Lowery was well prepared for the self-defined role he would accept to spiritually guide, sustain, and shepherd the members of his parish and community. Since his arrival at St. Timothy Community Church, Dr. Lowery has devoted his time to providing guidance and training for the youth of northwest Indiana, planning and supporting positive urban initiatives, and addressing crucial issues related to education, health care, crime, and teenage pregnancy.

Dr. Lowery has carried out his youth-, education-, and urban-development-oriented agenda through his voluntarism with a number of prominent community service organizations. Currently, Dr. Lowery serves on the board of directors for the Northwest Indiana Boys and Girls Club, an organization which provides educational, social, and recreational services for young people, supports the Marion Home, a residential facility for young pregnant women, and is a Scoutmaster for Gary Boy Scout Troop 53. Through his work with such distinguished organizations as the Gary Educational Development Foundation and the Northwest Indiana Urban League, he has been instrumental in structuring a comprehensive framework for educational programs, which divert the energies of youth into productive activities. Dr. Lowery has also aided urban development during his tenure as an executive board member for the Northwest Indiana Urban League, Referral Emergency Services, and the Lake County Mental Health Association. In addition to faithfully serving numerous other organizations, Dr. Lowery holds an associate professorship at Indiana University-Northwest, where he teaches in the area of church society and psycho-dynamics of minority problems.

Over the years, Dr. Lowery has been recognized by a number of institutions for his outstanding commitment to northwest Indiana communities. As a result of his theological and humanitarian efforts, he was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Purdue University-Calumet in 1996, and an honorary doctorate of divinity from the Chicago Theological Seminary in 1991. In addition, he has received countless awards for his community service efforts from such organizations as the Boy Scouts of America, the NAACP, the March of Dimes, and the Lake Area United Way. Some of the more prominent service honors bestowed upon Dr. Lowery include the 1990 State of Indiana Sagamore of the Wabash Award, the 1996 Calumet College St. Joseph the Worker Award, and the 1997 Indiana University-Northwest Chancellor's Medallion Award Citation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Dr. Lowery on his outstanding accomplishments during his 40 years of service to St. Timothy Community Church and its surrounding communities. His wife, Josephine Mathews-Lowery, and their daughters, Gay Marlene Lowery, Lynn Michele Lowery-Darby, and Jan Avis-Lowery, should be proud of his efforts, as his leadership has served as a beacon of hope throughout the Gary community. Dr. Lowery's devotion to improving the quality of life for the people of Indiana's First Congressional District is truly inspirational.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JAMES ROUNDTREE

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 1997

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. James Roundtree, an individual who is dedicated to helping others in the South Bronx community.

Mr. Roundtree is currently the director of St. Benedict the Moor Neighborhood Center, a grassroots organizations which provides assistance to people living with AIDS and with substance abuse problems.

At the center, located on St. Ann's Avenue, hot meals are served to 200 people a day, 5 days a week. The center also provides referrals to medical facilities, housing, and 12-step programs for victims of substance abuse problems.

The center is funded in part by donations. Some of the center's staff are paid by the national Americorps Program; however, many workers are volunteers.

Mr. Roundtree became the director of the center after Rev. Roger Ciglio, the founder of the program, passed away in 1990. Once a patient of the center himself, Mr. Roundtree has been committed to giving back to those in need.

Over the past 7 years, Mr. Roundtree has been a friend, a counselor, and an inspiration for many who, like him, have been victims of substance abuse.

Mr. Roundtree says that he does not give up on anybody. He knows first hand the difficult challenges faced by recovering victims.

St. Benedict the Moor Neighborhood Center formed a coalition with St. Ann's Church, Public School 30, and the Parks Council, to revitalize the area surrounding the center—the Mott Haven community. The coalition created a garden from 139th to 140th Street. Recovering patients take part in a gardening program as part of their therapy sessions. The garden is now visited by students and families with children. It is also the home for summer jazz concerts.

Mr. Roundtree may leave the center because of health reasons. His contributions to the community have not gone unnoticed and will not be forgotten. They are encouraging to the many individuals he has helped and for those who may follow in his footsteps.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. James Roundtree for his compassion and dedication to helping others in our South Bronx community.

THE REOPENING OF THE BURLINGAME PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege and honor to pay tribute to the Burlingame, CA, Public Library, one of the finest community institutions in our country. To me and to the thousands of Bay Area residents who have had the pleasure of using this outstanding facility, the importance of the Burlingame Public Library cannot be measured merely by its diverse collection of 239,000 books, nor its 400 periodical subscriptions, nor the beautiful Tuscan-style building which has housed these items since the days of the Great Depression; rather, the library is seen by all of us in terms of the memories amassed under the shadow of its beautiful tapestries. It is a place where our children learned to read, our high school students researched their first school reports, and our eyes were opened to limitless intellectual, educational, and creative pleasures.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute not only to this establishment's storied past, but to its glowing future. On October 4, 1997, more than 85 years after the people of Burlingame joined together to build their first public library, and after 8 years of dedicated planning, a new Burlingame Public Library will be dedicated by a justifiably proud and delighted community. The new structure will maintain the charm and elegance of the initial structure, while offering state-of-the-art facilities in line with the 21st century information age.

The grand tradition of the Burlingame Public Library came into being in the early 1900's as Burlingame experienced an influx of new residents from San Francisco and from other parts of the country. The creation of a new, free library in 1912 was one of many milestones in the town's growth. The library's first home was a former church building at Primrose and Bellevue, but this small structure was soon made obsolete by the continued growth of Burlingame's population. In 1930, construction began on a new Burlingame Public Library.

Designed by Col. E.L. Norberg, a longtime Burlingame resident, the new building was erected in a romantic style which evoked images of Tuscan villas and monasteries. Norberg's beautiful creation would serve Burlingame for over six decades as a cultural and literary center, a community gathering place, and a second home to thousands of students exploring its first rate academic collections. As Burlingame grew so did the library, and new additions were dedicated in 1960 and 1972. By the mid-1980's, the success of the Burlingame Public Library prompted calls for even more significant improvements to the building's structure, foundation, and technological facilities.

With the full support of the community, the process of planning and organizing the library's reconstruction soon began in earnest. This operation was led by Burlingame's skilled city librarian, Mr. Al Escoffier, along with an able library board, a wonderful staff, and untiring volunteers. Financial backing came from throughout Burlingame, most notably from two devoted sources: The Friends of the Library, which has been raising funds for the library for over four decades, and the Burlingame Library Foundation, organized in 1994 to collect moneys for furnishings and technology in the new space. These dedicated groups provided vital assistance during years of preparation and design study.

Group 4/Architecture, Research and Planning, Inc., one of northern California's most distinguished architectural firms, was selected to formultate a plan for the new library. The product of its labors was masterful, a blueprint for renovation that would merge the timeless beauty of Norberg's original composition with