

making his stay at our esteemed capital, the District of Columbia, as well as my home State of New York. This country boasts a strong Catholic tradition, home to the third-largest Catholic population in the world at approximately 66 million followers, and has generated a fount of enthusiasm at this, his first visit to American soil as Pope. The 265th reigning Pope will hold mass at the Nationals and Yankee stadiums, meet with the President at the White House, address the United Nations, and pray at the Ground Zero site in lower Manhattan. May he enjoy a safe and spiritually fulfilling trip.

It is my wish that this Pope's commitment to progressive causes—prime among them the proliferation of peace and socioeconomic justice—ignites that noteworthy agenda in this country. He has called for peaceful resolutions to global conflicts, publicly expressing his conscientious opposition to the war in Iraq, and has bravely noted that all are entitled to at least the bare necessities of life: A roof overhead, food for nourishment, access to medicines. These are basic human rights and entitlements that ought to be made sacrosanct in our society.

MR. JIM STEMMLER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor and pleasure that I stand before you today, with my colleague Congressman JOE DONNELLY, to recognize the many accomplishments of Mr. Jim Stemmler. I have known Jim for many years, and he is one of the most involved citizens I have ever known, especially when it comes to his service to the IronWorkers Local 395. Jim has been a member of the IronWorkers Local 395 for an astounding 35 years, and his contributions to the organization are immeasurable. Although Jim has been a constant fixture within the organization, he will be retiring from the Local 395 at year's end. For his efforts and many contributions to the union, Jim will be honored at a retirement celebration on Saturday, April 19, 2008, at the Radisson Hotel in Merrillville, Indiana.

Jim Stemmler was born in Hegwisch, Illinois, on December 30, 1947. He lived there until he joined the Army, in which he served during the Vietnam conflict. Following his return from Vietnam in 1973, he began his apprenticeship and became a member of the IronWorkers Local 395. Jim's service as an elected member of the union began with the position of Trustee. His dedication to the union and its members continued as he was elected Recording Secretary, and later as he served as president of the IronWorkers Local 395. With Jim's commitment to serve, it is only fitting that Jim was elected the first-ever business manager of Local 395.

Aside from his elected service to the Local 395, Jim also served on several Local 395 boards, including the joint apprenticeship committee and the health and welfare board. The respect and trust of the union's members for Jim is apparent in his appointment as the chairman of the board of trustees for Mid-America Pension Plan and to the supple-

mental monthly annuity fund board. Jim is also currently the President of the LaPorte, Starke, and Pulaski Building and Construction Trades Council and holds several politically appointed positions throughout the State of Indiana.

When not engaged with the union, Jim spends his spare time with those closest to him, his family. A loving husband, father, and grandfather, Jim's commitment to the union and its members is surpassed only by his dedication to his family. Jim and his wife, Sandy, have shared many wonderful years together.

Madam Speaker, Jim Stemmler has given his time and efforts selflessly to the members of the IronWorkers Local 395 for the past 35 years. As a friend to Congressman DONNELLY and myself, his fellow members, and the larger community, I commend his work throughout northern Indiana. At this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending him for his lifetime of service and dedication.

HONORING MOTHER LUCY SLADE
LEE ON HER 106TH BIRTHDAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mother Lucy Slade Lee, who celebrated her 106th birthday with family and friends last Saturday at New Gethsemane Baptist Church in Crown Heights where she has been an usher for many years.

Mother Lee, whose official birthday was on April 9, was born in 1902 in New Bern, North Carolina, to the late Elijah and Mahalia Slade, and is succeeded by generations of Slade children. She continued to work well into what many consider retirement age, as an usher and a caretaker to the elderly.

Mother Lee and her family moved into a home on Fleet Street in Brooklyn in 1922, and recalls fondly a time in Brooklyn when there was no electric lighting in home or on the streets; when subway fare was a mere nickel and the Daily News 2 cents; when New York City streets were lined with stables where horses were kept; and when you used your windowsill as a refrigerator. Although these times were not easy, Mother Lee's faith inspired her to devote much of her time to New Gethsemane Baptist Church, where she began serving as an usher in 1966.

For inspiration on how to become better people, we must look to those amongst us who have mastered life's difficult challenges. With Mother Lee's longevity, she has established herself as an outstanding role model for the rest of us.

HONORING REDMOND HIGH
SCHOOL—WINNING THE PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH
AWARD

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, it's with great pleasure that I congratulate students from

Redmond High School in my home state of Washington for winning a prestigious national honor, the President's Environmental Youth Award.

These outstanding students took it upon themselves to create and develop the "Cool School" campaign with the goal of reducing carbon emissions by 1,000 pounds per classroom. Their efforts went well beyond the initial goal and reduced their school's carbon footprint by 72 tons and saved the school \$7,500 in its electric bill last year alone.

Led by science teacher Mike Towns, who is an inspiration to those committed to leading a zero-carbon lifestyle, these students exemplify the effort and ingenuity needed to launch a U.S. clean-energy revolution. I have no doubt that these bright minds will continue to be environmental leaders.

It's among the greatest honors as a member of the House of Representatives to meet and work with youth who are involved in their communities and deeply committed to making our world a better place. Our future depends on these young people who are making a real impact in the fight against climate change.

I commend the students and staff of Redmond High School for their efforts and look forward to working with them in the years ahead to beat global warming.

HONORING THE TEACHING CAREER
OF MRS. ARLENE CORY OF PENN
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 37 years of inspiring and motivational teaching of Mrs. Arlene Cory of Penn Christian Academy located in East Norriton Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Cory will be honored with a well-deserved retirement dinner on April 29, 2008, at Presidential Caterers in the township.

Ms. Cory began her career at Penn Christian Academy in 1971 and she is now teaching a second generation of students. Alumni who have learned of Mrs. Cory's coming departure have expressed regret that she will not be their children's teacher one day. She is loved, admired and respected by many. Her friends will tell you that this is due to her kind heart and her willingness to always lend a helping hand.

In 1985, along with her long-time co-worker Linda Kuntz, Ms. Cory was dubbed a "teacher extraordinaire". I'm sure the thousands of children whose lives she has touched over the years could not agree more.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in thanking Mrs. Arlene Cory for her exemplary service to the children of Penn Christian Academy. May her teaching career be an inspiration to us all.