

his ministry serving the city's homeless people.

The Mission, located downtown, serves healthy meals, provides showers, and beds. The center is very clean because residents are expected to keep it clean. With work comes dignity and self-esteem which are essential to moving forward. The center also smells surprisingly good. If you ask why, Reverend Thebo will tell you that he once asked God to take away the odor of despair from the shelter and to fill him with a new love for the people. Now, he paints the walls several times a year. His love for the destitute is fresh each day.

After 20 years working with homeless people, Reverend Thebo still has a strong love for those who have lost everything. He lends a hand and expects that hand to be grasped. The Mission's objective is to get people back on their feet. The Reverend has no patience for people who do not want to work but travel from shelter to shelter in search of handouts. But, for those who want help, the help is there in abundance.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Reverend Thebo, his sister who operates the women and family program, and those who volunteer their time and money to the Open Door Mission. May God continue to bless their ministry.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MIDLAND WMDN-WMPX RADIO STATION

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 1998*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary Celebration of WMPX-WMRX in my hometown of Midland, Michigan. Founded in 1948 by tele-broadcasting entrepreneur, Phil Rich, this radio station was originally donned the call letters WMDN. Serving its public as both an entertaining, as well as, an informative resource, WMDN has undergone transformation from its original talk radio programming to its current format focusing more on musical entertainment. Moreover, as a pilot station, WMDN was solely an AM station while its current subsidiaries, WMPX and WMRX are heard on both AM and FM stations, respectfully, thus implying a broader outreach to listeners.

Music has become the focal format of both radio stations, complemented by timely updated briefings of local sports, news, weather and special events. Sounding melodies of such greats as Frank Sinatra and Nat King Cole, citizens of Midland are assured quality entertainment with the depths of American culture these entertainers have instilled throughout the past five decades. WMPX and WMRX are two important communication vehicles that provide both nurturing and entertainment to the public. I know the Midland community can proudly affirm the influence this radio station has maintained over the past fifty years.

On Sunday, while citizens listen to the music and updates provided by WMPX and WMRX Midland—they can be proud of how this organization has benefited the community. It is the determination and creativity of people like Phil Rich—fifty years ago—that has al-

lowed it to grow over the years and become the successful station it is today. Thanks to the many efforts of WMPX-WMRX, the Midland community is kept informed. I know these stations will remain an important part of the Midland community for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MS. DEBORAH J. LIVINGSTON

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 1998*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Deborah J. Livingston of Columbia, South Carolina, as she steps down from the presidency of the Elmwood Park Neighborhood Association. Ms. Livingston has served her community well in this position, and her leadership will be missed.

Deborah Livingston has been very active in the city of Columbia. She is a member of the Columbia Council of Neighborhood Presidents, the Citizens Advisory Committee, the Boards of Directors of the Historic Columbia Foundation and the YWCA of the Midlands. She also serves as treasurer of the Columbia Development Corporation. However, it has been in her role as President of the Elmwood Park Neighborhood Association that I have grown to know and respect her work.

Elmwood Park is comprised of over 450 households. In May 1991, it was designated as a historic district and placed on the National register of Historic Places. In 1984 the neighborhood received the honor as a Design Preservation Area by the City of Columbia. Ms. Livingston's work was also recognized by NationsBank with a leadership Excellence in Neighborhood Development award in 1994.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in honoring Deborah J. Livingston for her great work as President of the Elmwood Park Neighborhood Association. She has been a tremendous asset to the community through her work to help rejuvenate downtown Columbia. Her leadership will be sorely missed.

SUCCESSFUL WELFARE REFORM IN WELD COUNTY, COLORADO

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 1998*

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, during the most recent district work period I heard from Walt Speckman, Executive Director of the Division of Weld County Human Services about the success of welfare reform in Weld County, Colorado. Mr. Speckman believes that in twenty years, welfare will be a distant memory. He is optimistic and he and his staff are working to eliminate welfare and put people to work. Weld County is changing lives by helping people to break out of the cycle of dependency and despair. Already, the welfare case load has dropped 43%, making Weld County one of the most successful counties in the country.

Those remaining in the system fall into three different categories: children, the temporarily unemployed, and the hard-to-serve. Of the

children, many are descendants of illegal aliens. As you know, all children born in this country, even those born to illegal aliens, enjoy American citizenship. The parents are not allowed work and their children receive welfare payments. Many of these immigrants do work and their children do not need welfare, however they cannot admit as much to agency officials and so the checks continue to be processed.

Of the hard-to-serve clients, most are physically or mentally disabled, caring for sick family members, new mothers, or severely challenged in some other way. The list is daunting, yet Mr. Speckman remains confident that his agency can find employment for these individuals or help them receive federal help for their disability. It will take a few years and the Welfare Act needs some fine tuning, but he is ready for the challenge. While some counties may be content to permanently exempt part of their population, Weld County has set out to improve the lives of all. Weld County sets an example for the nation.

Additionally, I would like to thank Walt Speckman and Linda Perez for their time and for their commitment to improving the lives of people in Weld County.

THE ALEXANDER MACOMB CITIZENS OF THE YEAR AWARD

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 1998*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor two outstanding individuals, Kimberly M. Cahill and Albert L. Lorenzo, and one remarkable family, the Petitrens, of Macomb County as they are honored with the March of Dimes "Alexander Macomb Citizens of the Year" Award.

Kimberly M. Cahill is a highly respected attorney and a dedicated community activist. Ms. Cahill is the president of the law firm of Schoenherr & Cahill, P.C., and is the past president of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan. In 1997, she received the Macomb County Bar Association's Civility Award and was named by Crain's Detroit Business as one of the 40 top metro Detroiters under the age of 40. Ms. Cahill has used her influence to incorporate more women and minorities in the legal profession. In addition, she has devoted her time and energy to such important issues as public health and parenting programs for pregnant teens.

Albert L. Lorenzo has been an outstanding president of Macomb Community College since 1979. Under his inspired leadership, the college has grown to become one of the nation's largest multi-campus community colleges and the fourth-largest grantor of associate degrees in the United States. His background in teaching and educational administration has afforded him opportunities to contribute to more than two dozen books and to author articles for national journals. Dr. Lorenzo was selected as one of the country's top 50 community college CEOs, and he has been the recipient of the national "Tom Peters Leadership Award." In addition to his responsibilities at the college, Dr. Lorenzo serves on the Governor's Workforce Commission and other organizations involved in health care, banking, research and human service.