

HONORING WALK-FM OF LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GRUCCI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor WALK Radio Station in my district on Long Island that is celebrating their 50th birthday this Saturday, April 19. WALK-FM invited the public to visit its new stations and studios on Colonial Drive in Patchogue on its official opening day, Saturday, April 19, 1952.

Quoting from the invitation, the station's staff was "most anxious for you to see the glamorous, fully-equipped studios and offices in our ultra-modern building, which is not only the radio showplace of Long Island, but one of the most beautiful radio stations in the East."

WALK received well wishes on the air that day from radio and television personalities of the era, including Perry Como, Dick Powell, Kay Starr, and Jack Sterling.

A clipping from the Bay Shore Sentinel and Journal dated April 24, 1952, described WALK this way: "The ultra-modern station affords the best in facilities and promises to become a most important link in the communications field in Suffolk County."

In more recent years, WALK 97.5 FM has had consistent ratings success. WALK has been the number one adult radio station on Long Island for over 16 years, reflecting a heritage of broadcast excellence. WALK uniquely balances the needs of the Long Island community in providing vital news, weather, and traffic information, and a variety of music that Long Islanders enjoy at home, at work, and while in their car.

WALK's news and public service commitment has been recognized and honored over the years with a slew of awards from the Long Island Coalition for Fair Broadcasting, the New York State Broadcasters Association, and the Press Club of Long Island. On the trade side, their programming has won national awards from Billboard Magazine and Radio & Records.

WALK 97.5 was chosen as the National Association of Broadcasters' Marconi Adult Contemporary Station of the year in 2001, giving the station national recognition for its community service and leadership.

In short, WALK embraces the Long Island community through its tireless support of the island's not-for-profit organizations and important causes, like the fight against breast cancer.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating WALK-FM radio and its employees for 25 years of being a thoughtful neighbor, and for its leadership in the community for over 50 years.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EQUAL PAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Indiana (Ms. CARSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Equal Pay Day. The Equal Pay Act became public law in 1963, making it illegal to pay women lower rates for the same job strictly on the basis of sex. Yet, almost four decades later, the wage gap among women and men persists.

It is appalling that in the year 2002, women across the United States continue to be discriminated against on the basis of gender. Women holding similar jobs with similar education, skills, work experience, job content, still earn less than men. The Census Bureau reports that women earn 27 cents less than men on the dollar.

Why would I bring this up, other than it being Equal Pay Day, Mr. Speaker? There has been a lot of commentary here on the floor of the House about welfare and welfare reform, and truly, women want not to draw welfare, but rather to get into the marketplace and be economically self-sufficient.

Yet, we find just in Indiana, in a glance at Indiana, that the African American women earn only 67 percent of what men earn, and the earnings among Latino women fall even lower, earning 58 percent of what men earn. Three-quarters of African American women and Latinos work in just three types of employment: sales, clerical, and service and factory jobs, and a majority of those women do not even make enough money to reach the poverty line for a family of four, which is \$18,000 in the year 2002.

In Indiana, women, older women, women who are Social Security age, are living in poverty because their income, their lifetime income earnings, have decided the amount of their Social Security checks. So the consequence of that is that women are drawing a very minuscule amount of Social Security checks, which propels them into a remaining lifetime of poverty.

Thirty-nine years ago, President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act. He called it the first step in addressing the unconscionable practice of paying female employees less wages than male employees for the same job. At that time, women earned 58 cents for each dollar earned by a man. So Mr. Speaker, equal pay is not only a woman's issue, it is a family issue. It is beneficial for the entire family.

Women often provide a significant amount or all of their family's income, and in many cases, they are the sole wage-earners, struggling to provide their families with the best quality of

life they possibly can. It is a shame that they and their families continue to be victims of this unjust discrimination.

I thought it was imperative that we call this to the attention of the House of Representatives and to the United States, as well, to suggest that we have, indeed, come a long way since Niagara Falls, but we have a long way to go.

STUART R. PADDOCK, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, Stuart Paddock, Jr., was a leader. He inspired reverence among his friends, his associates, and his employees. He was a leader who did not take credit, but instead, gave it away. He led with vision, enthusiasm, determination, and courage. His kind words, his optimism, trust in people, and thoughtfulness endeared him to all.

According to an editorial in today's Daily Herald, if we took a poll of the people who work at the Herald, we would find something extraordinary. We could not find a single person with a bad word to say about Stu, not one. The work force numbers 880. That is the kind of leader he was.

Stu Paddock died on Monday, April 15, at the age of 86. During three-and-one-half decades of ownership, he built the Daily Herald from a weekly community newspaper to the third largest daily in Illinois. His is a remarkable success story of a family-owned business in an era of corporate giants.

Paddock was the inspirational heart and soul of one of the small number of family-owned newspapers in America. When he assumed leadership of the company in 1968, the newspapers were publishing three times a week, with a circulation below 20,000. At his death, he left a growing suburban daily with a circulation of over 148,000, now the 7th largest in the Nation.

Born September 19, 1915, in Palatine, Paddock graduated in 1937 from Knox College in Galesburg, and joined the paper as an assistant editor. He was called into service shortly after Pearl Harbor as a second lieutenant, serving as a company commander in a tank destroyer battalion as part of Patton's Third Army in Europe. He was discharged in 1946 at the rank of captain.

In 1969, Paddock's willingness to take risks saved the newspaper. A critical slowdown occurred when Marshall Field and his Sun-Times started a daily newspaper called The Day in direct competition with the Herald. Over the next 4 years, the weekly Herald newspapers lost 40 percent of their circulation.

A plan to publish three times a week failed to turn around the paper's fortunes. "We either had to go daily or die," Paddock later reflected. Shortly after taking over as president, he

turned the paper into a five-days-a-week publication in 1969. Day Publications soon surrendered and sold its newspaper operations to Paddock in 1970.

Paddock constantly pushed expansion, adding weekend editions and weekly papers in Lake County in the 1970s that then went daily in 1984, and in the years since, Paddock oversaw nearly 20 expansions into areas of Lake, DuPage, Kane, McHenry, and Will counties.

□ 1945

Paddock's thoughtfulness is legendary among staff. Bob Frisk, the Daily Herald's veteran assistant managing editor of sports, retells the story of the night he was to be inducted into the media wing of the Illinois Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame in Bloomington. Bob's wife was very ill and could not attend. Frisk was feeling lonely when Stu and Ann Paddock walked into the room. Paddock told Frisk, "We didn't want you to be alone when you were inducted on this big night."

Stu's legacy is rich with similar stories, like funding spirits "not the cheap stuff" for a holiday party to celebrate a job well done in Naperville and coming out to cheer on employees who were playing for the local softball team.

Stu Paddock enjoyed classical music, the Bears and opera. He supported a number of good causes like the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Lyric Opera, Ravinia, Goodman Theatre and the Elgin Symphony Orchestra. Stu was the father of six, five daughters and a son. His wife, Ann, his four children and between them, 23 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Stuart R. Paddock, Junior, he served our country, he served our community, he served his employees and served his family with courage, honor, determination and thoughtfulness and will be sorely missed by all.

IN HONOR OF EQUAL PAY DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FLAKE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Equal Pay Day. This is a national day of action to promote fair pay. It is disheartening that Equal Pay Day comes only once a year. Mr. Speaker, everyday should be equal pay day.

Even though we have had equal pay laws on the books for nearly 40 years, women still only earn .73 cents to the male dollar nationally. In my home state of Michigan, that figure is even worse, with women earning an average of .67 cents to the male dollar. Not surprisingly, women of color are in the worst position, earning only .64 cents to the male dollar. This, Mr. Speaker, is quite simply a disgrace.

Equal work deserves equal pay. But in today's economy, unfair pay hurts more than just women; it hurts families. When women

are not paid fairly, it lowers the family income. That means there is less money for essentials like groceries, doctors' visits, and clothes for the children. This is not a women's issue, Mr. Speaker, it is a family issue. We protect America's working families by rectifying this wrong.

What can we do? I have two answers for you.

1. We can pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, which was introduced by my good friend from Connecticut, ROSA DELAURO. The Paycheck Fairness Act would strengthen existing equal pay and civil rights laws by providing effective remedies to women who are not being paid equal wages for equal work.

2. We can pass the ERA, reintroduced this year by my good friend and colleague, the gentlewoman from New York, CAROLYN MALONEY. We have waited too long to provide women with equal standing in the Constitution. The ERA would put some real teeth in our equal pay laws, and guarantee equal pay for equal work.

I would encourage all members who are not currently cosponsors of the ERA to join us. We have 200, but we need more. I would ask my colleagues to truly represent the 50 percent of their constituency that still goes unrecognized in the very document that guarantees our rights and freedoms. Why should women be left behind?

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives DELAURO and MALONEY for their much needed leadership on this very important issue.

There is no excuse for disparity in pay between men and women. Mr. Speaker, it is time for action. In honor of Equal Pay Day, I would ask my colleagues to join me as cosponsors of these two important bills. There is no better time than the present. Let's stop ignoring this serious family problem today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. STRICKLAND addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR REPEAL OF MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCHROCK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCHROCK. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to join my colleagues this evening in calling for the support of Congress to set in concrete the repeal of the marriage tax penalty.

I was honored last year to become president of the Republican freshman class of the 107th Congress. Early last year, our class members came together and made the repeal of the marriage tax penalty our class priority. Fresh from the campaign trail and living in and working in our districts, each of our class members came to Washington with the understanding that one of the major priorities of the American people was to bring an end to this anti-family, anti-marriage tax.

On our third day on the job, our class joined with the gentleman from Illinois

(Mr. WELLER) to announce our commitment to the repeal of the marriage tax penalty. We championed this noble cause and were successful in obtaining the eventual repeal of the marriage tax penalty.

Unfortunately, due to Senate rules, the marriage tax penalty repeal legislation included a sunset provision that would automatically reinstate the marriage tax penalty in the year 2011. What does that say to the American people about this Congress?

Marriage is the bedrock of our society. It is an institution that is to be honored and respected, and it is a bond that should not be put asunder, especially by the tax policies of the Federal Government.

Yet until last year, our tax laws gave married couples a \$1,400 surprise on their tax bill. They saw their taxes go up for no other reason than they said "I do," and the effect of this tax mostly penalized young couples trying to get their feet on the ground and retired couples just trying to keep their feet on the ground.

In the second congressional district of Virginia, which I represent, there are over 56,000 married couples which were subject to the marriage tax penalty. However, if these couples decided to live together, rather than get married, they would not have to pay the tax. That is simply unfair.

The repeal of the marriage tax penalty provides a new level of fairness by preventing the Federal Government from penalizing couples for being married. Now these families are able to keep \$1,400 a year of their hard earned income if they can save for a down payment on a house or a new car, obtain health insurance, pay off student loans, save for their children's education or to pay off debts.

The repeal of the marriage tax penalty passed last year is now helping families all across our Nation to better plan for their future. If they are able to eliminate debt, save for retirement or pay cash for large ticket items, their future discretionary income will grow, helping to also grow our economy.

Between now and 2011, it is certain that many of these couples' income will increase from raises or from taking new jobs. Also, they will be able to better handle their day-to-day expenses and any emergencies that may come along, but in 2011, that comfort level provided by tax relief is set to disappear for these families. On that day, the penalty for being married will surprise them once again.

I cannot stand by and allow that to happen to the 56,000 families that I represent. Unfortunately, there are those in this body and the other body that do not support making the repeal of the marriage tax penalty permanent. They will argue that we must work to ensure that Social Security is intact for future and present retirees. I could not agree more. Social Security is important for all Americans, and we should make sure that it stays protected for