

a parish during high school when the pastor of St. Vincent de Paul offered him a job as parish Secretary on the condition that he attend St. Ignatius High School. Over summer and Christmas vacations while at the Seminary Schenkelburg worked in various occupations, including mail carrier, playground instructor, and construction laborer.

Father Schenkelburg's ordination occurred on April 28, 1951 at St. John's Cathedral and was bestowed by Bishop Hoban.

Father Schenkelburg has taken on many challenges as a parish priest including teaching religious classes and serving as the hospital chaplain at Metro Hospital and Akron Children's Hospital. An avid sports enthusiast, he played baseball with the Holy Name Society and started bowling leagues for his parishes.

In addition to providing for the spiritual needs of St. Mel's parishioners, Father Schenkelburg has also been able to assist the church financially by organizing successful bingo games and raffles. The funds earned through these fundraisers allowed St. Mel to make major renovations to the Church and add a Church Hall without the need to solicit building funds from parishioners.

Father Schenkelburg will celebrate his final Mass as Pastor at St. Mel on January 16, 2000, a day designated by the Parish as "Fr. Ed Day." Following the Mass, family and parishioners will have the opportunity to celebrate his contributions at a formal reception and dinner.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to Father Schenkelburg on his retirement from St. Mel's Parish. I'm proud to have known Father Schenkelburg and I wish him a well-deserved and fulfilling retirement.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM RUSE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2000

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to William Ruse, a seasoned health care executive who will be retiring at the end of the year 2000 after 43 years of service in the health care industry.

Bill started his career as pharmacist in 1957; and by 1963, upon completing his MBA in Hospital Administration from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, he advanced from pharmacy director to hospital administrator. As President and CEO of Blanchard Valley Hospital, he aggressively began transforming the organization from a small rural hospital to a regional health system. Recognizing the advantages of legal savvy, Bill completed a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree "in his spare time" by 1972.

Through his vision and entrepreneurial spirit, he developed programs on uncharted paths. He gained national recognition when he introduced the first "guaranteed services" policy in the country in 1974. Then in the early 1980's, Blanchard Valley Health Association was one of the first businesses to band smoking in their facilities. As small hospitals have struggled to maintain a presence in health care, Blanchard Valley has continued to grow and expand by

forging partnership relationships that insure their customers' best interests.

His professional leadership positions, awards, honors, and society memberships along with community service accomplishments read like a Who's Who Library. In addition, he has published articles in both health care and law journals.

Bill Ruse is an American we can be proud of in every sense of the word. And one last honor of distinction—he just celebrated his 65th birthday so now we welcome him into our inner circle, the Social Security System. Pat and I would like to express our sincere best wishes to William Ruse and his lovely wife, Donna as they move through their golden years.

IN HONOR OF THOMAS WALKER ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Thomas Walker on his 100th birthday, December 16, 1999. He will be celebrating this joyous occasion with family and friends on February 20, 2000. By this time he will have lived in three centuries.

Born in 1899 in Cleveland, Ohio, Thomas has dedicated his life to working with his hands. He always loved to build and was very talented with his hands. As an electrician in IBEW local 38, he touched so many of his co-workers' lives. They looked toward him for leadership, advice, and friendship for so many years. Thomas also was a dedicated family man. His love for his family and friends has helped carry him so far in life.

At 100 years young, Thomas continues to live a fulfilling and happy life. He has been a wonderful father of four amazing children, Ruth, Dorothy, Thomas Jr., and Dolores. Thomas is loved by his family and the many lives in his community that he has touched. My fellow colleagues, please join me in wishing a loving husband and father a very happy birthday and many more delightful years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MS. BEVERLY G. LEMONS OF UNION GROVE, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of Ms. Beverly G. Lemons to the Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments. In her distinguished career with TARCOG, she has repeatedly proven her capabilities having been promoted from secretary to bookkeeper to fiscal agent and personnel officer. In this role she has had fiscal responsibility over various grants and contracts. In her most recent duties, she has performed the crucial tasks of budgeting, payroll, contract management and report preparation for funding agencies.

For her vision, hard work and loyalty, I feel that this is an apt honor. Over her 27 year ca-

reer, she has become a role model for her work ethic and dedication. Her titles include Economic Development Finance Professional and Certified Public Personnel Administrator. Now as she retires, I wish to thank Ms. Lemons for her extraordinary work for my community and this nation.

On behalf of the U.S. Congress, I pay homage to Ms. Lemons and thank her for a job well done. I congratulate Ms. Lemons on her retirement and wish her a well-deserved rest. I wish TARCOG the best of luck in coping without her.

IN HONOR OF BILL RANDLE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Bill Randle for receiving the Lifetime Achievement A.I.R. Award.

Bill Randle has been a notable figure at WRMR 850 AM since his being named "Top Jock" by Time in the 1950's. Randle helped start up such acts as Montovani, Jonnie Ray, The Crewcuts, The Diamonds, and even Elvis Presley.

Currently, Bill Randle spends 31 hours a week on the air and also practices law. The Lifetime Achievement A.I.R. Award is well deserved for a man who has built an impressive career in radio broadcasting. He has given much of his time and effort in producing quality radio broadcasts. His charismatic personality and sense of humor bring character and definition to his show. Randles colleagues and listeners appreciate and admire his professional skill and dedication.

Would my distinguished colleagues please join me in recognizing Bill Randle as he is honored with the Lifetime Achievement A.I.R. Award.

HONORING SOUTH JERSEY'S EMERGENCY PERSONNEL

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 24, 2000

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank South Jersey's emergency response personnel who keep our families safe during the holiday season as well as throughout the year. Communities from across South Jersey nominated heroic members of local EMS, Fire and Emergency crews who deserve special recognition for their bravery. I would like to personally express my gratitude to the 20 men and women who put their lives in jeopardy to ensure the safety of ours. Thank you to 20 of South Jersey's bravest men and women.

Javier Matos, Camden City Fire Department Squadron #6
Mary Catalfamo, Chesterfield Township Emergency Management Squadron #269
Lorraine Taraskas, Atco Township Emergency Management Squadron #23
James Newman, Deptford Township Emergency Service Squadron 11-9
Barry Petty, Edgewater Park Township Emergency Service Squadron
William Mason, Newfield Borough Emergency Service Squadron