

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Economaki on this notable occasion. His contributions to the motorsports industry have been economically rewarding to countless families across America and have improved the quality of life for so many. Mr. Economaki epitomizes the spirit of American entrepreneurs and his example is inspirational to the generations who will follow him.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF SALLY MATTHEWS

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100th birthday of Mrs. Sally Matthews, which will take place on May 30, 2009. Sally, a lifelong resident of Jersey City, New Jersey, is the proud mother of two sons and six grandchildren. Throughout her life, Sally has been an outstanding public servant and professional. She worked for the New Jersey State Board of Children's Guardians from 1925 to 1942. Sally was subsequently employed as a legal secretary, receiving the distinction of being the Hudson County Legal Secretaries Association's Legal Secretary of the Year in 1970. Sally has always taken the time to give back to her community, having volunteered at St. Aedan's Rectory in Jersey City and having been a charter member of St. Aedan's Golden Club, 41 years ago. As Sally and her friends gather on June 1st to celebrate her 100th birthday, I wish her, on behalf of myself and the people of the 9th Congressional District of New Jersey, the very best as she reaches this exciting milestone in her life.

IN HONOR OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX
CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION AND THE 2009
HELLENIC HERITAGE FESTIVAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Greek Community of Cleveland, Ohio, and the members and leaders of the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation of Cleveland as join fellow community members this Memorial Day weekend to celebrate the heritage and culture of Greece at the annual Hellenic Heritage Festival.

The oldest Greek Orthodox Church in Cleveland, the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation was officially incorporated on February 15, 1913. Located on the corner of West 14th Street and Fairfield Avenue in the Historic Tremont District of Cleveland, it was the only Greek Orthodox Church to exist in the Greater Cleveland area until 1937. Today, it remains an active parish with an internationally-accredited Greek School.

For more than thirty years, members of the Greater Cleveland Community have gathered on the grounds of the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation to partake in the annual

Hellenic Heritage Festival, a wonderful community and family event that is enjoyed and shared by Clevelanders of all ethnic backgrounds. The event reflects the values of our community: faith, family, heritage and diversity. The festival is also a time of remembrance and honor—remembering our ancestors and relatives whose struggles, tragedies and triumphs will be remembered and revered from generation to generation, and honoring the numerous and significant contributions made to our community and our nation by Americans of Greek heritage.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Greek-Americans throughout our community and throughout our nation. I also stand in recognition of the members and leaders of the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation, whose individual and collective commitment to preserving and promoting the history and heritage of their beloved Greek homeland serves to enrich the diverse fabric of the Greater Cleveland Community.

HONORING SOMPOP JANTRAKA
AND HIS SCHOOL DEPDC

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the extraordinary vision and compelling work for peace of Sompop Jantraka and his school, DEPDC—the Development and Education Programme for Daughters and Communities.

Mr. Jantraka understands the necessity for caring intervention in order to save the young, innocent, poverty-stricken masses of the world. He has toiled tirelessly and fearlessly, in the face of danger, organized crime and desperation and oftentimes abandonment by parents of their offspring, to prevent child trafficking in the Mekong sub-region of Thailand's "Golden Triangle." He has made this cause, above many others, one of the main purposes of his life.

DEPDC is Thailand's first pro-active center for the prevention of child trafficking. It began with modest beginnings, nineteen "daughters" in a small house. And because of the incessant commitment to the preservation of children's futures, DEPDC has to-date prevented over 3,000 "daughters" and "sons" from being sold and from other forms of child exploitation. DEPDC has achieved this colossal feat by helping children gain access to adequate schooling and protective, safe sheltering.

Being a man of great humility, Mr. Jantraka has not sought acknowledgement but yet stands as a giant amongst many because of the success of his passion. In September 2008, Mr. Jantraka received a Rockefeller travel grant to participate as a panelist at the "Clinton Global Initiative" Annual Meeting in New York City in order to provide his expertise and insight. In March 2008, the University of Michigan awarded Mr. Jantraka its "Wallenberg Medal" for humanitarian service. It is my hope that Mr. Jantraka's work will continue to bring light to this severe, international pandemic that is encroaching upon and threatening the human rights of children across the globe.

It has been said of Mr. Jantraka that, with few resources and many enemies, he has

been a strong force in the fight against human trafficking. Sompop Jantraka is not only a living example of passion and concern manifesting into tangible humanitarian works, but he also serves an inspiration to the world, reminding us of the great fellow citizens we can be and invoking the compulsion to be the great fellow citizens we should be.

TRIBUTE TO SISTER HELEN
DONOHOE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sister Helen Donohoe who was called into eternity on Holy Saturday night, April 11, 2009, surrounded by her beloved Sisters, the Religious of the Sacred Heart.

My family was especially blessed to have Sister Helen as our dearest friend for decades. She was gentle, intelligent, loving, wise and holy. The following was read at Sister Donohoe's Memorial Mass celebrating her life:

On November 30, 1918, two and a half months premature, Helen Dorothy Donohoe, the youngest of ten children, was born into a loving and faith-filled family to Patrick and Frances Brogan Donohoe in San Francisco, California. Her father and all her grandparents were immigrants from Ireland. One of her earliest memories was of the family gathering around a large dining room table to say the rosary, a devotion that her father began and which lasted her lifetime.

When she was only four years old, her father died of leukemia, leaving her mother a 41 year-old widow with ten vibrant children. Helen reported that all her siblings were at home until she was six years old, when her oldest brother, Hugh, later a Bishop, entered the seminary. She attended St. Agnes parochial school and Notre Dame High School. During these years two of her older sisters became Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur; two brothers entered the Jesuits; other siblings married. When Helen was seventeen, her mother would not allow her to enter the Notre Dame novitiate, and her brother would not allow her to attend a state college, so she chose the San Francisco College for Women, Lone Mountain, run by the Religious of the Sacred Heart. Helen reported being very aware of how prayerful the nuns were. After three years of college, she wanted to enter religious life, but her mother insisted that she finish college. She even recalled being torn between the Notre Dame Sisters and the Religious of the Sacred Heart. The latter won out.

In August of 1940, she arrived with three other candidates at Kenwood, Albany, New York—the novitiate of the Society of the Sacred Heart. Her eyes were so bad that she ended up working in the sacristy and the library, instead of doing needlework. On February 22, 1943, Helen pronounced First Vows in the Society and returned to the Academy in San Francisco to teach in the elementary school. In May of 1945, she was sent to bed for three months when doctors feared she had incipient tuberculosis. The life of Sister Josefa was a great help during that time. Afterwards, she was sent to recuperate in San Diego, Old

Town, where the first Religious of the Sacred Heart were forming a community and preparing to move to the newly founded San Diego College for Women, later to become the University of San Diego.

By 1946 Helen returned to Atherton, enrolled at Stanford University, and began work on an M.A. in History and later changed to Economics—a long, arduous journey. During this time she was finally professed in Rome on February 9, 1949. By 1951 she received her M.A. in Economics, and she was assigned to Lone Mountain to teach both history and economics and to be junior counselor. From that year until 1967, Helen held a variety of positions at Lone Mountain: Professor, counselor, and assistant to the Dean, until she was named Assistant to the Superior, and later Superior.

One of the young nuns, Mary Jane Tiernan, who arrived from the noviceship at El Cajon, California at that time reports: “Dear Helen broke ranks and hugged me in welcome. I will never forget her and that warm hug in the midst of an austere scene. She was always warm and loving to me, the youngest in the community. Because of her I maintained my equilibrium in a changing world. She had a laugh, almost a talking giggle, when she thought someone or something was funny. I can still hear it. Throughout my life she was a loving presence. I do know that she was anxious, but she always had that ready Irish sense of humor despite her fears.”

By 1975 Helen became a member of the Western Province Provincial Team, serving with two provincials. In this time period she took a sabbatical, spending a year at Oxford, England, and having exciting excursions in Europe. In 1985 she was Superior at the Society’s retirement facility in Atherton, followed by two years in charge of hospitality at the provincial house in St. Louis. After returning West, Helen worked in hospital chaplaincy, and eventually for nine years as Director of the Oakwood Retirement Center.

Those who knew Helen best describe her as gentle, loving, deeply loyal and full of life, open to possibilities, responsible, but light. As one friend said, “Helen was an absolute delight; she was full of fun and stories. She evoked many good laughs.” One of her great gifts was that of hospitality in a variety of roles. People felt loved and cared for when Helen was around. Her close friend Sister Be Mardel, said, “Helen was physically fearful—terrified of being on the edge of a precipice, wary of heights and speed and winding mountain roads. She was, however, steadfast. One could always count on her. She was always ready to help, to support, to listen, and always ready to laugh at herself. A few years ago, Helen said to me, ‘You know, I’m ready for anything,’ and she added, ‘I’ve had a big grace.’ And, indeed, she did, and that deep peace and calm stayed with her right up to the end.”

In 2004 Helen moved to Oakwood, where, surrounded by her Sisters, she died peacefully on Holy Saturday night, April 11, 2009. Mary Jane Tiernan wrote, “When I heard that Helen had gone to God, I knelt down in my house and prayed for her and to her. What joy and love she nurtured me with during the years. I know she now enjoys life to the fullest with a shy smile and a twinkle in her eyes.”

Madam Speaker, I ask that the entire House of Representatives join me in extending our

sympathy to the Religious of the Sacred Heart and the Donohoe family. Heaven is enhanced with Sister Helen’s presence. She left our world better for how she lived her life, for all those she educated, and for her countless acts of love.

HONORING ALBIN GRUHN

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise with sadness today to honor Albin Gruhn of San Anselmo, California, who passed away March 18 at the age of 94. Mr. Gruhn was a respected and beloved labor leader and consumer rights activist whose calling was the welfare of the working people of California. His 36 years as president of the California Labor Federation and his role as a founder of the Association of California Consumers were at the heart of a remarkable career.

Mr. Gruhn was born in Eureka, California, in 1915. At the age of 19 he began working for the Hammond Lumber Co. where he joined the Sawmill and Loggers Federal Union. A strike shortly afterwards resulted in the deaths of three union picketers and deeply affected him, resulting in a life-long commitment to the labor movement.

He was also blacklisted as a result of his participation in the strike but soon found employment in construction, joining the Laborers Local where his membership continued for over 60 years. At the age of 22, he became secretary of the Central Labor Council of Humboldt and Del Norte Counties and led that council for over 20 years.

In 1940 Mr. Gruhn was first elected to what is now the California Labor Federation as district vice president and became its president in 1960. He led with skill, enthusiasm, and passion until his retirement in 1996. He helped build the organization into a strong and effective advocacy group for the rights of workers, inspiring several generations of political and labor leaders along the way.

During the 1960s, Mr. Gruhn was also a founder of the Association of California Consumers, California’s first consumer group, and later became a founding officer and then president emeritus of the Consumer Federation of California. He also devoted some of his considerable energies to the California Apprenticeship Council and the California Constitution Revision Commission as well as serving on various state commissions. These were appointments over the decades by five California governors and covered a variety of issues from fair housing to air pollution. One of the commissions dealt with children and youth, reflecting his deep involvement in the annual scholarship program established by the California Labor Federation.

Mr. Gruhn was always politically active as a means of supporting the causes he believed in. From campaigning for Franklin Roosevelt at the age of 17 to serving as an Adlai Stevenson delegate in 1956, he stayed engaged in the process. In 1944, he founded the Northern California AFL Political League.

Mr. Gruhn was married to the former Dorothy Coon for over 37 years. Dorothy pre-

deceased him in 2005, and the couple are survived by a large family of eight children, 14 grandchildren, and 17 great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, Albin Gruhn was proud to fight for working people, and all those with whom he came in contact—from family and friends to political leaders and co-workers—drew inspiration from his commitment. It is fitting in honoring him today to remember the remarks he always used to conclude his labor speeches: “In unity there is strength. United we stand, divided we fall. An injury to one is an injury to all.”

HONORING ALBIN GRUHN

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Mr. Gruhn supported the causes he believed in by staying politically active. From