

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE UNIVERSITY INAUGURATES FIFTH PRESIDENT

HON. HENRY B. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 1998

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, on February 21st of this year, Our Lady of the Lake University will inaugurate Sally Mahoney as its fifth president. It is an honor for me to recognize and applaud this important event at one of the leading institutions of higher learning in the entire southwest portion of our Nation.

Our Lady of the Lake University is coated in the heart of the 20th Congressional District of Texas, which I have had the honor and privilege of representing in the U.S. Congress for thirty-six years now. For over one hundred years, Our Lady of the Lake University has provided premier education at the same location on the Westside of San Antonio.

The University—or “The Lake” as it is affectionately referred to in San Antonio—was originally established in Texas by the Congregation of the Sisters of Divine Providence. From its inception as a Catholic academy for young women, the Lake has grown into a coeducational institution of world renown, serving an entire region with an offering of scores of areas of study and advanced degrees. As I said on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives some eight years ago on the University Founder’s Day, “Our Lady of the Lake University stands alone in its rich history of offering opportunities to groups left out of the mainstream, including women of all ethnic groups and adult students.”

While its enrollment may be small in numbers compared to some other universities, Our Lady of the Lake is big in its impact. It maintains the oldest social work program in Texas at the Worden School of Social Service. The list of University graduates reads as a who’s who of those working to make a difference in their communities at the local level and nationally as well. It includes my esteemed colleague in the U.S. House of Representatives, the Honorable Ciro Rodriguez, and members of my own staff.

Other graduates include Dr. Gloria Rodriguez of Avance, Mary Jo Alvarez-Rodriguez of Project COPE, Guadalupe Gibson and Dr. Ernesto Gomez of Centro Del Barrio, Rosemary Stauber of the Bexar Country Women’s Center, and Louise Locker Elliot of the Elf-Louise program. The list goes on and will only continue to grow, thanks to the strength of the University as an institution and the commitment of those associated with our Lady of the Lake.

As the recipient of an honorary doctoral degree in the humanities from Our Lady of the Lake, I would also like to extend my own personal welcome and congratulations to President Mahoney on the auspicious occasion of her inauguration as the fifth president of Our Lady of the Lake University. President Mahoney takes the reins from my long-time and very dear friend, Sister Elizabeth Anne Sueltenfuss, who served as President of the Lake for the past nineteen years. I trust that President Mahoney will have as long and productive a tenure, as Our Lady of the Lake

continues into its second century of educational service and excellence.

TRIBUTE TO THE BOROUGH OF SEASIDE PARK ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 1998

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise in tribute to the 100th anniversary of the Borough of Seaside Park, New Jersey. Seaside Park is celebrating their 100th anniversary on March 2, 1998, and will be holding a ceremony on Thursday, March 5 at 8:00 p.m. at the regular meeting of the Town Council. Other events will take place this summer, including an Ocean Mini-marathon swim on August 15, a Dinner Dance on August 21, and a Centennial Parade on August 22, to be followed with a fair with children’s games and music.

The history of Seaside Park began in the late 1800’s, and early settlers found the area so beautiful, they planned to create a park; thus the name Seaside Park. The early settlers were self-reliant people, and through their efforts they built a strong and vibrant community. In those early days, residents hauled sand to create the first roads, and many residents kept cattle, horses, and chickens.

In 1872, the U.S. Life Saving Service was established, with William O. Miller as the first captain. The Life Saving station became the Coast Guard Station with the founding of the Coast Guard in 1915. Today, the station serves as a meeting facility and is home to the borough offices.

Train service to Seaside Park began July 4, 1881, when the train made its first run from Philadelphia to Seaside Park. The railroad station, built in 1882, is now the site of the Municipal Complex.

In 1899, the Seaside Park Yacht Club was built. Seaside Park’s famous Sewell Cup for catboats was originally presented by U.S. Senator William Sewell during opening race ceremonies in 1900. The Sewell Cup is still raced today.

In 1913, Seaside Park’s Volunteer Fire Department was established. That year, the company built their first vehicle, a horse drawn hose truck. A large iron gong was rung whenever there was a fire, and residents responded. The gong is presently located outside the firehouse at the Municipal Complex. In 1938, the Tri-Boro First Aid Squad was formed. The squad originally covered the area from Lavallette to Barnegat Inlet.

In 1973, Seaside Park adopted its official Borough Seal. The seal is divided into three parts, representing the trinity of land, sea and air, which are symbolized by the native beach plum, striped bass and a sea gull. The colors of the seal are blue for nobility, gold for preciousness, and white for purity.

Mr. Speaker, today the Borough of Seaside Park prides itself on its excellent beaches, its quality of life, and its community spirit, where neighbors know and care about each other. I would therefore like to recognize all of the citi-

zens of Seaside Park and their Mayor, John Peterson, Jr., and the Centennial Committee Chairperson, Ms. Nancy Carlson, for their ongoing and continuing pride and love for their town. Once again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Borough of Seaside Park on this historic milestone, and wish them a happy, prosperous and successful next century.

HONORING DR. NORA KIZER BELL

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 1998

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct privilege today to honor a remarkable woman and the newest president of Wesleyan College in Macon, GA, Dr. Nora Kizer Bell.

On December 23, 1836, the Georgia legislature ratified the charter of the Georgia Female College and empowered its president to “confer all such honors, degrees, and licenses, as are usually conferred in colleges or universities”—making it the first college in the world chartered to grant degrees to women. The college was founded through the efforts of a group of Macon citizens and the Georgia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, expressing their commitment to the higher education of women.

The Georgia Conference assumed responsibility for the college in 1843, and by an act of the state legislature changed its name to Wesleyan Female College. The “Female” was eliminated from the name in 1917, but Wesleyan has remained a women’s college throughout its history.

Wesleyan is also the birthplace of the first two Greek societies for women, the Adelphean Society in 1851 (now Alpha Delta Pi) and the Philomathean Society in 1852 (now Phi Mu).

In 1928 the Liberal Arts College was moved from its original College Street site to the new Rivoli campus in north Macon. The historic College Street building continued to house the School of Fine Arts, which consisted of the Conservatory of Music and the departments of art, theatre, and speech. In 1953 the School of Fine Arts, too, was moved to the present campus.

This is the extraordinary history of the institution that is about to inaugurate an extraordinary new president. In 1997 Wesleyan College named Dr. Bell its twenty-third president, to succeed Robert Kilgo Ackerman. Dr. Bell is a Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Randolph-Macon Woman’s College. She earned the master of arts from the University of South Carolina and the doctor of philosophy from the University of North Carolina.

In 1998, one hundred sixty-two years after the college’s founding, the president who confers degrees on the graduates of Wesleyan will also be the first woman to serve in that capacity. This is a great day for post-secondary education, women educators, Wesleyan College, and the City of Macon.

I am proud to represent Wesleyan College and I commend Dr. Bell and her faculty and administration on their commitment that Wesleyan College continue to provide the best education for tomorrow’s leaders.