

to families in need. Each Christmas, the parish supports at least one family in the community with gifts, food, financial assistance, and love.

In 1997, St. Innocent Orthodox Church found a permanent home, and consecrated its new church structure in Olmsted Falls, Ohio.

St. Innocent welcomes the diversity of its parish and combines many ethnic traditions into its services. I am confident that the growing parish family will flourish, and that the many services and activities it sponsors will continue to multiply.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION COMMENDING AFGHAN WOMEN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today, Representative BIGGERT and I introduce legislation to commend Afghan women for their participation in Afghan government and civil society and to advocate for the inclusion of women's rights in the Afghan constitution.

Women's rights in Afghanistan have fluctuated greatly over the years. Women have bravely fought the forces of extremism at various points in the country's turbulent history. At one time, women were scientists and university professors. They led corporations and nonprofit organizations in local communities.

As the constitution review process goes forward, the women of Afghanistan should have a stake in the future of their country. We must support the efforts of the Afghan women to require that the constitution of Afghanistan includes equal rights for women. If women are left out of the constitution, they will disappear from public and civic life. Afghanistan has the opportunity to begin a new chapter by rejecting the ways of the Taliban, and embracing democracy, including the right to vote for all its citizens. I believe that the United States should support these efforts in every possible way.

I look forward to working with Representative BIGGERT and my other colleagues to pass this resolution and to fight for the rights of women in Afghanistan.

TRIBUTE TO ROY J. NICHOLS FOR RECEIVING THE 2003 ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION HUMANITARIAN AWARD

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Roy Nichols of Huntsville for receiving the 2003 Arthritis Foundation Humanitarian Award. This award is given annually to a citizen of Huntsville and Madison County Alabama who has displayed exemplary community leadership.

Mr. Nichols moved to Huntsville in 1973 as an employee of the McDonnell Douglas Corporation. In 1976, Mr. Nichols formed his own company, Nichols Research Corporation, a research and development business specializing in sensor, missile and information systems.

Under the leadership of Mr. Nichols, his company quickly became known as a national leader, receiving numerous awards as one of the best small companies in the United States.

Mr. Nichols retired from Nichols Research after it merged with the Computer Sciences Corporation in 1999. Today, Mr. Nichols is the Co-Chairman and CEO of Torch Concepts, a company that specializes in content management and information mining. Torch Concepts is helping the Department of the Army identify terrorist threats and is becoming widely known for its development of technology that helps in the fight against terrorism.

More importantly, in addition to his professional duties, Mr. Nichols has vigorously committed his time volunteering for many civic organizations in the North Alabama region.

Mr. Speaker, Roy Nichols' leadership and his strong dedication to the community should serve as a model for everyone to follow. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the people of North Alabama, to congratulate Roy Nichols for being named the 2003 Arthritis Foundation Humanitarian Award winner.

NORTHWEST INDIANA'S MOST TALENTED, DEDICATED, AND HARDWORKING INDIVIDUALS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and admiration that I offer congratulations to many of Northwest Indiana's most talented, dedicated, and hardworking individuals. On Saturday, October 11, 2003, Sheet Metal Workers Local Union No. 20, formerly also Local No. 303, will honor distinguished members at their 100th Anniversary Open House and Awards Banquet at the Local Gary Area Training Facility in Portage, Indiana. These individuals will be recognized for their many years of dedication and service to Northwest Indiana with 25-year and 40-year pins. The 2003 Sheet Metal Workers Apprentice Graduates will also be honored at this special event.

The Sheet Metal Workers will celebrate tenures ranging from 25 years to 40 years of service. The member being honored for 40 years of committed service is Mr. Walter Biser. Members being honored for 25 years of service include: Mr. Larry Alumbaugh, Mr. Lon Baczkowski, Mr. John Camplan, Mr. Elmer Dellenbach, Jr., Mr. Frank Duffy, Mr. Phillip Felling, Mr. Jeffrey Fitzgerald, Mr. Mark Fusak, Mr. Wyleania Gaither, Mr. Donald Hammond, Mr. Robert Hostinsky, Mr. Mark Katona, Mr. Ronald Kersey, Mr. Jay Kimmel, Sr., Mr. Philip Lukasik, Mr. Steven Nelson, Mr. David Noltbertowicz, Mr. Bruce Pollock, Mr. Mark Remlinger, Mr. Jack Rizzo, Mr. Dalia Salina, Mr. James Salmi, Mr. David Thomas, Mr. Timothy Weaver, and Mr. Walton Woodard.

The Sheet Metal Workers will also be recognizing and honoring the 2003 Apprentice Graduates. These individuals are Mr. Robert Alvarez, III, Mr. Jared Benavides, Mr. Richard Blackmon, Mr. Sam Bodish, Mr. Aaron Burkhardt, Mr. Steve Claussen, Mr. Dave Finnerty, Mr. Jeff Fryar, Mr. Terence Henney, Jr., Mr. Shaun Janis, Mr. Jason Johnson, Mr. Mike King, Mr. Richard Kvarta, Mr. Brian

Meeks, Mr. Jeff Myres, Mr. Dave Polen, Mr. Jason Reis, Mr. Todd Ribar, Mr. Jesse Rippe, Mr. Mark Robbins, Mr. Josh Skalba, Mr. Art Stahl, Mr. Eric Szczudlak, Mr. Chris Truman, Mr. Tim Vandermeer, Mr. Robert Vigland, and Mr. John Worline.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these hardworking and honorable members of the Sheet Metal Workers Local Union No. 20. These individuals, along with all the other men and women of Northwest Indiana's unions, have contributed to the growth and development to the economy of the First Congressional District, and I am very proud to fight for and honor them in Washington, D.C.

PROVIDING PRIMARY AND PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO UNDOCUMENTED RESIDENTS

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation which would allow states and localities to provide primary and preventive health care services to undocumented residents.

An analysis by the Center for Immigration Studies of the Current Population Survey collected in March of 2002 by the Census Bureau indicates that 33.1 million immigrants live in the United States. Among those an estimate of 9 million are undocumented residents and about 900,000 are persons on long-term temporary visas, such as students and temporary workers.

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) prohibits public hospitals from providing free or discounted preventive service to undocumented immigrants—even if they pay for such services with State or local funds. PRWORA does, however, allow public hospitals to provide emergency room services.

This system has created a crisis in our nation's emergency rooms. Because undocumented residents cannot afford to see the doctor for routine physicals and preventive medicine, they arrive in the emergency room with costlier, often preventable, health problems. The Federation for American Immigration Reform estimates that 29 percent of this population uses hospital and other emergency services in a given year, compared to the 11 percent use by the general U.S. population.

The costs of this broken system are especially burdensome for our nation's public hospitals. According to the Congressional Research Service, undocumented residents cost Texas taxpayers, insurance companies, and patients more than \$173,072,108 million in 2001. Since the federal government is wholly responsible for establishing immigration policy, and for policing the borders to keep out unauthorized aliens, shouldn't the federal government pay for immigration related health care costs? Unfortunately, federal Allotments for State Emergency Health Services to attend to unauthorized residents are not enough to help with the cost, so stats are forced to shoulder as much as 50 percent of the costs.

Mr. Speaker, people should not enter any nation illegally. But I cannot understand a

health care system that forces patients to let their health problems escalate into full fledged emergencies before it will provide them care. Wouldn't it make more economic sense to cover preventive services rather than let illnesses develop into painful and expensive complications? Most importantly, should the federal government be telling states and localities how they can and can't spend their own health care dollars?

That is why I am introducing legislation which would allow—not require—state and local programs to provide the most cost effective preventive and primary health care to undocumented aliens. This legislation would not provide a new benefit for undocumented residents. However, it would make sure that our health care dollars are spent more wisely by preventing emergencies—not treating them.

TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SOUTH PUEBLO

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to a landmark institution from my district. The First Congregational Church of South Pueblo, Colorado has served its parishioners and the Pueblo community for over 125 years. By working to promote a spirit of unity and cooperation, the church has shaped our community for the better. For its many years of service to the community, I am honored to pay tribute to the First Congregational Church of South Pueblo here today.

Founded in 1878, the First Congregational Church has been dedicated to meeting the need of its parishioners and the community at large. Its work includes everything from buying shoes for orphans to hosting Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Campfire Girls. First Congregation also hosts the Pueblo Interfaith Hospitality Network, a program to house homeless families in need of shelter.

Mr. Speaker, First Congregational Church's efforts to meet the needs of the community and foster a spirit of generosity are an inspiration to us all. The First Congregational Church of South Pueblo is an institution that numerous Puebloans turn to for guidance and encouragement in their daily lives. I am honored to join with my colleagues today in honoring the First Congregational Church of South Pueblo for its dedication to improving the community.

IN HONOR OF PASTOR JON BRYK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Father John Bryk, as he celebrates the 50th year of his Priestly Ordination. We also honor Father Bryk's celebration of thirty years of service to the St. Hedwig Parish Community of Lakewood, Ohio.

Father Bryk was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio and attended Benedictine High

School. After attending Our Lady of the Lake Major Seminary in Cleveland, Father Bryk was ordained at St. John's Cathedral on December 19, 1953.

His service to others brought him to parishes in Cleveland and Lorain. He served as Pastor of St. Casmir for two years, and in 1973 was named Pastor of St. Hedwig Church in Lakewood, where he has since served.

For the past thirty years, Father Bryk has transformed St. Hedwig's Church into a spiritual haven of support, faith and hope—a place where he continues to create lasting bonds with hundreds of individuals and families. Father Bryk's outreach into the Lakewood community serves as a beacon of hope and guidance for generations of individuals and families.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and recognition of Father John Bryk, celebrating fifty years of service to our community. Father Bryk's contributions throughout his ministry, especially to the people of St. Hedwig's parish, are significant and immeasurable—his leadership, expertise, guidance and concern for others serve to uplift our corner of the world and beyond. His gift of faith and compassion will forever light our community.

TAIWAN'S 92ND NATIONAL DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Taiwan for its 92nd National Day. Taiwan has been a reliable friend and ally of the United States for more than fifty years. The United States has a large and very active Taiwanese-American community. Hundreds of thousands of Americans of Taiwanese descent live in the U.S., the largest number living in and around New York City.

The United States and Taiwan share important values and strengths which have engendered close ties between our people. Both countries are committed to a strong democratic form of government with constitutional guarantees of rights and freedoms for all citizens including speech, residence, travel, assembly, religion and association. Taiwan is a shining example in Southeast Asia of the importance of respecting civil liberties and the rule of law.

Like the United States, Taiwan has a prosperous, market-based economy. It is the eighth largest trading partner of the United States and the twelfth largest economy in the world. U.S. exports to Taiwan make it one of the largest export markets for many states including my own state of New York. A clear sign of Taiwan's importance to the world economy was its accession into the World Trade Organization last year.

Both countries have demonstrated a commitment to the well-being of the world at large. Taiwan's humanitarianism has included assistance for rebuilding Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kosovo, and funds to assist the fight against AIDS worldwide. It has also dispatched rescue teams following natural disasters in El Salvador, Turkey, and Nicaragua.

Both Houses of Congress have recently endorsed Taiwan's desire for a wider international role, specifically membership in the

World Health Organization and in the United Nations. Taiwan is a responsible citizen of the world and friend to the United States. I heartily congratulate its 23 million citizens on the celebration of their National Day, October 10, 2003.

HONORING DAVID B. CASTRO

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to David B. Castro. He has worked tirelessly in behalf of the Hispanic community. David Bedoya Castro was born in Sonora, Arizona and spent his youth as a farm worker following the crops in California with his family. He made use of the schooling available to farm workers in the early 1930's with the knowledge even then that it was education that would improve the quality of life for himself and his family.

In 1942, David volunteered to join the Marines and received two honorable discharges for service in World War II and Korea. Upon returning to his home in Hayward, California, David began working in the local cannery, became a shop steward and moved through the ranks to become a union official and labor organizer. He was the first union Hispanic Secretary Treasurer. His main focus was to improve the wages, and working conditions of workers in the eleven western states. David would go beyond the duties of his job, and would help those in need by providing clothing; necessities and jobs.

In 1997, David became a Field Representative for Alameda County and was responsible for recruiting Hispanics for employment. At the beginning of his career with Alameda County, only 3 percent of Hispanics were employed in the County. When he retired in 1989, that number had risen to 23 percent.

David continually looked for ways to improve conditions for Hispanics. He knew that education and community involvement was the key to success. His inspiration led to founding of the Hispanic Community Affairs Council (HCAC), an organization dedicated to the betterment of Hispanic communities. HCAC recently celebrated its 26th anniversary and continues its goal of fostering a better education for Latino youth. HCAC has awarded over \$1 million in scholarships to Latino students.

As a visionary and dedicated community activist, David recognized another need. Businesses in the East Bay needed a way to meet and hire qualified Hispanics. This spurred the idea for HEBAN, The Hispanic East Bay Area Network, which brings prospective employers and job seekers together.

After retiring in 1989, David began researching his family history, which led him to a village in the Sierra Madre called Mezquitil Del Oro, Mexico. In the church of this small town he discovered his family genealogy in ancient documents tracing his heritage back to 1660. He also discovered people in need and began providing support through donations of clothing, household, school and medical supplies.

David, with the help of friend Librado Perez and cousin Isidro Magallanes provided an ambulance to the town of Mezquitil Del Oro. The ambulance was a life saver for the town because previously the injured or seriously ill