

power by Tennessee public officials. This investigation resulted in the conviction of sixty-five state officials in U.S. District Court. He is also credited with forming the Violent Crimes Task Force in 1994, a successful partnership of six federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.

In 1996, Mr. Purser received both the FBI Medal of Valor, the organization's highest award to acknowledge bravery and courage, and the FBI Star, the equivalent of a Purple Heart, for his intervention in an attempted car jacking and kidnaping that occurred in 1984. A fugitive on the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted" list was killed during the incident.

In an age where character and courage are often overlooked, I would like to commend my fellow Tennessean, and good friend since our university days, on his years of outstanding service to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and our nation. I applaud him for pursuing justice, no matter the cost.

Mr. Purser's leadership skills have benefited his agency, and the people of Tennessee. He has served as an example of fortitude to his peers and his family. I wish him the best in his retirement from the FBI.

CELEBRATING THE CHURCH OF ST. THERESE OF THE LITTLE FLOWER

HON. JOHN E. ENSIGN

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Church of St. Therese of the Little Flower in Reno, Nevada, on the milestone achievement of its Golden Jubilee. Today, October 1st, marks fifty years of the Church's service to Nevadans. Today is also the Church's celebration of the Feast of St. Therese of the Little Flower.

This rare occasion will be celebrated with a special Mass, complete with fifty years of church music, and a banquet. The Mass is a beautiful and fitting way to intertwine its rich tradition of history, family, music, prayer, worship, thanksgiving, and most of all, reverence to God.

While I was growing up in Reno, the Little Flower Church occupied much smaller quarters. Today, the church is among the most modern structures in Reno, and is a widely recognized landmark in its southeast neighborhood. And, like a beautiful flower, the parish has blossomed to 3,500 families. The Church of the Little Flower's congregation is diverse and welcoming, reflecting Reno's tremendous population growth in the last twenty years.

Little Flower Church is the focal point for quality education for the local children and a variety of ministries to help the sick, elderly, and inmates at the Washoe County Jail. Truly, Little Flower Church is dedicated to the spiritual and physical needs of all people.

I would also like to congratulate the pastor of the Little Flower Church, the Very Reverend Robert Bowling, on his remarkable twenty-four years of selfless service to this parish. Father Bowling has guided the Little Flower Church through its growth period. Because of his hard work and strong guidance at Little Flower, he has the admiration, support, love, and respect of the entire community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the parish of the Church of St. The-

rese of the Little Flower all the best on this very important day.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROLAND MANTEIGA

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, my community is in mourning. We are saddened by the passing of Roland Manteiga, one of the most prolific, influential and admired chroniclers of politics and history in my hometown of Tampa.

For decades, you could count on walking into La Tropicana in the morning and at lunch and seeing Roland dressed in his trademark white suit sitting at his private table chatting with leaders of our community. Without fail, he always knew what was going on in Tampa politics and he faithfully shared it with his readers every week in his newspaper, *La Gaceta*. His "As We Hear It" column was a must read for thousands. If you wanted to know the pulse of the town, you read Roland.

The passion for the news business grabbed Roland early and hooked him. As a young boy, he started working for the paper his father, Victoriano, started in 1922. Except for his distinguished service in World War II, he spent his life at the paper and became its owner when his father died in 1982. He transformed the paper into the only trilingual weekly newspaper in the country. In addition to political news, Roland's paper was the voice of the Latin community and reported on it better than anyone. *La Gaceta* thoroughly documented the story of the immigrants who came to Tampa and contributed so much to the fabric of our community.

Roland's work won him many awards and recognitions, including Citizen of the Year and Hispanic Man of the Year. But typical of his self-effacing style, he always downplayed his importance to our town. His genteel manner made him equally as comfortable with presidents and governors as he was with store clerks and construction workers. And that's just one of the qualities that endeared him to so many people.

I think Ferdie Pacheco, the "Fight Doctor," summed up Roland's contributions to our community best when he wrote, "Years from now, when we are all gone, the historians will know exactly how we were and who we were because of the lifetime of dedicated work of one man."

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for everyone at home when I say that we will miss our dear friend, Roland. May he rest in peace.

CARING, EXCELLENCE, & ACCOMPLISHMENT

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, during our lives we may be privileged to meet people who make a difference, people who believe that it is far more important to accomplish something

for the community than to accomplish something for themselves. We have been most fortunate to have been the beneficiaries of two extraordinary gentlemen, who just happen to be father and son—Hans Jeppesen, Sr., and Hans Jeppesen, Jr. Since 1954, these two men have been the heart and soul of Bay Health Systems, a leading and outstanding health care provider within my District. They are being honored on October 4 with the dedication of the Jeppesen Radiation Oncology Center at Bay Health Systems.

Hans Christian Jeppesen became the leader of General Hospital in 1954. He worked to make sure that General Hospital was the best source of health care until a merger with Mercy Hospital in 1972, creating Bay Medical Center. Having instilled a vital sense of confidence and capability in his employees, Hans Jeppesen established a standard of care and competence that was a model for others in the health care community. He passed away in 1973.

His son, Hans Jeppesen, II, began his career in health care as an administrative resident in 1964 at Wellborn Baptist Memorial Hospital in Evansville, Indiana, and first came professionally to Bay City in 1966. After terms as Assistant and Associate Administrator, he rose to Executive Vice President of Bay Medical Center in 1973, and to President in 1975. Since 1986, he has been President of Bay Health Systems, the parent company for Bay Medical Center, Bay Health Care, Bay Medical Services, Bay Medical Foundation, and Bay Special Care. He is credited with overseeing the merger of Bay Medical Center with Samaritan Hospital in 1979, and in 1988 with Bay Osteopathic Hospital, a very rare occurrence of the merger of four hospitals.

The community has also benefited from his willingness to work with many organizations. In particular, his concern for young people and women has made him a leader in Junior Achievement, Big Brothers, YMCA Youth Programs, and the Bay County Women's Center. He has been an outstanding role model for his five children, Jeff, Mary, Hans, Karen, and Niels, and his two grandchildren, Madeline and Meredith.

With two lifetimes of dedication, it is most fitting that the Radiation Oncology Center bear the name "Jeppesen", as a symbol of caring, excellence, and accomplishment. Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in celebration of the Jeppesen Radiation Oncology Center at the Bay Health Systems West Campus.

TRIBUTE TO TONY MOCERI

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Anthony (Tony) Mocerri. The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Local 363 in Belleville, Illinois is naming their new hall for Tony Mocerri.

Tony Mocerri is a great union member. He earned his union card in San Francisco and was initiated into Lodge 363 in 1942. Tony was a dedicated, hardworking member until his retirement in 1984. Mr. Mocerri was elected Lodge Assistant Business Agent in 1963 and