

care has been proven to minimize health care complications in pregnancies and later on in the life of the infant.

Located at Mercy Hospital Wilkes-Barre and Mercy Hospital Scranton, the program works with expectant mothers by providing prenatal healthcare and ensuring healthier pregnancies and births.

Maternal and Family Health Services also administers the important WIC [Women, Infants and Children] grant for the largest geographic area in Pennsylvania. Over 54,000 people depend on this program for supplemental nutrition at forty clinic sites.

Mr. Speaker, the list of programs of this important health service is lengthy. Another important service offered is the Healthy Women 50+ Program. This project is a breast and cervical cancer screening program funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The program provides important preventive cancer screening to economically disadvantaged women over the age of 50.

Today, the workers of MFHS are challenged to provide more services to more clients with less funding. Considering the mission statement of the agency, "To provide quality health and social services including, but not limited to, general health care, technical assistance and educational services provided primarily in the areas of reproduction, obstetrics and nutrition, delivered in sixteen northeastern Pennsylvania counties to persons in need," this has not been an easy task. In light of this mission statement it is easy to see that the agency has met and surpassed all of those challenges put forth by its original founders.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with the northeastern Pennsylvania community in recognizing the important work done by the dedicated staff of the Maternal and Family Health Services. The agency is under the capable leadership of my good friends Executive Director Mary Lou Schaefer, as well as Public Relations Director Rose Tucker. Both of these women have committed their lives and careers to improving the lives of women and bringing issues of women's health to the attention of our community. I congratulate these hardworking, dedicated professionals on a job well done.

IN HONOR OF GINGER KEMP: FOR YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED AND DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE BAYONNE COMMUNITY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ginger Boele Kemp, an outstanding individual and community leader who has distinguished herself through years of outstanding service to the Bayonne community. For years, she has displayed hard work, dedication, and community spirit. Her enormous contributions and devotion to multiple civic causes and local business projects have earned her the admiration of the Bayonne community. For her years of service, a celebration will be held in her honor on September 28, 1996.

Throughout her tenure in Bayonne, Ginger Kemp has demonstrated an ability to bring

about positive change in her community. Her participation in the affairs of the community has fostered a heightened awareness and appreciation, especially among local businesses and organizations, toward individuals who devote their time to issues which affect the community in a positive way. Ginger Kemp's diligence has set a standard for all within the Bayonne community to emulate, and I commend her for all she has done to help the residents of her community.

Ginger Kemp's numerous accomplishments and contributions throughout the years are truly appreciated, and I hope that she continues to serve as a positive role model for many more years to come. Ginger Kemp is truly deserving of this recognition. Her recent memberships include: the City Improvement Committee, the Bayonne Economics Development Corporation, the Bayonne Chamber of Commerce, the Bayonne 2000: Steering Committee, the Bayonne Community Mental Health Committee, the Concerned Citizens of Bayonne 25th Anniversary Committee, and the YWCA of Hudson County. In the past, she had served as president of the Bayonne Rotary Club, and is the chairperson of the Bayonne Home Town Fair.

It is an honor to have such a hardworking individual living and contributing to my congressional district. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this outstanding leader of the Bayonne community and recognize the important role she has played throughout the years. Her actions exemplify the rule meaning of community service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SAVE TODAY FOR TOMORROW PROJECT

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Save Today for Tomorrow Project in Houston. On October 9, 1996, the Harris County Medical Society, the Harris County Medical Society Alliance, the Texas Medical Association Alliance, and the American Medical Association Alliance will jointly present Members of the House of Representatives with "black and blue knots" ribbons to urge Americans to stop domestic violence. I am working with these groups to distribute these ribbons in Washington, DC.

Domestic violence is a nationwide epidemic that we must address. Domestic violence affects as many as one-fourth of all Americans; 6 out of 10 couples will experience violence at some time during their marriages. A woman is battered every 12 seconds in this country. Regrettably, 3 to 4 million women are battered each year by their husbands and partners. Domestic violence is one of the leading causes of injury to women aged 15 to 44.

People who are abused often repeat this vicious cycle. Approximately one-third of women who are abuse victims will abuse their children. Nearly 2 million children are abused and neglected each year and 1,000 children die each year from violence. In fact, violence has replaced disease as the No. 1 one killer of children. We need to stop this trend and eliminate violence in our society.

As part of this awareness campaign, State and local officials are issuing proclamations

designating October 9, 1996, as Save Today for Tomorrow Day. This proclamation reads as follows:

PROCLAMATION TO SAVE TODAY FOR TOMORROW STOP AMERICA'S VIOLENCE EVERYWHERE

Whereas violence is among the leading causes of death in America, and has replaced disease as the number one killer of children; and

Whereas domestic violence has devastating effects on a woman's physical and emotional well-being, and her ability to care for her children; and

Whereas violence comes in many forms; sexual violence; gang and peer-related violence committed by youth of all ages; family violence; street violence; and violence in the media; and

Whereas billions of dollars per year are attributable to preventable violence-related deaths and injuries and add a tremendous burden to America's health care system; and

Whereas the first step toward unraveling the many layers of our nation's violence problems can begin with awareness; and

Whereas awareness and prevention are the heart of the SAVE program and its cornerstone event, SAVE Today, during which physician's spouses around the country will join efforts to Stop America's Violence Everywhere; and

Whereas members of the Harris County Medical Alliance will lead the effort to urge local citizens to search for ways we can all help SAVE Today for Tomorrow.

I am pleased to join in this effort to increase awareness about domestic violence.

I applaud the hard work and dedication of the Harris County Medical Alliance to increase awareness about domestic violence. It is my hope that with more awareness, all Americans will work toward reducing this national tragedy.

TRIBUTE TO RAUL VARGAS FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring a friend, Mr. Raul Vargas, executive director of the Office for Mexican American Programs at the University of Southern California. On October 24, 1996, I will join California State Senator Hilda Solis, Miller Brewing Co.'s Victor Franco, and Chicanos for Creative Medicine in paying tribute to Raul for his many years of selfless service to our community.

Raul was born in Miami, AZ, a small mining town, which is also my birthplace. He attended Arizona State University, and served in the U.S. Army. He also attended California State University, Los Angeles, as well as the University of Southern California, pursuing graduate studies. In 1973-74, Raul, along with eight other USC Alumnus, formed the USC Mexican-American Alumni Association. The USC MAAA was established to provide financial assistance to undergraduate Mexican-American students attending USC. To date, MAAA has provided over 3,700 undergraduate scholarships totaling over \$5 million. In addition to the undergraduate scholarship program, the MAAA funds four medical school students in a joint venture with the USC School of Medicine.