

## TRIBUTE TO BOB MATHIAS

**HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 1998*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bob Mathias. This year marks the 50th Anniversary of Bob Mathias' Olympic Decathlon Gold Medal victory. Mr. Mathias is recognized as both an exceptional athlete and dedicated American. He has certainly left his mark in many ways.

Bob Mathias had a historical career in athletics that has been matched by no other athlete of our time. In 1948, Bob shocked the world by winning the Olympic gold medal in the decathlon. Bob was seventeen years old at the time, becoming the youngest person ever to win an Olympic gold medal in track and field. This record still stand today. Mathias was recognized as the most outstanding amateur athlete in the United States when he received the Sullivan Award in 1949. He never lost a decathlon championship and retired undefeated after winning the gold medal again in the '52 Olympics. Bob was also an All-American running back for Stanford University, where he became the only athlete to play in the Rose Bowl and compete in the Olympics in the same year (1952). He was then drafted by the Washington Redskins in the 1952 NFL draft.

After his distinguished athletic career, Bob began to use his talents in many different fields. He served as an underwater demolition specialist in the US Marine Corps from 1954 to 1956. He also traveled extensively around the world for the U.S. State Department on good will missions, reporting to President Eisenhower. In 1954, Bob began his acting career when he starred in the movie "The Bob Mathias Story." John Wayne then signed him to be an actor in Hollywood where he worked in many films until 1960. In 1966, Bob Mathias was elected to the U.S. Congress where he served four terms as a distinguished Congressman from California.

Always a champion of youth, Bob became the director of the US Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. He worked there from 1977 through 1983 and built the center into a showcase for our athletes. Bob then served as the Executive Director of the National Fitness Foundation until 1987. He is currently the United States Goodwill Ambassador. Bob is married to Gwen and lives in Fresno.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Bob Mathias. This year is the 50th Anniversary of his Olympic Decathlon Gold Medal victory. His dedication and exemplary efforts should serve as an inspiration to all. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Bob Mathias continued success for the future.

IN HONOR OF FATHER PETER  
METALLINOS**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 1998*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Father Peter Metallinos on the occasion of his retirement. Father Metallinos has served

his parish and his communities in multiple capacities for the last thirty-six years and his presence will surely be missed.

Born on the island of Tinos, Father Metallinos served God from the time he was a small boy. He decided to follow in the footsteps of his uncle after serving as an altar boy for him. Father Peter immigrated to the United States in 1952 and completed his pre-theological studies at the University of California. He entered the military, served as an MP, and assisted the U.S. Chaplain in conducting religious services.

Father Metallinos fulfilled his calling by studying at Holy Cross Theological Seminary in Brookline. His ordination took place on April 12, 1962 and later that year he was appointed as priest of the American-Hellenic Community of Greater Cleveland. This appointment marked the beginning of his thirty-six year tenure at the St. Demetrios Church.

As priest of St. Demetrios Church, Father Metallinos started several monetary campaigns to upgrade the parish. The new facilities allowed St. Demetrios to conduct new ministries to better serve the community. This tradition continues today. Sunday School and Greek School continues to flourish and instill in children the religious teachings necessary for life. Father Metallinos also helped patients from around the world come to Cleveland to be treated at the city's medical facilities. Father Metallinos maintained a radio program designed to introduce the word of God to people of all ethnic backgrounds. Father Metallinos represented his parish well as he served on several international committees and was recognized by the United Hellenic American Congress for his outstanding service to humanity.

Although Father Peter is retiring, he will always be remembered in the hearts of St. Demetrios' congregation as a compassionate and loving person. As Father Metallinos, his wife Presbyteria, and his children move into this new stage of life, we thank him for his service to the community, to his parish, and to his Faith. My fellow colleagues, join me in saluting Father Peter Metallinos on his retirement from St. Demetrios Church.

## IN RECOGNITION OF TOM TOHILL

**HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 1998*

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the House of Representatives to salute my friend Tom Tohill, as his 31 years of devoted and courageous service to the people of Long Island and to the Suffolk County Police Department draws to a close.

On February 6 of this year, this outstanding police officer also retired from his position as president of the Suffolk County Police Benevolent Association. This Friday, I will proudly join Tom's family, friends and colleagues as the Suffolk County Police Officer's Emerald Society honors him as the 1998 "Irishman of the Year."

The Tohill name comes from the Gaelic "O Tuathail," which itself is derived from the Gaelic phrase "mighty people." And the Tohills were a mighty people of the Irish County of Derry where their roots run as deep

as the River Foyle that graces the banks of Derry City. Tom is certainly proud of his Irish heritage, and we are just as proud to say Tom Tohill is a son of Long Island. Born in the South Shore town of Copiague and raised in the Central Islip community, Tom is a graduate of the State University of New York in Farmingdale. He joined the Suffolk County Police Department on February 2, 1967 and served for more than 20 years in the Third Police Precinct in Bay Shore.

Tom began his service to the Police Benevolent Association in 1982, when his fellow police officers elected him the union trustee for the Third Precinct, a position he served in until 1988. He moved to become the PBA's Financial Secretary, and then in 1992 the PBA membership elected him President.

Tomorrow evening, Tom will be joined by his wife of 33 years, Diane, and surrounded by his children Brian, Jen, William, Melissa, Thomas, Michel-Lyn and Carolann, as his friends and colleagues honor him for his dedicated service to the Suffolk County Police Department, the PBA and the Emerald Society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in praising Tom Tohill for his devoted and courageous service to our families, friends and neighbors in Suffolk County. Tom's integrity and dedication to the law during a 33-year law enforcement career serves as an honorable example to the police officers who carry on his work, and are an inspiration to all of us who value his devoted public service and selfless commitment to the residents of our county. Thank you Tom, and God bless you.

HONORING CHRISTOPHER  
BREISETH**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 1998*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who is not only a highly respected leader in my community and an excellent educator, but also a very close friend of mine. This past Sunday, Dr. Christopher Breiseth was honored by the highly-respected S.J. Strauss Lodge of the B'nai B'rith as the recipient of the 54th Annual Community Service Award, which is presented to an outstanding citizen who, by courageous leadership and dedication on behalf of humanity, has made a valuable contribution to the fabric of our community life. It is my great privilege to join the entire Northeastern Pennsylvania community in congratulating Dr. Breiseth for this well-deserved award.

Chris Breiseth became president of Wilkes College in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania in 1984, and over the last fourteen years he has had a tremendous impact on the Wilkes-Barre community, as well as all of Northeastern Pennsylvania. He transformed the college into one of the region's finest universities, which has gained recognition as an increasingly-sophisticated regional center for teaching and research, as well as a rich source for cultural and public service programs. Under his leadership, Wilkes University established a six-year Doctor of Pharmacy degree program, the Allan P. Kirby Center for Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship, a campus-wide computer

network, and numerous new and refurbished facilities.

Dr. Breiseth has been a tireless leader in all aspects of our community, including leadership positions with the Osterhout Library, the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, and the United Way of Wyoming Valley. He has also taken an active role on the Executive Committee of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and chairs its Pennsylvania Independent Colleges and Universities Research Center.

Although I appreciate everything Chris Breiseth has contributed to the community of Northeastern Pennsylvania, I am most personally gratified by the countless hours he has spent as the Chairman of the Board of the Earth Conservancy. In early 1991, we first began talking about the possibility of creating a unique organization which could purchase nearly 17,000 acres of land from a bankrupt coal mining company. Located in the heart of Wyoming Valley, this land held the key to our region's future, even as it bore the scars of the past. We shared the dream of reclaiming this land for the good of the community, and Chris Breiseth devoted a great deal of his life to achieving this dream. We endured skepticism, obstructionism, and downright hostility from nearly every quarter, but we persevered. The Earth Conservancy is now an important asset for Northeastern Pennsylvania, performing extremely valuable work. I am very proud of the work the Earth Conservancy is doing, and I am deeply grateful to Chris Breiseth for his leadership in this challenging endeavor.

Chris is blessed with a wonderful wife, Jane, and three exceptional daughters, Abigail, Erika, and Lydia. The entire Breiseth family has contributed greatly to the Northeastern Pennsylvania community, and I am pleased they have made Wilkes-Barre their home.

Mr. Speaker, every Member of Congress should be as fortunate as I am to have a friend and colleague like Chris Breiseth. It is a pleasure to bring his accomplishments to the attention of my colleagues in the House.

#### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 1998*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I've come to the floor on many occasions to talk about women's issues—most of the time it involves the women of this country.

I've often said that there is much work to do on behalf of the women of this country. However, we have made much progress, that we should not take for granted, especially today as we commemorate "International Women's Day".

Fifty years ago in Paris Eleanor Roosevelt—working as the US representative to the UN Commission on Human Rights joined her fellow delegates in crafting the language of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. That document has set the standard for basic Human Rights for the last five decades. That declaration is what the world's courts and gov-

ernments look to to set policy regarding the human condition.

Unfortunately, some nations' governments do not include women in their definition of "human" because they are denied the basic rights that should be afforded any individual. There are women in some countries who are routinely beaten. They are sold to men as sex slaves. They are made prisoners of war where rape becomes a weapon.

It is these women who cannot speak out, that my colleagues and I are remembering today.

We speak for the millions of women in Africa who are subject to genital mutilation. We speak for the women in Mexico who are forced to take pregnancy tests and answer questions about their sexual habits as part of their job interviews. We speak for the women of Afghanistan who are not permitted to go to school or to enter the work force. They cannot leave their homes without being covered from head to toe. They are denied care in hospitals simply because of their gender. We speak for the tens of thousands of women in China who have been abducted or lured with promises of work or travel, then raped and beaten and forced into slavery. We speak out for the women in Peru where three cases of sexual violence occur every hour. We speak for these women because their voices deserve to be heard.

One voice which is being heard is that of First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton. She has met with women from every corner of the world and heard their horrific stories. Fifty years after First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt was crafting the language of the Universal Declaration for Human Rights, the First Lady is taking up her cause.

At the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights the United States made its position clear with these words: "Violence and discrimination against women don't just victimize individuals they hold back whole societies, guaranteeing human rights is a moral imperative with respect to both women and men. It is also an investment in making whole nations stronger, more fair, and better."

However, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women has been bogged down in the Senate for 17 years. The United States must make its position on this issue clear.

Fifty years ago a first lady of the United States was able to help shape opinions about the rights of women in countries around the world. Now, the United States is obliged to do as much. It must join the other 161 nations in ratifying this convention, for the women of other countries and its own.

#### PORTUGUESE INSTRUCTIVE SOCIAL CLUB OF ELIZABETH 76TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 1998*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Portuguese Instructive Social Club of Elizabeth as they celebrate their 76th anniversary.

The club has demonstrated, time and again, its willingness to assist Elizabeth residents. The Club has been a vital supporter of the Amadue Correia school which currently has 300 students learning the Portuguese language, history, and culture. The club also established and supports the Dancas e Cantares Portugal (a Portuguese folk dancing group) which performs at various events throughout New Jersey and the New England area.

The Portuguese Instructive Social Club will celebrate its accomplishments and anniversary with a dinner-dance at the Portuguese-American Hall on March 14.

#### TRIBUTE TO CESARINA EARL

#### HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 1998*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce you to a remarkable individual, Ms. Cesarina Earl. On Saturday, March 14, Cesarina will be honored as a Woman of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of America. This award is presented to women who have provided a positive role model for young women.

I am proud to say that Cesarina was born and bred in the Eighth Congressional District of New Jersey. A graduate of Eastside High School in Paterson, New Jersey, she went on to graduate from Seton Hall University with a BA in History in August of 1965. Eager to pursue a career as a school librarian, Cesarina returned to school to earn her New Jersey State library science credentials, attending both Caldwell College and Rutgers University.

Cesarina has put her certification as a New Jersey Librarian/Education Media Specialist and a New Jersey Professional Librarian to excellent use. Possessing a keen interest in our United States, she has served as a school librarian from New York to California. Returning to Paterson, she was employed for twelve years in the Paterson Free Public Library System. From there, she moved on to serve as a school librarian/media specialist at North Arlington High School. Most recently, she has been hired by the Little Ferry Board of Education to work with children grades K-8.

In addition to her impressive professional career, Cesarina has been extremely active in the Italian-American community in the Greater New York Area. Accolades are nothing new to Cesarina. She has been honored by many Italian-American groups for her active role in that dynamic community. The proud mother of two grown children, she publishes a weekly newspaper, *The Italian Voice*, with her son Douglas. In addition to an impressive array of speaking engagements, she also travels extensively, speaking fluent Spanish and Italian.

Needless to say, Cesarina continues to enjoy her involvement with the Girl Scouts of America. Her leadership and dedication to this important young women's association led to the receipt of this prestigious award.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that you join me, our colleagues, Cesarina's family and friends, and the Girl Scouts of America as they honor her as a Distinguished Woman in the Girl Scout World of People.