

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING ALEX PETTIT

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 25, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Alex Pettit of Denton, Texas on receiving the 2005 Best of Texas Award for Demonstrated Leadership in Management of Information Technology.

The Best of Texas Awards program was established to salute Information Technology professionals in Texas State and local government organizations for their dedication, hard work and contributions. An Evaluation Committee reviews submissions and selects recipients for each of the 9 categories. The Demonstrated Leadership in Management of Information Technology award is available only to Chief Information Officers or Agency Chief Information Officers who have staffed, planned and executed technology plans that have assisted their jurisdiction, department, or agency in meeting its mission. The winner of this category is judged on the basis of vision, leadership and support of IT throughout the department, agency and the entire jurisdiction.

This year, the Demonstrated Leadership in Management of Information Technology Award was given to Mr. Pettit by the Center for Digital Government for providing outstanding leadership and technical direction to the City of Denton. Mr. Pettit's responsibilities include negotiation and management of all system procurements and implementations, security, tactical and strategic planning for technology solutions and services to support the City, and coordination of all phones and pagers used by City personnel. Through these responsibilities, Mr. Pettit has succeeded in implementing the goal of the City of Denton to be a leader among cities in the delivery of outstanding quality services and products through the utilization of innovation, citizen involvement, and efficient use of resources. The award was presented to Mr. Pettit on October 19, 2005 at the Center for Digital Government's award ceremony in Austin, Texas.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Alex Pettit for receiving the 2005 Best of Texas Award. His contributions to the technology industry and his service to the Denton community should inspire us all.

HONORING FATHER BRENDAN O'SULLIVAN UPON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 25, 2005*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to a distinguished man who has selflessly served the Sacramento area for almost 50 years. Father Brendan O'Sullivan retires

this month from St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Sacramento. As his parishioners, friends, family and colleagues gather to celebrate his decades of ministerial service, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting this outstanding citizen of Sacramento.

Father O'Sullivan hails from Ireland, where he was born in Beara and studied for the priesthood at St. Patrick's Seminary in Thurles. Shortly after being ordained to the priesthood on June 10, 1956 he traveled to California to begin service in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Sacramento.

His first assignment in the diocese was as associate pastor of St. Joseph's Parish in Redding. Father O'Sullivan then served at various northern California churches, including St. Lawrence Parish in North Highlands. He served as a Catholic chaplain to the Newman Center at the University of California at Davis from 1962 to 1965 and continued working with Catholic youth as chaplain of the Newman Center at American River College and as an educator at St. Francis High School in Sacramento.

In 1972 he accepted an assignment as a faculty member and director of campus ministry at the College of Notre Dame in Belmont, CA. Later, Father O'Sullivan was called back to serve in the Diocese of Sacramento as associate pastor of St. Joseph's Parish in Clarksburg.

In 1974 Father O'Sullivan was asked to establish a new parish in the Pocket area of Sacramento and was appointed by Bishop Alden J. Bell to be the founding pastor of St. Anthony Parish. During the past 30 years, he has presided over the parish's phenomenal growth. His natural charm and openness to people from all walks of life surely was responsible for much of that growth. The parish now has over 2,000 families and is highly regarded across the Sacramento region.

During his tenure as pastor, Father O'Sullivan oversaw the building of the church, a religious education center and later a rectory. Additionally, a multipurpose Memorial Center was built in 1996 and the parish offices were expanded in 2002. Father O'Sullivan had the foresight to suggest that the church be structured around a central point of assembly that would unify the parishioners. The result was a central plaza where parishioners gather before and after Mass and where community events are now held. In addition, Father O'Sullivan has encouraged St. Anthony members to extend their outreach beyond the parish boundaries by participating in numerous social programs in Sacramento.

Father O'Sullivan has served the Diocese of Sacramento in various capacities beyond his role of pastor. He has been dean of the City Deanery, director of continuing education of priests for the diocese, a member of the Council of Priests and the Priest's Personnel Board and an advisor in the Diocesan Synod process. He also took a sabbatical to study at the University of Louvain in Belgium, one of the great centers of Catholic learning.

Father O'Sullivan has been a visionary leader in implementing the reforms and vision of

the Catholic Church's Second Vatican Council. He urged his parishioners to not be afraid of discussing controversial issues, because he is certain that a healthy church is one that allows for the free exchange of ideas. Throughout his tenure, he has proven to be an effective consensus builder, a pragmatic thinker and a tireless worker, who has earned the respect and admiration of those who have worked with him.

Mr. Speaker, as Father O'Sullivan's parishioners, friends and colleagues gather to celebrate his great service in the ministry, I am truly honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most honorable citizens. We all have greatly benefited from having Father O'Sullivan's strong leadership in our community. His dedication to the people of Sacramento spans decades, many churches and thousands of families. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing Father O'Sullivan continued success and happiness in all of this future endeavors, wherever his retirement may lead him.

COMMEMORATING THE UNITED NATIONS AT ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 25, 2005*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United Nations at its 60th anniversary and honor the organization for its many contributions to humanity over the last 60 years.

The United Nations came into being on October 24, 1945, when 50 countries pledged to work to promote international peace, security and human rights after suffering through two World Wars and the Holocaust. Sixty years later, we have, indeed, avoided another global war and seen the U.N. protect the lives of millions by creating the circumstances for peace in some 170 disputes around the world.

The 21st century is profoundly different than the world in which the United Nations was created. Threats of terrorism, natural disaster, and poverty heighten the role that the United Nations plays in securing peace and stability worldwide. The United Nations promotes democracy where it has not existed, helping to build democratic institutions and hold elections in places like Afghanistan and Iraq. The United Nations operates 17 peacekeeping missions in regions of strategic importance to the United States, such as Sudan, the Middle East, the India-Pakistani border, and Haiti.

Then there are the important works of the United Nations affiliated organizations. The International Atomic Energy Agency is leading a global effort to secure nuclear materials and guarantee that they are used for legal and peaceful reasons. The World Food Program provides life-saving food assistance to millions of famine stricken people every year, while the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.