

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF DR. RUSSELL F.
BLOWERS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize one of the best men I have had the privilege to know. His life reflects his life's work: Preaching the message of Jesus. Dr. Russell F. Blowers has served his congregation at East 91st Street Christian Church in Indianapolis for 45 years. As Russ retires I am filled with mixed emotions. While I am happy that he will be able to have time for new ventures, he will be sorely missed in the weeks, months, and years to come.

Under his committed leadership, Dr. Blowers has seen church membership grow from 85 people on his first Sunday, to nearly 4,000, making it one of Indiana's largest congregations. East 91st Street Church has provided a myriad of ways for its members to serve, grow spiritually, and evangelize. Russ attributes this amazing growth to having stayed true to the Christian scriptures. By God's grace, Russ has remained faithful to the gospel by preaching the lordship of Jesus Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit, the essential plan of salvation through the Cross and resurrection, and the inerrant nature of the divinely inspired Word of God.

Russ Blowers has preached about issues that transcend politics and reflect unchangeable Biblical truths, such as opposition to abortion and that homosexuality is against God's will. Russ has counseled Senator RICHARD LUGAR, former Vice President Dan Quayle, Representative ANDY JACOBS, and myself, a member of the church since 1981. ANDY JACOBS has said, "I think Russ's legacy will be that he showed us all the potential of the human heart. He showed us what a considerable contribution one person can make by simply seeking to love and be loved in return." I wholeheartedly agree with my colleague. Russ Blowers has lived out the words he has preached. He is Christ-like.

Russ was born in Zanesville, OH, in 1924. He is a World War II veteran, having served with the 343d Fighter Squadron, 55th Fighter Group of the 8th Air Force in England and Germany. After his return from the 8th Air Force, Russ entered Ohio University as a journalism-advertising major and met his future wife, Marian. She introduced Russ to Christianity. "She didn't beat me over the head with the Bible," he says. "She just lived the life and answered my dumb questions about the Bible. I fell in love with her first and then with my Lord."

After graduation from Ohio University, Russ received a Master of Divinity from Christian Theological Seminary and Milligan College later conferred on him with the Doctor of Divinity. Dr. Russ Blowers became pastor of East 49th Street Christian Church in 1951. As the church grew, the congregation changed its

name when it moved to 6049 East 91st Street. Russ Blowers preached his final sermon on September 8, 1996. He sums up his ministry by reflecting, "Above all, as I close this phase of my ministry, I give God the glory for whatever has been accomplished. He has been faithful to me beyond my deserving, and my most precious honor is being one of His children, one of His servants."

Russ has also been involved in ministry beyond his local congregation. He has preached in 11 nations and has hosted nine tour groups to Europe and the Middle East. He hosted "The Chapel Door" live on WISH-TV daily for 12 years. Russ has also been a contributing columnist for "The Lookout Magazine" as well as the church's newsletter "The 91st Edition."

Russ and Marian have two sons: Philip, Marion County deputy prosecuting attorney; and Paul, associate professor of church history at Emmanuel School of Religion. Their accomplished sons will confirm that this Pastor who loved the congregation of East 91st Street is the same genuine article at home with his family as he is in the pulpit. The Blowers also have four grandchildren: Shannon, Alison, Leslie, and Colin.

Russ has not only been a great pastor, he has also been my good friend and confidant through the years. May the Lord continue to bless Russ and Marian very generously in the years to come, in the way that they have been a blessing to others.

ST. BONIFACE CHURCH
CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues, the 100th anniversary of St. Boniface Church in Wilkes-Barre, PA. I am pleased to have been asked to participate in the observance of this milestone.

On August 16, 1896 a group of German immigrants from the Pfalz region of Bavaria met to form a new congregation. An executive committee of 12 was formed to obtain permission from the bishop to build a new church. When permission was granted a lot was purchased on Blackman Street in Wilkes-Barre. Five men mortgaged their homes to provide the initial money to build the church. On October 4, 1896 the cornerstone of the church was laid by Bishop O'Hara. The original construction cost of the church was \$4,345.

On the suggestion of Bishop O'Hara and reflecting the German heritage of the majority of the parishioners, the church was named after St. Boniface, the apostle of the Germans as the church's patron saint.

The first mass was held in March 1897 in the newly built church which still didn't have pews. The dedication of the church followed shortly after that. The first pastor of the church

was the Reverend Charles J. Goeckel who lived with neighbors until a rectory could be built at the church.

The church began a series of fundraising activities and parish socials in order to raise money for construction of facilities and to provide community services for the parishioners. The traditional St. Boniface "Kaffee Klatsch" is still held today on Shrove Tuesday night as a way for members of the parish to get together.

Under the leadership of the Reverend Charles Von Weldon, the parish and community offerings of St. Boniface grew and the adjoining convent was enlarged.

Mr. Speaker, every succeeding pastor of St. Boniface helped to expand and enlarge the property and make the parish prosper. The church today is an important presence in the religious life of the Wyoming Valley. Serving German immigrants and others for 100 years, St. Boniface has continued the traditions and preserved the heritage of its founders.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate St. Boniface on this milestone in its history and send best wishes for continued prosperity.

THE PASSING OF EVELYN DAVIS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise with deep regret to inform our colleagues of the passing of an outstanding journalist and publisher who was widely read and respected in my 20th district of New York.

Evelyn Burtz Davis, a resident of Old Tappan, NJ, was the publisher of the Rockland County Times, located in Haverstraw, NY. Recently, she became publisher also of the Rockland Review, also published in Rockland County, NY.

In her role as publisher of the Times since 1984, she became known for the caustic comments and unique insight of her editorials. Although she quite often advocated stands on issues with which on occasion I was in total disagreement, no one could ever question the extensive research which Evelyn undertook on each and every editorial she composed. While many of us may have often questioned her conclusions, no one ever questioned the factual validity of the data which led her to make these conclusions. No one ever questioned the intellectual integrity for which Evelyn Davis became a living legend in our community.

Perhaps most significantly of all, no matter how deeply Evelyn may have disagreed with a public official on an issue, she always welcomed divergent points of view, and was never afraid to change her mind or to have errors pointed out to her. Evelyn always, with gracious enthusiasm, afforded space in her own newspaper for those who wished to express opinions contrary to her own or who wished to rebut her editorials.

Evelyn was the widow of Sylvan Davis, who preceded her as publisher of the Rockland

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

County Times. During Sylvan's tenure as publisher, from 1974 until his untimely death in 1984, the Rockland County Times enjoyed an outstanding reputation as a fair, accurate mirror of the community news. During the tenure of Sylvan Davis as publisher of the Rockland County Times, this newspaper, which was over 100 years old, enjoyed a resurgence as a thought provoking and thorough medium for the issues and news of the day.

Throughout his time as publisher, Sylvan's wife Evelyn was always at his side with sage advice and assistance. The publication of the Times became a joint effort. Accordingly, when Sylvan quite suddenly and unexpectedly passed away in 1984, it was no surprise to any of us that Evelyn agreed to take up his fallen torch.

Evelyn Burtz was born July 14, 1933, in New York City, the daughter of the late Alexander and Gussie Goldstein Burtz. Evelyn attended Pennsylvania State University and earned a degree in journalism from the New York University School of Commerce, now known as the Stern School of Business. Evelyn went to work for Macy's Department Store, and after 15 years of dedicated service, worked her way up to the position of home furnishings coordinator.

Evelyn married Sylvan Davis on November 7, 1965. Their marriage brought about one of the outstanding mergings of intellect. It was during this period that the Davis' became my friends, and I will cherish the memories of that friendship forever.

In addition to her responsibilities as publisher, Evelyn Davis served on the School Board in Old Tappan, NJ, from 1981 to 1987. She was also an outstanding mother to two children: Paul Allen Davis, who now resides in Minneapolis, MN, and Randy Allison Davis, who still resides in Old Tappan.

Since the earliest days of our republic, the press has been a major component of our democratic form of government. Ben Franklin has been the model of the outstanding journalist turned patriot.

Evelyn Davis, like her husband who predeceased her, was just such a patriot. She believed the press existed to educate, to inform, and to stimulate thought.

Mr. Speaker, I shall profoundly miss the insight and thoughtfulness of Evelyn Davis, and I invite all of our colleagues to join with me in extending our condolences to her son, her daughter, her four nieces, and the many employees and community leaders who loved this truly remarkable woman.

“SUSPICIOUS CRIME REPORT”

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends to his colleagues the following editorial regarding violent crime rates and the Clinton administration which appeared in the Omaha World Herald on September 20, 1996.

[From the Omaha World Herald, Sept. 20, 1996]

SUSPICIOUS CRIME REPORT

The Clinton administration claims that it has significantly reduced violent crime. So why don't Americans feel safer?

For one thing, the administration's claim is based in part on a survey in which the methodology had been changed. For another, even if the crime rate had a one-year decline, a similar survey showed no significant decline in the 1992-94 period. Moreover, the statistics still don't reflect the evidence of the creeping chaos that is encountered by many citizens on their streets and in their neighborhoods.

Researchers at the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics said this week preliminary results of a survey show that an estimated 9.9 million violent crimes were committed in the United States in 1995, a 9 percent drop from the previous year, but a decline of only 3.7 percent from 1992. Attorney General Janet Reno said the figures demonstrated that the Clinton administration had found “solutions that work.”

The Justice Department released the survey report at an odd time. Last year, no preliminary estimates at all were released. This year, though spring is the normal release time, the estimates were not made public until this week. It's just a coincidence, we suppose, that the election is only seven weeks away.

President Clinton hailed the report as proof that “we're moving in the right direction,” implying that the administration had caused a drop in crime.

However, the numbers don't reflect actual crimes. They are from an estimate based on a survey. Unreported crimes—a wildly speculative notion—are included. Moreover, the survey did not track homicides.

The sharpest decline in violent crimes was in rape. The Justice Department's National Crime Victimization Study included date rape, and in the category of domestic violence and date rape it used “enhanced questions” to get a better estimate. The result was that in spite of reports of increased sexual assaults by rape crisis centers, the Justice Department estimated that rapes declined from 432,700 in 1994 to 354,670 last year. Crime experts were stunned.

If rape figures—either in 1994 or in 1995—are treated with the skepticism that they deserve, and if homicides weren't even included, what is left is at best a slight one-year decline in aggravated assault, simple assault and robbery—as reported by victims, not as reported to the FBI.

Another way to calculate the crime rate is to consolidate the figures from local law enforcement reports. That is the method used in compiling the FBI's annual Uniform Crime Report, made public last May. The dean of the criminal justice college at Northeastern University, noting that the FBI report indicated a 4 percent decline, said the country was experiencing “the calm before the crime storm.” Other experts said that as the children of the baby boomers move into the high-crime 15-to-24 age bracket, more violent crime is likely. * * *

Americans are entitled to be annoyed at political rhetoric and rosy statistics purporting to show that violent crime is decreasing sharply. If they now have to barricade themselves inside a car and have a cellular phone in order to drive the streets of Omaha safely at 8 in the morning, government at all levels is failing. And the Clinton administration's claims to have made a major difference are no better than a sick joke.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BOAT PROTECTION ACT OF 1996

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to stop an increasingly common problem facing America's marine manufacturers. This problem, originally brought to my attention by a boat manufacturer in my congressional district, entails the theft of proprietary designs with respect to the production of boat hulls. Such piracy threatens not only the integrity of the U.S. marine manufacturing industry, but the safety of America boaters as well.

Boat manufacturers invest significant resources in the design and development of safe, structurally sound, and often high performance boat hull designs. Including research and developmental costs, a boat manufacturer often invests as much as \$50,000 to develop a design from which a single line of vessels can be manufactured. When a boat hull is designed, and the engineering and tooling process is completed, engineers then develop a boat plug, from which they construct a boat mold. The manufacturer is then able to produce a particular line of boats from this mold. In contrast, those intent on stealing the original boat design, rather than developing their own, can simply use a finished boat hull in place of the manufacturer's plug to develop or splash a mold. This copied mold can then be used to manufacture a line of vessels with a hull identical to that appropriated from the competitor at a cost well below that of the company that originally designed the hull.

Hull splashing is a significant problem for consumers, as well as manufacturers and boat design firms. Consumers of copied boats are defrauded in the sense that they are not benefiting from the aspects of the hull design, other than shape, that are structurally relevant to safety. It is also more unlikely that consumers are aware that a boat has been copied from an existing design. Moreover, if manufacturers are unable to recoup at least some of their research and development costs, they may no longer be willing to invest in new, innovative boat designs—designs that could lead to safer watercraft for consumers.

The Boat Protection Act of 1996 would work in concert with current Federal law to protect American marine manufacturers from harmful and unfair competition from unscrupulous foreign and domestic rivals.

I urge my colleagues to support the Boat Protection Act of 1996 and stand with me in my effort to protect the American public and the marine manufacturing community from the assault on American ingenuity caused by hull splashing.

TRIBUTE TO VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS ALBION PLACE MEMORIAL POST NO. 7165

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. MARTINI. I rise today in recognition of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Albion Place