

a minor in History. In 1968, she worked as an English teacher at Terrance Manor Middle School in Augusta, GA. Later she moved to Flint, where she began teaching Adult Education courses at C.S. Mott Adult High School and Beecher Community High School. She later became an English and Speech teacher at Jordan College in Flint, and at Longfellow Middle School, also in Flint.

In 1981, Joyce began a term with Flint Northern High School, one that has lasted to this day. In addition to English, Joyce taught World, American, and Modern Literature, Mythology, Grammar and Composition, and Successful Writing and Reading to hundreds of students from ninth to twelfth grades. She also served as the Instructor for the school's Honors/Gifted Student Program, Class Advisor, and Student Council Advisor. In 1992, Joyce became English Department Head, a position she has also held to this day. The same year, Joyce successfully completed her Masters Degree in Education from Eastern Michigan University. Two years later, she completed another degree from Eastern Michigan, this time a Masters in Guidance and Counseling.

For many years, Joyce has been dedicated toward working to improve our schools, not just in Flint, but also throughout the State and the Nation. She is a member of the Michigan Education Association, National Education Association, and the National Council of Teachers of English, among many other groups. She has been an important part of many citywide and statewide committees designed to further educational and emotional growth among our students. Joyce has been recognized for her efforts by inclusions in Who's Who Among High School Teachers, American Educators, and American Women, and was recently chosen as the 2001 Saginaw Valley Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, Joyce Hayes is a tremendously respected individual. Many of her students, past and present, have greatly benefited from her insight, as has the entire Flint community over the course of the last 33 years. She has always been a fighter for education, for she believes that a strong educational background is the basis toward improving the quality of life, I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating her on her retirement, and wishing her the very best in her future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CARPENTERS
LOCAL UNION NO. 845

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Carpenters Local Union No. 845 in Delaware County. Founded a century ago, three Local Unions from Pennsylvania united to form the Delaware County District Council. Over the next 75 years, Local Union No. 845 evolved to become the largest of the three locals in Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

Carpenters Local Union No. 845 has established itself as one of the most distinguished

organizations of its kind. The members of this organization, and their families, have made innumerable sacrifices in order to help future generations of Americans. Furthermore, many of the members of Local 845 have served in the armed forces for our great nation. These individuals have demonstrated impeccable American values, and have participated in countless works of charity. The Union has stood as the backbone of thousands upon thousands of its members by providing decent wages, and a better standard of living for themselves and their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, as a carpenter myself, I know that Local No. 845 has benefitted the Philadelphia community, and will continue to do so for years to come. On its 100th anniversary, members of the Local 845 are leading through example by hard work and dedication. They have been the pioneers for the working class, and will continue to make new advancements and achievements through their endurance, commitment, and leadership.

TRIBUTE TO BOB AND GAY
SMITHER

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate my constituents, Bob and Gay Smither, on receiving the Texas Young Lawyers Association Liberty Bell Award on behalf of their work with the Laura Recovery Center Foundation. I couldn't think of two more worthy people to receive this award.

I met the Smithers just over four years ago, after the disappearance of their daughter, Laura Kate. Sadly, Laura's body was recovered a couple of weeks later. The Smithers chose to turn this terrible tragedy into something positive, the founding of the Laura Recovery Center. It is because of Laura and her parents' inspiration, that I founded the Congressional Caucus on Missing and Exploited Children.

Through this harrowing experience, we have learned of thousands of families who suffer this same tragedy every year in this nation. Bob and Gay have dedicated their lives to protecting our children and keeping our families safe. So many in their community worked so hard to bring Laura home that I can't imagine a stronger outpouring of love and support by a community.

The Smithers have told me that they intend to accept it on behalf of all of their volunteers. This is just one more indication of their commitment to their community and their selflessness—they choose to share this honor rather than accept it only on behalf of themselves.

The Foundation has recently received Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education certification for their training program on rapid response to child abduction and have been invited to present monthly training courses at the Houston Police Academy and Galveston County Sheriff's Department.

I am honored to call Bob and Gay Smither my constituents, and am honored that they

have been selected to receive the Liberty Bell Award.

HONORING CENTRAL
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th Anniversary of "The First German Evangelical Lutheran Church," presently known as Central Congregational Church, located at 1311 Holman, Houston, Texas. In 1851, Pastor Casper Braun arrived in Houston to help German speaking settlers transition to their new home. He was responsible for founding the congregation in September of 1851.

Over the years, the church has built three permanent facilities; a white wooden colonial style structure, a red brick building with a Gothic style white sandstone trim, and its most recent structure, built in 1927, a tan brick with red terra cotta roof directly from northern Italy. The church currently houses the Houston chapter of Habitat for Humanity and the Houston Graduate School of Theology, and is also responsible for financing five new Lutheran churches in the Houston area.

The 87 members of the Central Congregational Church, under the leadership of Pastor Dr. W. Clark Chamberlain have been involved in many community outreach programs in hopes of attracting new parishioners. Since 1975, Central Congregational Church has participated in the Christian Community Services Center of Houston. This service organization is an interfaith alliance of more than three dozen congregations, who work together for betterment of the community. The alliance provides job training, job placement, emergency relief, clothes, back-to-school programs, a thrift shop, day care services, and delivers meals to senior citizens who are shut in. Currently, the church prepares more than 100 meals a day for home-bound individuals.

Mr. Speaker, the Central Congregational Church has a long history of faithful service to the Houston area. The tireless efforts of the leaders and parishioners at Central Congregational Church has made them a shining example for other community groups to emulate. I applaud the parish and its members for their commitment to the community and wish them success in the forthcoming years.

TRIBUTE TO MARCEL GROEN

HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marcel Groen of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Marcel has been awarded the first Mark E. Goldberg Memorial Award which recognizes individuals for their commitment to Jewish culture and civic life and also for participating in the Israel Bonds Program. The