

preached, the baptisms and christenings he presided over, and the weddings and funerals he performed, Reverend Ferguson was likewise indefatigable in reaching out to the schools and homes, hospitals and community organizations that sought and obtained his sage advice and wisdom.

The longevity of his pastorate in the vineyard of the Lord truly represents a stewardship that is inspiring. He remarkably transformed the Second Baptist Church into one of the most active congregations in Miami-Dade County. His role as spiritual leader and consummate activist has immensely enlightened and guided church members as they tackle the agenda of participatory government based on their God-given conscience and responsibility.

It is fitting for us to pause and reflect on the role that Reverend Ferguson played in the day-to-day affairs of our community during the last 36 years. He has truly personified the example of Christ as the Good Shepherd, leading his flock to become "... the light of the world and salt of the earth" through his preaching of God's word and spreading the good news of the gospels.

I am privileged to enjoy his friendship and confidence, and I will always be grateful for his example of leading us to live by his noble ethnic of always loving God through the service of our fellow human beings, especially those who could least fend for themselves.

The testament of his faithful consecration to our community's well-being buttresses the noble legacy he now leaves with us. I extend to him the thanks of our community for a job well done and our best wishes for a well-deserved retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO ST. KATHERINE DREXEL

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2000

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, seventy years ago, Katherine Drexel visited the pristine coastline of Wading River, Long Island at the request of the Reverend Bernard Quinn, who wanted to help her in creating an orphanage for homeless African American children from New York City. So moved by the beauty of the vista and the dire need for the orphanage, Mother Katherine Drexel sent four nuns from the order she created, the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People, to teach at the Little Flower Institute.

Little Flower was established in 1930 after much opposition from the local residents. It was burnt down twice under mysterious circumstances. Despite the obstacles, Little Flower has grown to one of the largest foster care agencies in New York, providing services to approximately 2,500 children. Death, illness, poverty and substance abuse have claimed the innocence of so many of Little Flower's children. However, all of the people that have been involved in the institute, have given children a ray of hope and a new beginning for over 70 years.

Little Flower is just one of nearly 300 missions and schools, Katherine Drexel built. Re-

jecting the life of a socialite and donating her riches to "the cause of uplifting Indians and Colored People," she dedicated herself to a life of poverty and helping those who needed her the most. She was a woman who was ahead of her time. She afforded people of downtrodden races the respect and love that most others could not. Mother Drexel looks past the color of a person's skin and looks to the inside and the true humanity of each and every person she met.

This week, after the Catholic Church ascribed two miraculous cures of deafness, Mother Katherine Drexel became St. Katherine. She was canonized by Pope John Paul II and joins only three other American saints.

St. Katherine has touched the lives of so many. So many children at Little Flower and other schools throughout the country. So many who had been abandoned by society and left to fend for themselves. So many who needed a person to see the goodness in all. So many who needed and were helped by St. Katherine Drexel.

REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents I wish to extend my best wishes and congratulations to the people of the Republic of China on the occasion of their forthcoming national day.

The Republic of China on Taiwan is a genuine democracy and its people enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the world. It is my belief that the story of Taiwan needs to be told again and again.

Meanwhile, best of luck to president Chen Shui-Bian of the Republic of China.

CONGRATULATING THE MIDWAY, TEXAS, ALL-STARS LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THEIR FOURTH CONSECUTIVE WORLD SERIES

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2000

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to congratulate the Midway All-Stars little league softball team for taking home the trophy for the Girls' Little League Softball World Series.

On August 19th, these young women, ages 11 and 12, ended another outstanding season. The Midway girls are eight-time world champions, having also won the world title in 1997, 1998 and 1999. They also were world champions from 1992-1995.

I think it is safe to say that the team dominated in the 1990s and has already captured the first championship in the new millennium. The latest Midway girls' triumph was inter-

national in scope as teams from the Philippines, Germany, Canada and the United States competed for the title of world champion.

Before heading to the championships, this year's squad had to get through teams at the district, sectional, state, and southern region levels. The team consists of girls from the small community of Hewitt/Woodway right outside of Waco in the heart of Texas' 11th Congressional District.

Members of this world championship team include Ashley Davilla, Rachel Fahlenkamp, Courtney Heard, Kacy Horn, Emily Lindsey, Hannah McGrew, Destinee Mordecai, Bethany Northern, Amanda Pack, Natalie Pendley, Rebecca Pryor, Brandi Rawls, Kelsey Sage, Elissa Stiba.

These young ladies have shown what it takes to win: teamwork, hard work, self-discipline and commitment. These same qualities will continue to serve them throughout their lives.

The team was very capably led by a coaching staff that includes Randy Sage, Kyle Heard and Andy Horn. They devoted many hours to the girls and their sacrifice was key to this victory.

I ask members to join me in congratulating this year's world series team and their coaches for this outstanding athletic accomplishment.

HONORING JOHN F. GARDE OF ILLINOIS

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2000

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to an outstanding constituent from Illinois, John F. Garde. Mr. Garde will soon be retiring as the Executive Director of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) after 17 years of service. I am very pleased to honor the distinguished career of John F. Garde for his contributions to the practice of anesthesia from my state of Illinois.

The AANA is the professional association that represents over 27,000 practicing Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). Founded in 1931, the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists is the professional association representing CRNAs nationwide. As you may know, CRNAs administer more than 65 percent of the anesthetics given to patients each year in the United States. CRNAs provide anesthesia for all types of surgical cases and are the sole anesthesia provider in two-thirds of all rural hospitals, affording these medical facilities obstetrical, surgical and trauma stabilization capabilities. They work in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered including hospital surgical suites and obstetrical delivery rooms, ambulatory surgical centers, and the offices of dentists, podiatrists, and plastic surgeons.

John received his anesthesia training in 1957 from St. Francis Hospital School of Anesthesia in LaCrosse, WI and began practicing at the U.S. Public Health Hospital in Detroit, Michigan the following year. Having been a

provider of anesthesia for numerous years he became an Associate Professor and Chairman of the Department of Anesthesia at Wayne State University, College of Pharmacy and Allied Health in 1975. Using this experience, he then became the Education Director of the AANA in Park Ridge, IL in 1980 before taking his current role as Executive Director in 1983. His accolades range from propelling nurse anesthesia programs into a graduate framework resulting in 50 percent of them moving into the College of Nursing, as well as establishing the International Federation of Nurse Anesthetists during his tenure with the AANA. John has served the AANA as a member, board member, past president, and now will be retiring as a very celebrated executive director among his peers.

Mr. Garde has many honors to follow his list of career accomplishments. John was inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 1994. In 1999 the Association of Chicagoland recognized him for his outstanding contributions to the Association community, presenting him with the John C. Thiel Distinguished Service Award.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Mr. John F. Garde, CRNA, MS, FAAN, for his notable career and outstanding achievements.

#### TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 6, 2000*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, as President Chen Shui-bian, who was elected in the first peaceful transfer of power in Chinese history, Vice President Annette Lu, and the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan prepare to celebrate their National Day on October 10, 2000, I wish to extend them my sincere congratulations. The "Double Ten" holiday also commemorates China's evolution toward democracy which was first sparked by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the father of modern China, and his nationalist revolution against the foreign Manchu dynasty.

The Republic of China on Taiwan has a lot in which to be proud. Taiwan's economy is a powerhouse. For instance, export orders reached U.S. \$74 billion from January to June, up 21 percent from the same period last year. In June of this year, exports and imports enjoyed almost 25 percent growth from the year-earlier period. Due to the soundness of its economic foundation, Taiwan was unique in being largely immune to the economic crisis which engulfed East Asia a few short years ago. It is the government of Taiwan's policy to continue to develop a new economy based on information and high technologies.

Furthermore, Taiwan's citizens enjoy one of the highest living standards in the world and live in a society where, unlike some of their near neighbors, basic human rights are respected and no one has to fear the peril of a sudden knock on the door in the middle of the night. Politically, Taiwan is a true democracy with free island-wide elections, press independence and political pluralism.

#### EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan is a model of success for many countries in the world, and we need to give Taiwan our approbation and support. Let us salute this beacon of democracy in the East China Sea on its National Day!

#### RECOGNIZING AVIS KELLY BAYSMORE

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 6, 2000*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Avis Kelly Baysmore for over thirty years of dedicated and loyal service to Brevoort Children's Center in Brooklyn, New York.

Avis Kelly Baysmore is a wife, a mother, a grandmother, and a great-grandmother. Mrs. Baysmore and her family have been blessed with excellence, greatness, the favor of God, love and honor, the law of kindness in tongue, morality and character. All of these amazing attributes are the result of a God-centered life.

A child of God, Mrs. Baysmore came to Brevoort Children's Center in 1970 as a Substitute Teacher. For the next year she taught as a substitute teacher in other centers, including Tompkins and Sumner Children's Center. On July 5, 1971, she was hired as a Teacher's Aide at Brevoort Children's Center, working in Group 2 with four-year old children. After one year, Mrs. Baysmore was transferred to Group 2.6-3, where she worked until her retirement.

Mrs. Baysmore was enrolled by BKS in an Early Childhood Education Program at New York University, where she obtained credit in Early Childhood Education. She continued on to Pace College and attended many workshops in Early Childhood Education. Later, Mrs. Baysmore would become an Associate Teacher, filling in for the Group Teacher on many occasions. Finally, she also served as a Shop Steward for 19 years.

In her own words, Mrs. Baysmore says "It has not been easy, but I trusted God for everything and all Honor. Glory and praise goes to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It was He that brought me through thirty years of service."

Mr. Speaker, Avis Kelly Baysmore is more than worthy of receiving this honor, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me today in recognizing this truly remarkable woman.

#### LIFE IN THE AFTERMATH OF SIERRA LEONE'S DIAMOND WAR

### HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 6, 2000*

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw our colleagues' attention to the moving statement of someone who testified to Chairman ED ROYCE's Africa Subcommittee. The event was an extraordinary one, an opportunity to see some of the real people who are affected by our government's policies and

*October 6, 2000*

our consumers' purchases. It is one of many organized by Chairman ROYCE, who has been tireless in his efforts on behalf of Sierra Leone's people, and I commend him and his staff for the critical work they do.

Muctar Jalloh, who is 27, was caught by the rebels in the diamond-mining region in April 1998. He was targeted because he was a student and seen as an enemy of rebel forces trying to gain control of Sierra Leone's mineral resources. Using a machete, AFRC/RUF rebels cut off his right arm above the wrist and his right ear. Mr. Jalloh currently lives at the Murry Town amputee camp in Freetown, and is a leader of the amputees group. His statement needs no embellishment. I hope my colleagues will give it the consideration it deserves.

#### STATEMENT OF MUCTAR JALLOH—AMPUTEE VICTIM FROM SIERRA LEONE

AFRICA SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WASHINGTON, DC—SEPTEMBER 26, 2000.

Thank you for inviting my friends and me to speak to you this morning. We have traveled a long way from Sierra Leone thanks to the generosity of Americans from all over the U.S., and especially from Baltimore, Maryland and Staten Island and Brooklyn, New York. This afternoon we leave for New York to begin several months of medical treatment, fittings and training with artificial limbs.

Today, I ask you not to dwell on the horrible injuries that I have suffered personally. I will be glad, if you wish, to describe the terrible ordeal and torture that I went through. I lost my right hand and my right ear when a rebel chopped them off with a machete.

No, I want instead to direct your attention to my young colleagues who traveled with me from the Murry Town Amputee Camp in our capital city of Freetown. Unlike me, they have suffered much even before they could begin really formalizing their dreams for a bright future. The two youngest with us are only four years old. And these three girls here are only eight, nine and ten years old.

Since I read and write in English I sometimes see articles in foreign newspapers or magazines stating that the war in Sierra Leone must be a tribal war, or maybe a religious war. Religion and tribal affiliation have nothing to do with why we are now without our limbs.

If it were a tribal war, you would not see in front of you representatives of our country's major ethnic groups, including Temne and Mende. Those amputated by the rebels include every ethnic group in Sierra Leone. If it were a religious war, you would not have both Christians and Muslims sitting here in front of you. Christians and Muslims have suffered equally at the hands of rebel forces.

The war is not tribal, and it is not religious. It is simply largely a war over control of diamonds. Little pieces of rock that people around the world like to wear on their fingers and hang from their ears. As you can see, because of these rocks I no longer have an ear or five of my fingers. And the victims you see in front of you are examples of what has happened when the people and the democratically elected government of Sierra Leone did not allow the rebels to keep control of the entire country.

Twenty thousand men, women and children have suffered the same excruciating