

All Sunday School books and the other materials were donated by Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church. The piano, which is still being used, was given to the church by the late Elder Robinson. Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church family under the leadership of Rev. F.C. James donated the first set of pews and hymnals. During the 1970's, the church's attendance declined to less than five, and it became impossible to maintain a full time pastor. The church doors were closed. In the 1980s, Reid Chapel's doors were reopened. And in 1987, the Annual Conference connected Reid Chapel and St. Michael to form a circuit under the pastorate of Rev. Vermell Humes. After Hurricane Hugo in 1989, the mission closed again.

At the 1991 Annual Conference, Bishop F.C. James appointed Rev. Eliza E. Black to pastor the closed mission. This new "Venture of Faith" began on September 19, 1991. The doors of Reid Chapel opened at 8:30 AM. Arriving with the new pastor was her faithful and supporting spouse Theodore, her youngest daughter Antonia Black, two of her grandsons Michael and Renard Black, and a niece Amanda Johnson. By ten o'clock, twenty odd adults and children had come to welcome the new pastor and to share the first morning service ever in the 39 year old history of the mission. When the invitation to membership was extended, Reid Chapel received its first member, Willie M. Martin.

In the Spring of 1994, Reid Chapel purchased a house adjacent to the church's property. Isaac Wims, a member of the community and supporter of Reid Chapel, completely renovated the two bedroom home as a special gift to the church. This property became Reid Chapel's Resource Center. Ground was broken for the Educational Building. It took the congregation only two years to complete the 2560 square foot edifice.

The worship service was moved from the small original block sanctuary to the multipurpose room to the new Educational Building in November, 1995. Church records reveal that there were times that more than 100 worshippers packed into the pews of that little chapel. Many conversions, baptisms, weddings and funerals are logged in the church files. It took less than one conference year to complete the work on the sanctuary.

Officially, Pastor Black was the contractor on record and provided the administrative functions. Her son Randolph Black, a Trustee of the church, a highly skilled brick mason and contractor, directed the work. He also laid many of the blocks himself. The building committee consisted of the faithful Stewards (Henry Murray, Rebecca Hall, Kenneth Black, Rosa Guess, and Marguerite Jones) and Trustees (Randolph Black, Debra Bradley, Almata Murray, Margie Bradley, Christopher Hall, Rachael Madison, Elizabeth Mack, Besena Bradley and Collette Bradley). It was Randolph Black who received the vision and the plan to build the sanctuary furniture. Matthew Jones and Billy Olden assisted in executing the vision. These men literally built the chancellor rail, communion table, offering table and the flower stands. Margie Bradley assisted Billy Olden in finishing the furniture. Most of the wood was donated by Debra Bradley. The decorative work was donated by Williams Furniture Company, Inc. Henry Murray continued to be the dutiful steward and helper.

While the community has called this church Reid Chapel, the founding fathers legally iden-

tified the church as "The Walnut Hill Community AME Church" which remained the official name of the church until December 1997. At that time, proper documents were drawn up and presented to the Rev. Robert L. McCants, Presiding Elder of the Sumter District and the Rt. Rev. John Hurst Adams, the Presiding Bishop of the Seventh Episcopal district of the African AME Church to legally claim the known name, and the "legal" name Walnut Hill Community AME Church was officially removed from all documents.

Today the Reid Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church stands ready to serve all of the citizens of the Walnut Hill Community, and the City and County of Sumter. I appreciate my colleagues joining me in honoring this great church and its outstanding leaders.

REGARDING: REPUBLIC OF
CHINA'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, in recent years, the Republic of China on Taiwan has emerged as a major economic power in the world. Recent world economic events offer a special lesson in the power of democracies in global economic affairs.

Their economic success is directly attributable to freely elected democratic leadership. These leaders understand that a strong economy is necessary for political reform. The fact that Taiwan has survived the latest Asian financial crisis relatively unscathed is the lesson in the power of democracy.

From its one-party past, the Republic of China has grown into a more sophisticated democracy with a number of political parties. The Republic of China strongly supports individual freedom, human rights, and a dialogue with any other country in the world.

Mr. Speaker, let us show our admiration of our friends in the Republic of China by congratulating them on their 87th National Day, October 10, 1998.

At a time when it is even more apparent that the world's economies are interconnected, the United States can find an oasis of strong economic fundamentals in the Republic of China.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARY P. SMITH,
AN ARDENT LEMONADE MAKER

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, if we are lucky we have come in contact with a person who instinctively makes lemonade out of the lemons of life. There is such a woman in my district who is being honored on Thursday, October 8. She is Dr. Mary Smith. Thirty years ago Dr. Smith saw a need for day care programs in Newark, New Jersey. She used her vision, commitment and steadfastness to establish Babyland Nursery, Inc. Babyland Nursery, Inc., now known as Babyland Family Services, Inc. has evolved into a model for urban day care throughout the nation.

In 1968, Dr. Smith started with 26 children in a seven-room basement apartment in central city Newark to establish one of the first day care programs in the United States and the first non-profit interracial day care center in New Jersey to provide day care for children from 2½ months to five years old. If we go back to 1968, we will remember it was a time that women while moving into the workforce had very limited resources for child care. This sometimes meant that these families had to depend on public assistance for survival rather than become self-sufficient. Today, we see the benefit of providing safe, clean, and educatable day care services. The lack of day care was a lemon to Dr. Smith. She took her knowledge, skills and foresight to make some lemonade that has quenched the thirst of day care need for countless families and children.

Babyland Family Services, Inc. has evolved to comprise 11 different facilities offering 20 separate programs that benefit over 1,500 children, women and families each year. It has a staff of over 200, volunteer support of almost 700 and a reputation that extends to the international arena.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues will want to join me in thanking Dr. Mary Smith and Babyland as they are recognized for their hard work and dedication to the health, well-being and education of children from urban areas. I would also like to encourage all citizens to become interested in helping the future, our children, thus ensuring a brighter future for them and the generations to come.

CELEBRATION OF THE COMPLETION OF THE KIDS' CREATED KINGDOM PROJECT

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of the organizers and the volunteers of the Kids' Created Kingdom project. In only five days the volunteers built a 15,000 square foot, state-of-the-art playground complex for the children of Ellwood City. Six hundred people gathered to celebrate their achievements with a picnic and dedication the evening it was finished.

I would like to pay special recognition to some of the key individuals in this project. The Project General Coordinators were Tim Post and Earla Marshall. The Core Committee consisted of Harold Marshall, Cindy Falotico, Joe Carofino, Jeff Berendt, Steve Oliver, Ellwood "Woody" Hazen, Rick and Sharon McClintick, Terri and Larry Crespo, Tom Yoho, Mary Post, Nan Beachem, Beverly Todd, Kim Rangel, Carole Houghton, Julie D'Amico, Cathy Basler, Rosina Betz, Sharon Razani, Wesley Calve, Peggy Figurel, and Robin Lucas. The Construction Site Captains were Bo Rossi, Ernie Mallary, Jerry Maine, Jerry Hulick, Sam and Beth Kasper, Allen Polochak, "Skip" Volpe, Dave Buana, Joe Hawrylak, Jim Palagalao.

These individuals along with many volunteers worked hard to not only construct the playground but to raise the necessary funds. The project planning began in September 1997. They were able to raise the 85,000 dollars needed in only seven months. Again I would like to commend them on their efforts to