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to the Fresno community through his broadcast television stations.

While attending Memorial High School in Fresno, Cocola received inspiration to pursue a career in broadcasting. He was one of the local high school students chosen to participate in a television program called "Open House." He continued to participate in other activities on radio and television, including a Top 40 show with a dance party format that aired in Bakersfield.

Cocola enrolled at Fresno State to pursue a degree in radio and television. He added a minor in business in the event that his father may need him. His father, Morris Cocola, owned the family's tree fruit and grape growing, packing and shipping business. But Gary Cocola's passion was for the television business.

In 1962, Cocola found an agent in Los Angeles and considered entering the highly competitive Southern California media market. Cocola's agent dissuaded him from this, which caused Cocola to become discouraged. So, he entered his father's business and began a career in sales.

Cocola excelled at his business and by 1970 he formed the Cocola Fruit Corporation that allowed him to be a dealer and broker as well as a commercial merchant. Cocola was financially well off, but was not entirely happy with his job. His dream was to return to broadcasting.

With the help of his wife Diane Dostinch, he applied to put a local full power station on the air in 1977. After successfully completing the Federal Communications Commission's lengthy application process, the station was finally built in 1984. In 1985, his station, KMSG, began as a Christian station. He has visions to create a station resembling MTV, but it was not commercially feasible.

Cocola began branching out into the low power channels he was accumulating. At a cable television convention, Cocola met Bud Paxson, the founder of the Home Shopping channel. In 1987, Cocola entered the shopping channel market. In 1988, the Spanish News Network out of New York City contacted KMSG, and Cocola converted the channel to Telemundo 59.

As the 80's went by, Cocola continued to expand his ownership of the low power channels not offered on cable TV. He added more shopping channels, a pay for view music TV channel, and a classic movie channel. Today his broadcast empire includes 10 stations owned locally, including a full power station, Channel 43, and an additional five channels in other locations throughout the United States. One station is a full power channel in Omaha, Nebraska and another is a low power station that delivers a new concept in Internet access. This new idea will use broadcast to deliver access to the Internet at a faster speed than the current linkups allow.

Cocola has provided a service to many community members without cable by bringing them news, public affairs and entertainment for free.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Gary Cocola for his service to the community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Gary many more years of continued success and happiness.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

130TH ANNIVERSARY OF MT. JOY  
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to make the House aware of the 130th anniversary of Mt. Joy Missionary Baptist Church in Edwardsville. The church serves as a pillar of the community. The church began in 1869 in the home of a church member who was also an ex-slave. In 1871 the church moved to a log cabin nearby. The church has always been a center for the community to come together to interact. There will also be the very first showing of the new history museum created by the church.

When a long time church member was questioned about the church she replied, "I used to like the old ice cream socials years ago. It was a way for folks to get together, and there was always a place for the kids to play." It is exciting to see a community get together to celebrate the anniversary of a historic institution in its community. Such events create a sense of pride and history throughout the community.

A TRIBUTE TO CASEY LEE  
ADKISSON FOR HIS PROMOTION  
TO THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

### HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincerest congratulations to Casey Lee Adkisson, Boy Scout, from San Antonio, TX, upon the notification of his advancement to the rank of Eagle Scout.

Boy Scouts are awarded the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout based on their faith and obedience to the Scout Oath. The Scout Oath requires members to live with honor, loyalty, courage, cheerfulness, and an obligation to service.

In addition, the rank of Eagle Scout is only bestowed once a Boy Scout satisfies duties including, the completion of 21 merit badges, performing a service project of significant value to the community, and additional requirements listed in the Scout Handbook.

In receiving this special recognition, I believe that Eagle Scout Casey Lee Adkisson will guide and inspire his peers, toward the beliefs of the Scout Oath. I am proud to offer my congratulations to Casey on this respected accomplishment.

DR. BRUCE SOMMER

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Bruce Sommer has impeccable academic and sur-

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gical credentials with honors, ranging from Phi Beta Kappa to the American College of Surgeons; Alpha Omega Alpha; Phi Sigma for Biology; Chi Epsilon Mu for Chemistry; and Phi Sigma for Philosophy.

Dr. Sommer, a native New Yorker, was born on October 5, 1948, and received his M.D. degree and internship at the University of Minnesota Medical School in 1974. He is presently the Attending Surgeon Chief in the Division of Transplantation at the University Hospital of Brooklyn with prior hospital appointments that include Kings County, Ohio State University's liver transplantation unit, St. Paul Ramsey Medical Center's Burn Center, and the Minneapolis Veterans Administration Hospital.

His professional memberships number over twenty, American Society of Transplant Surgeons, American Medical Association, American College of Surgeon Fellows, New York Surgical Society, National Kidney Foundation, not to mention the founding member of the cell transplant society in 1991.

Given this illustrious professional background, it is difficult to describe a more exemplary model of a research fellow. Dr. Sommer is renowned for his funded research in acute hepatic failure, minority tissue transplant, and cellular transplantation for enzymatic and metabolic deficiencies. Moreover, Bruce was the principal investigator at the Bristol-Myers Squibb Research Institute engaging in the phase III Study of Acute Renal Graft Rejection with Deoxyspergulin.

This exceptional man of healing lives in Harrison, New York with his family. The dedication and sensibility he brings to the medical profession is unparalleled here in Brooklyn. I would like my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in commending Dr. Sommer for his achievements.

A TRIBUTE TO HIS HOLINESS  
CATHOLICOS KAREKIN I

### HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to His Holiness Catholicos Karekin I. On June 29, the Armenian community mourned the loss of this Supreme Patriarch and leader of the Armenian Apostolic Church. Born Nishan Sarkissian in Kessab, Syria, Karekin I was ordained priest in 1949.

Karekin I dedicated his life to preaching the message of the Armenian Church in a dynamic and creative manner by devoting himself to the instruction of a new generation of clergy which he dubbed "Ambassadors of Christian Faith".

During the 1970's, Karekin I was the head of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church in New York. In this capacity, he motivated the spiritual and cultural life of Armenians and championed a modern vision within theological writings.

In his most recent role as co-President of the Pan Armenian Committee, His Holiness was preparing for the celebration of 1,700 years of Christianity in Armenia. Without his

contribution, this celebration would not have been possible. Sadly, Karekin I will not bear witness to the project's successful completion, expected in 2001.

Karekin I made an impact on Armenians throughout the world, and particularly in eastern Massachusetts. When Karekin I was buried in his homeland of Etchmaidzin, Armenia, local Armenians residing in Watertown and Cambridge, MS, grieved with others around the world at his passing. Karekin I was a compassionate human being who affected the lives of Armenian Apostolic parishioners, particularly those whom he had visited at St. Stephen's in Watertown, and Holy Trinity in Cambridge, MS.

Karekin I's spiritual teachings and services made a vital contribution to the cohesiveness that today exists among a people scattered throughout the globe. The Armenian international community has suffered a great and personal loss in the death of Karekin I, a man of eternal accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING HIGH  
SCHOOL SECRETARY KAREN  
ENSOR

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 16, 1999*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that Mrs. Karen Ensor, the principal's secretary for the past 26 years at Lexington High School in Lexington, Missouri, retired on June 30, 1999.

Mrs. Ensor began her career 33 years ago when she accepted a position as a teacher's aide at Leslie Bell Elementary School. She remained at Leslie Bell for seven years and then moved to the high school as the principal's secretary. In that post, Karen served the students and staff Lexington High School for 26 years.

A typical day at Lexington High School for Mrs. Ensor included keeping attendance, monitoring student records, making arrangements for athletic teams, answering the phone, tracking down over 300 students, and making sure the students got their lunch tickets. Indeed, Karen's duties at Lexington High School have been multi-faceted. Her dedication and outstanding service to the school and the Lexington community are truly honorable.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Ensor will surely be missed by everyone at Lexington High School. I wish her and her husband, Dale, all the best in the days ahead. I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to this great Missourian.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
VICKI L. BEARD, UNITED  
STATES ARMY, ON THE OCCA-  
SION OF HER RETIREMENT

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 16, 1999*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Vicki L.

Beard as she prepares to culminate her active duty career in the United States Army. Vicki is the epitome of an outstanding officer and leader.

Lieutenant Colonel Beard began her career more than 24 years ago as an enlisted soldier. She then received her commission as a second lieutenant. A graduate of the University of Cincinnati, as well as the Command and General Staff College, Vicki Beard has met the many challenges of military service as an Army Officer, and has faithfully served her country in a variety of command and staff assignments in the Continental United States, Germany, and Korea.

Vicki was previously assigned to the Army Congressional Investigation Division as a Congressional Liaison Officer. During her tenure in the Army Legislative Liaison Office, Vicki served on several investigation panels, spearheading changes in current Army personnel policy.

She concludes her career as the Special Assistant for Personnel Policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs. Always thorough and precise in applying her personnel expertise, Vicki has been very generous with colleagues, both senior and subordinate, who sought out her advice on personnel and legislative matters. Senior Defense officials depended on Vicki for her studious approach to matters, and Congressional Members and staff looked to her for her honesty, candor, and professional assessment of any given situation.

Mr. Speaker, service and dedication to duty have been the hallmarks of Lieutenant Colonel Beard's career. She has served our nation and the Army well during her years of service, and we are indebted for her many contributions and sacrifices in the defense of the United States. I am sure that everyone who has worked with Vicki joins me in wishing her health, happiness, and success in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 16, 1999*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I was absent and unable to vote due to my recovery from heart surgery, July 12, 1999–July 16, 1999.

On July 12, 1999: I would have voted against approving the journal (rollcall No. 277). I would have voted present on H. Con. Res. 107 (rollcall No. 278). I would have voted present on H. Con. Res. 117 (rollcall No. 279).

On July 13, 1999: I would have voted in favor of H.R. 2465 (rollcall No. 280). I would have voted in favor of H.R. 2465 (rollcall No. 280). I would have voted in favor of the McGovern amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 281). I would have voted in favor of the Sanders amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 282). I would have voted against the Coburn amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 283).

On July 14, 1999: I would have voted in favor of the Sanders amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 284). I would have voted in favor

of the Sanders amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 285). I would have voted in favor of the Slaughter amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 286). I would have voted against the Stearns amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 287). I would have voted in favor of the Inslee amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 288). I would have voted against the Weldon amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 289). I would have voted in favor of the Klink amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 290). I would have voted in favor of the Farr amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 291). I would have voted against the Tancredo amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 292). I would have voted in favor of the Wu amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 293). I would have voted in favor of the Klink amendment to H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 294).

On July 15, 1999; I would have voted in favor of the motion to recommit H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 295). I would have voted in favor of final passage of H.R. 2466 (rollcall No. 296). I would have voted in favor of approving the journal (rollcall No. 297). I would have voted in favor of the Nadler amendment to H.R. 1691 (rollcall No. 298). I would have voted against final passage of H.R. 1691 (rollcall No. 299). I would have voted in favor of ordering the previous question (rollcall No. 300). I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 246 (rollcall No. 301). I would have voted against the Sessions amendment to H.R. 2490 (rollcall No. 302). I would have voted in favor of the Lowey amendment to H.R. 2490 (rollcall No. 303). I would have voted against the Sanders amendment to H.R. 2490 (rollcall No. 304). I would have voted against H.R. 2490 (rollcall No. 305).

On July 16, 1999: I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 250 (rollcall No. 306). I would have voted in favor of final passage of H.R. 434 (rollcall No. 307).

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLES  
BUSSMANN

**HON. CURT WELDON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 16, 1999*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding American who recently passed away. Publisher Charles Bussmann, one of America's leading advocates for ocean research, died on June 28, 1999 at the age of 75. As the founder, president, and Chief Executive of Compass Publications Inc., an oceanographic publishing corporation, Mr. Bussmann was widely known as an outspoken proponent of the high value and critical significance of the ocean/marine manufacturing industries to the success of oceanic research and marine resources development.

Mr. Bussmann has had a long and distinguished career. He began his career with Texaco Inc. After a short time at Texaco he began working for Pit and Quarry Publication Incorporation where he stayed for seventeen years, eventually working his way up to executive vice president and director when he left to form his own company in 1963.

In 1963, Mr. Bussmann created Compass Publications Inc.; publishers of Sea Technology magazine, Washington Letter of