

Some Americans—white and black—are offended when they see others stress nationalistic roots.

And black Americans may lift an eyebrow when a person they perceive as black acts as if he or she is something else—a sign that being black in the American sense isn't good enough for them.

But those attitudes, too, will change, said Tanya Simons-Oparah, assistant director for outreach for the Broward County Library.

"If you choose not to want to identify with black people I feel badly for you because I know the riches and the value of being of African descent," said Simons-Oparah, 52, an African-American whose parents are from the Bahamas and Panama. "We can't claim everybody."

Harrison said the degree to which children of mixed marriages claim "multiracial" as an identity will help determine how far the changes in attitude go.

"When we look at some of the earlier success for the multiracial categories (on test Census surveys and school district forms, for example) about 50 percent of the people who exercised that option were under 18," Harrison said. It's reflective of the recent acceptance of mixed marriage, he said.

If Masters is any indication, the change in identification will come because biracial offspring don't want to pretend as if one of their two parents doesn't exist. Even if they consider themselves black, as she does.

"I can't possibly choose between them," Masters said. "They're both from very rich cultures and I have to respect them both."

TRIBUTE TO THE MEDIA

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 1999

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bob Branan and the local newspapers in my district who are helping the refugees of Kosovo. I strongly believe the most effective way to help those in need is through an individual's time and efforts to volunteer at local charities and churches. This works when helping the homeless and hungry in your own community, or when helping the homeless and hungry thousands of miles away in war-torn Kosovo.

Southern Lakes Media, Inc. of Burlington and Walworth Newspapers, Inc. of Walworth have launched a nine-city effort to generate support of those fleeing Kosovo. Bob Branan, president of the newspaper chains, is asking, through editorials and advertisements, for Wisconsin citizens to donate to World Relief, an international assistance organization.

World Relief is working with Albania's churches to assist the men, women and children who were forced to flee their homes without food, water or clothing. This organization is fighting to give these refugees not only material comforts, but spiritual hope as well. The Kosovars, expelled from their homeland by Serbian president Slobodan Milosevic, are finding safety in the open homes and open arms of the people of Tirana. The outpouring of generosity by my neighbors in Wisconsin translates into meaningful action, half a world away, for the victims of the Kosovo conflict.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to honor their extraordinary example and en-

courage them to continue their efforts and I commend Mr. Branan for the initiative he took to inform his newspaper readers.

TRIBUTE TO ADREA G. COHEN

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 1999

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of Adrea Cohen of Belleville, New Jersey on this the occasion of her Retirement and Testimonial Dinner. Adrea is being honored tonight because of her 25 years of service to the township of Belleville and the Belleville Public Library and Information Center. It is only fitting that we gather here tonight in her honor, for she epitomizes caring and generosity of spirit.

Adrea Cohen has served as Director of the Belleville Public Library and Information Center since 1993. She began as its Assistant Library Director in 1974 after completing her second Masters Degree in Library Science from Pratt Institute. Cohen also holds a Master's Degree in History from Montclair State University. She has taken graduate courses in history at Harvard University, where she was schooled under the President of the Library of Congress.

Adrea was formerly a tenured teacher of English, history, and literature in the City of Passaic, from 1958 to 1964, a school librarian in the City of Passaic from 1964 to 1966, she was a supervisor of student teachers for Montclair State University, and a teacher of ESL (English as a Second Language) and she also taught English in the Wayne and Passaic Adult Schools for 15 years.

Many people in the community of Belleville, New Jersey have benefited from Adrea's vast commitment to civil programs. She has been made a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club, as well as served as their public relations chair. She was the literature chair of the Woman's Club, and Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce. She is a past president of Zonta International of the Greater Wayne area. She has served as president of the administration section of NJLA and is still an active member of the first regional library cooperative.

She has served as president of libraries in focus, a Cablevision consortium for Essex County libraries and has actively videotaped over one hundred programs at the library for the past ten years, which have appeared on local cablevision. She has also held a yearly Martin Luther King, Jr. event at School No. 9 in Paterson, New Jersey, and has worked closely with local artists and photographers whose work she has displayed in the library.

In the spring, Adrea will be honored by Kappa Delta Phi, New York University, as Educator of the Year for her library directorship and contributions to the community. The award will be presented to her by the United States Ambassador and deputy governor, Dr. Inez Bull.

Adrea has been married to Roy Cohen for 37 years, and has two children, Pamela and Bonnie Cohen.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you please join me, our colleagues in the United States House of Representatives, Adrea's family, friends, and coworkers, the Belleville Library and Information Center, and Township of Belleville, New Jersey, in thanking Mrs. Adrea Cohen for all her years of service to the community and congratulating her on her well deserved retirement, her presence will be greatly missed.

REGARDING THE SBC-AMERITECH MERGER

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 1999

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, there have been a number of recent, very positive developments involving the proposed merger of Ameritech and SBC Communications. I was delighted when the Justice Department gave its green light to the merger on March 23rd. This approval followed a thorough review by the Justice Department and confirms that the merger is not anti-competitive.

The merger approval by DOJ was followed by a favorable recommendation from a hearing examiner for the Illinois Commerce Commission. Then, just last week, the Public Utility Commission of Ohio formally voted to approve the merger. I would also note that the Rainbow-PUSH Coalition endorsed the merger on March 29th. In announcing its support, the Coalition said, "Rainbow PUSH found that these companies are truly concerned about implementing corporate practices that favor workers and consumers, creating employment opportunities and fostering small business growth." Additionally, the Coalition pointed out that the merger enjoys strong, broad-based support from organized labor.

Ameritech announced on April 6th that, consistent with the conditions imposed on the merger by the Justice Department, it was selling half of its cellular properties to GTE Corp. for about \$3.3 billion. One of GTE's principal allies in this transaction is Georgetown Partners, a minority owned and operated company. Assuming the merger is approved, Georgetown Partners will become one of the most significant minority-owned communications firms in the United States.

While all of these developments are extremely positive, Mr. Speaker, I must express my strong concern over FCC Chairman Bill Kennard's recent action adding a new, and unprecedented, hearing process to the Commission's deliberations on the Ameritech-SBC merger. I appreciate the Chairman's desire for thoroughness, but I must question the fairness of injecting such a process in a deliberation that has now been before the FCC for almost eleven months.

In conclusion, I would note that as long as this merger remains in limbo before the FCC, it substantially harms the competitive positions of both companies in the national and international markets. I hope we keep in mind that, between them, Ameritech and SBC employ more than 200,000 people. Many of these people are my constituents in the 2nd District of Illinois. I strongly encourage the FCC to