

anger created by the integration of public schools. Using his considerable mediation skills, Mr. Darden single-handedly brought peace to his fractured community. He was promptly named police chief of Riviera Beach and set to work cleaning up and revitalizing the chaotic police force which at the time was a symbol of racial division.

A model of goodwill and a hero to many African-American youth, he was reknown for his community work with troubled children. His popularity spread across Florida and was widely regarded as a major force in State politics. He was the vice chair of the State Democratic Affirmative Action Committee and subsequently rose to hold a seat on the national executive committee of the Democratic Party. Having close ties to the Carter White House, Mr. Darden participated in a diplomatic trip to Algeria at the behest of President Carter. After a remarkable rise from patrolman to chief, Mr. Darden retired in 1983 to devote his time to his family. As well as being a respected community leader, Mr. Darden was a devoted family man, and he is survived by his wife, Rose, his daughter, Kimberly, two sons, William, Jr., and Darell; and a grandchild, Dominique.

A pioneer, peacemaker, and a dear friend, Boone Darden was an exceptional man. Mr. Speaker, Florida has lost one of its great citizens with the passing of William "Boone" Darden. His courageous life is an inspiration to all of us, and a blueprint of the American dream. We can only hope that his life emboldens those that face their own mountains to climb.

DISENFRANCHISING TENS OF MILLIONS OF ELDERLY AND LOW-INCOME AMERICANS

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 1, 1995*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, on July 25, the president of the National Association of Public Hospitals, Larry Gage, testified before the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health on the pending Medicare cuts.

I'd like to reprint here two paragraphs from his outstanding statement—a statement that every Member should read before voting on the excessive, destructive Medicare and Medicaid cuts proposed by the budget resolution:

Despite rhetoric to the contrary, these programs have achieved their results for the most part efficiently and economically. Medicare in particular has seen provider payments capped at a growth rate less than inflation for most of the last decade. And current projections for growth in the Medicaid program are largely due to demand for long term care and the growth in the number of recipients, with the poor elderly being a major factor on both fronts.

For these reasons, it is simply impossible for most analysts to imagine reducing spending in these two programs by almost half a trillion dollars over the next seven years without destroying both programs and disenfranchising tens of millions of elderly

and low income Americans. Surely, it is impossible to contemplate implementing positive reforms such as are envisioned in the Committee's new proposal in the face of such reductions.

TRIBUTE TO TEMPLE SHIR SHALOM

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 1, 1995*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of a new home for Temple Shir Shalom of West Bloomfield, MI. Temple Shir Shalom was founded in June 1988 with just 30 committed families. For the past 7 years, congregants worshiped in rented space in an office building at the same time promoting and planning for a permanent home.

Today Temple Shir Shalom is the proud congregation of 650 members, and their new home reflects the commitment and diligence of the entire congregation—the clergy, the staff, and the congregants. I commend them on their achievement of reaching the day they had looked forward to for so long.

To everyone at Temple Shir Shalom, I extend every good wish for many, many fruitful years ahead.