

history," Mary once said. "Twenty-five years ago, we never imagined the number of Americans who would be touched by our efforts."

A recognized expert and leader of the hospice movement, Mary helped pioneer the advocacy efforts for legislation that led to the introduction in Congress of the Medicare Hospice Benefit in 1982. This bill provided public health care insurance coverage for hospice services, allowing clients to receive compassionate care and hospices to sustain themselves financially. In 1986, the Medicare Hospice Benefit became permanent, eventually leading to private insurance coverage, as well.

To further ensure the sustainability of hospice care in Marin County, in 1997, Mary helped create—and became the president of—the Hospice of Marin Foundation. The foundation's mission is to provide philanthropic support to Hospice operations.

Both the foundation and the hospice programs continued to grow, and over the past few years expanded into San Francisco and Sonoma counties, as well. Consequently, Hospice of Marin no longer described the organization and 2 years ago, the name was changed to Hospice By the Bay.

"In recent years, we were invited into our neighboring communities to share our experience and resources with other hospice communities," Mary said of the change, adding that it evolved from a desire to be more inclusive of the bay area, rather than imply a geographic exclusivity.

And truly, there has not been a geographic exclusivity to the effects of Mary's work. The National Hospice Organization in 1995 named her "the individual who has done the most for hospice in the national and international level." Since then, she has been selected to help guide that organization as chair of its board of directors.

Madam Speaker, Mary Taverna's dedication to hospice services, her leadership of Hospice By the Bay and her continued work as chair of the board of the National Hospice Organization have left an indelible mark not only on the Sixth District and the San Francisco Bay area, but on areas throughout the United States. And that is why, Madam Speaker, I honor Mary Taverna on her retirement after more than 30 years of service to a cause forever in her debt.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF DI LAURO BAKERY OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Di Lauro Bakery in Syracuse, New York.

Founded by John Di Lauro in 1908, Di Lauro Bakery has become an integral part of the Syracuse community. Although the times have changed since the bakery's opening, the recipe and baking procedure have not. The same oven installed by Di Lauro in the 1950s is used today, and customers go out of their way to buy bread from this fine bakery. By delivering consistency and quality, this Syracuse institution pleases its loyal customers, while attracting new ones. With its great baked

goods, Di Lauro Bakery is a place the community will be able to enjoy for many more years to come. Di Lauro's has become a long-time neighborhood fixture and a community anchor.

Di Lauro Bakery has always strived to provide the Syracuse community with the finest baked goods, and I am proud to recognize them here today. I congratulate current owners Paul and Valerie Wavercak, and their dedicated staff, both past and present, on reaching this milestone. On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I thank them for 100 years of service that has been and will continue to be such a positive asset to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. BRALEY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall 147, H.R. 3352, I was not present. If I had been there, I would have voted "yes." On rollcall 148, H.R. 2675, I was not present. If I had been there, I would have voted "yes." On rollcall 149, H. Con. Res. 302, I was not present. If I had been there, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF RONALD "RED" PLATZ

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ronald Platz, or "Red" as he is known best by friends and colleagues. Red retired from the UAW International Union on Monday, March 31, 2008 after more than 30 years of leadership and loyal service to the community. Over the course of a tenacious career, Red made a profound and lasting impact on Wisconsin state and local politics.

Red began working in the Engine Division of the Kohler Company in 1969. He soon transferred to the Enamel Shop 3 years later. In 1977, Red was elected to serve as Divisional Steward for UAW Local 833. Red served Local 833 for the next 24 years, holding the positions of Chief Steward, Vice President, and President. He also served as a full-time Benefit and Safety Representative from 1990 until 2001. In total, Red was instrumental in negotiating six labor agreements between the Kohler Company and Local 833. As a health and safety trainer for the UAW International Union, Red led workshops throughout the United States on issues such as workplace safety, hazardous chemical handling, and harassment.

Red's unwavering political spirit led him to the Wisconsin State CAP-PAC Board where he remained active for more than 20 years and served 6 years as Chairperson. In August 2001, he was appointed to the UAW Region 4 International Staff as the CAP-PAC Coordinator for a six-state area that included Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming. Red has served on numerous executive boards including the Wisconsin AFL-CIO, Citizen Action of Wis-

consin, Competitive Wisconsin, Inc., the State of Wisconsin Unemployment Compensation Insurance Advisory Council, and the School for Workers Labor Faculty Advisory Board. Red will retire to country living in Wisconsin to spend time with his wife Mutzie, two children Rick and Judy, and 3 grandchildren Shawn, Samantha, and Collin. UAW Local 833 will honor Red this weekend to commemorate a career marked by commitment and dedication. The celebration will feature a friendly roast by those who have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Red.

For his hard work, leadership, and service to the State of Wisconsin, I join all of UAW Local 833 in saluting and thanking Red Platz. I wish Red health and happiness in retirement.

HONORING STANTON WILL RAGLAND

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Stanton Will Ragland of Liberty, Missouri. Stanton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Stanton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Stanton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Stanton Will Ragland for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING THE JEWISH HERALD-VOICE ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Jewish Herald-Voice on their 100th anniversary on April 20, 2008. The Jewish Herald-Voice is the longest continuously running Jewish newspaper in the Southwest and one of the oldest in the country. Founded in 1908 as The Jewish Herald by local printer Edgar Goldberg, the Jewish Herald-Voice has continued through the dedication of 3 owners. Through its pages, the Jewish Herald-Voice connects the community to important causes, large and small, calling its readers to action, and especially by connecting its readers to issues affecting Jewish communities around the world.

Over the past several decades, the Jewish Herald-Voice has been recognized for excellence in journalism and in design by the Texas Press, the Texas Gulf Coast Press, the Houston Press Club, and American Jewish Press associations. For its community service, the