

The Beacon House Association is also very active within the San Pedro community. The individuals undergoing treatment devote nearly 20,000 hours each year to volunteer community service. They are actively involved in tutoring local students, removing graffiti from the community, and staffing local festivals and functions, among other things.

Drug and alcohol abuse is a serious problem afflicting our society, but programs like the Beacon House Association provide the appropriate rehabilitative care to those individuals with the greatest need for help, ultimately returning them to the community as fully productive citizens.

I commend the Beacon House Association of San Pedro for an outstanding twenty-five years and I wish them continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the House Chamber for four roll-call votes held on Wednesday, May 26. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 158, 159, 160, and 161.

IN HONOR OF REV. JAMES M. LYNCH'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend James M. Lynch for 25 years of Ordination.

Reverend Lynch was born in Cleveland, Ohio and attended St. Edward High School. He went on to study at Borromeo College and St. Mary's Seminary. Throughout his career Reverend Lynch has worked hard to serve his community. By going on many international missions he has also helped less fortunate people throughout the world. Recently, he took a permanent oath in the Maryknoll Missionaries and is unfortunately no longer a priest of the diocese of Cleveland.

Since 1911, thousands of concerned Catholics across the United States have responded to the worldwide cry of the poor by becoming Maryknoll Missionaries. Today, world renowned Maryknollers help many people overseas build communities of faith. Some work in war zones with refugees, others minister to the sick, the elderly, orphans or people with AIDS. Through lives of dedicated service, Maryknollers translate the gospel of love into different languages and in different cultures. Reverend Lynch is currently helping people in need as a Maryknoll Missionary in Puno, Peru.

Reverend Lynch is a wonderful example of being a man for others. Through his dedication and work Reverend Lynch has changed hundreds of lives for the better. His example is truly something to be recognized and praised.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring this man for twenty-five years of dedicated service.

THE SPIRIT OF STONEWALL

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the modern gay rights movement. On Friday, June 27, 1969, the New York City Police Department raided and attempted to close the Stonewall Inn for the perceived crime of operating a dance bar that catered to homosexuals. Recall, that in 1969 New York it was illegal for men to dance with men, although, oddly, it was legal for women to dance with women.

In New York City and almost everywhere, police raids on gay bars were routine. Usually, the patrons scurried, fearful of the repercussions of being caught in a gay bar. On this night, brave young men and women stood up to the police. They were no longer willing to accept daily harassment and the abridgement of their civil rights.

The Police operated in their customary fashion, hurling a string of homophobic comments, as they evicted the bar patrons one by one. As patrons and onlookers gathered outside, the crowd grew. A parking meter was uprooted and used to barricade the door. Thirteen gay people were arrested that first night.

This was the beginning of a number of nights of demonstrations that drew national attention. Moreover, it demonstrated to the gay community that there was an alternative to continued oppression. It also showed the community at large that gays were no longer willing to be silent in the face of injustice. After that night the movement to protect the rights of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and the transgendered gained strength and respectability.

In the last thirty years, much has changed. Gay bars can be found in almost every town—from Anchorage, Alaska to Wheeling, West Virginia. More important, bookstores, hotlines and support groups have appeared in smaller communities to ease the isolation previously felt by many gays. The legacy of Stonewall can be seen in the lives of hundreds of thousands of men and women who are able to live their lives honestly and out of the closet. The Stonewall Revolution inspired men and women to "come out" and showed young gays and lesbians that they are not alone. Today, an openly gay person is no longer automatically disqualified from holding public office or other positions of trust. Now, numerous communities have embraced the post-Stonewall reality by passing laws specifically protecting against discrimination based on real or perceived sexual preference.

I am proud to represent thousands of gay and lesbians, in Manhattan and Queens and I am proud of my close relationships with a support of the Stonewall Veterans Association, a group of those actually present on that fateful night.

As we celebrate the anniversary of the modern gay rights movement, we recognize the expansion of freedom has not been uniform and much remains to be done. So we celebrate the important, but incomplete, steps toward equality for those previously banished to the closet. Much more remains to be done to eliminate irrational prejudice against those who are different. And we must recommit ourselves to the fight against all types of bigotry whether based on race, religion, national origin, sex or perceived sexual preference.

IN HONOR OF BETTY BAUMAN

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Betty Bauman, soon to be named Woman of the Year by the American Sportfishing Association (ASA). Ms. Bauman's extraordinary vision and enthusiasm has made her an exemplary contributor to the sportfishing community, and I congratulate her on this well deserved award.

Betty Bauman has become a fishing guru to thousands of women through her "Ladies, Let's Go Fishing!" weekend saltwater fishing seminars in Florida. Ms. Bauman's "no-yelling school of fishing" features a non-intimidating environment, hands-on training, a real fishing expedition, and a fish filleting and cooking class. Held in conjunction with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Marine Fisheries, the program is in its third year and now attracts more than 600 women annually.

Betty Bauman's success in attracting women to her fishing weekends demonstrates her intense dedication to increasing the overall participation in sportfishing, a fundamental goal of the ASA. Furthermore, her life-long enthusiasm for the sport is reflected in her notoriety within the fishing community. Through her efforts she has successfully cultivated a love of sportfishing within new participants, introducing a broader cross-section of society to the complete fishing experience.

Mr. Speaker, through her unique vision and entrepreneurial spirit, Betty Bauman has contributed a great deal to the sportfishing community, making her especially deserving of this award. I wish to convey a heartfelt congratulations to Betty and her family for this honor, as well as many thanks to her for working to enrich the lives of the entire South Florida community.

IN HONOR OF MR. AND MRS. ABRAHAM ZUCKERMAN ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR ARRIVAL TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Abraham Zuckerman and his