

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SOCIAL WORK MONTH

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, Guam has designated the month of March 2001 as "Social Work Month"—the focus revolving around the 23rd Anniversary of the Guam Association of Social Workers (GASW), their 20th annual training conference and the formal establishment of the Guam Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

For the past 23 years GASW has endeavored to establish a network that would provide professional support for social workers in the region. Already in its 20th year, the annual GASW training conference has served to promote and facilitate this objective. This year, conferees from the many islands of Micronesia gathered together on Guam to discuss, learn, and share the latest issues, techniques, and information pertaining to the rapidly changing and demanding field of Social Work.

This year's theme, "Trends in Health, Technology and Human Services," focused upon key issues such as the formation of communities through the processes of inclusion and exclusion, the complex situations of the people involved, and the need for increased skill, thorough analysis, creative visions, and solutions in order for social workers to become better advocates for the community. These issues were addressed and their objectives were met.

This year also marks the establishment of the Guam Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). After seven years of negotiations and plenty of hard work, the organization's president Gerard Schwab recently announced that the board of directors had approved their by laws and articles of incorporation. The Chapter is now registered with the Guam Department of Revenue and Taxation. With creation of the Guam Chapter, members within the region stand to benefit from access to the resources of the national association. In addition, Guam is now a voting member of the NASW in national social policy matters. I am sure that this organization will bring together colleagues in the field of Social Work enabling them to pool their resources together and work collectively towards mutual benefits.

"Social Work Month" culminated with an awards dinner where awards for Community Service and the Social Worker of the Year were presented. This year's Community Service Award was presented to the Community Social Development Unit (CSDU) of the Department of Youth Affairs (DYA). Dr. Ulla-Katfina Craig was named Social Worker of the Year.

First established in 1996, CSDU was brought about by the Department of Youth Affairs to provide community-based outreach programs to troubled youth and their families. From one satellite office, CSDU has now ex-

panded to three district offices where approximately 30 programs are administered by 40 professional staff members. Staff members work weekends and holidays providing services to more than 400 clients per week.

Dr. Craig is the director of the Micronesian Health and Aging Studies at the University of Guam. Originally, an engineer, she decided to shift her area of concentration in order to closely work with people rather than spend her time inanimate objects. She has published numerous articles and is considered an authority on aging and neurological and behavioral disorders. Having worked closely with Dr. Craig, I can vouch for the fact that she is a great communicator, advocate and nurturer. She has a personable, approachable and loving way that crosses over language, culture and social barriers.

Also deserving of note are the Guam Alliance for Mental Health Incorporated (GAMHI), the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority, and PacifiCare Asia Pacific, this year's nominees for the Community Service Award. Louise Toves, Grace R. Taitano, and Monica Tinkham, on the other hand, were the nominees for Social Worker of the Year. They are all winners in my book.

As we go about with our daily lives, we must take a moment to reflect upon the services provided by the people dedicated to the field of Social Work. With the recent unfortunate incidents plaguing the nation, especially, the island of Guam, we depend upon these people to provide the necessary guidance and direction that will enable us to heal and, hopefully, prevent future problems. I congratulate this year's awardees, the Guam Association of Social Workers (GASW), and the Guam Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). I urge them to keep up the good work and I wish them all the best in the years to come.

CROATIAN SONS LODGE NUMBER
170

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate the Croatian Sons Lodge Number 170 of the Croatian Fraternal Union on the festive occasion of its 94th Anniversary and Golden Member banquet on Sunday, April 29, 2001.

This year, the Croatian Fraternal Union will hold this gala event at the Croatian Center in Merrillville, Indiana. Traditionally, the anniversary celebration entails a formal recognition of the Union's Golden Members, those who have achieved fifty years of membership. This year's honorees who have attained fifty years of membership include: Edwin C. Bronikowski, Anthony Bucich, Virginia Carija, Anna Gee, Mary Kocevar, Michael E. Krall, Catherine Michael, Basil Movchan, Dorothy Pavlakovic,

Ethel M. Podrebarac, Rose Marie Radulovich, Martha Sablich, Mary Stewart, and Theresa M. Znika.

These loyal and dedicated individuals share this prestigious honor with over 300 additional Lodge members who have previously attained this important designation.

This memorable day will begin with a morning mass at Saint Joseph the Worker Catholic Church in Gary, Indiana, with the Reverend Father Benedict Benakovich officiating. The festivities will be culturally enriched by the performance of several Croatian musical groups. The Hoosier Hrvati Adult Tamburitza Orchestra directed by Jerry Banina, the Croatian Glee Club "Preradovic," and the Croatian Strings Tamburitza and Junior Dancers directed by Dennis Barunica will perform at this gala event. A formal dinner banquet will end the day's festivities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Lodge president Betty Morgavan, and all the other members of the Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge Number 170, for their loyalty and radiant display of passion for their ethnicity. The Croatian community has played a key role in enriching the quality of life and culture of Northwest Indiana. It is my hope that this year will bring renewed hope and prosperity for all members of the Croatian community and their families. I am proud to represent these gifted residents of the First Congressional District of Indiana.

RECOGNIZING VALOR IN THE CAPTURE OF JAMIL ABDULLAH AL-AMIN

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, all too often, federal law enforcement agents are criticized for problems that occur under their watch, without receiving the same level of attention when things go well. In an effort to partially correct this trend, I would like to commend three employees of the United States Marshals Service (USMS) for their extraordinary bravery in the capture of Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin.

Formerly known as H. Rap Brown, Al-Amin has a long history of encouraging and participating in violent action. That history continued, when on March 16, 2000, he shot two Fulton County, Georgia sheriff's deputies. After learning that Al-Amin was hiding in the Selma, Alabama area, a federal manhunt began.

After Al-Amin was located in a wooded area, he fired upon USMS personnel with an assault rifle. Despite the danger Al-Amin posed to their lives, Inspectors Jerry Lowery and Joseph Parker, and Deputy U.S. Marshal James Ergas maneuvered through the snake infested woods toward Al-Amin.

They succeeded in containing the armed suspect for two hours while awaiting backup,

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