

CATHERINE E. INGRAM AND NIGEL L. GRAHAM

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to two former House Pages, Catherine Elizabeth Ingram and Nigel Leonard Graham on the occasion of their recent marriage.

Catherine and Nigel met when they came to Washington to serve as Congressional Pages during the summer of 1988. Catherine served as a Page under my sponsorship while Nigel was sponsored by the Honorable HENRY WAXMAN of California. Nigel was extremely interested in the political process and his enthusiasm inspired Catherine's interest. They did not experience love at first sight; however, as the summer progressed they began to spend most of their days together at the Capitol and to enjoy their evenings together in D.C. A friendship developed over the summer and they agreed to keep in touch. After that summer, Nigel wrote the first letter and they have kept in touch ever since. Their friendship soon grew into a relationship and they have been a couple since 1990. When Nigel and Catherine became engaged in December 1999, they returned to the restaurant they frequented in the summer of 1988. It was a special moment as they recalled the place where their relationship began.

Mr. Speaker. It is heartwarming to know that Nigel and Catherine met and found personal happiness through their service as Congressional Pages. I wish this fine young couple every happiness and good fortune in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO JOE ANDERSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable South Carolinian on the occasion of his retirement. Mr. Joe M. Anderson, Jr. has contributed much to his state in the way of service and expertise, and he will be missed in the business community of South Carolina.

Joe was born and raised in Anderson, South Carolina. He received his B.A. from the University of Georgia in 1965 and his MBA from the University of South Carolina in 1967.

To Joe, community service is a top priority. Currently, he is the President of South Carolina Operations for Bell South. He is the founding chairman of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce's Excellence in Education Council, on which he still serves as a board member. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the United States Chamber of Commerce. He was recently appointed by the Governor of South Carolina to be the Chair of the advisory council for the "First Steps" program, a new educational initiative in South Carolina. His passion for education, cul-

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

tural awareness, and community service has led him to serve as president and chair of various other organizations in the state. But, regardless of his title or position, he maintains that helping others takes precedence over pride and formality.

In the midst of all of his service to his community, Joe always finds time for his family. He is married to the former Carol Gerrod of Anderson, and has three sons.

It is citizens like Mr. Joe Anderson, Jr. that make South Carolina such a great state. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in paying tribute to this fine South Carolinian who has set an example of community service, selflessness, and hard work for others, and wish him the very best in his retirement years.

IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL F. PILTMAN

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, a light is gone from the world with the loss of Michael F. Piltman, 46, of Rotterdam, New York.

His friends and colleagues who worked with him for many years in New York State government will always cherish Michael's special personal qualities and his dedication to public service.

He was humane, just and ethical. He lived, ". . . to make gentle the life of this world." To these ends he directed his many talents: a creative and facile mind, a sparkling wit, a joy in people, a zest for the political arena, tolerance for all and a passion for human rights and progressive causes.

Michael loved others, not only in the abstract but also in countless interactions, large and small, with real people, marking his every day with acts of kindness and compassion.

An incomparable and loyal friend, he was giving, nurturing and empathetic, always putting others above himself. He lived with genuine humility and not a trace of egotism.

His irrepressible spirit will ever be a presence, and an inspiration, in the many lives fortunate enough to have been touched by his.

I join with Gail Shaffer, Jim Baldwin, Tom Matthews, Bill Brown, Barbara Chocky, Teresa Davenport Carter, Cheryl Parsons Reul, Maggie Quinn, Barbara Kozack, Sue DiDonato, Gene Labocetta, Ginny Kintz, Sam Messina and Michael's many other friends and colleagues in mourning his loss.

"Faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love." Michael, all who knew you loved you. Our lasting tribute to you is to carry on your goodness in our own lives and to others.

IN HONOR OF FATHER WILLIAM F. TEZIE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Father William F. Tezie, a caring and

September 14, 2000

devoted man who has served as a pastor for more than 44 years. This is a particularly special time for Father Tezie as he celebrates his retirement, his 25th anniversary as pastor of St. John Nepomucene's Church, and his 70th birthday.

Father Tezie was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, but shortly thereafter his family moved to Lakewood, Ohio and eventually to Rocky River. He attended St. Christopher Grade School and graduated from Rocky River High School. In 1948, Father Tezie entered Gregory Minor Seminary in Cincinnati and later graduated from St. Mary Major Seminary in Cleveland.

Since his ordination on May 19, 1956, Father Tezie has shared his commitment and faith with six different parishes throughout Ohio. Before he began his remarkable 25-year reign as pastor at St. John Nepomucene's Church in 1975, he provided nearly 20 wonderful years of dedicated service to the parishes at St. Richard's Church in North Olmsted, St. John's Church in Akron, St. Cyril and Methodius's Church in Lakewood, St. Mary's of the Falls Church in Olmsted Falls, and St. Francis Xavier's Church in Medina. In 1991, the Diocese of Cleveland presented the Award of Excellence as outstanding pastor to Father Tezie for his exemplary service to Catholic education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Father William J. Tezie on his retirement, his anniversary and his birthday. I, along with the St. John Nepomucene Parish, wish to thank this incredible man for the lifetime of faithful and loving service he has given.

ST. ANN OF THE DUNES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to congratulate St. Ann of the Dunes Roman Catholic Church, in Beverly Shores, Indiana, as it celebrated its 50th anniversary as a parish this past Sunday, September 10, 2000. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Father John B. Barasinski, pastor, on this joyous occasion.

Adjacent to the scenic Indiana Dunes National Park, St. Ann of the Dunes celebrated its half-century of history during a special mass last Sunday with Bishop Dale Melczek and the Reverend Charles Doyle, who presided over the church as its pastor for 30 of its 50 years.

From humble beginnings, St. Ann of the Dunes began as a nomadic church, taking up weekly residence wherever it could find space. Parishioners held services in houses, restaurants, and even a fire station, until 1954, when Helen Wood donated five acres that were once home to the Beverly Shores Golf Course. On this donated land, parishioners built a simple, rectangular church which served them well until 1971, when this building underwent extensive renovations and additions. St. Ann of the Dunes parish continues to be home to a close-knit congregation.

With many of its members descended from Lithuanians and Poles, evidence of Central European ethnic pride can be seen throughout the interior of the church. Numerous parishioners have used their artistic talents to beautify the facility. The altar and stained glass windows were hand-crafted and donated by church members. Parishioner and local artisan, Richard Kiebdaj, carved the candlesticks and baptismal font. He also created the main crucifix in the church, which is made from amber donated by various members of the parish.

Sharing its geography with the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, St. Ann of the Dunes' peaceful setting is inviting not only to the people of Beverly Shores and surrounding communities, but also to the visitors from the nearby state and national park campgrounds. During the summer months, parishioners and travelers come to celebrate mass outdoors in the beautiful and natural setting of the neighboring park amphitheater.

The generosity of the parishioners is typical of the care and dedication they show for the church and each other. The parishioners are committed to a tithing program, dedicating 10 percent of the weekly parish collection for local, national and international causes to assist people in need.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating the parish family of St. Ann of the Dunes, under the current guidance of Father John B. Barasinski, as they celebrate their 50th anniversary. All past and present parishioners and pastors should be proud of the numerous contributions they have made out of the love for their church and devotion to their community throughout the past 50 years.

HONORING PRIME MINISTER ATAL
BIHARI VAJPAYEE OF INDIA

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee of India. As you know, the Prime Minister will be addressing a joint session of Congress to provide us with his personal perspective on the role India plays and will play in our new world order and economy.

U.S. foreign policy is increasingly focusing on the importance of India, and appropriately so. India is slated to out-populate China by 2035. It is an important strategic democracy in a volatile and strategically important geographic region—a region for which there are hopes of permanent peace.

Since India's inception 53 years ago as an independent country, it has maintained a constitution based on the same democratic principles that our Founding Fathers valued. The Indian Constitution safeguards all its people from all forms of discrimination on grounds of race, religion, creed or sex. It guarantees freedom of speech, expression and belief, assembly and association, migration, and acquisition of property. It maintains a government where five national parties and 14 prominent state parties can co-exist in a coalition government.

Furthermore, India reaffirmed its commitment to human rights when it signed the Warsaw Declaration in June of this year. This declaration emphasized the interdependence between peace, development, human rights and democracy. Signatories agreed on the right of every person to have equal protection under the law; freedom of opinion and expression; freedom of thought; equal access to education; freedom of peaceful assembly; access to a competent, independent and impartial judiciary and that all human rights—whether civil, cultural, economic political or social be promoted and protected.

Moreover, India is also making its mark as an economic entity. For the past 10 years, the U.S. information technology (IT) industry has made increasing investments in India. They have recognized that India is capable of providing an educated, ambitious workforce that can meet the needs of the world's technology-driven economy. This has allowed India to help cultivate the growth of its IT sector. India has successfully educated its workforce with IT skills and established successful partnerships with industry leaders. India is second only to the United States in the number of Microsoft-certified professionals.

India recognizes the important link between political freedom and economic development. As India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru said "We talk of freedom, but today political freedom does not take us very far unless there is economic freedom. Indeed, there is no such thing as freedom for a man who is starving or for a country that is poor." This symbiotic relationship between economic success and personal freedom is the foundation for a just, stable world order.

The prioritization of economic success and personal freedom is also reflected in our Indian-American population. There are over 1.5 million Indian-Americans, and their contributions to engineering and technology, art and literature, and education and culture are prominent across the nation. They work in our hospitals as doctors, they start local businesses as entrepreneurs, and they serve in our government as public servants. They fill our temples, teach our children and participate in our civic processes, and so embody and exemplify the ideals of the American Dream.

As a member of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans, I recognize that it is time for the United States to further its relationship with India. Our economic and political relationships with India and Prime Minister Vajpayee have accelerated greatly in recent years. President Clinton urged us further along this path with his visit this past March to India. The President met with government officials, traveled in India with Indian-Americans as his foot soldiers, addressed their parliament, and met with India's citizens. Through these exchanges, the United States strengthens and prioritizes its relationship with India. I am especially proud of the fact that in my district, some of the finest citizens of Indian heritage have been contributors to our economic and social fabric. We complement our relationship with India by recognizing the importance of our Indian-American community. We validate it through continued dialogue and discourse.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION
CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE UNITED NA-
TIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR
REFUGEES

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today, I am proud to introduce a resolution which honors and recognizes the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on the occasion of its 50th anniversary for its contributions on behalf of the world's refugees. On December 14, 2000, UNHCR will mark a half-century of helping millions of the world's most vulnerable people. I am pleased that Representatives BENJAMIN GILMAN, SAM GEJDENSON, CHRISTOPHER SMITH, and TOM LANTOS have joined me as original cosponsors on this legislation.

UNHCR has been mandated by the United Nations to lead and coordinate international action for the world-wide protection of refugees and the resolution of refugee problems. It is one of the world's principal humanitarian organizations helping 23 million people in more than 140 countries.

Mrs. Sadako Ogata has served as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees now for nearly 10 years. It is one of the toughest jobs and Mrs. Ogata has done a superb job of bringing both professionalism and compassion to the organization over her decade of service.

This resolution also calls on the international community to work together with UNHCR in efforts to ensure that host countries uphold humanitarian and human rights principles for refugees, to lessen the impact of refugees on host countries, and to promote the safe voluntary repatriation, local integration, or resettlement of refugees.

I would urge my colleagues to adopt this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO NORM SILLS

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Norm Sills of Salisbury, Connecticut, for being named to the Appalachian Trail Conference's (ATC) Honor Roll of Volunteers. In this 75th anniversary year of the Appalachian Trail, the ATC is recognizing 75 individuals for their commitment to the trail. The honor roll seeks to recognize people for their dedication to the trail based upon the number of hours each has worked, their willingness to mentor new volunteers and their overall leadership skills.

Over the last 34 years, Mr. Sills, has clearly exhibited all of these qualities. A retired farmer, Mr. Sills has contributed over 2,500 hours of his time to help maintain the Appalachian Trail. In addition to his work on the trail itself, Mr. Sills is co-editor of the Massachusetts-