IN HONOR OF THOMAS F. CATAPANO
HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 11th Annual Greenpoint/Williamsburg Columbus Day Parade and in particular to commend Thomas F. Catapano upon the occasion of his selection as Grand Marshall of the parade, which is to be held on October 12, 1997.

Mr. Catapano has been chosen by the Federation of Italian-American Organizations of Greenpoint/Williamsburg, under the direction of President Gerard DePaola, Chairman Anthony Pastena, and Parade Chairman Vincent Martello. Mr. Catapano, a resident of Brooklyn, attended St. John’s University and the State University of New York College in Old Westbury.

He began his distinguished career in public service as the Assembly-House Operations Regional Coordinator for New York City and Director of the Assembly-Speaker’s Field Services Division; in 1982, he was elected to the first of five terms as a Member of the Assembly, representing the 54th District.

As an Assembly Member, Mr. Catapano chaired the Assembly Committee on Real Property and Taxation, on Ethics and Guidance, the Subcommittee on Volunteer Ambulance Services, on Housing for the Elderly, and the Task Force on New Americans. He was also an active member of the Assembly Committees on Aging, Social Services Banking, Consumer Affairs, Government Employees and Housing, and was instrumental in enacting legislation which established the first State-funded nursing home for veterans in New York City, codifying procedures for the licensing of real estate appraisers statewide, and developing new housing opportunities for the elderly.

Mr. Catapano is currently executive director of the New York State Conference of Italian-American legislators. He has served as a valued public servant on the advisory boards of the John Calandra Institute of CUNY, the Italian-American Legal Defense Fund, Council of State Governments, Cypress Hill Local Development Corp., Coalition of Italian-American Organizations, and the Northern Brooklyn Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to Mr. Catapano and the 11th Annual Greenpoint/Williamsburg Columbus Day Parade.

HONORING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION AND REDEDICATION OF ST. MICHAEL’S CATHEDRAL SPRINGFIELD, MA
HON. RICHARD E. NEAL
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to have this opportunity to congratulate both the Roman Catholic diocese of Springfield and the parish of St. Michael’s Cathedral in Springfield, MA on both their sesquicentennial celebration and September 28, 1997, rededication. This cathedral is a magnificent place of worship located proudly near the center of downtown Springfield. For over a century, St. Michael’s has served a diverse body of parishioners and has catered overwhelmingly to the needs of its faith community.

I would be honored to share with you some of the history of the parish of St. Michael’s Cathedral. St. Michael’s Church originally occupied a simple structure on Union Street in Springfield where a small group of people joined together to worship. Soon enough, this community of believers outgrew the edifice and orchestrated the purchase of land at the corner of State and Eliot Streets. In 1860, on the feast of St. Michael, the cornerstone of a new church was laid. Dedicated on Christmas morning in 1861, this church was eventually consecrated in 1866.

In response to an ever growing parish family, the Diocese of Springfield was established in 1870. St. Michael’s Church was at this time named the cathedral church of that new diocese.

On the occasion of its centennial, at the brink of a second century of service, St. Michael’s Cathedral underwent interior renovation. Further additions to the cathedral have been witnessed recently with the completion of the Bishop Marshall Center. This unique addition to the church complex provides a forum where the cathedral and the diocese can collaborate to plan increased service to its parishioners, members of the diocese, and the city as a whole. The Bishop Marshall Center is equipped with handicapped access meeting rooms and contains the Holy Spirit Chapel from which the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist is televised.

Just as it did 150 years ago, St. Michael’s Cathedral continues to foster a true spirit of Christian fellowship within the greater Springfield area. The parish and its members have made invaluable contributions to both the diocese and the city. I am delighted to offer these remarks in honor of the cathedral and once again congratulate the parish of St. Michael’s on its upcoming sesquicentennial and rededication.

COMMEMORATING THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE
HON. WALTER H. CAPPS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proclaim this the International Day of Peace. Today is the second annual celebration hosted by the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation in the city of Santa Barbara, CA. It highlights efforts by local organizations who are working to bring peace to both Santa Barbara and the global community.

The International Day of Peace was adopted by the United Nations in 1981 “to commemorate and strengthen the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and people.” As the Representative of the 22d district in California and a former professor of Religious Studies at University of Santa Barbara I strive every day to achieve these goals.

Currently I am working to ban antipersonnel land mines around the world, devices which...