

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 Roskrige 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 its 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.