

Mr. Speaker, those with developmental disabilities and their families face a lifetime of challenges. MCAR has provided the tools necessary to ensure that those challenges are met. I would like to congratulate the founding families and everyone at MCAR—past and present. Your hands and hearts have left a positive imprint on so many lives, mine included. Last but not least, I would like to congratulate the clients of MCAR. You have come so far. Your contributions to our local community are felt in so many ways and our lives are enriched by knowing all of you. You have truly made Mercer County a better place to live.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RUSS
SODERQUIST

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate a Lions Club member from Grand Junction, Colorado whose hard work and dedication has been rewarded with the highest honor given to any Lions Club member. Russ Soderquist was recently awarded the Melvin Jones Fellowship, and as he celebrates his achievement, I would like to commend him for his commitment to excellence that has resulted in this honor. He is certainly a well deserving recipient of this Fellowship and I am pleased to represent him and his chapter of the Lions Club in Colorado.

Russ has served as a member of the Grand Junction chapter of the Lions Club since 1969. Throughout the years, Russ has become famous for his writing on a variety of issues and subjects, drafting letters with concerns and comments to the President of the Lions Club and his fellow citizens. What set Russ apart is that not only is he active in raising concerns to the attention of others, but he also proposes actual solutions. In addition to his letters, Russ also writes numerous articles, several of which have appeared in the Lions Club international magazine. Russ is well known throughout his community as a compassionate man who is dedicated to his community and improving the lives of others. He always conducts himself with sincerity and honesty, both in his letters and in his everyday life.

Mr. Speaker, the diligence and commitment demonstrated by Russ Soderquist certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress, and this nation. Russ' achievement serves as a symbol to community members throughout Colorado, and indeed the entire nation. The Melvin Jones Fellowship is an incredible honor that has been awarded to a well deserving recipient. Congratulations Russ, and thank you for all of your hard work!

JOSEPH ORSULAK HONORED ON
OCCASION OF RETIREMENT

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the long public service of my

good friend Joseph P. Orsulak of Lansford, Pennsylvania, who will be honored with a retirement dinner on March 2, 2002.

Joe began his political career working for the late Congressman Francis "Tad" Walter of Easton in Washington, D.C., as an assistant publication officer. In 1971, he was appointed as Carbon County's chief clerk and served several county commissioners in that capacity over the next 20 years. During his terms as chief clerk, the commissioners entrusted him with additional responsibilities and named him the country's fiscal director to coordinate all fiscal and budgeting affairs of the country government.

During his service as country chief clerk, the state Association of County Commissioners asked him to serve on a state committee to create an instructional booklet on the duties and responsibilities of a county chief clerk. He accepted the challenge and contributed many administrative ideas to improve the way chief clerks do their jobs.

In 1993, Joe was elected to the first of two full terms as Carbon County treasurer. During his first term as treasurer, he installed a new computer system and upgraded the software to conform with the various changes in the hunting, fishing, and dog license regulations.

One of his primary duties as treasurer was serving on the Carbon County Employees Retirement Board. In his capacity as a fiduciary member of the board beginning in 1994 with a portfolio worth \$20 million, he set a goal of reaching \$50 million during his term of office, and this goal was reached in 2000. Joe was also instrumental in having the Retirement Board to evaluate its investment policies and strategies by engaging the services of a second investment manager to diversify the employee pension fund portfolio.

He served on the legislative and nominating committees of the Pennsylvania State Association of County Treasurers, and hosted two state conventions in Carbon County. He was also a member of the Pennsylvania Finance Officers Association.

In December 2000, Joe was appointed to the Pennsylvania State Association of Elected County Officials to represent all treasurers in Pennsylvania. In this capacity, he met monthly with state legislators on the Local Government Commission in Harrisburg to discuss legislation pending in the state House of Representatives and state Senate.

Mr. Speaker, Joe also dedicated himself to serving his neighbors outside of his official capacity. He was active in the former Panther Valley Jaycees, serving as an officer on a local, regional and state level. He concluded his tenure in the Jaycees organization as a Pennsylvania state vice president and state chairman of a program called "Operation We Care" accepting the portfolio of the "Apple Butter Sunday" program. He coordinated the statewide program where Jaycee chapters raised funds for the mentally disadvantaged children of Pennsylvania. In two weeks the organization raised over \$400,000, and the funds were used to send children to summer camps to enjoy the fruits of recreation.

Also in his activities with the Jaycees, Joe had a major role in creating a "Leadership in Action" committee, and traveled throughout the region instructing Jaycee chapters in leadership skills and the importance of the use of the rules of parliamentary procedures in public meetings.

Joe is a member of St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church and a graduate of the former Lansford High School. A lifetime Democrat, he has served on the Carbon County Democratic Executive Committee and as a member of various Democratic clubs in the county.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives to the long public service of Joseph P. Orsulak, and I wish him a happy retirement.

TRIBUTE TO BOB CALLEGARI

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend a devoted public servant, Bob Callegari, who is retiring following 31 years of dedicated service with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Bob and I have worked together in Philadelphia to advance many waterway projects and I am confident these projects will benefit the entire region for many years to come, serving as a legacy to the Army Corps, and the man responsible for their implementation.

Bob Callegari began his career in 1971, with the North Atlantic Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He served initially as an economist on the North Atlantic Regional Water Resources Study, and from 1972 to 1976 as the Chief of the New York Metro Study Section of the North East Water Supply Study, which resulted in the authorization, by Congress, of a \$3.2 billion water supply project.

From 1977 through 1987, Mr. Callegari served in the Passaic River Study Branch, New York District, as Technical Coordinator, Acting Branch Chief and Branch Chief. During his tenure, Mr. Callegari led the development of the largest Phase I General Design Memorandum at that time, a \$21 million effort. Additional projects totaling \$1.5 billion were authorized, including a flood warning system. As a result, Mr. Callegari's organization was the recipient of numerous awards for outstanding performance.

Bob Callegari came to the Philadelphia District as Chief of the newly organized Planning Division in 1987. At that time, the Philadelphia District had only five active planning studies and one project authorized for construction. Recognizing the needs of the region and the Corps unique capability in flood control, Bob effectively outreached to potential customers and partners generating widespread congressional support. His efforts resulted in an impressive increase in construction or planning projects.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure committee and in my previous role as ranking member of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Development, I have worked closely with Mr. Callegari to advance projects crucial to improving and protecting the Philadelphia waterways. He believes, as I do, that we must enhance, preserve and protect our waterways, improving our environment in the process.

With congressional support, and Mr. Callegari's leadership, we have successfully reconstructed a seawall at the historic Glen Foerd on the Delaware and made needed waterway improvements at Pennypack Creek and

Philadelphia's famed Boathouse Row. The Delaware River channel deepening project is now in its first construction phase. We have established a pilot program for water-related "brownfields" environmental cleanup at the East Central Incinerator so that abandoned industrial sites can be cleaned for waterfront reuse and redevelopment.

Mr. Speaker, these projects would not have occurred without the persistence and passion of Mr. Callegari's diversified planning program which includes environmental restoration, beneficial use of dredged material projects and effective use of the Corps' Continuing Authorities Program to address the needs of the region. His leadership has earned him the distinctive deFleury Bronze Medal, a well-deserved honor.

I am proud to have worked with Bob in sharing a vision of maintaining and improving our waterways. As he seeks new professional challenges, I am confident that his distinguished career with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will benefit all citizens.

THE BAY CITY LION'S CLUB:
KINGS OF GIVING FOR 80 YEARS

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Lions Club of Bay City, Michigan, as its members prepare to celebrate 80 years of outstanding community service, charitable giving and remarkable volunteer efforts.

Chartered on December 8, 1921, the Bay City Lions Club was founded by 35 civic-minded local men who were determined to expand their passion for doing good by giving back to the entire community and beyond. Today, the Bay City chapter, with 235 members, ranks as the largest Lions Club in the state of Michigan; the fifth largest in the entire United States; and, the 15th largest in the world. Under the leadership of Club President Joseph Gwizdala and all officers past and present, members have consistently lived up to their club motto. "We Serve," by actively addressing the needs of our community in large and small measures.

It is especially noteworthy that the Lions Club never uses any of the money collected from the public to defray administrative costs. Instead, they use all the money they collect to help those in need, with 75 percent of their annual budget used to help local families and individuals and 25 percent going to statewide projects.

The Lions are widely known for their mission to provide glasses and hearing aids to the needy, but the Bay City Lions Club has gone above and beyond the call of duty in that regard and in many more endeavors as well. One particularly praiseworthy example was when they purchased a glaucoma testing machine for the Bay County Health Department. The club also annually sponsors many events and activities, including a health fair, holiday celebrations for disadvantaged children, Little League teams, and a host of other projects. They also provide scholarships to students from area high schools and adult education programs.

The Bay City Lions Club serves as a shining example of community-minded selflessness by putting the needs of others ahead of personal or financial regard. The many volunteers who give their time and talents to the Lions Club have set a high standard when it comes to serving the greater community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the Bay City Lions Club for their significant contributions and in congratulating them for 80 years of success. I am confident they will continue to make Bay City proud.

BILL TO ESTABLISH OFFICE OF
CORRECTIONAL HEALTH

HON. TED STRICKLAND

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I would encourage my colleagues to support HR 2422, legislation I have introduced that would establish an Office of Correctional Health within the Department of Health and Human Services.

According to the Department of Justice (DOJ), the United States is second only to Russia among industrialized nations in incarceration rates with nearly 2 million people in jail or prison. The fuel that feeds this prison population explosion is comprised of several components. Mandatory minimum and "three-strikes" sentencing laws have resulted in longer sentences and more frequent incarcerations. A look at the changing demographics in American prisons and jails sheds light on the challenges correctional facilities face at the beginning of the 21st century.

Substance abuse poses a significant health care challenge for correctional facilities. According to DOJ, 57 percent of state prisoners and 45 percent of federal prisoners surveyed in 1997 said they had used drugs in the month before their offense. A whopping 83 percent of state prisoners and 73 percent of federal prisoners had used drugs at some time in the past. It is estimated that about three-quarters of all inmates can be characterized as being involved in alcohol or drug abuse in the time leading to their arrest.

According to an article in the Washington Post entitled, "Mentally Ill Need Care, Find Prison", it is estimated that the number of inmates with serious mental illnesses in American prisons and jails is nearly 5 times the number of mentally ill in state mental hospitals. So many of these inmates with mental health needs also have a co-occurring substance abuse problem. This high incarceration rate of the mentally ill, many of whom have substance abuse problems, poses an enormous challenge to the correctional health care system. In the first comprehensive report on mental illness in correctional facilities, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) found that 7 percent of federal inmates and 16 percent of those in state prisons or local jails or on probation said they either had a mental condition or had stayed over night in a mental hospital unit or treatment program. The highest rate of mental illness was among white females in state prisons at 29 percent. For white females age 24 or younger this level rose to almost 40 percent. When compared to other inmates, mentally ill inmates and probationers reported higher rates of prior physical and sexual

abuse. According to BJS, nearly 6 in 10 mentally ill offenders reported they were under the influence of alcohol and drugs at the time of their current offense.

The increased incarceration rate of women also presents new health care challenges to correctional facilities. According to BJS, in 1998 an estimated 950,000 women were under custody, care or control of correctional agencies. Nearly 6 in 10 women in state prisons had experienced physical or sexual abuse in the past. This statistic, coupled with the reality that 7 in 10 women under correctional sanction have minor children, points to the acute need for counseling services. Women inmates utilize health care, including sexually transmitted diseases, and the possibility of pregnancy either upon entry into the corrections system or during, women's special health care needs must be addressed in a comprehensive fashion.

The health care needs of inmates have expanded as the incarcerated population has aged. As inmates grow old in prison they succumb to the same ailments which afflict the elderly in the outside world—diabetes, heart disease and stroke. These geriatric health care needs represent another challenge to correctional agencies in providing adequate care.

In 1996, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention formed an ad hoc working group, the Cross Centers Correctional Work Group made up of health professionals from across CDC. The purpose of the group is to focus attention on the complex health needs of incarcerated men, women, and youth in the United States. I commend the work of this group and the fine efforts of CDC in addressing the very complex health issues associated with correctional facilities.

According to CDC, the prevalence of infectious disease is high among inmates. For AIDS, the prevalence is five times that of the general population. Further, inmates coming into correctional facilities are increasingly at risk for HIV infection through risk behaviors such as needle sharing and unprotected sex. Tuberculosis is another important public health issue in prisons and jails according to CDC. TB infection rates are substantially higher among inmates; estimates are anywhere from four to 17 times higher because conditions associated with TB (poverty, drug use, HIV infection, etc.) are more common in the incarcerated population than the general US population. According to CDC, even as we have decreased the number of TB cases overall, it has become a much more focused disease, with outbreaks of TB in correctional facilities starting to count as a major factor in its spread. For Hepatitis C, the prevalence among inmates is nine times higher than that of the general population.

Jails, where inmates are held awaiting trial or serve short sentences of two years or less, represent the "front lines" of correctional health care. Many inmates lacked good access to health care services before their incarceration and are therefore more likely to come to jails and prisons with chronic illnesses and infectious diseases. Rates of infectious disease are known to be higher among inmates than in the general population. This high incidence of infectious disease among inmates threatens the health and lives of thousands of dedicated corrections officers and staff members who work in prisons and jails across America.