

is celebrating its Sesquicentennial anniversary this fall. For 150 years, since its founding in 1848, the church has been a focal point for the worship of God, religious education, and community service to the Floyd Springs area and beyond. The church is a part of the Rome-Carrollton District, North Georgia conference of the United Methodist Church, and is located at 1954 Floyd Springs Road, Armuchee, Georgia.

Institutions of faith have always provided a vital service to America; by encouraging moral behavior, assisting citizens in need, and guiding the spiritual development of millions. For 150 years, Floyd Springs United Methodist Church has been in the forefront of that cause. Now, in 1998, we need the spiritual Christian leadership and service this great church offers.

The congregation has planned special activities during October to commemorate this historic event, and I am proud to lend my voice to this effort.

IN HONOR OF ERIC DELUCIEN AND
NEW DIRECTIONS, INC.

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues a courageous 5-day journey passing through my district on the Central Coast today.

Eric DeLucien, an Americorps volunteer, is undertaking a 500 mile fundraising bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles, California, which will benefit New Directions, Inc.'s education fund. New Directions Inc., a nonprofit self-help program, provides free comprehensive rehabilitative services to homeless veterans with histories of chronic substance abuse and other disorders like Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Through this program, veterans receive the encouragement and job training they need to compete in today's job market.

My late husband, Walter Capps, was empathetic to the plight of all veterans; I share his concern and commitment to this community. I hope that this bicycle fundraiser will increase public awareness to the problems facing many of our veterans today, and I would like to thank New Directions, Inc. for providing the opportunities and tools they need to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I conclude that the On the Road for Homeless Vets bike ride is a noble cause, and commend Eric DeLucien and New Directions, Inc. for their dedication to improving the lives of veterans in our country.

TRIBUTE TO LOUIS STOKES

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, over the past few months there have been many tributes to our departing colleague, Congressman LOU STOKES. The accolades have been lengthy because there is a great deal to be said about the thirty year record of Congressman STOKES. Unfortunately, the most senior Mem-

bers have been accorded the privilege of speaking first, and thus, I have been deprived of my opportunity to also praise LOU STOKES.

As a Member who has worked with LOU STOKES for sixteen of his thirty years, I feel I have known him long enough to speak with authority but not so long and so close that I have lost my capacity for some objectivity. We are all familiar with the concept of the "Renaissance Man" with a broad array of talents. In the power arena LOU STOKES is a "Renaissance Political Man." He possesses the unique ability and capacity to perform as a deal maker; as a champion for issues; as a program innovator; as a team player and institution builder.

Watching LOU perform over the years has been an inspiring learning experience. As a key member of the Appropriations Committee he has repeatedly made the right deals for worthwhile programs. When the authorizing committee, ten years ago, established Title III-B for the direct funding of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, STOKES did the necessary homework to obtain immediate funding for this program which has now provided more than one billion dollars for higher education. Beyond serving as a conduit or vehicle for the obtainment of dollars, LOU served as an advocate and champion for the neglected African American colleges.

We have watched and greatly appreciated LOU STOKES' use of power to address complex and difficult problems. His service on the Ethics Committee, the Intelligence Committee and numerous groups that took him beyond the call of duty, has led to the acquisition of enormous amounts of respect and influence. He has repeatedly used this influence to introduce constructive innovations without lengthy legislation. Hundreds of minority youth have benefited from programs for interns and fellows originated by LOU in the various agencies of government.

Despite the enormous responsibilities which have come with his accrued powers, LOU has remained a consummate team player and institution builder. The personality cult has never claimed STOKES. He has worked tirelessly to build the Congressional Black Caucus. The CBC Health Braintrust is the model for all current and future meaningful Braintrust operations. Certainly the inspiration for a strong CBC Education Braintrust has come via the observance of the Health Braintrust. More people are engaged year round in the Health Braintrust than in any other CBC activity. This organization is the primary beneficiary of STOKES' habit of doing careful homework. Without a doubt the Health Braintrust is an institution that LOU has made strong enough to endure long after his resignation.

LOU STOKES, the "Renaissance Political Man" has not only performed magnificently in Washington, but also back home. His imprint is deeply embedded in the governance of his City of Cleveland, Ohio. Despite the fact that he still has many years left to enjoy his retirement, LOU has already been enshrined as a hero of his city. The new state-of-the-art Cleveland Public Library building bears the name of Congressman LOUIS STOKES. Needless to say, as the only Librarian ever elected to Congress, I find this achievement profoundly impressive.

For his comprehensive, across the board performance LOU STOKES stands high above his peers. When you consider the attributes

and character traits necessary for productivity and success in the political arena, most Members of Congress can claim certain areas of strength while admitting to other areas of weakness. But only LOU can lay claim to titles all across the spectrum. He is a great deal maker, a champion advocate for issues; a program innovator, a team player; and an institution builder.

LOU STOKES, the "Renaissance Political Man" leaves very high standards for all future Members of Congress to utilize to measure their performance and their productivity.

CONGRESS SHOULD TAKE ACTION
TO PRESERVE MEDICARE'S
HOME HEALTH BENEFITS BE-
FORE ADJOURNMENT

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of efforts to reform Medicare's home health payment system now, before unreasonably low payment caps negatively impact quality and access to care. While they are not as comprehensive as the changes that I and many other members sought, the changes H.R. 4567 makes to the interim payment system (IPS) will give much-needed relief to home care agencies in my Congressional district and many others.

I am very concerned that we are considering paying for this change by expanding Roth IRAs. This expansion would raise the \$2.4 billion we need in the first 5 years, but it will cost us \$10.7 billion in the years after that. Financing this much-needed change in this way is a little like borrowing from a loan shark. We get a little bit of money now, but we'll have an even bigger bill to pay later.

The Senate is working on a version of this bill which would give even more relief to efficient agencies and would block the 15% across the board cut scheduled for next year. Home health agencies in my district have told me the impending 15% cut will have a destructive effect on their ability to provide services, and I would prefer not to wait until next year to address their concerns. The Senate bill is not paid for using the Roth IRA method, which I believe is better policy. Wednesday night I joined several of my colleagues in introducing a House bill which is nearly identical to the bipartisan Senate bill.

I will support H.R. 4567 in an attempt to move the process forward and craft a home health care solution in this Congress. However, I hope the House will move toward the Senate position in the conference. I believe doing so will give us a better bill, one which provides more relief for efficient agencies and frees all agencies from the specter of the 15% cut.

CONGRATULATIONS, SAGINAW

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the good work of the City of Saginaw,