

candy. The Circle of Serbian Sisters of Northwest Indiana works with the International Orthodox Christian Charities and Serbian Orthodox Church in the former Yugoslavia.

Four priests who have supported this effort from the very beginning are: Father Steve Kovacevich, from St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in East Chicago; the Very Reverend Father Milan Savich, from St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Schererville; the Arch Priest John Todorovich, from St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church; and Father Lazar Kostur, from St. Elijah Serbian Orthodox Church.

This year, the Circle of Serbian Sisters will be honored with the presence of His Grace Right Reverend Longin, Bishop of Dalmatia and Auxiliary Bishop to His Holiness Patriarch Pavale. His Grace Right Reverend Longin is also the Administrator of New Gracanica, seated in Third Lake, IL.

Mr. Speaker, during this difficult time in the former Yugoslavia, the mission of the Circle of Serbian Sisters of Northwest Indiana offers renewed hope in the humanity of all people. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the Circle of Serbian Sisters and wishing them well on their fifth annual banquet, as well as the continued success of their humanitarian efforts.

THE SPIRIT OF ATONEMENT AND
THE MILLION MAN MARCH

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, as you know, we will soon leave for a week-long district work period. However, I did not want my colleagues to leave before pointing out a key event that will occur next week in many cities in our Nation. Two years ago on October 16, 1997, the largest nonviolent demonstration in the history of the United States took place less than 100 yards from where I now stand. This demonstration, the Million Man March, saw African-American men stand up and dedicate themselves to take control of their lives, their destiny, and their communities. A larger theme of the march was that of atonement, to reconcile our differences with one another so that we may face all of the challenges that oppress African-Americans in a solid wall of unity, in a united front of understanding and peace. Despite entreaties by the media and other sources, initially questioning whether any men would show up for this march, combined with the media's sub rosa notions of violence that was expected from such a gathering of African-American men, this march was a fantastic success. Many of our States, cities, and communities are budding with new organizations, large and small, dedicated toward making our neighborhoods a safer place.

I am an avid, ardent, and enthusiastic supporter of the goals and ideals of the march: acknowledging past mistakes, confessing these errors to those whom we have wronged, asking for forgiveness, and having the restoration of spirit that is encompassed in taking these steps. Collectively, African-Americans must atone for the destruction that is going on in our communities. Collectively, America must atone for the divisiveness that has wreaked so

much dissension among all of God's children. And, it is collectively how these challenges will be solved. The theme of the Holy Day of Atonement, "To be Young, Gifted and Atoning," will emphasize a focus on what needs to be done, with and for our youth, to save us all.

It is in this spirit that I honor and support the goals and ideals of October 16, 1997, as a day of atonement. Each city will observe this day in its own manner. "To be Young, Gifted and Atoning," emphasizing the condition of our youth, will allow all Americans to discover where the power is located to solve these problems—the power is located within ourselves.

I support the effort of African-American men to build the strength within themselves to forge better men, better sons, better homes, better communities, and better nations. I support the effort of African-American women to work with African-American men toward these desperately-needed ideals. I support the effort of every American to improve our country, reach out and help those willing to help themselves. The Holy Day of Atonement is an excellent vehicle to continue upon the success of two years ago, and I applaud the hard work of its dedicated staff and volunteers in the 15th Congressional District of Michigan and in other cities throughout our great Nation.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS
MONTH

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, October is the month set aside to bring national attention to the crime of domestic violence in this country. It is a crime that affects people in all communities, transcending economic, geographic, and racial lines. With a woman battered every 13 seconds it has reached epidemic proportions and is the greatest cause of injury to women in the United States today. Yet, the nature and seriousness of domestic violence as a crime is often ignored.

To combat domestic violence, education is a vital component to helping society understand the problem, and to changing attitudes and perceptions about this crime. By raising the level of awareness and understanding about domestic violence we can overcome the shameful stigma and psychological barriers and associated with this epidemic that prevent us from effectively ending the cycle of violence.

As co-chair of the Violence Against Women Working Group, I will co-host a reception in Los Angeles with California State Senator Hilda Solis on October 14, 1997, to honor organizations and individuals that work tirelessly against domestic violence. This year's reception will honor Alana Bowman, special assistant to the Los Angeles City attorney, the Domestic Violence Coalition at California Hospital Medical Center, Junior Leagues of California's Silent Witness Project, and El Monte City mayor, Pat Wallach.

Alana Bowman has been a champion for victims of domestic violence for over 10 years. As the former head of the Domestic Violence Unit for the city attorney, she set the standard for prosecution of offenders in the city of Los

Angeles. Ms. Bowman has played a key role in the development of landmark legislation of domestic violence and continues to do so in her new position as special assistant and as a member of the National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women. She is the author of numerous legal manuals and article on domestic violence.

To meet the needs of the surrounding community and as a response to the request from the Los Angeles Police Department's Central Division, California Hospital Medical Center formed the Domestic Violence Coalition in 1996, under the direction of Dr. Robert Splawn. The coalition is comprised of representatives from the LAPD, city and district attorney's offices, elected officials, shelter, advocacy agencies, and hospital staff. Its mission is to provide immediate, compassionate support services to victims, and to work towards the prevention of domestic violence.

The mission of Junior Leagues of CA Silent Witness Project is to "promote peace, healing and responsibility in adult relationships in order to eliminate domestic murders in the United States by the year 2010." The project is a memorial to personalize the individual woman behind the horrifying statistics of domestic violence. The exhibit educates and galvanizes public and legislative support to the domestic violence.

Mayor Pat Wallach of El Monte has been a steadfast supporter of services for domestic violence victims. Most recently, she led the fight that resulted in the city's contribution of \$167,000 in HOME funds to buy a building that was transformed into a shelter for battered women and their children.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I urge my colleagues to join me and Senator Solis in recognizing and congratulating these individuals and organizations who are devoted to the elimination of the domestic violence cycle and to educating our communities about this hideous crime.

TRIBUTE TO FATHER WILLIAM
CUNNINGHAM AND FOCUS: HOPE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, October 12, there will be held the Annual Walk of Focus: HOPE.

This year's walk possesses a special significance and poignancy. It will be held without its founder and inspiration Father William Cunningham.

His death on May 26 of this year left a void that can never be filled.

The riots of 1967 changed life in the metropolitan area and the life of William Cunningham.

In turn, his response changed the life of the entire area. He decided to dedicate his service to the community. Combining his deep spirituality with brilliant organizational skills, he started the embryonic organization Focus: HOPE. That seed has grown from its initial food program to a broad-scale attack on the manifestations and causes of poverty.

Father Cunningham's dream was that people from all walks of life, races, and creeds could, and would, work together to enhance individual lives and the fabric of society.