone for his leadership and contributions to our community.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF JARRETT
STATIONARY

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE HOWARD COBLE,
FEBRUARY 27, 2002

Mr. Speaker, On Friday, March 1, 2002, one of the most respected family-owned businesses in High Point, North Carolina, will celebrate its 100th birthday. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we wish to congratulate Jarrett Stationary on its first century of existence.

"We don't know the exact date when Gene Jarrett started the business, but it was in February 1902," David Wall, the store's president told the High Point Enterprise. Wall, a third-generation owner and a High Point City Councilman, told the newspaper, "I figured holding the celebration on March 1 would help us cover the date properly. Ever since we got to 95 years, it seems like it's taken forever to get to 100 years, so I'm both proud and relieved that this time has finally come."

Because small businesses are the lifeblood of our economy, Mr. Wall, all of us are proud that Jarrett Stationary has succeeded for 100 years. Jarrett Stationary is the 16th oldest business entity in High Point according to the local Chamber of Commerce. Jarrett Stationary has had a rich and colorful history during its century in business.

There have only been three presidents during its 100-year existence. Gene Jarrett ran the company for approximately 45 years. Thurman Wall, Jarrett's son-in-law, served as president before his son, David assumed the role in 1981. The company also served as a bookstore during its first 40 years before concentrating on office supplies after World War II.

It has been at its downtown North Wrenn Street location since 1929. Despite the glut of national office supply chains, and that many other small businesses have abandoned the downtown retail core, Jarrett Stationary has stayed and thrived. The future looks equally bright for Jarrett Stationary.

In fact, the very name of the company has come up for discussion in the past. Though a Wall family member has run the business longer than a Jarrett, David Wall said there was never any real consideration to abandon the company name. "Both my father and I thought about all those years that the good name of Jarrett Stationary has been built up in this city," Wall told the High Point Enterprise. "In retail especially, if you have that, that's like money in the bank, so why change?"

We concur that Jarrett Stationary should not change. It should continue to serve the people of High Point the same way it has for 100 years. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate Jarrett Stationary on its centennial celebration, and we offer our best wishes for the future.

THE SENIORS PROTECTION ACT

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, the Retired Enlisted Association's Senior Citizens League (TREA) is a non-profit organization that professes to help seniors by promoting legislative reforms that will advance the interests of elderly individuals. However, contrary to its claims, TREA has repeatedly targeted seniors with mailings about the "Notch" issue that are deceptive, false, and designed to extort money

from elderly persons, many of whom live on limited incomes.

The term "Notch" refers to the difference in Social Security benefits paid to individuals born before 1917 versus those born between 1917 and 1921. This difference arose because a law was passed in 1972 that provided automatic cost-of-living adjustments for all Social Security recipients, so that benefits would keep pace with inflation. However, the formula used was flawed, causing benefit levels to rise faster than the rate of inflation. In 1977, Congress corrected this formula, necessitating a reduction to the correct level of Social Security benefits.

Unfortunately, groups like TREA are telling seniors they are working to correct a Notch "problem" that doesn't exist, in an attempt to scam seniors out of their hard-earned money. The Social Security Administration, State Attorney General offices, and Members of Congress have received numerous complaints and questions from seniors who have been confused and misled by TREA's Notch campaign.

In response to these complaints, the Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee held a hearing on July 26, 2001 to investigate TREA's activities. This hearing uncovered numerous deceptive tactics used by this organization.

For example, TREA purports to have the authority to handle distribution of Social Security benefits by mailing seniors an official looking "Notch Registry" identification card and a "National Notch Victim Register" form that asks seniors to specify whether they prefer their \$5,000 Notch payment sent to them in one lump sum or in installments. Seniors' preferences are requested in spite of the fact that Notch payments have not been authorized by Congress, and even if they were, distribution of such payments would be handled exclusively by the Social Security Administration. TREA also disseminates solicitations containing replicas of Social Security checks written in the amount of \$5,000.

Perhaps the most disturbing of all, TREA's fundraising efforts have included mailing solicitations that ask seniors to redraft their wills to make TREA a beneficiary. Specific instructions for such will preparation are even provided.

During the Subcommittee hearing, it was discovered that TREA Senior Citizens League used its mailings to collect over \$46 million from seniors from 1997 to 2000, with \$12 million of that in the year 2000 alone.

It is clear that Congress can no longer turn a blind eye to TREA's fundraising schemes, which seek to exploit America's seniors in the name of legislative reform. Despite repeated warnings by House members to end the barrage of misleading solicitations, TREA has refused to comply with such requests.

TREA's actions leave me with little choice but to introduce a bill that would revoke the Congressional charter granted to TREA in 1992. While Congress rarely revisits a former charter decision, this group's persistent pattern of fleecing seniors clearly warrants such a step. Federal charters are prestigious distinctions awarded to organizations with a patriotic, charitable, or educational purpose. Although intended as an honorific title, a Federal charter implies government support for such organizations. Misleading America's seniors is clearly not patriotic, charitable, or educational, and allowing TREA to maintain its Federal charter would send a signal to the American public

that Congress condones such behavior. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. BOB
POTTER

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of the House the distinguished accomplishments of Mr. Bob Potter of Hayden Lake, Idaho. Bob has been the President of Jobs Plus in Coeur d'Alene since the organization's inception 15 years ago. Known affectionately as "Mr. Jobs Plus", Bob's mission is to create investment and bring new jobs and companies to the Coeur d'Alene area. I'm pleased to report his mission is a success. Bob Potter is a great salesman for Northern Idaho, and he recruits companies with good benefits programs for their employees in addition to providing a decent wage. As a rule, when Bob successfully recruits a new company, the average annual wage in Kootenai County increases. The benefit of Jobs Plus and Bob Potter is seen in the numbers: 74 companies recruited; 3,780 jobs created; \$85 million in new payroll. It is the tireless dedication of people like Mr. Potter that keep our local economies growing and diversifying. Bob Potter's hard work and sense of community should serve as an inspiration to us all, and I thank him for all he has done for Idaho and the nation.

BOB POTTER: MR. JOBS PLUS
RETIREMENT DOESN'T SUIT SALESMAN
(By Bill Buley)

At the end of each year, Jobs Plus President Bob Potter visits companies he's recruited to the area since the organization was formed 15 years ago.

The numbers tell the story.

In 2001: 74 companies; 3,780 jobs, \$85 million in payroll; \$340 million in capital investment; 2.4 million square feet leased or owned; average wage, \$26,300-plus.

"Those are the reasons Jobs Plus is damn important," he says.

But numbers don't tell the tale of Bob Potter.

He comes across initially, quite frankly, as a grumpy old man.

He's anything but.

Before the interview even begins, he grabs a putter resting against a wall just outside his office at the Resort Plaza, picks up a golf ball, and walks about 10 feet from the practice hole.

"Watch," he says.

A moment later, in a smooth motion, he strokes the ball.

It seems to be going left. It's going to miss.

Then, it begins to break, curving back.

It drops in the target.

He knew.

"I've won a lot of bets on that," he says with a grin.

Potter glows when he speaks of his wife Patricia, whom he married 49 years ago on Valentine's Day.

He smiles as he boasts of their daughter Pam, a teacher in Olympia, Wash., and their son Bo, a Notre Dame graduate who today sells medical insurance in Los Angeles.

Potter, by the way, is a huge fan of the Fighting Irish. He anguishes over the football team's misfortunes and hopes for another national championship soon.