

Hispanic-Americans to understand where they came from, and where they can expect to go in the years to come.

I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the good work that the Hispanic Division has done over the past 65 years, and in wishing them continued success in the years to come.

RECOGNITION OF GEORGE A.
HUSSEY, JR.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend an exemplary individual who has made a tremendous impact on his community and continues to work tirelessly towards various worthy causes. George A. Hussey, Jr., a native of Long Branch, New Jersey, began his career at Monmouth Medical Center and was eventually hired by the City of Long Branch. While employed at the Department of Public Works, George worked as the Anti-Litter Officer, and grant coordinator for the Clean Communities Program. His efforts and commitment earned him special recognition by the Department of Environmental Protection for having the best program in the state of New Jersey. Shortly after this distinction, Mr. Hussey's responsibilities were expanded to include Municipal Recycling Coordinator.

In addition to his work towards cleaner communities, Mr. Hussey routinely serves as a volunteer, lending his time putting up holiday lighting and coordinating beach clean-ups. For several years now, Mr. Hussey has been working in the Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement Department for the City of Long Branch, and at the age of 39, he became a volunteer firefighter, receiving the Raul Award for being Rookie of the Year. In 2003, he was the proud recipient of the Firefighter of the Year Award from the VFW Post 2140 in Long Branch.

Joining the Long Branch Elks Lodge, No. 742, at the suggestion of co-worker and friend Jack Filter, who happened to be the Past Exalted Ruler for the chapter, Mr. Hussey carried on a family tradition, by becoming a 3rd generation Elk—following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. As an officer in the Elks, Inner Guard, Mr. Hussey became active in the Handicapped Children's Committee—just as his father had been. In this capacity, he successfully raised money for Camp Moore, a camp for handicapped children.

Over the years, Mr. Hussey has selflessly volunteered his time and talent to the community and the city of Long Branch. I congratulate him on assuming the highest office in the lodge, Exalted Ruler for the fraternal year 2003–2004. I have full confidence that he will excel in this capacity, and contribute significantly to all the wonderful efforts of the Lodge.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MR. JIM
RABY

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor Jim D. Raby who is celebrating his 70th birthday. Jim is a man who embodies the American principles of hard work, dedication to one's family, and service to one's country and I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this Nation to recognize this wonderful man and his many accomplishments.

Jim was born on August 10, 1934 in the town of Jeff, Alabama. He grew up as a sharecropper in north Alabama, growing primarily cotton. He graduated from Monrovia High School in 1952 and briefly attended Andrew Jackson Business School in Nashville, Tennessee. In 1954, Jim joined the U.S. Navy and served his country honorably as a Seabee and as a Communications Technician.

Following his discharge from the service, Jim began work in Huntsville, Alabama for the Army Ballistics Missile Agency (ABMA) as an electronic technician. There he had the distinction of working with the former German Rocket Team, including Dr. Werner Von Braun, during the infancy of the U.S. Space Program. In 1960, ABMA was transformed into the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and Jim joined the new agency as a Charter Member. He worked on almost every phase of the Pegasus, Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, and Skylab programs.

Jim's contributions included development of specifications and standards for electronic manufacturing, specifically soldering and crimp terminations as well as cable and harnesses. He installed many of these cables and harnesses in the original Mercury capsule. Jim then established schools for each of these subjects and performed lead activities in the fabrication of electronics for the Saturn and Apollo programs. Jim moved to various contractor facilities (as a NASA employee) throughout the United States to provide NASA guidance on manufacturing methods and techniques as well as providing Quality Assurance functions. He had the last word on flight readiness of electronic and electrical installations and in troubleshooting these systems when problems arose. The Moon landing during the summer of 1969 was the climax of this great era in Jim's life.

Jim left NASA in 1975 to work for the U.S. Navy at China Lake, California. While at China Lake, Jim developed the Soldering Standardization Program which standardized requirements DoD-wide and the Solder Training and Certification Program. He also started the Electronic Manufacturing and Production Facility (EMPF).

In 1984, Jim left the Navy to start Soldering Technology International, a family business in which he is still active. Soldering Technology International (STI) helps customers build more reliable electronic hardware. Under Jim's guidance, the company has twice been selected to INC Magazine's INC 500 list of fastest growing private companies. STI was also selected as Huntsville/Madison County's Small Business of the Year in the business services category for the year 2000. STI currently employs 45 peo-

ple and has customers in all 50 states as well as 40 countries around the world.

Of all Jim's achievements, he is most proud of his family—wife Ellen, son David, daughter-in-law Sheila, and beautiful granddaughter Ashley. He is also proud of the many friends and admirers that he has come to know over the years.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor Jim D. Raby for his many accomplishments and his enduring impact on his country, community and family. Jim has been and continues to be an inspiring role model for all of us, and I wish him the best of wishes on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BOB
SILBERNAGEL

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bob Silbernagel from Grand Junction, Colorado. Bob is the Editorial Page Editor for the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, and has served the paper, city and state with distinction. I know Bob well, and he is a man of the utmost integrity. I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing his dedication and commitment to his community and the field of journalism before this body of Congress and this Nation.

Bob studied journalism at the University of Wisconsin, and went on to work for a number of weekly newspapers before moving on to the Glenwood Post Independent. In 1980, he joined the staff at the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel. Bob has been closely involved in writing and publication of the Colorado Riverfront Commission's People, Parks and Trails: A guide and history for the Colorado Riverfront Trail in Mesa County.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Bob Silbernagel for his exceptional service to the people of Grand Junction and Colorado. For many years, his dedication to his community and journalistic integrity has made the Grand Junction Sentinel a thriving and influential news source. It is with great pleasure that I recognize him today before this body of Congress and this Nation. Thanks for your service, Bob, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING RALPH MAYRELL

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to recognize Ralph Mayrell for his achievement at the 2003 Veterans Day Program in Wills Point, TX. Ralph's speech, Diversity in America, won the essay contest sponsored by local veterans at Wills Point High School.

Ralph Mayrell, a senior at Wills Point High School, is an active member of both his school and his community. He is a frequent participant in academic events, such as the University Interscholastic League, in which he often serves as both coach and competitor in

numerous events. He also competes in the National Forensics League and the North Texas Debate Association. Additionally, Ralph volunteers his time to the National Honor Society, an organization that stresses academic achievement and local community involvement, and extracurricular programs such as Science Geek Week, an academic summer camp for local youth.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend and congratulate Ralph for his achievement at the 2003 Veterans Day Program and for his continued academic and community involvement.

CONGRATULATING ST. MARY'S,
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP
CHURCH IN MOCANAQUA ON ITS
100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to St. Mary's, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Mocanaqua, Pennsylvania.

The church building itself is a landmark in Northeastern Pennsylvania with a gleaming gold and white steeple, partially encircled by 85-year-old pine trees. Travelers see the gold cross and towering pine trees as they cross the Susquehanna River on Route 11. But more importantly, St. Mary's Parish has a rich history.

St. Mary's, also known as Our Lady of Perpetual Help, has roots that date back to the late 19th Century when 10 Polish and three Slovak mining families petitioned the local coal company for a place to worship.

The coal company gave them an old, abandoned schoolhouse, which became the public place of worship in Mocanaqua.

I would like to recognize the contributions of the 10 founders of St. Mary's Parish: John Bizup, Joseph Bolinski, Joseph Fraj, Charles Kadtko, Frank Kadtko, John Kadtko, John Kollar, John Kowalski, John Strzelczak and Joseph Wywiorski.

I would also like to call the attention of my colleagues to a parishioner named Mrs. Mary Kowalski Stapinski, the only immediate descendant of one of the Parish's founders. Mrs. Stapinski is 97 years old now and the oldest living member of the Parish.

Father J. Signorski celebrated the first Mass in the improvised chapel in 1885. Father Signorski traveled from Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary in Scranton to perform the Mass.

In 1887, Bishop William O'Hara ordered the parish to become a mission church of St. Stanislaus Parish in Nanticoke. Father Beneventus Gramlewicz ministered to the spiritual needs of the people of Mocanaqua, traveling from St. Stanislaus in Nanticoke each month.

In 1890, the Church was made a mission of St. Adalbert's in Glen Lyon, and its pastor, Monsignor Andrew Zychowicz, traveled to Mocanaqua once each month to celebrate Mass at St. Mary's. As the years went on, Monsignor Zychowicz and his parishioners saw the need for a larger place of worship be-

cause the number of families there had grown so rapidly.

Parishioners began a fundraising drive for a new church in 1897. They raised \$400, and it is believed that this was the start of the annual Church picnic, which has since become a popular and beloved tradition.

The parish sought to purchase land for their fundraiser. The coal company sold parishioners a piece of land for \$1 because it wanted to keep the cheap labor pool content. The men of the parish leveled the land, cleared boulders, and dug a well. The park was named Sobieski Park and was formally dedicated in 1933.

Several years ago, the Library of Congress asked Members of Congress to submit nominations for the Local Legacies Project of the American Folklife Center. The Library asked for documentation of at least one significant cultural event or tradition that is important to each district or state, and I was more than happy to nominate St. Mary's Annual Homecoming Picnic. St. Mary's annual picnic is a celebration of ethnic heritage and diversity in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Father Stanislaus Siedlicki of Glen Lyon succeeded Monsignor Zychowicz, who was made pastor of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Church in Scranton. Construction of a new church building began in 1904. The church was located near Mocanaqua's current underpass and near the railroad.

In a tragic accident several years later, the church burned to the ground when a spark from a passing locomotive ignited the wooden structure on fire. However, the parishioners were not deterred. They again raised money for a new church, which was dedicated in 1914 at its present site, safely out of reach from the railroad.

The Rev. Andrew Smeltz took over ministering to St. Mary's, which was still a Mission Church, in 1908. In 1910, the members of the Mission felt that they deserved a full-time pastor. Bishop Michael Hoban appointed the parish's first resident pastor, the Rev. Felix Nowak, on Dec. 10, 1910.

During this time, coal miners were fighting for better wages. Many of them had left their wives and children in Europe while they came to America to earn the sufficient money to bring their families to Mocanaqua.

The miners threatened the West End Coal Company that they would quit and return to Europe if their wages were not raised. Not only were their wages raised, but they also successfully negotiated for the coal company to arrange passage for their families to come to America.

The provision of land for a cemetery was also provided in the negotiations. The first parishioner to be laid to rest in the cemetery was Basil Petrow, who lost his life at the age of 30 while working in the coal mines.

At this time I would like to pay tribute to 10 heroic servicemen from St. Mary's Parish who lost their lives during World War II and the Korean War: Michael Giunta, Edward Kadlubowski, Joseph Kalinowski, Edward Matak, Chester Okoneski, John Orzechowski, Vincent Yamilkoski, Michael Yaszczewski, John Zak, Stanley Zakrzewski.

By 1954—the year of the church's Golden Jubilee—the St. Mary's Parish had grown to include more than 400 families.

In 1976, to show their patriotism during our nation's bicentennial, the parishioners re-

moved the historic bronze church bell which had been cast in 1914 from the steeple and placed it on permanent display in the Church yard. A bronze plaque marks the site.

Pope John Paul II has given St. Mary's Parish a special Apostolic Blessing on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary. The Library of Congress has also recognized the occasion with a congratulatory letter.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in paying tribute to St. Mary's Parish in Mocanaqua. I am honored to represent a parish with such long-standing roots in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

TRIBUTE TO ZONTA INTER-
NATIONAL, PASADENA CHAPTER

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Zonta Club of Pasadena and the women who have shaped the club into the influential force that it is today in the greater Pasadena area.

Zonta International was established in 1919 in New York. Members were among the first generation of college-educated women, the first generation of North American women to vote, and a part of the growing legion of women entering the workforce. Currently, there are more than 33,000 members of Zonta Clubs in 67 countries. Their efforts are directed at increasing women's access to education and healthcare, preventing violence against women, and expanding economic self-sufficiency, as well as international service projects dedicated to world peace.

Founded in 1929, Zonta Club of Pasadena envisioned a strong network that would help women reach their rightful place in the professional world. Addressing the needs of women and children in our community, Zonta Club of Pasadena contributes volunteer time and financial support to Women at Work, Wellness Community-Foothills, Huntington Memorial Hospital, Young & Healthy, Union Station Foundation, Day One, the Pasadena Unified School District, and numerous other organizations.

In recognition of their seventy-fifth anniversary, Zonta Club of Pasadena will honor 20 women who have contributed significantly to the work of Zonta. These outstanding women are civic, educational, political and business leaders in the community, who have also provided strong leadership within the Zonta organization. The honorees are: Andrea Beal, Suzanne Burger, Beth Calleton, Priscilla Gamb, Shirley Gold, Lucy Guernsey, Ann Hight, Sue Miele, Regenia Moses, Katie Nack, Marilynn Penny, Betty-Jean Prosser, Anne Pursel, Pat Reynolds-Christianson, Lacreata Scott, Patricia Vick, Mildred Wardlow, Marge Wyatt, Harriet Zimney, and Carol Zoeller.

It is my distinct honor to ask all Members of Congress to join me today in congratulating Zonta Club of Pasadena's seventy-five years of service and support to women and children in the 29th Congressional District.