

26TH ANNUAL HANK STRAM-TONY
ZALE SPORTS AWARD BANQUET**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to announce that the Silver Bell Club, Lodge 2365 of the Polish National Alliance of the United States, will be hosting the 26th Annual Hank Stram-Tony Zale Sports Award Banquet on May 17, 1999, at the Radisson Hotel in Merrillville, Indiana. Twenty outstanding Northwest Indiana High School athletes will be honored at this notable event for their dedication and hard work. These outstanding students were chosen to receive the award by their respective schools on the basis of academic and athletic achievement. All proceeds from this event will go toward a scholarship fund to be awarded to local students.

This year's Hank Stram-Tony Zale Award recipients include: Tiffany Crawford of Chesterton High School; Analisa Dziejewski of Valparaiso High School; Dana Gombus of Merrillville High School; Laura Jelski of Highland High School; Kevin Krajewski of Crown Point High School; Matt Kubiak of Wheeler High School; Andrius Malinauskas of Hammond High School; Mike McGinley of Lake Station High School; Troy Mezera of River Forest High School; Karen Saliga of Hammond Clark High School; Mary Samreta of Hobart High School; Todd Smolinski of Lake Central High School; Jeremy Stockwell of Andean High School; Christopher Trojnar of Bishop Noll High School; Justin Valentine of Lowell High School; David Verta of Whiting High School; Joshua Wyant of Boone Grove High School; Robert Yamtich of Munster High School; Laura Zagrocki of Griffith High School; and Jeff Zeha of Portage High School.

The featured speaker at this gala event will be Mr. Paul Hornung. Mr. Hornung is a former football player from Notre Dame University and is known as the original "Golden Boy." He received the Heisman Trophy in 1956 and is a former NFL player for the Green Bay Packers. He was a star player for the Packers in a variety of positions for many years.

Hank Stram, one of the most successful coaches in professional football history, will also be in attendance at this memorable event. Hank was raised in Gary, Indiana, and graduated from Lew Wallace High School where he played football, basketball, baseball, and ran track. While attending college at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Hank won four letters in baseball and three letters in football. During his senior year he received the Big Ten Medal, which is awarded to the conference athlete who best combines athletic and academic success. After college Hank entered the NFL, where he became best noted for coaching the Kansas City Chiefs to a Super Bowl victory in 1970.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the Silver Bell Club, Lodge 2365 of the Polish National Alliance of the United States, for hosting this celebration of success in sports and academics. The effort of all those involved in planning this worthwhile event is indicative of their devotion to the very gifted young people in Indiana's First Congressional District.

CONGRATULATING NORTHWEST
BERGEN CENTRAL DISPATCH ON
ACCREDITATION**HON. MARGE ROUKEMA**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Northwest Bergen Central Dispatch center on becoming the first public safety communications facility in the nation to receive the prestigious new Certificate of Public Safety Communications Accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. This accreditation is national recognition of the highly professional standards employed at NBCD. The fact that it is the first facility in the nation to receive this rating is a special honor for this team of life-saving public safety professionals.

Police, fire and ambulance services—with the life-saving assistance they bring—are an essential part of our daily lives. And when those services are needed, they are always needed immediately. That is why it is vitally important that public safety agencies have communications facilities that are efficient and reliable. When a citizen makes a 911 call in an emergency, that call absolutely must go through, be answered and be responded to appropriately—with exceptions or excuses. With a facility like NBCD, residents of northwestern Bergen County can rest assured that will be the case.

Established in 1994, NBCD provides 911 and general public safety communications services for the municipalities of Ridgewood, Glen Rock, Franklin Lakes, Ramsey and Oakland in Bergen County, New Jersey. The communications center is located in Ridgewood and features a computer-aided dispatch system, touch-screen radios and an enhanced 911 system. Laptop computers are being installed in police, fire and ambulance vehicles to better link them with dispatchers. The nine full-time and 15 part-time employees work in a modern, four-position communications room. Administrative offices, training and meeting areas, equipment rooms and support facilities complete the center. The entire facility is equipped with emergency electrical generators to keep it operating in the event of power failure. The center currently handles more than 125,000 telephone calls annually. It was designed with expansion in mind and could be enlarged to handle additional services or municipalities.

The goal of accreditation is to improve the delivery of public safety services, to improve the communications services that assist public safety officers, and to offer standards by which organizations' effectiveness and efficiency can be objectively reviewed and improved. To receive accreditation, NBCD had to comply with more than 200 standards set by the commission. A team of commission officials visited the site to verify compliance. In the team's report, officials said, "Northwest Bergen Central Dispatch has set the benchmark by which communications centers across the United States * * * must now be measured."

Special recognition is in order for NBCD Manager Robert Greenlaw and his dispatchers for their dedication and hard work. Public safety dispatchers are the public's first contact with the police, fire department or ambulance serv-

ice in time of emergency. They must possess the ability to remain calm and reassuring while rapidly evaluating the situation and directing help.

Police officers, firefighters and ambulance workers are justifiably known to and given credit by the public. But almost every emergency call begins with a 911 call to a communications dispatch center. Without these hard-working, highly trained and dedicated men and women, our streets would not be as safe as they are today. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Northwestern Bergen Central Dispatch on achieving this accreditation, and on the hard work it took to meet the standards involved.

RECOGNIZING KIM PEEK

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kim Peek. Kim was the inspiration for screen writer Barry Morrow's 1988 Oscar-winning movie "Rain Man." Though the movie plot is not about Kim's life, Kim was the original inspiration for the title character.

Kim is a unique person. He was diagnosed as a megasavant born with fetal brain damage which affected his motor sensors. Kim is termed a megasavant because of his knowledge of remarkably diverse subject information and total recall capabilities of almost everything he has read since he was three-years old.

Since March of 1989, when the movie "Rain Man" received four Oscars, Kim and his father Fran have traveled throughout the United States taking their message to those who will listen. Kim's message is "Learn to recognize and respect differences in others, and treat them as you would like them to treat you. This will help give us the kind of world we hope for. Share, care, be your best!"

Kim has been featured on numerous television stations nationwide and in more than 430 newspaper articles. He has been on ABC's 20/20 and on Good Morning America. His story has been broadcast in nearly every state in the United States, as well as South Africa, Australia, England, and Japan.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kim Peek for his uniqueness, and for his contribution to society. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Kim and his father many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY AND OZZIE
GOREN AND THEIR FAMILY**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dorothy and Ozzie Goren and their family for their outstanding contributions to the Jewish community and the community at large for many decades.

The Talmud states that "He who does charity and justice is as if he had filled the whole