Oakland: Teacher, Bishop O'Dowd High School, Oakland; and Youth Minister of the Diocese of Oakland.

Father Jay's professional affiliations include actively serving on several boards & organizations, including Catholic Charities, Catechetical Ministries of the Diocese of Oakland, Alameda Cancer Society, Bay Area, Black United Fund, Knights of St. Peter Claver, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Bay Area Urban League, NAACP, Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance Committee, National Association of Black Catholic Administrators, National Catholic Conference on Interracial Justice, Coordinating Committee, City of Oakland Strategic Plan, Oakland Mayor's Advisory Council on Education, Chaplain—Oakland Fire Department, Board of Directors—Comprehensive Health Improvement Project, East Oakland Youth Development Center, and is the Chairman of the Church Committee for the United Negro College Fund of the East Bay.

Father Jay has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Outstanding Community Service, the Marcus Foster Educational Institute's Distinguished Alumni Award, the Rose Casanave Service Award of the Black Catholic Vicariate, as well as service awards from the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of St. Peter Claver and the Bay Area chapter of the Xavier University, New Orleans Alumni Association.

Currently, Father Jay serves as Chaplain of Black Catholics of the Diocese of Oakland and Pastor of St. Benedict Church, Oakland.

Throughout his life, Father Jay has epitomized the ideal of a true man of God. He is a powerful role model in his immediate community and communities throughout the country. The love and service he shows towards all people regardless of race, creed, or religious background has gained him the respect of his peers.

On June 1, 1999 Father Jay will have the distinct privilege and honor to further his religious studies at the Vatican with a one year sabbatical from his current duties in the Diocese of Oakland.

It is a great honor to salute Father Jay, not just for his 25 years of service as a Catholic priest but for the many years of warmth, compassion and love he has shared with our community. The City of Oakland and its surrounding environs are a better place to live because of his firm commitment to improving the human condition of all people.

I wish Father Jay continued success as he embarks upon the next 25 years of service to God, his country and the people of Oakland.

TRIBUTE TO GABRIELLA CONTRERAS AND RYAN LEYBAS

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, today I met two young people from the 5th District of Arizona who are really making a difference in their communities. Both of them are Prudential Spirit of Community State Honorees for 1999, and were hosted in Washington, DC by Prudential and the National Association of Secondary School Principals. While nearly 20,000 youth volunteers submitted applications for these awards, Gabriella Contreras and Ryan Leybas are among 104 students from across the United States who were chosen for this honor.

Gabriella Contreras, a 13-year-old 7th grader at Roskruge Middle School in Tucson, had the additional honor of being named one of America's top ten youth volunteers by Prudential. When she was nine, Gabriella organized a community service club at her school in response to a nearby high school's problems with violence, gang activity, and drug use. Now in it's fifth year, Gabriella's ''Club B.A.D.D.D.,'' which stands for ''Be Alert—Don't Do Drugs,'' helps students channel their time and energy into community service projects. These projects have included clothing and food drives, annual ''peace'' marches, recycling campaigns, schoolwide cleanups, and anti-drug art gallery, and a citywide youth volunteer summit. Club B.A.D.D.D., known as the club that does good, now draws more than 500 people to some events and is being promoted at other schools.

Ryan Leybas, the other honoree from Arizona's 5th District, is an 18 year old senior at Casa Grande Union High School. Five years ago, Ryan founded a leadership camp for junior high students to teach them skills to succeed in school and life. With the support of the Pinal County school superintendent, what started out as a requirement for a Boy Scout merit badge has expanded into 120 participants this year, with at least two students from almost every school in Pinal County attending the three-day camp. Ryan, who is developing the leadership camp into a model that can be used in other states, continues to recruit students, coordinate logistics and find motivational guest speakers for the camp.

Both of these young people have shown exceptional talent in working with their peers for the betterment of their communities and their schools. I'd like to recognize them for their achievements as Prudential Spirit of Community State Honorees, and I look forward to working with them as they become tomorrow's adult leaders of Arizona.

THE COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT—MAKING AMERICA STRONGER

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights sent a clear and loud message to Congress—stop the attack on the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA). Enough is enough.

I wholeheartedly agree.

The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights is an impressive coalition of more than 180 national organizations, representing people of color, women, children, labor unions, persons with disabilities, older Americans, major religious groups, gays and lesbians and civil liberties and human rights groups. In a collective voice, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, once more, made it known to those who stubbornly want to believe otherwise, that the Community Reinvestment Act is a success.

Since its enactment in 1977, financial institutions have made more than $1 trillion in loans in low-income communities. More than 90 percent of these loans came in the past seven years. As a result, neighborhoods have prospered, communities have flourished, small businesses have succeeded and the quality of life for many has improved.

Today's Washington Post wrote,

> ... Since 1977 federally insured banks have been subject to the Community Reinvestment Act, requiring them to seek business opportunities in poor areas as well as middle-class and wealthy neighborhoods. The law, a response originally to clear evidence of bias in lending, has worked well. It doesn't force banks to make unprofitable loans, but it encourages them to look beyond traditional customers, and it's had a beneficial effect on home ownership and small-business lending.

Many banks share this view. John B. McCoy, President and CEO of one of the largest and profitable banks in the nation, Bank One, testified before the House Banking Committee on February 10 that his bank is ''working effectively and successfully with CRA.''

However, there are those in Congress who are attempting to undermine the success of the Community Reinvestment Act, either by refusing to expand it or calling for its outright end.

I hope that my colleagues were listening today. The Community Reinvestment Act is a wise investment with a sure return. I applaud the efforts of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and join in their crusade to protect and expand the Community Reinvestment Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. SALMON Mr. Speaker, I'm recorded as having voted ''nay'' on House rollcall vote No. 107. I intended to vote ''aye.'' Isn't it ironic that on the day that I am putting the finishing touches on the revised K–12 Education Excellence Now (KEEN) Act, which now explicitly offers a federal tax credit of up to $250 annually for teachers who purchase school supplies for their students with their own money, I would make this error.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI ABRAHAM KELMAN

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to pay tribute to Rabbi Abraham Kelman on his being honored by the Rabbis and Congregations of Flatbush and Vicinity on the occasion of their Annual Breakfast on behalf of the Ezras Torah Charity Fund.

Rabbi Abraham Kelman is an eighth generation Rabbi in his family, a tradition which is continued today by his son, Rabbi Lieb Kelman. The Kelman family has traditionally been involved in Chinuch and community activities as a means of helping those who are unable to help themselves.

Before coming to New York, Rabbi Kelman was a Rabbi in Toronto for nine years. He received Smicha in Toronto, as well as a B.A. and M.A. in Oriental Languages from the University of Toronto. In addition, Rabbi Kelman was a chaplain in the Canadian army during World War II.

Rabbi Abraham Kelman is the founder and Dean of Bnos Leah Prospect park Yeshiva. Since it's founding in 1952, the school has provided thousands of youngsters with a strong secular and Jewish education. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Rabbi Kelman, Bnos Leah Prospect Park Yeshiva has seen its enrollment rise to more than 1,300 students. He is also the Rabbi of the Yeshiva Congregation of Prospect Park.

Rabbi Abraham Kelman is the author of a number of books such as "Prospectives on the Parsha." He was instrumental in organizing the Prospect Park Nursing Home, a nonprofit facility in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn dedicated to meeting the needs of our senior citizens.

Rabbi Abraham Kelman has long been known as an innovator and beacon of good will to all those with whom he has come into contact. Through his dedicated efforts, he has helped improve my constituents' quality of life. In recognition of his many accomplishments on behalf of my constituents, I offer my congratulations to Rabbi Abraham Kelman on the occasion of the Rabbis and Congregations of Flatbush and Vicinity's Annual Breakfast on behalf of the Ezras Torah Charity Fund.

EXPOSING RACISM

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, in my continuing efforts to document and expose racism in America, I submit the following articles into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

FLORIDA TO BECOME BATTLEGROUND STATE ON RACIAL, GENDER PREFERENCES

(By John Pacenti)

MIAMI—The California businessman who plans to launch a ballot initiative to abolish state-sponsored racial and gender preferences in Florida attacked Gov. Jeb Bush on Monday as a purveyor of racial politics who is "siccing his attack dogs on me."

Ward Connerly, a black conservative Republican who has been successful with similar propositions in California and Washington, said a poll he commissioned found 80 percent of Floridians support his proposal.

Lawmakers, though, are a different story. "Florida doesn't need somebody from California to come here and tell it how to write its Constitution," said U.S. Sen. Bob Graham, D-Fla.

Connerly said politicians, particularly Republicans, are afraid of offending black voters. He described campaigning in black churches, like Bush did, as playing the "race card."

"That is saying I want your vote on the basis of your skin color, on the basis of your ethnicity," he said.

Bush met with Connerly in January and later wrote a letter to him saying he felt a ballot initiative targeting affirmative action would be divisive. The governor refused to answer questions on the matter Monday.

"His goal is to build a consensus around issues we should be focusing on— and those are education, fighting the drug war, protecting the developmentally disabled," said Bush's press secretary Nicolle Devenish. "His focus is not going to be on this political debate right now."

Connerly said Bush is behind a concerted effort to keep the initiative off the Florida Ballot.

"I can overcome the obstacle of the sitting governor of my party who is siccing his attack dogs on me and his party against a proposition I believe in," Connerly said. "I believe the establishment is wrong, is dead wrong on this issue."

Connerly, who also made announcements in Jacksonville and Altamonte Springs, said he plans to get one or more initiatives on the November ballot next year or 2002.

"It's like an old car. It's got a lot of mileage on it and it's ready to sputter out any minute," Connerly said of affirmative action. "I think we should give it a graceful retirement and find a way of getting some new wheels that solves some real needs."

He said that economic-based affirmative action should replace the raced-based preferences that has spilled over into private businesses and caused so much resentment in the workplace.

"We are talking about getting rid of the marginalization that flows from race-based affirmative action," Connerly said ". . . it is all over America."

Connerly, a member of the University of California Board of Regents, would need to gather 435,073 signatures to put the measure on the Florida ballot.

Rev. Jesse Jackson, who was in Miami to talk about AIDS in the black community, said Connerly was "trying to peddle fear" and is going to have trouble without Bush's support.

"Gov. Wilson in California cooperated with Ward Connerly," said the Rev. Jesse Jackson. "It seems like Gov. Bush will not. Florida must avoid the mistake made by California."

Washington Gov. Gary Locke, though, opposed a Connerly-backed measure in 1998 and it passed with 58 percent of the vote.

ALLEGED WITNESS TO ATTACK SAYS STATEMENT COERCED

(By Tammy Webber)

CHICAGO (AP).—The man prosecutors once described as their key witness to the 1997 racial beating of a 13-year-old black boy now claims his rights were violated during police questioning.

Richard DeSantis, 20, is charged with obstructing justice after disappearing for eight months as prosecutors tried to build a case against three men charged with beating Lenard Clark into a coma after he wandered into their predominantly white Bridgeport neighborhood.

His disappearance forced a five-month delay in the trials before prosecutors decided to proceed without him. One defendant was sentenced to eight years in prison for aggravated battery and committing a hate crime, while two others accepted plea agreements and got probation and community service.

DeSantis on Monday claimed authorities coerced him into signing a statement and would not allow him to speak to his attorney despite repeated requests.

The statement, therefore, should not be admissible in court, said attorney James Cutrone, who was not DeSantis' attorney at the time he signed the statement.

Cutrone said if the Cook County Judge Robert W. Bertucci grants the motion to suppress the statement, the county should drop its case. Testimony is scheduled to continue today.

Under questioning Monday, DeSantis said several portions of his signed statement are incorrect, including where he allegedly told police he saw three friends beat Lenard.

He described being held for questioning for more than nine hours at the police station, where he claims he was interrogated, put through a police lineup and told that he was lying when he said he did not witness the beating.

He said he signed the statement because police allegedly told him he could go home and would not be charged if he did so. He testified it was also after he heard his attorney's voice in the station but was not able to see him.

"I thought after I heard (the lawyer's voice) . . . and they didn't let him see me, I thought they could do whatever they wanted to," he said.

John O'Malley, his attorney at the time, also testified that he was at the police station for more than two hours before he was able to see DeSantis—and after DeSantis signed the statement.

But under questioning by Assistant State's Attorney Robert Berlin, DeSantis conceded that authorities let him read the statement and make any changes before he signed it.

Frank Caruso Jr. received an eight-year sentence after being found guilty of aggravated battery and committing a hate crime, but innocent of attempted murder. Victor Jasas, 18, and Michael Kwidzinski, 21, received probation and community service after accepting plea agreements.

Clark, now 15, cannot remember the attack. All three defendants were accused of knocking Clark from his bicycle, then kicking and pummeling him until he was unconscious.

RACIAL ATTACK

DARIEN, Conn.—A white businessman accused of stabbing a black man in the face with a pen on board a Metro North train has been given special probation in the case.

Kevin Keady was arrested by Metro North police June 28, 1996, after he allegedly hurled racial slurs and his fists at Michael Moore on a train.

Keady allegedly used a pen as a dagger to slash Moore's face. Moore's nose was broken and he received stitches to repair a torn ear lobe, said Moore's attorney, Charles Harris, Keady was charged with intimidation by bigotry or bias and second-degree assault.

A Superior Court judge last week granted Keady accelerated rehabilitation which is available to first-time offenders who face charges that could result in prison time. If the defendant successfully completes the two-year probation, all records are erased.

Keady denies the charges. He claimed Moore and others attacked him and uttered bigoted remarks. He filed a civil lawsuit against Moore in July 1998.

Moore also has sued Keady. A Superior Court judge awarded him a $150,000 lien on Keady's home in Darien, ruling that there is probable cause that Moore could win at least that much. Moore's suit seeks $15,000 in damages for claims of assault and battery, false imprisonment and intimidation based on bias or bigotry.

Keady's next scheduled court date is March 9, 2001, after the completion of his special probation.

NUMBER OF BLACK APPLICANTS TO UW LAW SCHOOL PLUMMETS

SEATTLE.—The number of black applicants to the University of Washington Law School has plummeted since a voter-approved ban on public affirmative action programs.

In the first round of admissions since the initiative became law in December, the number of black applicants was down 41 percent