

Cross of Notre Dame, was flying to Washington D.C. to attend a conference here in Georgetown. Then a teacher in the inner city of Chicago, Brother Paul on that flight met and struck up a conversation with a former member of this body and a former member of my delegation, then-Congressman Gerald Ford.

They shared their flight in the innocence of travelers unaware of their real destination. By the end of the year, Congressman Ford, the politician, had become Vice President Ford and was on his way to becoming President Ford. Brother Nomellini, the teacher and religious brother, would that same year acknowledge his calling to the priesthood. He would in 1973 embark on the path to Holy Orders that would eventually lead him to be leader of the congregation of St. Mary Queen of Peace Church in Kingsford, Michigan.

Because our futures are so uncertain, Mr. Speaker, it's best we entrust our lives to Good Hands, and I'm sure that President Ford as well as Father Nomellini have long acknowledge the Lord's role in helping to shape their lives and destinies. So I rise tonight, Mr. Speaker, to report that a major chapter in the life of Father Nomellini will close on July 1, this coming weekend, when the good pastor marks his 25th anniversary as a priest and goes into retirement.

Despite his years of teaching in Illinois and Ohio, Father Nomellini is a true son of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. He is a native of Hancock on Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula and is a graduate of Hancock High School. He attended Hancock's Soumi College—now Finlandia University—before going on to the University of Notre Dame, where he received his bachelor's degree in English and took his vows as a religious brother. He later earned a master's degree in guidance and counseling from Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana, and a master's degree in theology from Pope John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts.

An ordained priest since 1977, Father Nomellini, has served as pastor of the St. Mary Queen of Peace Parish in Kingsford for nine years. Before that, he served in parishes across the Upper Peninsula, including St. Peters Cathedral and St. Michael Parish in Marquette, St. Joseph and Nativity parishes in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Mary & St. Joseph Parish in Iron Mountain, St. Joseph Parish in Rudyard, Holy Family Mission in Barbeau, Sacred Heart Parish in Schaffer, St. Michael Parish in Perronville, St. Joseph Mission in Foster City, and St. George Parish in Bark River.

In a recent interview with the Iron Mountain Daily News, Father Nomellini told reporter Linda Lobeck of his great love of teaching, but he spoke with the greatest pride of the many accomplishments and the community commitment of his Kingsford parishioners. From church improvements and expansions to local outreach programs, this parish surely reflects the spirit and love of its priest for the community.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Laurie and I will attend Father Nomellini's 25th Anniversary and Retirement Party on July 1. We will join with parishioners in lamenting his departure from the parish, and we will wish him well on his planned retirement projects, which, he told the Daily News, include "reading, listening to music, traveling and going to musicals and plays." Maybe, he said, he'll exercise that love of English and write a book or play or two. But

we'll wink privately, Mr. Speaker, because we know that we are all travelers, innocent of the knowledge only God holds for our futures, and God may yet have revealed another plan for Father Nomellini. In the past I nominated him to be Chaplain of the U.S. House, and he has attended the National Prayer Breakfast here in Washington, D.C. One thing I know for sure—Father Paul will go where God and his heart command him.

So I ask you and our House colleagues to join me in wishing Father Paul Nomellini our greatest thanks for his life of service as a teacher, a pastor, and a guiding friend, and I ask you to join me in wishing him all the best in his retirement. May God grant him many wonderful years.

H.R. 4560, THE AUCTION REFORM  
ACT OF 2002

HON. W.J. (BILLY) TAUZIN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2002

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, "H.R. 4560 will clarify Congress's position on the 700MHz band width. In lieu of Committee action, the following points should be noted for the record."

Section 6 ensures that the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) policies that are designed to clear channels 52–69 do not result in an increased level of interference to "in core" channels 2–51, by permitting the operation of an analog facility on a channel assigned for digital transmissions was not designed to accommodate analog operations, and in most instances, relocating analog facilities on "in core" digital channels increases interference to surrounding analog and digital stations in both the UHF and VHF band, to the detriment of those station viewers. Indeed, the increased levels of interference has the ability to deprive television viewing households of the signals they depend upon for news, entertainment, and sports programming.

Sub-section 6(a) specifically prohibits the FCC from granting waivers to its spacing requirements (as required by section 73.610 of the Commission's rules (and the table contained therein) (47 CFR 73.610)) and its interference rules (as required by sections 73.622 and 73.623) for stations assigned to channels 52–69, that seek to operate an analog facility on a digitally assigned "in-core" channel (channel 2–51), if such waiver will result in any degradation in or loss of service, or an increased level of interference, to any television household, except as the Commission's rules would otherwise expressly permit, exclusive of any waivers previously granted.

Pursuant to sub-section 6(b), television stations assigned to channels 63, 64, 68 and 69, that are seeking to clear these channels in order to make such frequencies available for public safety purposes by moving their facilities into the core (channels 2–51) will be governed by the FCC's interference rules and policies, including the waiver process. Sub-section 6(b) should not be construed as relieving stations from the obligation to meet the FCC's traditional waiver requirements.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL  
J. KERSCHNER ON HIS FIFTIETH  
BIRTHDAY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2002

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding gentleman from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Mike Kerschner of Tiffin, Ohio, will celebrate a milestone fiftieth birthday on June 29, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, Mike is celebrating this monumental occasion with family and friends, all who have known of his selfless contributions to the local community. Serving the community was not only Mike's duty but also his honor. His efforts to give back to the community have brought him a lifetime of both personal and professional achievement and satisfaction. Mike truly is a valued asset to the City of Tiffin.

Mike has served Tiffin well throughout his years, both professionally and philanthropically. Currently, Mike serves as President & CEO of the Old Fort Banking Company. He also holds a seat on the board of directors of the Seneca Industrial and Economic Development Corporation, Tiffin Area Chamber of Commerce, Fostoria Economic Development Corporation, and the Community Bankers Association of Ohio.

Mike readily gives of his time to numerous charitable causes that include the Saint Francis Foundation, and the local United Way Foundation. He considers it a distinct privilege to serve his community through his involvement with the Tiffin Elks Lodge #94, St. Mary's Finance Committee, and as President of Seneca Area Career Systems.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Mike Kerschner. Our communities are served well by having such honorable and giving citizens, like Mike, who care about the well being and stability of their communities. We wish him the very best on this special occasion, and wish him many more years of good health and good fortune.

COMMENDING THE INDIANAPOLIS  
URBAN LEAGUE AND THE LOCAL  
CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL  
ACHIEVERS SOCIETY

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2002

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to extend heartfelt congratulations to the Indianapolis Urban League and the local chapter of the National Achievers Society.

More than 350 outstanding high school students have been inducted into the Indianapolis Urban League's local chapter of the National Achievers Society (NAS). The first induction was held June 30, 2001. The induction was coordinated by the Indianapolis Urban League, along with Urban Leagues in other cities across the country and was a part of the National Urban League's Campaign for African-American Achievement, a community-based