

INTRADO 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. BETSY MARKEY

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2009

Ms. MARKEY of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Longmont, Colorado, based Intrado on the occasion of the celebration of their 30-year anniversary.

Founded by two Boulder County sheriffs, George Heinrichs and Stephen Meer, Intrado has played a key role in helping to define, build, and maintain the country's complex emergency communications system. Today Intrado provides the core of the Nation's 9-1-1 infrastructure, supporting over 200 million calls to 9-1-1 each year.

Intrado's history of emergency communications excellence is based on a strong foundation consisting of unmatched knowledge of emergency communications and public safety operations; proven experience in the design, deployment and operations of highly accurate, high-volume communication systems; solid reputation as a trusted and neutral custodian of sensitive data and; passion for saving lives.

Their extensive involvement in all aspects of the current 9-1-1 network has given them a unique perspective on how the system must evolve to support new technology, new system requirements and citizens' growing expectations. Intrado's customers include public safety agencies and the majority of the fixed wireline carriers, wireless carriers and VoIP service providers in the United States. Additionally, the nation's 6,000+ public safety answering points, PSAPs, rely on Intrado services for efficient 9-1-1 voice and data delivery. With the largest dedicated 9-1-1 call delivery network in the nation, Intrado can provide a broad range of customized and scaleable solutions.

9-1-1 is fundamental to telecommunications service. To meet this market requirement, Intrado helps telecommunications service providers ensure their subscribers' 9-1-1 calls are delivered to the correct public safety answering point (PSAP) over the dedicated 9-1-1 network along with the caller's accurate location information and call back number. As communications networks converge and 9-1-1 callers become more mobile Intrado has a proven track record of both anticipating and pioneering the solutions needed to keep pace with subscribers' demands for ubiquitous access to 9-1-1.

Intrado's contributions to the evolution of the 9-1-1 infrastructure include numerous technological and operational improvements as well as being responsible for more 9-1-1 technology "firsts" than any other commercial entity in the country.

Operates the largest dedicated 9-1-1 delivery network, with the highest data integrity level in the country;

Responsible for the ultimate delivery of over 90 percent of all 9-1-1 calls in the country;

Connected directly or indirectly to more than 6,000 public safety answering points in the country;

Supports over 200 million calls to 9-1-1 annually;

Maintains over 350 million records under management; average of three records per U.S. household;

Over 240 million wireline telephone records;

Over 120 million wireless records;

Over 1 million VoIP subscriber records;
Provides 9-1-1 services to more than 28 million members of the deaf community;
Processed an estimated 3 billion 9-1-1 calls to date;

Processed more satellite calls to 9-1-1 than any other service provider;

Processes an average of 500,000 updates to the 9-1-1 system daily;

Employees have more than 1,200 years of combined experience in public safety and telecommunications;

Holds licenses for over 45 U.S. and foreign patents, with over 100 pending.

Intrado's success has come in large part to its leadership, dedication and perseverance helping the public safety community. I want to thank them for all they have done to contribute to Colorado's economy and to the advancement of 9-1-1 and congratulations on this momentous occasion.

THE TEXAS AGRILIFE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, for 100 years, scientists at the Research and Extension Center in Beaumont, Texas, have worked to provide economic security to agricultural producers in southeast Texas. The center was created by the Texas legislature in 1909, and was charged with developing rice production and management programs for the Texas upper gulf coast. Today the center occupies ca. 960 acres near Beaumont, 113 acres in Eagle Lake, and 18 acres near Ganado, and is 1 of 13 research and extension centers affiliated with the Texas A&M University System and Texas AgriLife Research, the State's premier research agency in agriculture, natural resources, and the life sciences.

The Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Beaumont is the preeminent center in developing high quality, high yielding rice varieties, economically competitive and environmentally sustainable rice production and management systems, rice water conservation programs, cellulosic bioenergy crop production systems, and cutting-edge internet-based crop, pest, and environmental resource management decision programs and databases, providing economic well being to thousands of families in southeast Texas.

The center scientists work extremely closely with Texas rice producers and rice producers across the U.S., and maintain research programs with scientists from across Texas and from California, Louisiana, Arkansas, Indiana, Missouri, and Mississippi. Current international research partners include scientists from Australia, Brazil, China, India, Japan, Mexico, Philippines, South Korea, and Sri Lanka, which has led to the development of economically competitive and environmentally sound management systems that benefit Texas, the U.S., and the world.

The Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Beaumont is a showcase of agricultural and environmental research in the Upper Gulf Coast and looks forward to serving the needs of Texas, the Nation, and the world into the next century.

HONORING THE MARCHEGIAN SOCIETY OF NEW HAVEN AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2009

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate the Marchegian Society of New Haven as they celebrate their centennial anniversary—a remarkable milestone for this very special organization.

Founded in 1909 by 36 men who had come to the United States from the Marche Province of Italy, the Marchegian Society was born out of a sense of responsibility to their fellow Marchigiani. They wanted to provide financial assistance for their fellow members in the event of illness, death, or accidents—not an uncommon occurrence at the turn of the century. Though the majority of the Marchigiani came from agrarian backgrounds, they were skilled artisans who were family oriented, industrious and proud of their work ethic. While they quickly assimilated into American society, the Marchegian Society provided them with a way to celebrate their shared ancestry, culture, and traditions.

The original members of the Marchegian Society met in a building at the lower end of Minor Street in the Hill section of New Haven, Connecticut. In 1923, the society purchased its present home on Cedar and Minor Streets. The acquisition allowed the organization to expand in size and led to the formation of the Marchegian Club for the purposes of social endeavors. In 1924, a group of 132 women founded the Societa Femminile Marchegiana which functioned under its own bylaws until a fusion pact was passed in 1936 giving the Marchegian Ladies Society an equal partnership with the men—an act of equal rights for women well before the concept became a national issue.

The construction of the present building was completed in 1936 and the new facility provided an outstanding space which soon became the social and cultural center of the community. Minstrels, musical shows, bowling contests, card games, bocce tournaments and weekly dances were among the many activities and charity events held there. The society remained a very progressive organization and continued to care for its members, providing sick and death benefits as well as cemetery plots for those members who could not afford one. The Marchegian Society provided a social and financial safety net for their members and, when the nation called on communities to sell war bonds during World War II, the society held numerous rallies to support the cause. The pride that they have shared, from generation to generation, in their community, their work, and their nation—that sense of family—is what has made this organization so special and what has enabled it to continue its mission for 100. The Marchegian Society is a community treasure.

Today, as members gather to celebrate, I am honored to have this opportunity to stand and extend my sincere congratulations to the Marchegian Society on their 100th anniversary. I have no doubt that the Marchegian Society will continue to be a source of pride for

our community and continue in their mission to preserve, protect, and celebrate the strong and special traditions of Le Marche.

HONORING THE GUILDS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Guilds of Children's Hospital Central California upon 60 years of community service, philanthropy, and advocacy for the hospital. The Guilds will celebrate their 60th anniversary on Thursday, November 12, 2009, in Fresno, California.

In 1949 five women, Agnes Crockett, Gail Goodwin, Helen Maupin Ross, Carolyn Peck and Patty Randall, recognized a common need for a dedicated pediatric hospital in California's San Joaquin Valley. As the five women moved forward with their vision, they realized this would need to be a community project, and the idea of a "guild" system emerged. Since then, the Guilds have had two primary objectives; to raise financial support and to develop ongoing community support for Children's Hospital Central California.

On January 28, 1949, the first public meeting was held to discuss a "hospital for children only." By September the first Guild, Llanada Guild, was established and the initial fundraiser for Valley Children's Hospital was held. With Mrs. T. Wayne Simpson as President, Llanada Guild raised \$5,477 at a fundraiser held at Giffen Ranch. In just 2 years, the Guild had raised well over \$3,000.

On September 12, 1951, a ground breaking ceremony for the hospital was held. It was through the fundraising efforts of the original Guilds that Valley Children's Hospital was constructed in Fresno, California on donated land. Fourteen months after the ground breaking ceremony, Valley Children's Hospital was open for patients. The first patient, a young girl with a stomach ache was admitted on November 12, 1952, and the first surgery performed at the hospital was an appendectomy on the young girl.

During the early 1990s Valley Children's Hospital started the plans for a new, state-of-the-art facility. After settling on a 50-acre site in Madera County, just north of the Madera-Fresno County line, planning and construction of the new facility took almost a decade. For almost 50 years, Valley Children's Hospital provided medical and emergency services to children through out the San Joaquin Valley at the same facility. On August 31, 1998, at 1 minute past midnight, the move to the new fa-

cility began and the new hospital was re-named Children's Hospital Central California.

Today, Children's Hospital has a service area that covers 10 counties in central California. The hospital treats more inpatient cases than any other pediatric hospital north of San Diego, making this hospital the second largest children's hospital in the State of California. It is a 338 bed facility, and is 1 of the 10 largest hospitals of its type in the Nation. The hospital performs over 9,000 surgeries annually. The Pediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care Units have some of the lowest mortality rates in the nation, while treating some of the sickest children. The Craycroft Cancer Center at Children's Hospital is a full member of the nationally recognized Children's Oncology Group, and sees more than 100 new cases every year. The Wilson Heart Center has pioneered cardiac care for half a century, and performed one of the first open-heart surgeries in the area. It is also the first pediatric hospital west of the Rocky Mountains to be awarded Magnet Nursing status and received re-designation in 2008.

With the vision and ingenuity of the first five women, the Guilds have helped to make Children's Hospital what it is today. For the past 60 years the Guilds have been the largest financial contributor to the hospital, raising almost \$22 million. The hospital has used these funds to expand both services and the hospital. In June 2009, the Guilds voted to support the largest single donation to the hospital, a \$4 million commitment for the continuation of the Guilds Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Endowment. In 60 years funds have been raised through the fundraising efforts of all of the Guilds; Llanada (established 1949, disbanded), Kings (established 1949), La Feliz (established 1949), Los Rancheros (established 1949), Pleasant Valley (established 1949, disbanded), Alegria (established 1950), Corcoran (established 1950, disbanded), Las Madrinas (established 1950), Panoche (established 1950, disbanded), Rio Reyes (established 1950, disbanded), Sequoia (established 1950), Tenaya (established 1950), La Caridad (established 1951, disbanded), La Tienda (established 1952), Holiday (established 1953), La Comida (established 1953), Children's Service (established 1950s, disbanded), Los Ninos (established 1950s, disbanded), Selma (established 1950s, disbanded), Las Amigas (established 1950s, disbanded), La Sierra (established 1999), La Visionaria (established 2007), Del Corazon (established 2008) and Los Ninos Hispanic (established 2008).

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the Guilds of Children's Hospital Central California on 60 years of giving. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing the Guilds many years of continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE ANCIENT
ORDER OF HIBERNIANS DIVISION
4 ANNUAL IRISH FAMINE MASS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2009

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ancient Order of Hibernians A.O.H., Division 4 and their Great Irish Hunger Annual Mass and Memorial Dedication. On Saturday, November 14, the A.O.H. will hold a mass and immediately following take part in a processional walk to Friendship Park in Keansburg, New Jersey, for the dedication and blessing of "The Great Irish Hunger Monument." The monument was designed by artist Phil Sloan and A.O.H. Division 2 President Jack Sullivan.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians was founded in 1836 in New York City and is a nonprofit Catholic fraternal organization whose mission is to promote friendship, unity, and Christian charity among its members. The original order existed in Ireland for over 300 years and was created to help protect the lives of Catholic priests in occupied Ireland after the reign of England's King Henry VIII.

American chapters of the Ancient Order of Hibernians were created for similar reasons like protecting the clergy and the Catholic Church and its followers while providing aid to the community at large. The A.O.H. admirably seeks to promote and preserve the Irish Heritage through art, music, dance, and culture. The services that they provide are important assets to my district and provide unique diversity that is dearly valued.

The Great Famine or Great Hunger created widespread starvation and disease which, coupled with a mass exodus from Ireland, caused the country's population to drop by more than 20 percent. It is estimated that approximately 1 million people died and 1 million more left Ireland during that period. The A.O.H. will honor and remember those devastated by the famine with a memorial mass, as well as bless their newly erected monument which will stand as a memorial to the lives lost and forever changed by the Great Hunger.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in thanking the Ancient Order of Hibernians for the work they do in supporting my constituency, as well as honor the memory of those affected by the Great Hunger that struck Ireland over 150 years ago.