

IN HONOR OF FATHER JOSEPH A.
ROMANSKY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Father Joseph A. Romansky who is celebrating his 25th anniversary as a priest of the Cleveland Catholic Diocese. Father Romansky is a native of the Cleveland area. His first of many admirable assignments was at St. Catherine's Parish on East 93rd Street. Following his dedicated service to St. Catherine's, Father Romansky worked at the diocesan offices in downtown Cleveland while also assisting at St. Francis in the East 71st Street and Superior area. From there, Father Romansky became pastor of Holy Family Catholic Church on East 131st Street, and later he was chaplain at the Light of Hearts Villa. Father Romansky has spent the last several years spreading hope and peace as chaplain at St. Augustine Manor.

Over the course of the last 25 years, Father Romansky has fully devoted his life to serving his parish and the people of Cleveland. More importantly, he is committed to the well-being and happiness of all people regardless of race, creed, gender, or class. Father Romansky is a kind and generous man who makes all those he comes in contact with feel special and loved.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members of the House of Representatives to recognize the achievements of Father Joseph A. Romansky as he celebrates his 25 years of service to the Cleveland Catholic Diocese. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his charity and dedication to his faith, his parish, and the entire city of Cleveland.

TRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUT GOLD
AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute Laura David, Erin Wiggins, Jennifer Iversen, Christina Barnes, and Merideth Holmes. They are outstanding young women who were honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award by Green Meadows Council in Urbana, Illinois. Laura, Erin, Jennifer, Christina, and Merideth were honored on May 8, 2000 for earning the highest achievement that a young woman aged 14-17 or in grades 9-12 can earn in Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments and has five requirements, each of which helps girls develop skills in the areas of leadership, career exploration, self-discovery, and service. The fifth requirement is a Gold Award Project that requires a minimum of 50 hours of participation.

Girl Scouts of the U. S. A., an organization serving over 2.5 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Awards to Senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

in 1980. To receive this award, a Girl Scout must earn four interest project patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, and also design and carry out a Girl Scout Award project. A plan for fulfilling these requirements is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl, her troop leader, and an adult Girl Scout volunteer mentor.

Laura and Erin's Gold Award project was "Communities Helping Communities." They are members of Girl Scout Troop 299 in Champaign, Illinois. The idea for their project came when they participated in a school sponsored city clean-up project. They recognized the need to help elderly neighbors with yard work and beautification of their property. Together they organized and coordinated volunteer workers, obtained donations of plant materials and supplies and provided gardening services for eight elderly families and three churches. Upon completing this project, they evaluated the results. Laura felt that one of the benefits of this project was the families were able to provide input into the selection of flowers and how their flowerbeds were designed. Erin said she gained self-satisfaction from providing such a tangible improvement to homes. Benefits of the project were the experience of intergenerational and multi-racial neighbors working together.

Jennifer Iversen's Gold Award project involved obtaining computers for the residents of Manor Care Health Services. She is also a member of Girl Scout Troop 299 in Champaign, Illinois. Jennifer and a friend taught residents basic computer skills and how to access the Internet. These new skills provided residents the ability to use e-mail to correspond with family friends. Jennifer applied for and received a grant for continuation of this project next year with volunteer assistance from the social advocacy class at University Laboratory High School.

Christina Barnes's Gold Award project titled "Assistant Softball Coach" provided her the opportunity to share her talents and love of softball with young women aged 13-15. Christina is a member of Girl Scout Troop 400 in Philo, Illinois. She coached and taught this group fast pitch softball skills through the Park District. Her project also included developing a Fist Aid kit for the team and emphasizing nutrition in her instruction.

Merideth Holmes is an Independent Girl Scout from Monticello, Illinois, and her project, "Christian Cuddlies" involved working with members of a Junior Girl Scout troop to make teddy bears for children admitted to the emergency room go Ganta Memorial Hospital in Ganta, Liberia. Merideth enjoyed involving the Junior Girl Scouts in her project and being able to make an emergency room more comforting and less threatening for children.

I believe that Laura David, Erin Wiggins, Jennifer Iversen, Christina Barnes, and Merideth Holmes should receive public recognition for their significant service to their communities and country.

September 13, 2000

HONORING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARIES OF ST. DAVID'S CHURCH AND ST. PETER'S CHURCH IN THE GREAT VALLEY

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the parishioners of St. David's Church, Wayne and St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley, near Paoli, Pennsylvania for celebrating their 300th anniversaries. This historic milestone was reached on September 2, 2000.

It is often said of Pennsylvania that "America starts here." This is particularly true for the greater Philadelphia region, where so many of our Founders came together to deliberate, where the Declaration of Independence was signed, and in whose fields and valleys so many cruel and bitter battles were fought during our Revolution. During this time of remembrance it is fitting to recall the people who settled Chester County, lived in its towns, educated its young, built its businesses, reached out to its needy, fought its wars and ultimately returned to its soil. A prominent role in the development of Chester County was played by St. David's Church in Wayne and St. Peter's Church in the Valley.

As we reflect 300 years later on this rich history, it is my honor and privilege to congratulate the two current rectors, The Rev. John G. Tampa of St. Peter's and The Rev. W. Frank Allen of St. David's, who have the honor to serve their parishioners during this momentous time of celebration. Continuing a walk in faith begun over three centuries ago, they provide the leadership and vision that have made St. David's Church and St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley a cornerstone of spiritual leadership as well as a source of inspirational outreach and service. These churches remain to this day vibrant members of their community providing food, education, health care, shelter, training and countless other services to people in need.

The two parishes were established in 1700 as missions of the historic Christ Church, Philadelphia, serving what was then the frontier regions of Chester County, Pennsylvania. Christ Church is familiar to students of our history, for it was the site where our Founders met to discuss and later to proclaim our country and its unique form of government.

From the moment of their founding, St. David's Church and St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley have played a prominent role in the history of Pennsylvania, and indeed of the nation. The first services were held in small log cabins, were tended by a circuit-riding clergyman and drew only a handful of Welsh pioneers. Today, the combined congregations of St. Peter's and St. David's exceed 3,000 parishioners, and they continue to grow.

It is interesting to note that it was from St. David's Church that General Anthony Wayne, whom some regard as the real founder of the American Army, went off to fight with General Washington. It was to St. David's Church that his body was returned years later. Not surprisingly, St. David's and its graveyard have been designated as National Historic Landmarks.

St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley, another National Historic Landmark, served as a field hospital for soldiers wounded in the Brandywine campaign of 1777 and later at Valley Forge. Its graveyard contains the remains of both American and British soldiers killed during the Revolution. Its beautiful grounds, a wildlife conservatory, were selected by Governor Tom Ridge as the site for the signing of Pennsylvania's innovative conservation measure, the "Grow Greener" bill.

Mr. Speaker, St. David's Church and St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley have much to celebrate together as they mark their 300th anniversary. I congratulate everyone associated with these worship communities and wish them continued growth, happiness and success as they recall their journey: the road, the people, the vision and the faith, which brought them to this milestone.

SURGE OF CHINESE IMPORTS THREATENS VALUABLE MANUFACTURING JOBS IN WEST VIRGINIA

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my concern about a small manufacturer in my district that is battling a tidal wave of low-priced Chinese imports and to underscore the importance of strong trade laws.

Portec Rail Products, Inc. is a small business with manufacturing operations in Huntington, West Virginia. Portec makes steel rail joints which hold rail sections together and ensure smooth passage for commercial and passenger trains alike. Portec's West Virginia manufacturing facility represents the core of the kind of small, hard working American company that we all like to see succeed. Portec provides solid, semiskilled manufacturing jobs for many hard-working West Virginians. Additionally, Portec purchases steel bars from a West Virginia steel producer, further enriching the economy of the state.

During the last three years, U.S. imports of low-priced steel rail joints from China have increased exponentially. According to official U.S. Department of Commerce statistics, imports of Chinese rail joints increased from 78,000 pounds in 1997 to 355,878 in 1999, a 356 percent increase. There has been no let-up—during the first quarter of 2000, Chinese imports were at a record pace of 175,000 pounds—a figure which, if annualized, would amount to a 788 percent increase since 1997.

Chinese imports are also underselling U.S. prices, resulting in lost sales and depressed prices for the U.S. industry. When Portec loses a sale to what might very well be dumped imports from China, it loses the profits and R&D dollars necessary to develop new products and services for its customers. This threat is not just looming in the future—it is happening today and already has impacted Portec. In fact, Portec recently lost a contract to supply steel rail joints to our very own METRO in Washington, D.C. because the Chinese bid was lower. So, the threat to this small, West Virginia company is very clear.

I can assure you that Portec does not intend to leave the challenge unanswered, and in fact, I will do my best to help them combat the harmful import surge from China through trade cases or other means. We must protect American manufacturing jobs from unfair import surges that injure American industry. The United States must maintain strong antidumping laws and ensure that they provide effective relief to small U.S. businesses before they are driven out of business by unfair trade.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on September 12, 2000, I was detained with business in my District, and therefore unable to cast my votes on rollcall numbers 460 through 464. Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 460, 461, 462, 463, and 464.

SCOUTING FOR ALL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, the House now debates a bill Democrats have crafted to revoke the charter of the Boy Scouts of America. It is hard to believe the Democrats in Congress have actually proposed this measure. It is also hard to believe a private institution, which has taught over 100 million boys in America core values and has donated hundreds of millions of community service hours, would be the target of this vicious attack by the party of Bill Clinton and AL GORE.

On June 28 of this year, the Supreme Court affirmed the Constitutionally protected right of the Boy Scouts of America to set its own standards for membership and leadership. Since the decision, Democrats have launched a vicious attack on the Boy Scouts seeking the financial destruction of the Boy Scouts by urging businesses and civic organizations to revoke their sponsorship of the Boy Scouts. In fact, when the Boy Scouts were derided at the Democrat National Convention this summer, AL GORE did nothing. He didn't object. AL GORE lost on two counts. The Supreme Court decision echoed the voice of mainstream America, and business and civic organizations remain committed to sponsoring the Boy Scouts. So here we are debating another pathetic Democrat attempt to force the hateful will of their party's agenda upon mainstream America.

One of the great ironies of the Democrat's bill to revoke the Federal Charter of the Boy Scouts of America is their claim of being "dedicated to giving working families the tools they need to take care of their children" and their claim they have "worked to make children our nation's top priority." Have the Boy

Scouts of America not been fulfilling the Democrats' goals and more? Have the 100 million Boy Scouts, from diverse backgrounds far and wide, not been trained during their Scouting experience to embrace civic responsibility and "help other people at all times" as the Scout Oath states?

Consider the tenets of Scout Law: Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent. Consider the Scout Oath: "On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." Shame on the Democrat party, Bill Clinton, and AL GORE for viciously attempting to destroy the Boy Scouts of America. It is unconscionable that millions of young Boy Scouts have been forced to endure this vicious attack. It is an insult that any member of Congress has subjected these young people to such hostility.

While I have never witnessed such a vitriolic attack upon young Americans, I am honored to go on record with America and the Members of this House who have raced to defend the Boy Scouts from this injustice. My son, Justin, has been involved in Scouting for many years now. I can see the developmental benefits he has reaped from his experience with the Boy Scouts of America. I do not know how I would ever explain to him that he could not be a Scout anymore, should Democrats win today's contest on the House floor. My colleagues, we must prevail on behalf of the Boy Scouts, by crushing this awful bill which the Democrats have proposed and by sending a clear message to the country: The Boy Scouts of America are deeply appreciated, celebrated, embraced and protected for the good work they do to raise young boys to be future leaders of a caliber much higher than the proponents of this bill which we must quickly, and resoundingly defeat.

HONORING RAYMOND C. BURTON FOR A DISTINGUISHED CAREER

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Mr. Raymond C. Burton, who will retire at the end of this year, bringing closure to a distinguished career in railroading that has spanned three decades.

When Ray Burton went to work for the old Sante Fe Railway in 1963, he could not have foreseen the profound changes coming to the railroad industry. Particularly since 1982, when he was elected president and Chief Executive Officer of TTX Company, Ray Burton has been on the cutting edge of those changes.

Under Ray Burton's leadership, TTX has led the way in innovation, design and deployment of the equipment needed to construct today's modern, intermodal transport network. It was this leadership that twice earned him the Railway Age "Railroader of the Year" award—making him one of just three individuals to be so honored.