

of Morris, Illinois on being named a Distinguished Member in the Illinois Art Education Association this past November. This award honors Mr. Corsello's service and leadership in the IAEA, and the local community.

Joe Corsello a veteran of the Korean War, has been a leader in art education and appreciation in the Eleventh Congressional District throughout the last three decades. For over thirty three years, Joe Corsello has taught the young people at Morris Community High School the finer points of visual arts and ceramics in his classroom. Outside of the classroom, Joe played an important part in shaping the minds of Morris High students as an advisor to the art club, student council, yearbook and athletic clubs.

During his time at Morris Community High School, Joe was named the 1978 Illinois State Teacher of the Year. Mr. Corsello is also a co founder of the Corsello—Prenzeler Art scholarship for college bound art students at Morris High. Named Man of the Year by the Morris Chamber of Commerce in 1977, Joe continues to serve the community by teaching art part time at Immaculate Conception Grade School.

While Joe Corsello has been recognized by a number of different groups for the wonderful job he has done throughout his lifetime, Joe's greatest satisfaction stems from the achievements of his students. Among these achievements include scholastic arts awards won by 12 of his students, and national art awards won by seven of his students.

Mr. Speaker, Joe Corsello has touched the lives of so many people in Morris and throughout the Eleventh Congressional District. I congratulate him on this honor, and I know I speak for the many students, teachers and residents back home in Morris when I say, thank you Joe for your hard work with our kids, and good luck with your future work in the arts.

#### TRIBUTE TO MERRILL ALPERT

### HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 1998*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Merrill Alpert, who will be honored by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism for the work she has done with teenagers throughout the Jewish community.

Henry Brooks Adams wrote, "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops." For over two decades, Merrill has worked to enrich the lives of Jewish students. While a student at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1975, Merrill worked as the Youth Director of Temple Beth Ami in Reseda; then later as Youth Director of Congregation Beth Kodesh. In her daily interaction with the students of these congregations, Merrill exemplified kindness, charity and a deep belief in the principles of the Jewish faith. In fact, many of the students that Merrill worked with have proceeded to work professionally in the Jewish community.

In 1986, Merrill accepted the challenging position of Youth Director of Valley Beth Shalom. In this capacity, she developed Camp Yoni and created a Summer Musical Theater Workshop. Overseeing this facet of the organization, Merrill has been responsible for many

successful regional programs. Combining her hard work ethic with a deep underlying faith, under Merrill's guidance Valley Beth Shalom United Synagogue Youth has become an exemplary institution, receiving the Far West Region Chapter of Excellence Award on several occasions.

In addition to her role at Valley Beth Shalom, Merrill has worked with several organizations to promote the ideals and principles which have distinguished her as a role model to Jewish teenagers within our community. She has served as the Chairperson of the Youth Professional Advisory Committee of the Jewish Federation Council (YPAC) and Secretary and President of the Jewish Youth Directors Association.

Realizing the importance of training future leaders of the Jewish Community, Merrill has spent several summers at Camp Ramah in Ojai, as a Yoetzet, working with potential counselors of our children. She has also stayed active on other committees and sits on several school boards, including the Board of the Los Angeles Hebrew High School and the Board of Milken Community High School.

Merrill has dedicated her career to ensuring that we provide the Jewish youth of our community with an enriched educational and spiritual experience. Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to Merrill Alpert. She is a role model for the citizens of our community.

#### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

### HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 1998*

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, January 7, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

#### THE FUTURE OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The President's Initiative on Race, a series of recent federal court decisions, and voter referenda in California and Texas have all focused national attention on the future of affirmative action. Affirmative action has provided economic, political and educational opportunities for blacks and other historically disadvantaged minorities, as well as for women. The issue today is whether those programs should be continued.

#### HISTORY OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Affirmative action has its roots in the civil rights era of the 1960s. The federal government imposed affirmative duties on the public and private sector alike to remedy past and present discrimination against blacks and other minorities. It is based on the idea that the constitutional guarantee of equal protection requires more than ending discrimination, but means that government should create remedies and incentives for people who have suffered bias. Affirmative action included everything from desegregation plans in schools and universities to set-aside programs in government contracts to efforts to improve minority representation in the workplace.

Over the last decade, however, the Supreme Court has worked to limit the use of race-based preferences at all levels of government. The Court has held that local, state and federal programs designed to benefit minorities are unconstitutional unless they serve a compelling government interest

and are narrowly tailored to address past discrimination. The Court's decisions, reflecting the conservatism of its majority, are based on the view that the Constitution is a color-blind document which, in general, neither tolerates discrimination against minorities nor affirmative efforts in their behalf.

The Court has not said that all affirmative action programs are unconstitutional, but has placed a heavy burden on government to demonstrate the need for them. It is generally accepted that affirmative action can be used to remedy specific instances of discrimination against minorities. Governmental entities may also use outreach and recruitment efforts to expand the pool of minority applicants for jobs, contracts, and college admissions.

On the other hand, governments may not use rigid quotas on behalf of minorities, nor may they justify affirmative action programs based on the history of discrimination in society at-large. The federal government is now reviewing its affirmative action policies to comply with recent Court decisions.

#### DIVERSITY AS A JUSTIFICATION

It is uncertain, however, whether governments can use race as a way to promote diversity, rather than remedy past discrimination. Advocates of affirmative action argue, for example, that local police departments have a strong interest in hiring minorities to patrol in minority neighborhoods or infiltrate minority gangs. Likewise, governments may want to hire minorities to serve in schools with heavy minority populations.

Public debate has focussed most recently on the use of race in college and graduate school admissions. The Supreme Court held in a landmark 1978 decision that a university could take the race of applicants into account in its admissions process to foster the diversity of its student body. The Court reasoned that diversity would bring a wider range of perspectives to the university and would contribute to a more robust exchange of ideas, which is central to the mission of higher education.

That 1978 decision, however, is in doubt given recent Court rulings on race-based preferences. One federal court of appeals ruled that the University of Texas could not use race as a factor in law school admissions. In addition, California voters approved a state referendum barring racial preferences in the state's education, employment, and contracting systems, including admissions decisions in the state university system. The effect of these actions has been to curtail sharply minority enrollment at public universities and graduate programs in Texas and California.

#### DEBATE OVER AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:

The public debate on affirmative action has been polarized. Supporters say that while the situation has improved, racism persists in this country, and that affirmative action is needed to remedy the effects of discrimination. Affirmative action programs, they will note, have provided opportunities for millions of minorities, expanding the American middle class and strengthening our political system and economy. They will also point out the hypocrisy in the debate over university admissions policies. While critics attack racial preferences, they say nothing about preferences based on athletic ability, alumni connections, or other factors.

Opponents respond that affirmative action is fundamentally unfair, that people should succeed or fail based on character, talent and effort, not race. While critics acknowledge that racism persists in our society, they say affirmative action leads to double standards which heighten rather than reduce racial tensions. Government, in this view, can

boost educational and workplace opportunities for minorities by improving educational performance in the K-12 years and encouraging recruiting policies aimed at attracting a broader pool of candidates.

## CONCLUSION:

The goal of public policy should be to make sure that all of us have the opportunity to develop our talents to the fullest. While I oppose quotas or rigid preferences, I see affirmative action plans as a tool to create a more inclusive work place and open up opportunities for all persons. Real equality of opportunity is the key to minority advancement. Where discrimination has existed, it is fair to provide an equal opportunity to catch up. Affirmative action can promote equal consideration, and not reverse discrimination. Critics have been more successful in challenging affirmative action than in developing effective alternatives.

My view is that compensating for past discrimination is acceptable if done by using special training programs, talent searches and targeted financial help, and by helping disadvantaged groups compete. I do not, however, want to predetermine the results of competition with a system of quotas. Government should act to promote racial integration, help disadvantaged persons improve their circumstances, and proscribe intentional racial discrimination, but it should not assure outcomes in hiring, contracting, and admission for higher education.

LET US BACK AWAY FROM THE  
BRINK OF HYSTERIA

**HON. MAJOR R. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 1998*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, recent developments concerning the White House and the President do indeed require serious attention from members of Congress. But, unlike journalists, elected representatives are held accountable for their actions and must act responsibly. We should all register our strong resentment with respect to the juvenile behavior of the press over the last week. Media men and women have dared to instruct the Congress in their premature calls for impeachment. These same voices were much more cautious when a separate government was set up in the basement of the White House to support Nicaraguan Contras by soliciting money and illegally selling weapons to Iran. Certain analysts and television celebrities were completely silent when the banks and other savings and loan bandits stole billions of dollars guaranteed by the taxpayers through the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). I am bewildered and outraged by the way reporting priorities have been chosen. Special Prosecutor Kenneth Starr's strange maneuvers should not be rubber-stamped by the Congress. We know our duty. We know how to assess events with a national and international perspective. Congress knows how to back away from the brink of hysteria and avoid setting dangerous priorities:

## DANGEROUS PRIORITIES

Ken Starr's million dollar peep show  
Is a topsy turvy world  
Trivialities become high crimes  
And a woman becomes a girl  
Grown commentators babble  
Like hysterical babies

But remember the FDIC was raped  
By vicious S and L whores  
And no special prosecutors  
Bothered to keep any scores  
The CIA was mum  
The DEA was deaf  
The FBI was dumb  
Bankers sabotaged the system  
Board room terrorists  
Bombed their depositors  
Into bankruptcy  
Against all taxpayers  
A state of war did reign  
But editorial writers  
And celebrity anchor men  
Never indicated public pain  
Ken Starr's million dollar peep show  
Media makes a topsy turvy world  
Trivialities become high crimes  
And a woman becomes a girl  
For the bailout virus  
No disinfectant was there  
Now the S and L flu  
Sickens Mexico Asia and everywhere  
Against our virgin treasury  
We watched high crimes of treason  
But purchased puritanical analyst  
Misplaced their penetrating reason  
More exciting than soap opera  
More dangerous than sin  
Those who stalked White House couches  
Allowed taxpayer rapists to win  
Ken Starr's million dollar peep show  
Is a topsy turvy world  
Trivialities become high crimes  
And a woman is a girl.

ST. LOUIS BASILICA

**HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 1998*

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues the following article which recently appeared in the TWA Ambassador magazine about one of the most outstanding cathedrals in our nation, the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis. This St. Louis Cathedral boasts the largest collection of mosaic art in the United States. I encourage all who visit St. Louis not to miss this magnificent edifice.

## PIECEWORK

Mosaic, the most durable of all decorative techniques, is an art form dating back more than 20 centuries. The Greeks were the first to create large pictorial compositions, and producing mosaics was a major industry during the Roman Empire. No major building was complete without them, and the affluent selected patterns for their homes in the way we select carpets and wallpaper today.

Mosaic reached its peak as an art form in the fifth century with the Byzantines. Where the Greeks and Romans used marble mosaics mostly to embellish their floors, the Byzantines used small pieces of multicolored and gold-leafed glass to decorate the vast, bare interior walls of their churches. The virtue of mosaic was that it formed strong linear patterns easily visible to a viewer 70 feet away.

The Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis claims title to the world's largest collection of mosaic art—83,000 square feet. (St. Mark's Basilica in Venice, Italy, has 72,000 square feet of mosaic; Monreale Cathedral in Sicily, Italy, 68,000.) More than 20 artists used 41.5 million pieces of mosaic in more than 8,000 colors to adorn every arch and dome of the Byzantine-style interior. The pieces—some of which are as small as a baby's fingertip—combine to relate the pivotal events of Christianity.

Called "the outstanding cathedral of the Americas" in the 1960s by Pope Paul VI, the cathedral was elevated last year to a basilica, a designation that recognizes a church's great history, beauty and significance as a place of worship.

The cathedral, with its 217-foot-high dome, is well-used for musical performances originally composed for the great cathedrals of Europe. On Jan. 20, New York's Ensemble for Early Music performs the medieval play "Herod and the Innocents" at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis, Lindell Boulevard at Newstead Avenue in the Central West End.

HONORING CHIEF OF POLICE JOHN  
CLEGHORN**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 1998*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and acknowledge the outstanding career of Corona Police Chief John Cleghorn, who retired on December 19, 1997. It is rare to find an individual who exhibits such strong leadership in the community, and also maintains a compassionate relationship with all levels of individuals within that community. My friend John Cleghorn is one of these individuals. My hometown of Corona, California has been extremely fortunate to have had Chief Cleghorn protecting our community and making it a safer place in which to live and work.

John Cleghorn served as the Chief of Police in Corona for 12 years. He came to Corona following a successful career with the Los Angeles Police Department where he rose to the rank of captain and served as head of the force's anti-terrorism unit. He brought with him the knowledge and experience needed to lead a city that was experiencing massive population and economic growth. Chief Cleghorn was appointed to the position in 1985, and in the years that he served as Chief, Corona experienced the same massive population explosion that many other cities in California also experienced. As the Chief of Police, he dealt with difficulties associated with this type of growth in an efficient and effective manner. Chief Cleghorn has overseen a police department that grew from 66 sworn officers to 131 during his tenure, as well as adding a 12-member SWAT team, a gang unit, and CAT, a program created to deal with an increasing number of car thefts in the Corona area.

In addition to his responsibilities to the force, Chief Cleghorn devoted much of his time to various community organizations. These groups include the Corona Rotary Club, the Navy League, the YMCA, the Corona Regional Medical Center Foundation, and the Corona Police Community Partnership. He is also involved with Peppermint Ridge, a facility that cares for individuals with developmental disabilities. Chief Cleghorn was recently recognized for his tremendous community efforts by being named Man of the Year for 1997 by the Corona Chamber of Commerce.

On behalf of the citizens of the 43rd congressional district, I would like to thank Chief Cleghorn for his contributions and dedicated service to his community and for the example he has set for future generations. I wish him the best in his future endeavors.