

Although 4-H has changed over the years to meet the changing needs of Missouri families, clubs continue to live up to the 4-H motto: to make the best better. Group focused and family oriented, 4-H promotes positive physical, mental, and emotional growth through programs that help young people build self-confidence and acquire essential life skills. Today's 4-H features programs covering traditional topics such as cooking and agriculture as well as classes about the environment, workforce preparation, leadership and teamwork, and community involvement.

Missouri 4-H programs are intended for youth of all income levels, abilities, and ethnic backgrounds. With the upcoming centennial celebrations, it is an especially good time for anyone who is interested in joining or volunteering for 4-H to get involved. I know the Members of the House will join me in congratulating the National 4-H Program on reaching this outstanding milestone.

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY J. BELLOMO, LITURGICAL ARTIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a man whose leadership and achievements in art, building, and craftsmanship has touched the lives of so many across southeastern Michigan and beyond. Anthony Bellomo, or Tony, as many of his friends and associates have come to know him, has put Mount Clemens, MI, on the map as a center of some of America's finest liturgical art. This year, as the Ministry and Liturgy Magazine of San Jose, CA, selected their "Liturgical Artist of the Year", they honored Tony Bellomo for his wining art "Trinity in Glory" which is incorporated in the Sanctuary of St. Joseph's Church in Trenton, MI.

As the former director of art at L'Anse Creuse High School North, Tony left his teaching job to pursue his love of art and good craftsmanship. His strong interest in building and construction led him to launch the Black Forest Building Company in 1982, which has since grown into a highly successful company specializing in uniquely designed decks, gazebos, gardens, and buildings. As a deeply devoted Christian, Tony then brought his unique talents and style to the field of liturgical art. Recognized nationally for his prayerful approach and artistic sincerity, today Tony's liturgical art is in 50-100 churches in 10 States across the Nation.

Additionally, Tony's innovative style and artistic philosophy will bring him to the next White House conference on the "Healing Arts" in Washington, DC. His philosophy on art and its healing power has also led him to begin pioneering work with hospital traumatic units, cancer treatment centers, and psychiatric units.

Tony Bellomo's commitment to art and faith has truly been the driving force in his success. He is a distinguished artist and leader in his community. It gives me great pleasure to honor Tony, and I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him on this milestone occasion.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2646, FARM SECURITY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this motion.

This Congress has consistently, and in a bipartisan manner, supported easing our failed trade embargo on Cuba. A few years ago, we had a breakthrough and enacted legislation that allows the export of food, medicine, and humanitarian aid to the island nation. Unfortunately, that landmark legislation placed restrictions on these sales, the most onerous of which was the prohibition on U.S. financing.

For the life of me I've never understood why we are allowing United States farmers access to the Cuban market, but prohibiting our banks from financing these sales. This type of inconsistency doesn't just harm our financial institutions, it ultimately harms the very farmers we are trying to help.

The continued restrictions are also hurting the Cuban people. I don't think endangering the health and nutrition of the Cuban people is a proper response to our political disagreements with Fidel Castro. United States policy must focus on promoting a peaceful transition to democracy in Cuba. As Castro grows older, it is more important than ever for the United States to open the Cuban embargo to some trade and make efforts to develop a meaningful relationship with the people of Cuba.

Mr. Speaker, changing United States policy toward Cuba is long overdue. Unfortunately, the current restrictions on trade show there is still a cold war mentality, when it comes to our Nation's Cuba policy. Yet, I find it difficult to understand how a small island nation of 11 million people—without the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact to protect it—could threaten the world's last remaining superpower.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this motion which will clear away legal restrictions on the sale of food and medicine to Cuba. Besides benefiting the people of Cuba, passage of this motion will benefit United States trade interests, strengthen our economy, and create jobs.

RECOGNIZING MARY ANNE CASADEI

HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Anne Casadei, President of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New York Inc. for her outstanding efforts in assisting veterans and children. Ms. Casadei's dedicated service and leadership has helped enhance the quality of life for many veterans and children in the Rome, New York area. I applaud Ms. Casadei's achievements and those of the American Legion Auxiliary.

I am inserting into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, an article that outlines Ms. Casadei's accomplishments for the review of my colleagues.

ARTICLE BY THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, INC.

Mary Anne Casadei is a resident of Rome, New York. She is currently serving as President of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New York.

As a member of the largest women's patriotic organization in the world, assisting veterans is a top priority. She volunteers at the Rome Veterans Administration Clinic and Memorial Hospital. Mary Anne is the founder and Coordinator of the Griffiss Independent Veterans Effort Program (G.I.V.E. Program), which supports the Griffiss VA Clinic with donations and supplies.

One of the major programs that the American Legion Auxiliary deals in, involves Children and Youth. Not only has President Casadei been the recipient of State and National Awards for her auxiliary efforts, she has also served as a Youth Director for the Rome Family YMCA. As Youth Director she led programs for youth at risk and for developmentally delayed participants from age 8 to adults. In addition, President Casadei is involved in the Family Nurturing Center of Central New York State as a facilitator of parenting programs. She is also involved at the Court Street Diagnostic and Treatment in the Social Work Development.

As President of this great organization her focus is on Parkinson's Disease. No one knows the causes of Parkinson's Disease; therefore monies raised will go toward much needed research. The Parkinson's Alliance goal is to find a cure by 2005. Due to the generosity and commitment of the Tugman Family Foundation, all donations received by the American Legion Auxiliary during Mary Anne's year as Department President will be matched dollar-for-dollar. "We have an amazing opportunity to make a difference," said President Casadei. President Casadei's passion for this program can be attributed to the love and support she has for her ailing mother who suffers from Parkinson's disease. Ms. Casadei and her family have seen this disease ravage her mother's body and take away her independence. However, she and her family remain confident that a cure for this dreadful disease will eventually become a reality. The Veteran's Administration has recently allocated funds to six VA facilities to be used directly for Parkinson's research. These allocations are a crucial component in the quest to find a cure for this devastating disease.

President Casadei is also a strong supporter to an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would ban burning of the American flag. Traveling throughout the 62 counties in New York State, President Casadei has vowed to protect the American Flag from physical desecration. The prominence of the American flag in just hours following the September 11th attacks on America is a matter of visual record that will stand for some time. Americans revere the Flag as a symbol that unites us all across our great nation.

President Casadei's leadership and loyalty is evident not only to the American Legion Auxiliary but throughout her community; to her family and friends; and especially to the veterans that sacrificed their lives while defending our country.

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF LINCOLN PARK, NJ

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 80th anniversary of