

Whereas, Mrs. Vannelle was a loving sister, wife to her husband, Frank, mother to their four children, and grandmother to their grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and

Whereas, Mrs. Vannelle was a member of the St. John Catholic Church in Bellaire, Ohio; and

Whereas, Mrs. Vannelle will certainly be remembered by all those who knew her because of her loving nature towards her family, friends, and community; and

Whereas, the understanding and caring to which she gave to others will stand as a monument to a truly fine person. Her life and love gave joy to all who knew her.

Therefore, while I understand how words cannot express our grief at this most trying of times, I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family and friends of Natalie J. Vannelle.

TRIBUTE TO FALLEN HEROES OF
THE KENTUCKY FRATERNAL
ORDER OF POLICE

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, with great honor I rise today to pay tribute to the fallen heroes of the Kentucky Fraternal Order of Police. We are the beneficiaries of their bravery and sacrifice. We will always be indebted to these men and women who sacrifice daily to protect our communities and ensure our safety. Their commitment to this country inspires future generations and stands as a powerful symbol of what draws us together as Americans. I want to commend them for setting such a fine example of what it means to live a life of duty and honor.

In these difficult times of fighting terror abroad, it is important to remember and thank those who keep us safe at home. Every day police officers put their lives on the line to protect the freedoms we often take for granted. Every day police officers work so America's children will always know what it means to be free.

At a minimum, Mr. Speaker, we must always remember to give police officers the resources they need to do their jobs to the best of their ability. Shortchanging our police departments does more than hurt the officers, it hurts our entire country. And we must do more than fund our police departments—we must also be advocates for their service so all citizens know of their honor and courage, and sometimes ultimate sacrifice.

I am extraordinarily grateful to the men and women of Kentucky's Fraternal Order of Police. Their service, dedication and commitment to protecting the citizens of Kentucky are vital to the future of our Commonwealth and reflected in all our past successes. It is my great honor to recognize these American heroes today.

A TRIBUTE TO VERMONT JOHNSON

HON. DAVID R. OBEY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Vermont Johnson of Bayfield Wisconsin, who recently retired after nearly twenty years as an Advisor to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. Mr. Johnson represented the sport fishing interests on that Committee and worked tirelessly to support measures that protect and improve the Great Lakes fishery.

The Commission's Committee of Advisors was established under the 1955 Great Lakes Fisheries Act. The Committee is charged with advising the Commission about all fishery matters relating to fish stocks shared by Canada and the United States and is also an avenue for citizens to be heard on issues that concern them. Representatives on the Committee speak for the sport fishery, the commercial fishery, the public-at-large, and State agencies.

Mr. Johnson has a lifetime of experience with the Great Lakes and has a deep knowledge of the matters relating to the resource. As a motel owner, he certainly appreciated how the Great Lakes and their fisheries lured tourists. During his tenure on the Committee of Advisors, Mr. Johnson took on a number of issues of vast importance to the Great Lakes, and although he technically represented the sportfishing concerns of the Lake Superior waters of Wisconsin, his contributions to the Committee had a basinwide impact. He was, by all accounts, an integral member of the Committee, providing leadership on issues ranging from the rehabilitation of native species to the effect of underwater log salvage on fish habitat. He regularly attended and led meetings—often at great distance from home and at his own expense—and interacted with interests throughout the Great Lakes region.

Mr. Johnson grew up in Bayfield, Wisconsin, on the shores of Lake Superior. After attending the University of Wisconsin, he enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard and served as Chief Boatswain's Mate aboard the Coast Guard buoy tender *Balsam* in the Pacific—which I am told is the only vessel of its type to sink a Japanese submarine during World War II. After his service, he returned to Wisconsin, earned a degree in school administration, and served as a school superintendent for 35 years in several districts, as well as continuing on in the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Mr. Johnson and his wife Harriett, who have been married for more than 60 years, continue to reside in Bayfield. He is an active leader in his community, helping to enlarge his church and leading the building committee of the Bayfield Heritage Association. In fact, he remains involved in almost every civic activity in Bayfield.

For twenty years, Mr. Johnson—and usually Harriett—were stalwart participants in the meetings of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and the Committee of Advisors. I am happy to honor Mr. Vermont Johnson as he retires from the Great Lakes Fishery Commission's Committee of Advisors—it is a pleasure to take note of his service.

VERMONT'S COMMUNITY ACTION
PROGRAMS: FORTY YEARS OF
SUSTAINING COMMUNITY

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, in Vermont we are celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the Community Action Programs which have transformed the lives of thousands and thousands of people in our state. These CAP agencies provide citizens with assistance: the young and the elderly, rural residents and urban residents, homeowners and renters and the homeless, those with jobs and those without. These are not programs created to give handouts; instead, they work to develop comprehensive approaches to addressing the root causes of poverty, and to alleviating the consequences of poverty. Nor are they spinoffs of some far-distant Washington bureaucracy: the CAP agencies are locally staffed and their programs result from collaborative efforts with the lower-income people they are meant to serve.

Vermont's Community Action Programs are community-based networks for social and economic development. There are five of them: Southeast Vermont Community Action (SEVCA), Central Vermont Community Action Council (CVCAC), Community Action in Southwestern Vermont (BROC), Northeast Kingdom Community Action Agency (NEKCA) and Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO). Nearly 3,000 individuals (in 1165 families) were provided services through the SEVCA's Community Services department last year. NEKCA serves more than 6,000 moderate-to-low income families. Over 8,000 individuals obtained early childhood education, crisis fuel assistance, meals, and household insulation through CVCAC. CVOEO provides a wide variety of vital services to approximately 8,000 households (just over 19,000 individuals) every year.

But numbers alone, as impressive as they are, do not tell the whole story. From child care to fuel assistance in cold weather, the CAP agencies are always there when people have needs. CAP agencies not only help hard-pressed families find food, they support family farms through the Farm to Family coupon redemption program. They help retrain workers who have lost their jobs, and they provide a sound basis for a lifetime of learning through Head Start. They run micro-business development programs—and help citizens with their tax returns.

In SEVCA's building there is a wonderful version of the Washington mural of men waiting in a breadline in the 1930's, a reminder that economic need is—unhappily—always among us. That mural reminds us too of Franklin Roosevelt's eloquent words, which are painted on the mural itself: "The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much, it is whether we provide enough for those who have little." Those words ring, today, with truth.

Too often the glowing colors of our television and the bold headlines of our newspapers ignore the actuality of life in America: that in the midst of the richest Nation in the history of the world, many go hungry, or are without health insurance, or lack adequate