

Despite lacking an official diocese or church, both stories exemplify a Catholic presence and influence which exceeds the creation of physical infrastructure. It is a testament to an often repeated adage which states that the people inside the church are the church; a church without people is just an empty building.

St. Patrick Catholic Church has been an important resource for Michigan's Thumb Region, and has always worked to improve the community. It has always answered the call of service and almsgiving. And despite the struggles and obstacles faced along the way, St. Patrick has remained steadfast and resilient exhibiting its core values and trust in God.

Currently, over 1.4 million Catholics embody the Archdiocese of Detroit and St. Patrick Church has been a strong part of its history and the history of Lapeer County. Parishioners can be extremely proud of this keystone anniversary and have every reason to celebrate. Reaching this notable achievement is a strong reflection of the faith and commitment of the people who attend religious services and worship every Sunday.

Lastly Mr. Speaker, I commend the leadership, parish staff, event coordinating committee and everyone who had a helping hand in seeing this day come to fruition. Their hard work is recognized and greatly appreciated. I extend my best wishes to St. Patrick Catholic Church on a successful and wonderful celebration.

AMERICAN JEWISH HERITAGE  
MONTH

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 25, 2011*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of American Jewish Heritage Month. For more than 350 years, members of the Jewish faith have lived in this country, built this country and contributed to this country.

From colonial days to the present, the course of American history would be profoundly different if it were not for the contributions of American Jews. The early settlers arrived in New York in 1654 and won official toleration, despite the objections of Peter Stuyvesant, marking America as a place where Jews would be free to practice their religion. America's toleration was unusual. Elsewhere in the world the Spanish Inquisition was in full swing; Italian Jews were confined to ghettos; Jews had not yet officially been readmitted to England or France; and they were banned from Scandinavia. Toleration became accepted practice in New England and the South as well, and Jewish communities began to form in many parts of America. A Jewish doctor, Samuel Nunez Ribiero, kept the settlers of the new colony of Georgia from being ravaged by malaria in 1733, which persuaded the founder of the colony, James Edward Oglethorpe, to allow Jewish people to settle in Savannah.

Jews played an important role in the Revolutionary War and the establishment of the fledgling United States. From the merchants who carried supplies and arms to Hayim Solomon who helped bankroll the new government at a crucial time, Jews contributed to the

birth of our country. And, as the country grew, Jews found opportunities and freedom in the new towns and cities that were built in the West.

Jews began to immigrate to the United States in large numbers during the 1880s. And their language, customs and stories were incorporated into American culture. What could be more American than nosh on a bagel while watching a Woody Allen movie? Thanks to comedians like Milton Berle, Jack Benny, Fanny Brice, Mel Brooks, Carl Reiner, Neil Simon, Phil Silvers, Jerry Seinfeld, Roseanne Barr, Sacha Baron Cohen, Gilda Radner and thousands of others, American comedy often seems to have a distinctly Jewish humor.

Jews have made their mark in American literature, music and the arts. Saul Bellow, Herman Wouk and Michael Chabon are among the 14 percent of Pulitzer Prize winners in literature who are Jewish; Barbara Tuchman, Studs Terkel and Jared Diamond are among the 51 percent of Pulitzer Prize winners for non-fiction who are Jewish. From Leonard Bernstein to Aaron Copeland, some of America's most famous composers are Jewish. And many of the most influential artists of the last 100 years have been Jewish, including Man Ray, Helen Frankenthaler and Mark Rothko.

Jewish scientists have expanded our knowledge of the world and have helped discover new cures. From Albert Einstein to Jonas Salk, Carl Sagan to Mark Zuckerberg, Jews have used their scientific knowledge to change our understanding.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in celebrating Jewish American Heritage Month, and the myriad of ways in which Jewish Americans have influenced our lives.

INTRODUCING THE SMALL  
BUSINESS TAX EQUITY ACT

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 25, 2011*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues Mr. POLIS (D-CO), Mr. FRANK (D-MA), Mr. ROHRBACHER (R-CA), and Mr. PAUL (R-TX) to introduce the Small Business Tax Equity Act.

Our tax code currently undercuts legal medical marijuana dispensaries by preventing them from taking the full range of deductions allowed for other small businesses. While unfair to these small business owners, the tax code also punishes the thousands of patients who rely on them for safe, legal, reliable access to medical marijuana as recommended by a doctor.

The Small Business Tax Equity Act would create an exception to Internal Revenue Code Section 280E to allow businesses operating in accordance with state law to take tax deductions associated with the sale of medical marijuana. This legislation is one in a series of bills being introduced today that would help ensure the fair treatment of medical marijuana businesses and the patients they serve.

Forty years after the start of the War on Drugs, 16 states and the District of Columbia now regulate and allow the sale of marijuana for medical purposes. Our tax laws have not kept pace with these changes in state law. My legislation would amend a portion of the Inter-

nal Revenue Code that was intended to prevent criminal drug dealers from claiming tax benefits. Under this bill, dispensaries operating legally under state law will no longer be prohibited from taking tax deductions and credits attributed to the sale of marijuana to patients.

Medical marijuana dispensaries operate legally in my home state and pay federal, state, and local taxes. California now collects over \$100 million in state taxes annually from these small businesses. They should be able to claim the full range of benefits under the U.S. tax code just like other businesses that operate legally under state law. I urge my colleagues to join us in support of fair tax treatment for the medical marijuana industry and to ensure safe access to the patients it serves.

IN MEMORY OF KEN MORGAN

**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 25, 2011*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great voice for labor, a great Mainer and most importantly, a great friend, Ken Morgan.

For 35 years, Ken worked at the AFL-CIO fighting for the rights of Maine's hard-working men and women. As a union brother of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1837, Ken believed that united in solidarity, we could all move our society forward.

In the late 1960s, Ken's principles led him to refuse his doctorate from Northwestern University because of a dispute regarding the extension of civil rights based upon sexual orientation. Ken carried this strong commitment to justice and solidarity into all aspects of his life and was a trail blazer in the civil rights community. During his long career, Ken served as a member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, was an award-winning member of the Maine Gay and Lesbian Political Alliance and a member of the Board of Directors of the Maine Center for Economic Policy. These are only a few of the many organizations Ken was involved with, all of which worked to help those who might otherwise be forgotten.

However, Ken is best remembered by his friends and family as a great man, with a mind that was deep, broad and keen. His heart was huge. He was a gentle soul who leaves a huge void and who so richly filled the lives of his many friends and family. Above all, Ken was a loving friend, mentor, brother, son and partner.

On the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, President Obama declared, "Dr. King once said that the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends towards justice. It bends towards justice, but here is the thing: it does not bend on its own. It bends because each of us in our own ways put our hand on that arc . . ." Ken's work and life embodied this active engagement with our nation's, and our world's, struggle to be a place of equality and freedom.

Ken leaves behind his partner of more than three decades, Rick Strout, his brother Charles, his sister-in-law Jerie, and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in remembering a great American, Ken Morgan.