

Rardin, who served his country during World War II.

On the district level, Kathy was elected as district guard in 1985 and progressed through the district chairs to serve her first term as district president in 1989-90. Kathy is presently serving her second term as district president, having been elected in June 1994. With her positive attitude, she said, "The second time around will allow me to do a more perfect job."

From the beginning of her career with the V.F.W., Kathy Cole has set high standards for herself. Her record of service is characterized by self-motivation and mission accomplishment. She has served the Department of Ohio Auxiliary as National Home chairman and counsils the auxiliary's work through the youth of the organization as some of her favorite.

Mr. Speaker, this is a volunteer organization and sometimes the only compensation you get for the time and efforts put into the programs for the veterans and your communities is the thanks and appreciation you receive from community leaders. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending a special thanks to Kathy Cole and the example she has set for others.

CONGRESSMAN KILDEE HONORS
UAW LOCAL 599 REUTHER
AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 1995

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to 14 members of UAW Local 599, who will be recipients of the Walter P. Reuther Distinguished Service Award. On Sunday, March 19, 1995, these individuals will be honored at the Walter and May Reuther Twenty Year Award Banquet.

Local 599 has always had a special place in my heart because my father was one of its original members. Over the years, Local 599 has developed a strong and proud tradition of supporting the rights of working people in our community, and improving the quality of life for its membership.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor to recognize these special individuals who, for 20 years, have diligently served their union and community. During this time, each one of these UAW members have held various elected positions in the union. And there is no question they have represented their brothers and sisters well.

It is very fitting that these 14 people be recipients of the Walter P. Reuther Distinguished Service Award. Walter Reuther was a man who believed in helping working people, and he believed in human dignity and social justice for all Americans. The recipients of this award have committed themselves to the ideals and principles of Walter Reuther. They are outstanding men and women who come from every part of our community, and they share the common bond of unwavering commitment and service.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask the members of the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring Robert A. Johnson, Charles Whitten, Kenneth Knauff, Bob Wright, Timothy M. Bank, Earl D. Oram, Daniel C. Neeley, Bryce Stanton, Ron Dodge, Mary Shumpert Coleman, Joseph D. Niedzwiecki, Dan Kiefer,

Butch O.L. Robinson, and Kenneth Kagen. I want to congratulate these fine people for all of the work they have done to make our community a better place to live.

JIM JOHNSON AND FANNIE MAE
ARE SHOWING AMERICA A NEW
WAY HOME

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 1995

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked the 1 year anniversary of Fannie Mae's showing America a new way home initiative. One year ago Fannie Mae Chairman and CEO Jim Johnson launched Fannie Mae on a bold journey to help transform the American housing finance system. On March 15, 1994, Fannie Mae pledged to provide \$1 trillion in targeted housing finance by the end of the decade to help 10 million families achieve the American dream of home ownership. Fannie Mae has set an aggressive target and is steadily moving to meet its goal by the year 2000.

This initiative is already making a major impact on the lives of people throughout the nation. In Minnesota, Fannie Mae has sponsored a home buying fair, opened a partnership office, provided several grants to housing and home ownership counseling organizations and formed a community lending roundtable to help identify and remove barriers to home ownership. By working with local partners, Fannie Mae is opening the door to home ownership to many people who thought owning a home of their own was merely a dream.

I commend Fannie Mae and Jim Johnson for their vision and ability to get the job done.

I would like to include in the RECORD an article from the Minnesota media that outlines just one of the many examples of how Fannie Mae is reaching out to communities across the Nation:

[From the St. Paul Pioneer Press, February 18, 1995]

HONG GET HELP, MAKE PROGRESS IN BUYING HOMES

(By Ann Baker)

The 30,000-strong Hmong community is making strides into home ownership, although the majority have been in the Twin Cities no more than six years.

An agency that started just one year ago to help Hmong families and other Southeast Asians navigate the mortgage market reported Friday that it already has helped 31 families cross the threshold from tenants to homeowners. Another 13 are awaiting mortgage approval.

A handful of the new homeowners are Cambodian, Vietnamese or Laotian, said Lengchy Lor, executive director of the People's Network of Minnesota Inc. But most, he said, are Hmong.

And a survey of nearly 400 Hmong families shows that 30 percent want to become home buyers.

"Home ownership brings stability," Rep. Bruce Vento told a gathering of Hmong people and supporters Friday at a gathering that announced the survey as well as a \$12,000 grant from the Fannie Mae Foundation for People's Network to hire Cambodian and Vietnamese housing counselors.

This marks a departure from most immigrant groups, who have waited a generation or two before buying homes, according to

Rich Thompson, lead housing inspector in St. Paul's city license and permits division.

"This group is becoming owners as quick as they can," he said. "It's a grass-roots movement, and it has triggered a spurt of redevelopment activity by other groups."

One reason may be Hmong family size—too big to squeeze into an average apartment. In a survey of 390 Hmong families, the People's Network reported that the median family size is six. Many families have eight or nine members, and a few have as many as 14.

Another reason many parents gave was wanting to live in a neighborhood where their children would not be exposed to gangs. Many favored neighborhoods on the East Side.

Thirty percent want to buy their own home, and most want a house with four bedrooms, as well as a basement for special events and a back yard for a garden as well as special events.

More than 90 percent also eagerly embrace the idea of forming a Hmong Village, something like San Francisco's Chinatown, as a place for strengthening Hmong culture, business opportunities and community leadership. One task for the village would be to address crime issues in the community.

Ninety percent in the survey also want to develop a Hmong soccer field for youth to develop professional athletic skills.

Most of the 390 families now live in public housing or large private complexes such as Maywood East and Omega Court.

But the survey stressed that it takes a lot of effort—and sometimes a lot of help—for Hmong people to move into home ownership, coming from a culture where banking, loans and check-writing—not to mention credit—were completely foreign.

"In the Hmong community, 'good credit history' means 'cash rather than financing as much as possible,'" states the report. "In the Western country, 'good credit history' means 'paid all bills off and on time.'"

WHY U.S. INDUSTRY BOUNCED
BACK

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 1995

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I recommend to my colleagues the following column by Robert J. Samuelson from the opinion page of yesterday's Washington Post. The subject is the comeback of American manufacturing. Members would do well to consider the conclusions drawn by the author.

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 15, 1995]

WHY U.S. INDUSTRY BOUNCED BACK

(By Robert J. Samuelson)

Dial back your time machine about a decade. You'll find plenty of newspaper and TV stories warning of "deindustrialization." American manufacturers (it was said) were being pulverized. The Japanese were overwhelming our automakers, repeating their triumph in steel. Computer chip makers were rapidly losing ground. Americans had forgotten how to make things. It was only a matter of time before U.S. manufacturing sank into oblivion and we became a nation of "hamburger flippers."

None of these dire predictions came true; indeed, most were always silly (and this reporter at least said so). Yet the story of the comeback of U.S. manufacturing is still under-told and ill-appreciated, as economists Jerry Jasinowski and Robert Hamrin argue