

Anthony School, Mt. Carmel School in Saipan, San Francisco de Borja School in Rota, Infant of Prague Nursery, and Mercy Heights Nursery. The depth of the commitment of the Sisters of Mercy can hardly be represented by an inventory of accomplishments; rather, it is in their ceaseless dedication to the promotion of Christian values which characterizes their legacy in our fortunate islands.

I happily join with the people of Guam in sending best wishes and a heartfelt *Si Yu'os ma'ase*. May your jubilee celebration be blessed by the graces of Santa Marian Kamalen.

A TRIBUTE TO THE WESTERN SPRINGS GARDEN CLUB ON ITS 70TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 8, 1996*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to an outstanding organization in my district that is celebrating 70 years of dedication in beautifying its community—the Western Springs, IL, Garden Club.

The club founded in 1926 by a group of Western Springs residents dedicated to making the then young community a more livable place. It was chartered with the goals, according to its creed. "To encourage and foster a greater appreciation among our members and neighbors of trees, shrubs, flowers and vegetables and stimulate an interest preserving wildflowers and birds."

On June 29, the Western Springs Garden, a charter member of both the Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., and the Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc., will celebrate its seven decades of service at a special Pictorial Stamp Cancellation Ceremony by the Western Springs Post Office.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the Western Springs on its 70th anniversary, and I wish its members many more years of promoting and protecting the natural beauty of its community.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 26, 1996*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3666) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment by Mr. BROWN to strike funding for the American Museum of Natural History.

There is so much to like about this project, it is hard to know where to begin.

The funds will be used to renovate New York's Hayden Planetarium. Money for the project is coming from a wide range of sources including \$33 million from New York City and \$27 million from private donations. The Federal Government is only expected to contribute 10 percent of the funding or \$13 million.

When the project is completed, America will once again have the finest planetarium in the world. Think about your children and the 3 million people who visit the planetarium each year as I read to you a description of the finished product from the New York Times.

[The planetarium] centerpiece will be an enormous sphere that will evoke, symbolically speaking, an atom, a planet, a star and a galaxy. It will house several facilities, among them the most technologically advanced sky theater in the world and exhibits exploring the nature of the universe. A spiraling walkway will take visitors through time, from the Big Bang that formed the cosmos to the present day. It will also serve as an intellectual link, explaining how the earth evolved and the whys of oceans, continents, earthquakes, mountains and volcanoes.

For those who support NASA, let us remember that the future of our space program depends upon exciting the imaginations of the next generation about the cosmos. America ought to have the best planetarium in the world. After all, we are the leaders in space flight and in the exploration of the Universe.

We know that if these funds are cut they will end up in some other account—so the deficit reduction argument does not work. Let us do something in the NASA funding bill for our kids.

Oppose the Brown amendment.

COMMEMORATION FOR 25 YEARS OF ELECTIVE GOVERNORSHIP IN GUAM

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 8, 1996*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, in my home district of Guam, the right of the governed to elect a Governor from among their own ranks is relatively new. This year marks only the 25th anniversary of the extension of that right to the people of Guam. In commemorating this political milestone, we also pay tribute to the Honorable Carlos G. Camacho, the first native-born son of Guam to earn the trust and confidence of the people of Guam and bear the mantle of executive leadership of the territory. The man and the milestone are inextricably intertwined in the modern political history of Guam.

Since Guam's first gubernatorial election in November 1970 and the start of Governor Camacho's administration in January 1971, the people of Guam have proudly and successfully participated in the open election process in six subsequent gubernatorial elections and have celebrated the triumph of democracy in installing six native sons as Governor of Guam. Governor Camacho was followed into office by Governor Ricardo J. Bordallo in 1975. And he by Governor Paul Calvo in 1979. In 1982, Governor Bordallo became the first Governor to win a second term

in office. Governor Joseph F. Ada, who served as Lieutenant Governor under Paul M. Calvo, succeeded Governor Bordallo in 1987. He won again in 1991, becoming the first Governor to serve consecutive terms. Last year, Governor Carl T.C. Guterrez became Guam's seventh elected chief executive.

Although our roster of chief executive is brief in comparison to those of the States, we exalt in the fact that we can add a name to it every 4 years. We, the people of Guam, can and will make those additions. This is the real significance of this silver anniversary. Mr. Speaker, the right of the people of Guam to elect their own Governors is relatively new, but it is highly cherished and enthusiastically exercised. I'm proud to say that our voter turnout rates exceed the national rates by several percentage points. In the 1994 general election, a gubernatorial election year, 85 percent of Guam's registered voters went to the polls.

Our enthusiasm for free elections reflects our continuing desire and commitment to press for political self-determination. Born in the 16th century, at the start of the Spanish colonization of Guam and the Marianas, the desire of the Chamorro people to regain control of their own destiny has been expressed in different ways and taken on different forms, but it has never abated. When armed conflict against the Spanish proved futile, the Chamorro people turned inward, resisting assimilation and steadfastly clinging to their own language, culture and traditions, while under the Spanish yoke.

The dawning of the American Era in Guam in 1898 brought with it the promise of the freedoms, rights, duties and responsibilities of American democracy, as well as the birth of the Chamorro quest for political justice, equality and self-governance under the American flag. Though couched differently at various times, this has been our unchanging theme for nearly a 100 years. As early as 1901, 32 Guam leaders called on the U.S. Federal Government to clarify the political status of the island and its inhabitants. Subsequent efforts were geared toward the acquisition of U.S. citizenship as the means to secure political rights and protection. The passage of the Organic Act of Guam in 1950 satisfied the Guamanian desire of citizenship and civilian governance, but our appetite for true democracy remained sharp and hearty. The signing of the Elective Governorship Act, Public Law 90-497, in 1968, was a major step forward. Although the consent of the governed had yet to be requested, the power of the governed to select a governor had been yielded. Two years later, the people of Guam were granted a nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

The struggle of the Chamorro people has been long and arduous, the triumph have been hard-won, but our cause is just and our faith in America remains steadfast. And our desire for greater self-government under the American flag is undaunted, even as we wrestle with the contentious issues surrounding the Guam Commonwealth Act. The willingness of the Federal Government to engage with us in frank and honest discussions of these issues strengthens our belief that justice for all will indeed prevail.