

tile makers, and thirty-seven percent of machinists. While German-American craftsmen and skilled workers fueled Chicago's industrial growth, German art, music, and literature also helped mold the cultural developments of the city.

After the Great Fire of 1871, German-Americans took an active role in rebuilding Chicago. Their efforts can be seen even today in the city's world renowned architectural beauty. The Chicago Symphony Orchestra was founded by a German-American violinist and flourished due to talented German musicians who made Chicago's Symphony Orchestra into one of the world's greatest musical institutions. In addition, German theater introduced the classical works of Schiller and Goethe as well as many other European works.

While the contributions of German-Americans have shaped American cultural and industrial development, they are easily overlooked, largely because they have been overwhelmingly embraced by Americans and are now thought of as simply "American." October 6, 1999 once again calls attention to all Americans of German descent and their contributions to the vibrancy and strength of the United States.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 4, 1999

Mr. HILL of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my full support of H.R. 1451, the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act.

This bill would authorize the creation of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, a group charged with the responsibility of recommending to Congress activities to celebrate the bicentennial of President Lincoln's birth.

I am particularly pleased that the bill has been amended to include commission members from my home state of Indiana.

This is important because many people don't realize President Lincoln spent 14 years of his life on a small farm in Lincoln City, Indiana. There he helped his father on the farm and developed his love of reading. It was in Lincoln City that he also lost his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, when he was nine years old. These events during his formative years in Indiana contributed greatly to the development of President Lincoln's extraordinary character.

Mr. Speaker, the residents of Indiana are proud of this heritage. H.R. 1451 will help highlight the extraordinary life of our 16th president. No commemoration would be complete without noting southern Indiana's part in the Abraham Lincoln story. I encourage all Americans wishing to learn more about this American hero to visit Lincoln City, Indiana, and the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial.

I am pleased Congress is taking the initiative to promote and support the commemoration of such a remarkable figure in our American history.

RAY SAUL HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished journalist, community leader, and close friend from my District in Hazleton, Pennsylvania—Ray Saul. This month, the Sons of Italy Lodge 1043 will honor Ray as "Italian American of the Year." I am pleased to have been asked to participate in this event.

A native of Hazleton, Ray is a graduate of Hazleton High School and Penn State, where he earned a Bachelor's degree in journalism. He was the editor of his college yearbook and was cited by the All College Board for outstanding achievement as a student leader. A Navy veteran of World War II, Ray entered the service as an apprentice seaman and retired as a Lieutenant Commander after a combined 21 years of active and reserve service.

Ray is best known to the community for his 47 years of dedicated journalism at the Hazleton Standard-Speaker newspaper. Ray was sports editor at the Standard-Speaker for twenty-seven years and managing editor for the last fifteen years. Since his retirement in 1997, he continues to write sports columns and other features for the newspaper. As a journalist, Ray was an active member of the Associated Press Sports Editors Association and the Managing Editors Association.

In 1995, he was honored by the Department of Defense for his feature stories of various Hazletonians serving in World War II. Ray received an Associated Press Citation for a story on a local basketball team's success. In recognition of his writing and participation in sports, he was honored by several chapters of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame and the PIAA District 2.

Ray Saul has always recognized the unique responsibilities inherent in leading a local newspaper which is truly the voice of its community. Under his leadership, the Standard-Speaker could be relied on for fair and accurate reporting of stories important to the Greater Hazleton area. Ray always put the interests of the community first.

Ray's accomplishments are far reaching into the community as well. He is an active Kiwanian and has been awarded the International Tablet of Honor once and the Kiwanian of the Year twice. He has been an active Penn State alum, helping to raise funds for new buildings on the Hazleton Campus. In 1984, he was the fifth person in the then-50 year history of the Hazleton campus to receive the Penn Stater Award, for outstanding service to the university.

Mr. Speaker, Ray is the son of the late Santo Saul and Genevieve DeJoseph. All four of his grandparents were Italian immigrants. From his distinguished Navy career his beloved journalism career, Ray is a true example of an American success story. Even in retirement, he and his wife Nell are respected, active members of the community. I applaud the Sons of Italy for their choice of this year's honoree and am proud to congratulate Ray on yet another prestigious award. I send him my heartiest best wishes for continued health and happiness.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 1999

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, October 4, I was unavoidably detained and missed four votes on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall votes 470-473.

HONORING BILL WALTERS

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 1999

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Bill Walters, who holds the office of Registrar of Wills in York, Pennsylvania. Mr. Walters has never lost an election, primary or general, and has been on the ballot 38 consecutive times as either a candidate for Springettsbury township, Register of Wills, or Republican Committeeman. After years of committed service to the people of York and York County, he will be retiring at the end of this term.

Bill Walters came to York, Pennsylvania from Connecticut, but regards York as his home and plans to remain here after retirement. He has always been a big supporter of mine as well as good friend.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Bill Walters as he steps down from his position with the City of York, and wish him well in his upcoming retirement from a life of public service.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE
LYKOURTZOS, 1999 CHARLES E.
PIPER AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 1999

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. George Lykourtzos, a business owner in Berwyn, Illinois. Mr. Lykourtzos will be receiving the Charles E. Piper Award for Business Achievement.

The Charles E. Piper Award is named for one of Berwyn's original developers. Each year, the Berwyn Development Corporation honors business men and women from the community who contribute to the growth and economic development of the community. This year, George Lykourtzos has been chosen because of his commitment to the community.

George Lykourtzos is the owner of Skylite Family Restaurant and the Skylite West Banquets located in Berwyn, Illinois. Because of his outstanding business practices and his commitment to the investing back into the community, the Berwyn Development Corporation chose to honor George Lykourtzos with the Charles E. Piper Award on October 23, 1999.

I would like to commend George Lykourtzos and his family and staff on their excellent service to their customers. I would also like to extend my personal congratulations on Mr. Lykourtzos' achievement and