

of the Government Services Division of the United Way of Allegheny County, he served on the Executive Board of the American Red Cross, and he currently serves on the boards of the local Salvation Army, the Health Education Center, and the Pittsburgh Resource Center.

I want to thank Harold Bushey for 54 years of distinguished service to our country and our community. I salute him for his commitment to our country's veterans and their families. I congratulate him for a job well done on the occasion of his retirement and wish him much success in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO ERIK JONSSON

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 1995

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in remembrance of a great man and a friend to everyone in Dallas, Mr. Erik Jonsson. Mr. Jonsson passed away on August 31, 1995, and I will miss him dearly.

Mr. Jonsson was a product of the American dream. He was the son of immigrant parents who found within himself the attributes necessary to make all of his dreams come true—and he did. He worked his way to the top of one of America's biggest corporations as president and cofounder of Texas Instruments, Inc. He was mayor of Dallas from 1964 to 1971 and was the driving force behind establishing the Dallas/Fort Worth Airport, he served as the first chairman of its board.

He was admired by his colleagues and friends for always thinking of the big picture and never taking his eyes off the prize—working to make Dallas the great city that it is.

RUSSIAN JEWISH CONGRESS TO CONVENE IN MOSCOW IN JANUARY 1996

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 1995

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, next month in Russia, an event will take place that marks an important milestone in that country's long and difficult road toward democracy, freedom, and the development of an open and pluralistic society. Due in large part to the efforts of one of the leading entrepreneurs of Russia, Mr. Vladimir Goussinsky, the Uniting Convention of the Russian Jewish Congress will convene in Moscow in early January to bring together the religious and secular Jewish communities of Russia on the basis of their common ethnic and spiritual heritage. Mr. Speaker, this historic event marks the beginning of the Jewish community coming into its own in the new post-Communist Russia, and it reflects the establishment of the Jewish community as a full-fledged and coequal member of Russian religious life.

The Russian Jewish Congress, with the assistance and support of the World Jewish Congress, will give a unified voice to the important Jewish community of Russia, which has long been without such an organization to

represent the broad concerns of its Jewish community. The aim of this organization is to unite the religious and secular Jewish communities of Russia in order to develop and finance programs to revive Jewish language and cultural traditions, establish national schools, restore synagogue buildings, and assist disadvantaged and needy members of the Jewish Community.

Mr. Speaker, under the outstanding leadership of Vladimir Goussinsky, there is no doubt in my mind that this organization will succeed in its worthy goals. Mr. Goussinsky is known internationally as a champion of free enterprise and freedom of the press in Russia, and now he has established himself as a leader of the resurgent Jewish community by convening this Uniting Convention of the Russian Jewish Congress. He has done a great service to his country by leading the way toward a pluralistic society that honors and respects the diverse cultures and religious communities that are contained within its borders.

Mr. Goussinsky is director general of the Most Group of Companies, one of Russia's largest and most productive private enterprises. He was a theater director who drove a gypsy cab on the side to supplement his income under the Communist regime. In 1986, just 5 days after Soviet President Michael Gorbachev legalized private commercial activities, Mr. Goussinsky established his first company. He later created one of the first Russian-American joint ventures, which became the foundation for the Most Group.

The Most Group now includes a diverse portfolio of some of the most visible and successful businesses in Russia, employing over 12,000 people and now with assets of nearly \$500 million. These include Most Development, a real estate and construction division which has spearheaded the rebuilding and reconstruction of key areas of Moscow; Most Bank, one of the largest banks in Russia; Segodnya, one of Moscow's most popular daily newspapers; and NTV, Russia's only independent television network.

Mr. Goussinsky has led the fight for freedom of the press in Russia. Segodnya and NTV are regarded worldwide as being the most independent and honest media outlets in Russia. Mr. Goussinsky has repeatedly continued to report objectively—and in many cases critically—regarding government policies and Russian domestic and international politics. This commitment to freedom of the press has been pursued despite enormous political pressure from the government and other forces in Russia.

The Russian people and the Russian Jewish community are fortunate indeed to enjoy Mr. Goussinsky's heroic efforts to bring Russia out of this extremely difficult time and encourage the transition to a free market and to an open and pluralistic democracy. I invite my colleagues to join me in applauding Mr. Goussinsky for his efforts in convening the Uniting Convention of the Russian Jewish Congress and in fostering freedom and democratic progress in Russia.

TRIBUTE TO REV. CORA PALMER

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 1995

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rev. Cora Lee Palmer, pastor of St. John A.M.E. Church of Conshohocken who died on November 9 in Misericordia Hospital in Philadelphia.

Reverend Palmer was both a spiritual and community leader in my home district of Montgomery County, PA, where she was a member of the A.M.E. Preachers Association and the Conshohocken Ministerium.

Born in Clinton, SC, Reverend Palmer lived in the city of Philadelphia for more than 50 years. She attended Eastern College in St. David's, PA. Reverend Palmer's leadership and spiritual guidance extended beyond the boundaries of her church and were a beacon to many in the borough of Conshohocken. I was proud to have known her and was thrilled when she invited me to her church to meet those congregants who look up to her and counted on her for counsel.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Palmer is survived by her husband, James; her two sons, Dennis McDuffy of Willingboro, NJ, and Rev. Eugene McDuffy of Thorndale, PA. She is also survived by a daughter, Carol McDuffy Kimble of Philadelphia; her father, Thomas Fant of Chicago, IL; a half brother, Thomas Fant, Jr., of Great Neck, NY, as well as 17 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Her passing has left a void in the hearts of many in Conshohocken and throughout the Delaware Valley region. We will all miss her powerful leadership, her dedication to faith, and her belief in the goodness in people. Mr. Speaker, Montgomery County is a little poorer because of her loss but we are grateful to have had her among us for so many years.

STOP THE BUDGET IMPASSE: PROTECT MEDICARE AND MEDICAID—REOPEN GOVERNMENT

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, in the spirit of Christmas and the holiday season, I rise in strong opposition to the Republicans' drastic cuts in health care services for the most vulnerable in our society, and to their politically contrived forced shutdown of the Federal Government. Under the Republicans' budget, there would no longer be a holiday season for the vulnerable.

While the Republicans are busy repealing Medicaid, have they stopped to comprehend the fact that 90 percent of children with AIDS receive the critical health care services they need through Medicaid. In addition, health care coverage will be denied to nearly 4 million children, and over 300,000 seniors could be denied nursing home care.

Mr. Speaker, who would have thought that we would have ever reached the point where the Republicans would feel comfortable in holding the American people and the country hostage, because the President will not agree