

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF MT. ZION
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe the 125th Anniversary of Mt. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania.

One hundred twenty-five years ago, a group of Lutheran pastors, including Dr. William A. Passavant, selected a section of Allegheny City, Pennsylvania, now known as Observatory Hill on Pittsburgh's Northside, for a new Lutheran congregation. A half-acre of land was purchased for the construction of the congregation's first building. It occupied the space where the Incarnation Academy stands today.

Seventeen people signed the charter for Mt. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church on the first Sunday in October 1876. The Reverend G.H. Gerberding became the first pastor of this congregation in 1876.

In 1914, the cornerstone of the present English Gothic stone building located at 3936 Perrysville Avenue was laid. Several members of the congregation mortgaged their homes to provide the capital for the construction. In 1925, the congregation purchased the nearby Graham Building and enclosed the 12-foot space between the apartment building and the church to provide offices, restrooms, and hallway passage.

Before the Depression, Mt. Zion sponsored both a Foreign Mission Pastor and a Home Mission Pastor. After World War II, the congregation was able to resume its commitment to both missionary fronts.

During World War II, Mt. Zion was the first church in Pittsburgh to dedicate a Service Banner in honor of its 312 men and women who served in the military.

Over the years the congregation has been supportive of Camp Lutherlyn, the Passavant Health Center, Thiel College, and Gettysburg Seminary. In addition, Mt. Zion has hosted YMCA meetings. It has hosted religious classes for students from Perry High School. And it has sponsored a strong Boy Scout troop for 76 years.

Through these 125 years, fifteen pastors have served Mt. Zion. The longest pastorate was that of The Reverend John B. Knisley, D.D., who served the congregation from 1934 to 1959. The congregation has given twelve sons to the ordained ministry, one daughter to the diaconal ministry, and one daughter to commissioned missionary service.

Today, Mt. Zion houses Allegheny Community Services (a subsidiary of Glade Run Lutheran Services), which provides counseling services to youth and family, and the congregation seeks to have more of its building space used by social ministry agencies serving the community.

Mt. Zion began a year-long 125th anniversary celebration in September. Bishop Donald J. McCoid of the Evangelical Lutheran Church's Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod will be preaching at the Reunion Celebration on October 14, 2001. In preparation for this event, the children of the congregation are making a paper chain with approximately 1,800 links. The names of those baptized over the past 125 years are printed on the chain, with one name per link.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the congregation of Mt. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church on this happy occasion and wish this community all of the best in the coming years.

TRIBUTE TO VIVIAN LOIS BELL

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Vivian Lois Bell who served the people of her community in many ways.

From 1967 through 1980, in her position first as deputy clerk and then clerk of Royal Oak Township, Ms. Bell served the people of Royal Oak Township with caring, devotion, and excellence in the many areas under her supervision.

Following her retirement as clerk, Ms. Bell devoted several years providing care for her oldest grandchild before she re-entered the workforce as a secretary for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan. She retired in 1996 and spent her remaining years caring for her grown family of grandchildren.

Ms. Bell will long be remembered for her smile, her encouragement, and her wisdom in all her endeavors. She was dear friend to many and she will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering our condolences to the family and friends of Vivian Lois Bell who passed away September 8, 2001.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on September 24, 2001, my plane to Dulles Airport in Washington, D.C. was delayed because of inclement weather. As a result, I missed two votes on the House floor.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 349 to pass H.R. 717, a bill to support additional Federal research, coordination, information, and education on Duchenne and other forms of muscular dystrophy.

In addition, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 350 to pass H.J. Res. 65, a bill to provide continuing appropriations at current levels through October 16 for all Federal departments and programs covered by the fiscal 2002 spending bills not yet enacted.

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR JIM ORTIZ

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, in commemoration of Pastor Appreciation Day, I rise to honor Pastor Jim Ortiz, senior pastor at "My Friend's House" an Assembly of God congregation in Whittier, CA. Having served his congregation for 29 years, Pastor Jim dedi-

cated himself to improving the lives of people throughout the 34th Congressional District of California. It is because of his commitment and exemplary service to his congregation and to the community that I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to this extraordinary man.

Born to Puerto Rican parents and a native of New York City, Pastor Jim moved to California with his family and attended Hueneme High School in Oxnard. In 1973, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biblical Studies and Sociology from Vanguard University (the former Southern California College) and completed graduate studies at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA. He is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at the C.P. Haggard School of theology at Azusa Pacific University.

Pastor Jim is a model constituent full of kindness, sincerity and dedicated service. His congregation, "My Friend's House" was founded in 1971, with the help of his wife Yollie. Their mission is to preach the gospel in a way that it improves people's lives and positively impacts the surrounding community. Under Jim and Yollie's guidance, "My Friend's House" has grown to an average weekly attendance of more than 400 people including a large number of young Latino families. Their success helped to spawn three sister congregations in various parts of California. Pastor Jim, whose unique style of communication, is both creative and appealing, allows him to capture listener's attention. His uplifting message is born out of his deep conviction that the gospel of Jesus Christ can transform lives and change society for the better. His exemplary lifestyle inspires others to live a life of charity, humility and compassion.

Pastor Jim's countless contributions to the community have touched the lives of many. He established Metro Impact, Inc., a community development corporation consisting of eight ministries dealing with evangelical propagation, economic development, social service and community outreach. Among the various services that Metro Impact offers are, an after school drop-in center for youth, a summer day camp for children, a free computer learning facility and a family enrichment center. Metro Impact also has programs that provide food, recreation and housing for low-income families.

At 52 years of age, Pastor Jim is the longest tenured Pastor in the Southern California District Council of the Assemblies of God and also happens to be the youngest. He has devoted most of his life to serving the community and improving the lives of people and families from all over Southern California's 34th Congressional District. Please join me in honoring Pastor Jim Ortiz for all of his hard work and dedication to his family, congregation and community. He is an example of the best in all of us.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE DEATH OF
MS. ANNA MARIA ARIAS

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the death of a Latina leader and a remarkable person.

Ms. Anna Maria Arias, a California native, passed away from a bone marrow transplant procedure in Houston, TX last Monday. Ms. Arias immeasurably contributed to the Latino community through her vast experience and expertise in the media profession. She worked as a radio news anchor, newswriter, and as a media and campaign organizer for presidential and local candidates at the Democratic National Committee. She was also a member of the production team of CNN's Crossfire program and served as Managing Editor of *HIS-PANIC Magazine* for five years.

In October 1994, Ms. Arias founded *LATINA Style Magazine*; the first national publication that covers issues pertinent to contemporary, professional, Hispanic working-women from a Latina point of view. Ms. Arias' familiarity and sensitivity towards issues meaningful to the Latino community was crucial to address the issues that affect Latina professionals. As the founding Publisher & Editor of *LATINA Style Magazine*, she provided a voice for, advocated on behalf of, and empowered professional Latina women throughout the entire United States.

Ms. Arias' forward thinking and hard work was recognized when she was honored with the 1999 Entrepreneur of the Year Award by the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and with the Entrepreneurship Award by the Changing Images in America Foundation.

Ms. Arias is a true leader who will be remembered for her adamant commitment to help others and for her dedication to educate and inform Latina women. Her efforts and ability to make inroads for an under-represented and disadvantaged population of our society has unquestionably contributed to the greater good.

HONORING GEORGE ANDREWS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, the city of Pueblo and the surrounding community has lost an exceptional member of their community and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the distinguished life of Mr. George Andrews. George Andrews died at the age of seventy-two after suffering from illness for several months.

Mr. Andrews was a dedicated family man who was also very successful as a business manager. George's life centered around his family and their foodservice business which was started by his father and uncle in 1926. The business survived the Great Depression and has undergone many changes in clientele and inventory since it first originated. George Andrews took over his father's interest in the business after his death in 1950, eventually acquiring sole ownership. Andrews Foodservice remains family owned and operated and still provides an important service to the community. Mr. Andrews expressed his generosity through his relationship with his employees and his community. It wouldn't be surprising to see George providing the Colorado Highway Patrol with gifts to hand out to travelers during the holiday season.

Mr. Speaker, George Andrews was successful not only with his business, but also

with the bonds that he nurtured with his family and the community. He was a gracious man with a strong character and he will be missed. I would like to express my condolences to Mr. Andrews' family and friends. He will not be forgotten.

IN MEMORY OF JULIA PAPPAS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Julia Pappas of my district, who passed from this life after 94 years on February 28, 2001. As another political season draws near and with recent events bringing out the patriotism of Americans, Julia's life and example of citizenship should be reflected upon and recognized.

Born on Christmas Day 1907 in Adrianopolis Thrace Asia Minor, Julia was an immigrant to the United States. Even as she reveled in her Greek heritage, she became fully immersed in her adopted homeland's society. She was avidly involved in grassroots politics, and could always be counted on for support. She understood better than many that the right of American citizenship came with civic responsibility, and was a strong advocate for citizen participation in our political process.

Julia was a dedicated member of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, where her presence was familiar and her involvement in church activity second-to-none. She truly lived her faith showing through word and deed its importance to her. She was a member of the Cathedral's Daughters of Penelope, AHEPA Auxiliary, and the Philoptochos Society. She was also a Red Cross and Lucas County Democratic Party volunteer.

A lifelong traveler, Julia saw the world and reported on her travels to others, enabling them to understand the different cultures of our world. She was able to realize "a lifelong dream" of visiting Jerusalem, a trip she felt deeply.

Twice widowed, Julia was an absolutely devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She thoroughly enjoyed watching her grandchildren grow and participated in their lives. I know her daughter Helen and daughter-in-law Patricia, along with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and extended family have many cherished memories of her. A true lover of life with a strength of spirit unmatched, Julia Pappas came to embody the actress Helen Hayes' retort that "Old age is not something to which I have arrived kicking and screaming, it is something I have achieved." Few have achieved it with more grace and aplomb than Julia Pappas, beloved wife, mother, grandmother "Yia Yia" and friend.

INTRODUCING THE FAMILY LEISURE INCENTIVE ACT OF 2001

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to introduce the Family

Leisure Incentive (FLI) Act of 2001. The events of September 11 have left our country desperately searching for some level of normality. Indeed, Americans are slowly beginning to return to their lives—or at least as much as can be expected. But in their efforts to move on, Americans remain hesitant to travel, whether it be by plane, train, or ship. In turn, the tourism industry in our country, and subsequently the industries directly affected by tourism, have come to a virtual standstill.

Everywhere I look in this country, industries are hurting. In Florida, we are feeling the wake of September 11 more than ever. For the first time in my life, hotels in South Florida are reporting record lows in occupancy levels, travel agencies are losing customers by the dozen, and the cruise industry is reporting that its ships are leaving port half empty. These figures do not even begin to take into account the tens of thousands of people who work for the airline industry in my district and are no longer employed.

The bottom line is that if people do not get on planes, then people do not check into hotels. If people do not check into hotels, then businesses and cities that depend on tourism fail to survive. If businesses lose money, then people lose jobs. If people lose jobs, then stress at home increases. In turn, families break up, alcoholism and domestic violence increase, depression is imminent, and at times, even worse, suicide becomes an option.

The FLI Act provides individuals and families with tax incentives to travel in the next year by air, land, or sea, and not be afraid to vacation. It allows individuals to deduct up to \$750 from their taxable income to help cover the costs of travel and lodging, whether on land or on sea. Families who file jointly can deduct up to \$1,500.

The FLI Act is a relatively inexpensive and cost effective way that Congress can help stimulate our faltering economy. Airline bailout bills only provide a temporary solution to potentially, a long term problem. The FLI Act provides Congress with the needed vehicle to address the needs of America's hurting tourism industry, and at the same time, provide tax relief for working class and low-income families at a time they need it most.

I urge my colleagues to move swiftly and pass this innovative and necessary legislation.

REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call attention to the National Day of the Republic of China on Taiwan. This day commemorates the Wuchang Uprising on October 10, 1911, which led to the overthrow of the Qing dynasty and the establishment of the ROC on January 1, 1912.

Although the recent terrorist attacks against America make it difficult for us to join the celebrations for this great day for the people of Taiwan, I believe it is appropriate to remember it, as it was the first step to a long process for Taiwan to become what it is now. It is a nation proud of its solid democratic foundations and