and purpose. I hope my life will be such a life. And if it is, it will be due to my long association with the Jesuits, the UCA, and the people of El Salvador. And for that, I thank you—all of you—who are here tonight, and those who are with us every day in spirit. You are truly "presente" in my life.

From The Washington Post, Nov. 16, 1999

MARYKES IN EL SALVADOR

By Leo J. O’Donovan, S.J.

Ten years ago in the early morning darkness of Nov. 16, army soldiers burst into the Jesuit residence at the University of Central America. The Salvadoran army brutally killed six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her young daughter. It was not the first assassination of church leaders: 18 Catholic priests, including Father Rutilio Grande and Archbishop Oscar Romero, and four North American churchwomen have been killed in El Salvador since the late 1970s—more than in any other nation in the world. And the murder of priests and nuns continues to scar the history of other countries, including India, Guatemala and most recently East Timor.

While we still grieve their loss the 10th anniversary of the Jesuit assassinations offers an important opportunity to reflect on the enduring legacy of the martyrs.

Far from silencing those dedicated to promoting justice, peace and the alleviation of misery for all in the human family, the Jesuit murders spurred the people of El Salvador—and the world—to witness a higher truth. Such are the murders, the U.N. Truth Commission was formed to investigate the killings. Although the government initially claimed that FMLN guerrillas had committed the murders, the Truth Commission determined that the government in fact ordered the killings.

In an appalling step five days after the report was released, the Salvadoran National Assembly gave amnesty to those convicted. But through the U.N. Truth Commission, an essential truth about state violence in El Salvador was uncovered, as well as the deeply-buried facts of the 26 Salvadoran officers involved in the slayings who had been trained at the U.S. Army School of the Americas at Fort Benning, Ga.

The murder unfolded a truth about who committed them—helped significantly undermine the power and prestige of the armed forces and provided impetus for the peace process. Signed on Jan. 16, 1992, the peace accords ended a war that had cost the lives of 75,000 citizens and represent the triumph of another of the Jesuits’ essential goals—peace through dialogue.

While still fragile, the peace in El Salvador has enabled some political and judicial reform and provides the critical foundation for future advances. Since the end of the civil war, there have been two open, democratic elections, featuring candidates from both the National Republican Alliance Party (ARENA) and the opposing National Liberation Front (FMLN).

The macroeconomic indicators show that inflation is at its lowest level in nearly three decades. Newly elected President Francisco Flores of the ARENA Party has promised continued economic improvement and a vitally-needed reduction of poverty. But many grave challenges face him and the people of El Salvador.

Approximately 40 percent of Salvadorans live in dire poverty. More than a third of citizens lack safe drinking water and adequate housing. And more than half the population lacks adequate health care. Education for all, a fundamental goal shared by the slain Jesuits, also continues to elude the country—more than 30 percent of Salvadorans are illiterate.

Violence continues to be a national scourge. A joint U.N. commission in 1994 reported that while military death squads had ceased to operate after the peace accords, criminal gangs or illegal armed groups were committing summary executions, posing death threats and carrying out other acts of intimidation for political motives. The Washington Office on Latin America reports that violent crime continues to threaten the still tender democratic political order. Unless the government can address the problem of citizen security, while respecting human and civil rights, the country may slip back into a state of war.

Continuing the work of the martyred Jesuits is more important than ever.

As we look ahead, the Jesuit martyrs offer us a lasting model of courageous service to humanity. At a time when torture, intimidation and death-squad executions of civilians were daily occurrences, brothers and sisters regularly endured threats to their safety and well-being. During the civil war, the UCA campus and the Jesuit residence were bombed at least 16 times. But the Jesuit’s teaching and research, their pastoral work, and their advocacy of social reform continued despite all challenge. They knew and accepted the great personal risk their work entailed—the risk of their lives.

In the days prior to his death Father Ignacio Ellacuria, president of UCA, had refused the opportunity to remain in his home country, Spain, and wait out the period of unrest in El Salvador. Father Ignacio Martin-Baro, academic vice president was asked, "Why don’t you leave here, Father? It is dangerous." He responded: "Because we have much to do; there is much work." The spirit and conviction of these men endures through the efforts of those who bravely stepped forward to take their places, including Father Chema Tojeria, S.J., who took over Martin-Baro’s position in the aftermath of the assassinations and Father Chema Tojeria, S.J., who now serves as Father Ellacuria’s successor.

Their example is humbling. In the human rights volunteers from around the world—people from organizations such as Catholic Relief Services, Amnesty International and the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights—all active in El Salvador.

It lives in the Salvadoran people. And the spirit of the Jesuit martyrs endures as we in distant countries around the globe learn from their example of profound commitment to the poor, to education and to a future built on freedom and justice, not opposition and bloodshed.

TRIBUTE TO OUTSTANDING TEACHERS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and to congratulate the outstanding accomplishments of ten distinguished teachers from New Jersey. These great individuals have dedicated over twenty years each to educating and uplifting New Jersey’s brightest little stars: our youth. They have truly demonstrated a solid commitment to building strong foundations for their students; in and outside of the schoolrooms.

As a result of their diligent work towards promoting leadership in our children, teachers will be honored by the Phi Chapter of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. on November 20. Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, a national business women’s sorority, is dedicated to projecting the philosophy of the pursuit of excellence in all worthy endeavors among youth.

The teachers being honored during the Apple for the Teacher program, part of the National Education Week celebration, are: Carolyn S. Banks; Gloria J. Bartee; Henry B. Clark; Phyllis K. Donoghue; Victoria Gong; Mary Jo Grimm; Gail D. Lane; Robin C. Lewis; Simone Wilson; Kathleen Witche.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all my colleagues join me in congratulating these superb teachers on their efforts to improve the community. When our teachers demonstrate such initiative, we as a nation prosper.

MIAMI CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to pay tribute to a place where children are second to none: Miami Children’s Hospital, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary on March 21, 2000.

This world class children’s hospital had its humble beginnings with a vision by our former Ambassador to the Vatican, David Walters. After his granddaughter’s sorrowful death from Leukemia, Ambassador Walters decidedly vowed to create a facility where South Florida’s children could receive the best possible care, and where no child would lack excellent medical care. With his bold leadership, he worked tirelessly to raise funds through the Miami Children’s Hospital Foundation, and what began as a humble idea twenty years ago is now commonly referred to as the Pinnacle of Pediatrics.

Today, under the exceptional steering and superb guidance of its current President, Tom Rozek, Miami Children’s Hospital continues to administer superior care to scores of infirm children not only in South Florida, but throughout the entire United States and, indeed, the world.

Essential to the achievement of excellence has been the dedication of a talented medical staff administered with tender, loving care and the support of a caring South Florida community.

Our future can only be as good as our children, and with the strong commitment to their health and future that is permeated at Miami Children’s Hospital, it is evident that our future will be blazing brightly.
HON. BRUCE F. VENTO
OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, November 16, 1999
Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I want to note for the U.S. House of Representatives the 100th Anniversary of St. Paul, Minnesota's Fraternal Order of Eagles, Aerie #33 which was founded in 1899 and Minneapolis Aerie #34 which was founded the same year. These anniversaries are being celebrated this month with gatherings which reflect on the century of service and the positive impact upon families and communities as a result of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aeries #33 and #34 in Minnesota. The Minnesota chapters of the Eagles in 1998 alone raised $838,000 and nationally, the Fraternal Order of Eagles (F.O.E.) donated $7 million to the Max Baer Heart Fund, $6 million for the Jimmy Durante Crippled Children and Cancer fund, $4 million for Alzheimer's research and $1.5 million to the Make a Wish Foundation. These contributions speak for themselves as to the important role and spirit of care for those in need the F.O.E. has performed. Equally important are the local efforts and contributions of time and funds to youth and families in many local communities across the nation which has helped to sustain athletic and recreational activities and involvement that has enabled participation by many low and moderate income children and youth.

Even at a dinner celebrating their 100th anniversary in St. Paul, the volunteer athletic club of young men involved in boxing, and servers for the event were generously handed $200 in tips and the regular monthly support for their program monthly.

Certainly, as we emphasize the investment in families and communities and recognize anew the importance of such private community based efforts, we should give a big thanks to the F.O.E. and especially recognize a century of service for St. Paul F.O.E. #33 and Minneapolis F.O.E. #34 in Minnesota. Their leadership and commitment to people has helped shape our cities, state and nation and certainly we hope that the F.O.E. will have positive success for the next century. They are an outstanding, quintessential example of the American spirit of generosity and grassroots non-profit self help that have well served our nation in the past, today and hopefully for the millennium.

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, November 16, 1999
Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, November 21, 1999 at the Bridge Street AME Church the Members of the Brooklyn Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will celebrate 50 years of Public Service to the Brooklyn, New York Community. The achievements of this very dedicated group deserves recognition from the wider “Caring Majority” community.

In observing its 50th Anniversary, the Brooklyn Chapter will celebrate a history that began with its charter in November, 1949 as the Delta Gamma Sigma Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. The first meeting was called by the late Soror Catherine Alexander. Other sorors in attendance were Pearl Butler Fulcher, Ann Fultz, Dorothy Funn, Rhoda Green, Mary Hairston, Willie Rivers, Vennie Howard, Llewelyn Lawrence, Ameida Lee, Agnes Levy, Fannie Mary, Dorothy Paige, Olive Robinson, Ruth Scott, Gwendolyn Simpson, Carrie Smith, Helen Snead, Frances Van Dunk, and Edith Mott Young.

These twenty dedicated and committed sorors set out to organize programs to enhance the education and cultural life in the Brooklyn Community.

As the years passed, the chapter membership grew as more and more sorors in the area began to take notice of the contributions being made by the Brooklyn Chapters. Today the chapter is comprised of over 200 women dedicated to fulfilling the aims of Delta’s National Five Point Program. The activities of these dedicated women provide immediate benefits for local constituents. The example set by the Brooklyn Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. should be viewed as a “POINT-OF-LIGHT” for all Americans.

TRIBUTE TO BRIAN LANCE GUTLIEB
HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, November 16, 1999
Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an upstanding member of our community who is being recognized by the Brighton-Atlantic Unit #1672 of B’nai Brith on the occasion of its 1999 Youth Services Award Breakfast.

Brian Lance Gottlieb has earned a well-deserved reputation as a tireless fighter on behalf of the youth in our community, and is rightfully honored for his achievements by B’nai Brith on this special occasion. Gottlieb, who serves as the liaison to Intermediate School 303 and Public Schools 90, 100, 209 and 253, is currently working on different ways to protect our community’s children. As a member of the District 21 School Board, he has initiated the process of identifying unsafe streets throughout District 21 to ensure the safety of all pedestrians. And, throughout this school year, Gottlieb will be hosting a series of Child Safety Programs that will provide parents with free copies of their children’s fingerprints along with Polaroid pictures to present to law enforcement personnel in the event of an emergency.

Further, as my Deputy Chief of Staff, Brian Lance Gottlieb has served as my liaison to the Board of Education and School Construction Authority for the last three years. In addition, he is primarily responsible for the intake and resolution of constituent concerns in my Community Office located in the Sheepshead Bay section of Brooklyn.

Gottlieb, who credits his late mother, Myrna, with teaching him the importance of helping others and being active in the community, created the highly successful organization Shorefront Toys for Tots in 1995. Founded in his mother’s memory, Shorefront Toys for Tots has helped bring Chanukah cheer to more than 7,500 underprivileged children in the Shorefront community.

As a student at the Rabbi Harry Halpern Day School and its Talmud Torah High School division, Gottlieb packed and delivered Passover packages to aid needy senior citizens. Gottlieb strengthened his bond with the Jewish community as an undergraduate and graduate student through his involvement with the Jewish Culture Foundation at New York University and B’nai Brith Hillel at the University of Florida, where he served as a Reporter for the Jewish Student News.

Gottlieb is a member of Community Board 13 and serves on its Education and Library and Youth Services committees. He also serves as a member of the Board of Directors in Section 4 of Trump Village and as an Executive Board member of the 60th Precinct Community Council.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the members of Brighton-Atlantic Unit #1672 of B’nai Brith for recognizing the achievements of Brian Lance Gottlieb, a tireless worker for the people of Brooklyn and Queens.

INTRODUCTION OF DICKINSON DAM BASCULE GATES SETTLEMENT ACT
HON. EARL POMEROY
OF NORTH DAKOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, November 16, 1999
Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Dickinson Dam Bascule Gates Settlement Act to bring closure to a long-standing issue between the city of Dickinson, North Dakota and the Bureau of Reclamation. The legislation would permit the Secretary of the Interior to accept a one-time lump sum payment of $300,000 from the city of Dickinson in lieu of annual payments required under the city’s existing repayment contract for the construction of the bascule gates on the Dickinson in 1950.

In 1950, a dam was constructed on the Heart River in North Dakota to provide a supply of water to the city of Dickinson. However, by the 1970s, the need for additional water in the area was identified. Early in the 1980s the bascule gates were constructed as a Bureau of Reclamation project to provide additional water storage capacity in Lake Patterson, the reservoir created by the Dickinson Dam. At the time, the city expressed concern about the cost and viability of the gates. Prior to the placement of the gates in North Dakota, no testing on the gates had been conducted at any location in a northern climate. Unfortunately, this significant oversight proved fatal for the gates. In 1982, shortly after the start of