

IN HONOR OF REVEREND  
MONSIGNOR GERARD LA CERRA

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 1999*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize a man for whom the South Florida Community has the utmost respect, esteem and admiration, Reverend Monsignor Gerard La Cerra, who will celebrate 30 years in the priesthood on May 24th.

Monsignor La Cerra was ordained into the priesthood in Miami in 1969 and has been indispensable to our community from that moment on.

He has been a driving force in our city, possessing a truly "God-given" ability to bring people together from different cultures, religions and walks of life, for a greater good, both encompassing and dispensing brotherhood, fellowship and most of all, love.

He was instrumental in the very inception of the Archbishop Coleman F. Carroll High School and involved in every step of its formulation from the initial groundbreaking to the final ribbon cutting ceremony.

In 1995, this extraordinary man was designated Prelate of Honor with the title of Reverend Monsignor by His Holiness, Pope John Paul, II.

In addition to the many honors and accolades that Monsignor La Cerra received, he has been a tireless worker and advocate for the people of Miami and has served selflessly.

I would like all my colleagues to join me in honoring someone who is truly an inspiration and role model to everyone in the way that he has lived every single day of his life.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF JONATHAN P. CURTIS ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 1999*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Jonathan P. Curtis, of Edon, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Mr. Speaker, Jonathan has accepted his offer of appointment and will be attending West Point this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2003. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Jonathan brings a great deal of leadership and dedication to the incoming West Point class of 2003. While attending Edon High School, Jonathan has attained a grade point

**EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS**

average of 3.732, which currently places him third in his class of forty-six students. Jonathan is a member of the National Honor Society, and has participated in the United States Air Force Academy Summer Science Academy and the Invitational Academic Workshop at West Point.

Outside the classroom, Jonathan has excelled as a fine student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Jonathan has earned letters in Varsity Track, Cross Country, and Golf. He has also been active in the Edon High School marching band, pep band, concert band, Spanish club, and the D.A.R.E. program.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Jonathan P. Curtis. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Jonathan will do very well during his career at West Point, and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

MARY ANN MEYER OF COLLINSVILLE, ILLINOIS CELEBRATED HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. JOHN M. SKIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 1999*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to honor Mary Ann Meyer of Collinsville, Illinois who turned 100 on March 22, 1999.

On March 20th, her family and friends honored her at a special birthday party at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Collinsville.

For most of her adult life, she has been and avid pinocle and bridge player. In fact she was on the high score board for six months running at the Collinsville Senior Center when she was a mere 99 years young.

She attended SS. Peter and Paul Catholic School and Collinsville Township High School where she graduated in 1917. During her remarkable life, she has visited all 50 states and has traveled twice to Europe. She has been an active member of her church and had a career in banking at a time when many women weren't yet allowed let alone encouraged to do so.

She once said that her secret to a long life includes family, friends, music, traveling and plenty of hard work. Yet the most telling component of her secret was the most basic once when she said "Have faith in God. I still do."

Congratulations on 100 years of making a difference in our lives. Here's to the next 100.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 1999*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, for many years now, I have joined my colleagues in congratulating the leaders of the Republic of China (ROC) on their National Day, on associated anniversaries, and other special occasions.

*May 18, 1999*

Today I congratulate President Lee Teng-hui on completing 3 years in office. President Lee is an energetic man who is moving forward on a number of diplomatic fronts to engage Taiwan as an emerging democracy and economic Pacific power.

In the years ahead, I hope that Taiwan will continue to enjoy its prosperity and freedom.

TRIBUTE TO MATT FONG

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 1999*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Matt Fong for his service to the state of California and the United States. Matt Fong's leadership and accomplishments in Republican politics has had a profound impact on the advancement and quality of life in California and America.

Matt Fong has been committed to public service for many years, most recently as California Treasurer. As treasurer, Mr. Fong worked to create higher efficiency within the office, thereby saving California taxpayers millions of dollars. He earned additional funds for California schools, hospitals, and prisons through wise investments, and boosted California's ratings with investors. Mr. Fong has done much to increase funds for small business and education, and has also worked to revitalize California's inner cities.

Aside from his many accomplishments as California treasurer, Matt Fong is a United States Air Force Academy graduate. He served as regent of Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, regent of Pepperdine University, where he received his master's degree in Business administration, and he was director of the Boy Scouts of America in the Los Angeles area. Other activities and awards include: National Commission on Economic Growth and Tax Reform, Congressional National Security Group, Chairman of the Governor's Task Force on State and Local Investment Practices, Chairman of the Pacific Rim Financial Summit, Distinguished Alumnus Award from both Pepperdine University and Southwestern University of Law where he received his jurist doctorate degree, Governing Magazine's Deal of the Year Award, Industry Award of Excellence from the National Federation of Municipal Analysts, honored for service to impoverished communities by the First AME Church of Los Angeles, excellence 2000 Award from the United States Pan Asian-American Chamber of Commerce, and the Simon Wiesenthal Center Award for efforts to promote restitution for Holocaust victims from Swiss banks.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Matt Fong for his service to the state of California, and the United States. Mr. Fong is a faithful public servant who has shown care and dedication to business, education and the well being of California and the American community as a whole. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Matt Fong many more years of success.