

Based on the quality of the finished project, I would have to say that the original vision is well on its way to fruition.

To the thousands of people who had a hand in bringing this wonderful venue to the citizens of Tempe, I say thank you and well done.

HONORING DON BROWNE

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the work and accomplishments of a visionary leader in the television industry and the impact he has made upon the South Florida community.

With four decades of experience as a journalist, Don Browne is currently the president of the Telemundo Network. He oversees all functions of the Telemundo television network and its 16 owned and operated stations and played a key part in acquiring and integrating Telemundo into the NBC global family.

In a very short time, Mr. Browne led Telemundo from zero original programming to more than 1,000 hours of original prime-time productions a year produced out of Telemundo Studios' production center based in South Florida. During Mr. Browne's tenure, the network has become the world's second largest producer of Spanish-language content, due in part to several initiatives he set forth. Mr. Browne oversaw the launch of the successful Yahoo!Telemundo partnership and the inauguration of the network's state of the art headquarters and news bureau in Mexico City, as well as the successful relaunch of mun2, a Latino channel for youth. Thanks to Mr. Browne's commitment to original programming, Telemundo has carved a unique competitive position in the market, syndicating its programming properties to over 60 countries in more than 20 different languages and distributing its content in a variety of emerging digital media platforms.

After working for CBS for more than a decade, Mr. Browne joined the NBC team, where he earned a national reputation for being particularly active in the recruitment and career development of women and minorities. For example, Mr. Browne is the visionary behind the creation and expansion of the bi-coastal "Taller Telemundo," an innovative educational program designed to discover, recruit and train the next generation of "telenovela" writers and actors. He is also co-founder and board member of the "Women of Tomorrow Mentor and Scholarship Program" for at-risk high school girls. He was a charter member of the NBC News Taskforce on Women and Minorities and currently serves as a member of NBC's Taskforce on Diversity.

Numerous awards and accolades have been given to him in recognition of his dedication to community service. The prestigious Ida B. Wells Award was bestowed on Mr. Browne in 2004 for his commitment to promote diversity in the work place. In 2006, he was the recipient of the Governor of Florida's Points of Light Award for exemplary service to his community.

I am privileged to have a friend in Don Browne and grateful for his service to our

community. It is an honor to celebrate Mr. Browne's 40 years in broadcasting. His foresight and innovation have left an indelible mark on South Florida.

HONORING BETHEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bethel Community Church, a small, non-denominational church in Newberry, Michigan. For 100 years, this church has served as an anchor in the Newberry community, helping its congregation celebrate the good times and weather the bad times.

Bethel Community Church is steeped in local history. Prior to erection of the current church, a group of Christian families first began meeting in the home of Margaret "Grandma" Walker and later held services at Pratt School. The Bethel Community Church was dedicated in August of 1907.

The name of the new church was selected from Genesis 28:17–19, wherein Jacob, after spending a safe night of sleep, established an altar and named the place "Bethel," meaning the House of God. Bethel is further mentioned in Genesis 35:1–15, and is a town 12 miles north of Jerusalem. In the Old Testament, the only place mentioned more often than Bethel is Jerusalem.

Sunday School at Bethel Community Church began in the 1890s and was initiated by "Grandma" Walker, who would hold meetings in her home. When the number of attendees exceeded the capacity of her home, the Sunday School class was moved closer to Pratt School. Margaret "Grandma" Walker's family would remain active in the church and her family would leave an indelible mark on the church's history. "Grandma" Walker's daughter, Gladys Matelski, was more than just a member of the congregation, she was a Sunday School teacher and church organist for more than 50 years before her passing in 1996.

As church attendance continued to grow in the late 1800s, members began talking about building a church home. Around 1901, a Ladies Aid Society was established to begin raising funds toward a church building. In 1905, the present land site was donated by Tom Smith's family and construction began. The early Newberry community rallied together and with members of the congregation volunteering their time and effort to build the church. Tithes provided the funding for the materials.

The original church building is still used today for bible study, worship services, Sunday School services and meetings of the church's "Christian Endeavor Society." Eventually, worship services were held on alternate Sundays with the Christian Endeavor Society.

As a small, non-denominational church, Bethel relies on area ministers to conduct their worship services. Frequently, pastors from the Methodist Church serve in the pulpit, but ministers and pastor from the Presbyterian, Lutheran, Baptist, and Wesleyan churches have all provided services for area residents.

Through the commitment of its congregation, the church continued to improve. In the

1920s, a basement, bathroom and classroom were added to the original church building. In the 1940s, another room was added, creating more classroom area and a dining area for potluck suppers and other church activities. These additions continue to be used for Sunday School, bible study classes, meetings, quilting of the Ladies Aid Society and other functions of this small church—including the upcoming 100th Anniversary celebration.

Today, Bethel Community Church remains a vital part of the local Newberry community, averaging 22 worshipers each Sunday and 10 worshipers for Sunday Bible Study. The church invites area residents and visitors to attend its Sunday services. Presently copastored by Reverends Forrest and Lois Rank, Sunday School/Bible Study is held each Sunday, followed by worship service.

Madam Speaker, this small church has played an important role in the Village of Newberry. This Sunday the people of Newberry will observe Bethel Community Church's 100 years of service. As Newberry honors this pillar of its community, I would ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating the church's congregation and honoring this piece of Newberry's history.

CONGRATULATING CHANDLER LITTLE LEAGUE NATIONAL ALL-STAR TEAM

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Chandler Little League National All-Star Team from my home state of Arizona. They played a tremendous season and made it all the way to the United States Semifinal round of the 2007 Little League Baseball World Series.

Arizona is a young state, but is rich in baseball history. Our Cactus League is the home to the Spring Training sites of a dozen major league teams. Future major league stars blossom in the Arizona Fall League. Minor league baseball has long called Arizona home, and our state's collegiate baseball and softball teams frequently outperform their peers.

But I can tell you from experience that in Arizona, we are most proud of our Little Leaguers. We are proud of the boys and girls who play not for money or fame, but for the love of the game. And, today, all of us in Arizona are especially proud of each and every player on the Chandler team.

Over the last six weeks, this group of 13 young baseball stars played their hearts out to achieve an impressive 23 to 3 record. They played in Prescott, Arizona, California and went all the way to Williamsport, Pennsylvania as they represented the U.S. West Division with spirit and determination.

Even more important than learning about how great success on the field can feel, I know the members of this team learned valuable life lessons: the importance of teamwork, what it means to have a teammate depend on you, and why it is important to practice sportsmanship. As a former teacher and coach, I know these lessons are as important as any of the lessons they will learn in the classroom.