

Ricky continues to distinguish himself in his efforts to improve community life through leadership development. He believes that leadership development is the key to community empowerment. Ricky's experience in grassroots-style leadership helped him to develop the East New York Community Anti-crime Project. This project advocates gathering all the leaders from the community's small organizations for training in the program. This led to revitalization among the organizations, which brought about dramatic and lasting improvements to their areas.

Ricky Perez is known as a leader who puts education and youth first. Growing up in an underserved and underprivileged area, Ricky understands where many members of the community are coming from. He takes pride in his ability to lead by example. Ricky's best work with youth is seen through his Police and Community Together Center. This volunteer operated center runs programs such as youth-police dialogue, community patrols, and instruction in youth entrepreneurship.

In addition, Ricky is a successful advocate on behalf of the members of the East New York community and the youth in particular. He is continuously pushing for greater computer literacy among the youth and adults in the neighborhood. In addition, he is a proponent of better education by advocating literacy academies. Ricky's team approach style has allowed him to become more involved in the area's health issues.

Mr. Speaker, Ricky Perez has devoted his life to serving his community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

"HIV/AIDS: THE STATE OF THE EPIDEMIC WITHIN COMMUNITIES OF COLOR"

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity thank the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus for holding their joint hearing on the critical issue of HIV/AIDS and its impact on communities of color today.

I need to look no further than my own home state of Illinois to see the horrific impact of HIV/AIDS. Since 1981, 23,000 Illinoisans of an estimated 28,000 to 38,000 HIV positive persons in Illinois have been diagnosed with AIDS. Of those 23,000 AIDS cases, an estimated 14,000 or 62 percent, have died. The number of AIDS cases in Illinois is the sixth highest total in the U.S.

The impact on minority communities is especially devastating. African Americans represent 59 percent of all HIV/AIDS cases in Illinois in 2000 and 68 percent of all cases in Chicago in 1999. Minority women are particularly impacted by HIV/AIDS. Among HIV positive women in Illinois, more than 80 percent are non white.

Only through efforts like the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative can we begin to turn the tide on the war against HIV/AIDS. The Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative allows communities of color to

create and improve HIV/AIDS service capacity in their communities. In my own Congressional District in Chicago, Lakeside Community Committee, which operates an HIV/AIDS Awareness program, recently applied for a grant under the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative which would enable it to reach an additional 5,000 clients this year. Lakeside's overall goal is to secure funding to reach a minimum of 25,000 individuals on Chicago's South Side. The primary benefit to Lakeside of the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative would be the dissemination of educational information about at risk behaviors and safe sex.

In recent years, HIV/AIDS has spread rapidly amongst minority populations. Because Illinois has one of the highest HIV/AIDS infection rates in America, it is imperative that we, as a community, work to effectively address this problem. Through grass roots initiatives, including the HIV/AIDS Minority Initiative, we can begin to make the HIV/AIDS epidemic within minority populations history.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CALVIN DIGGS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, a great man has just passed to a more beautiful and gracious place. Calvin Diggs was the only surviving son of Edgar and Geneva Diggs. As a boy he was known to have tortured his younger sister Anita and bring life to the neighborhood. Although known as "Lighting" as a young man because of his laid back, slow attitude—he had his fun. Calvin married at a young age and produced a large family. While providing for this family he always found a little extra to help others.

Calvin also had a streak of ornery that he did not lose even during his illnesses. He had a loud boisterous voice which could be heard throughout Hope Hill when he called for his family. He usually woke the family with his early morning calls. His sister living next door never had an alarm clock until Calvin moved his family to another home in later years.

He worked several jobs before starting with the federal government at Fort Detrick, Maryland—later at Walter Reed. He retired after thirty-two years of service and spent his early retirement with daily visits to various family members until he was no longer able to drive.

Calvin still maintained his humor after the medical problems. He loved to hear about the antics of his kids, friends and family. He would tease those around him or tell funny stories of the past. He will be sorely missed.

IN HONOR OF DOCTOR JOSEPH L. RADDIX

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Doctor Joseph L. Raddix in recognition of his contribution to his community and medicine.

Joseph started his education at Virginia State University where he obtained his Bach-

elors of Science Degree in Chemistry. Raddix's interests led him to pursuing a Doctorate of Dental Surgery from Howard University. In 1984, Dr. Raddix successfully completed his examinations from the Northeast Regional Board of Dental Examination and earned his licenses to practice private dentistry in both the States of New York and Maryland.

Joseph set out to practice his slogan of the "Art of Painless Dentistry" in 1985, upon opening a private dental practice in Brooklyn. Interested in better serving the Brooklyn community, he became Dental Director of the Lyndon B. Johnson Health Complex. This facility, located in the heart of the Bedford Stuyvesant community, provides medical and dental care to low-income families. Joseph continues to focus on his mission of providing the best dental care to all of his patients.

In addition to Raddix's demanding schedule, he is a member of the American Dental Association as well as The New York State Dental Society and the Local Dental Society. Joseph is a founding member and chairman of the K2 Associates Investment Club.

Joseph L. Raddix is married to Sylvia Hinds-Raddix. Together they have three daughters, Jovia, Jenneate, and Josyl. The Raddix family belongs to the St. Aquinas Church. Doctor Raddix attributes much of his success to his loving parents.

Mr. Speaker, Doctor Joseph L. Raddix devotes his life to serving his community through medicine. As such, he is indeed worthy of receiving our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

TRIBUTE TO AL AND MARGE FISHMAN, CHAMPIONS OF PEACE AND JUSTICE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the Peace Action organization of Michigan is a group dedicated to abolishing nuclear weapons and maintaining peace in the world through citizen action. On Sunday June 10, 2001, as Peace Action of Michigan hosts their tribute to Al and Marge Fishman, the citizens of Michigan who share and embrace the values of the Fishmans, will gather to honor these two lifelong champions of peace and justice.

Al, born in Los Angeles, California, and Marge, born in Fairpoint, Ohio were brought together by common values and interests. They met in 1950 and were married the next year. Both have strong feelings about civil rights, nuclear war, and global banning of nuclear weapons. For over 50 years, they have worked in their community for peace and justice. Together, they have been active in Michigan politics as part of many UAW posts, women's organizations, and most recently Peace Action of Michigan. Al now serves on the National Board of Directors for Peace Action, and Marge is active with the Women's Conference of Concerns and the Detroit Branch of Women's International League of Peace and Freedom.

I applaud Peace Action of Michigan and the Fishmans for their leadership, commitment,