

CORTLAND ZONTA CLUB NAMES
1998 WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to acknowledge the very special contributions to my community and to humanity in general by an outstanding individual, the 1998 Zonta Woman of Achievement award winner in Cortland, N.Y., Mrs. Anna Forcucci.

Anna Forcucci is best known for her dedication to community health care, especially in her work for the Cortland Memorial Hospital and the Cortland Memorial Foundation.

As an employee of the hospital for 20 years, she has served in many roles. As Director of Volunteers for 12 of those years, she led 500 individuals and began many new programs. She was instrumental in the success of the 1993 Additions and Alterations Campaign which raised about \$1 million. She is responsible for the great success of the Teen Age Volunteer Program, and for expanding it to include boys as well as girls. All participants gain experience in the health care setting and benefit from scholarships for academic service.

Anna is a role model not only for young women, but for all workers in the health care industry. She is highly regarded in her field among her colleagues around New York State.

Always the leader, she graduated from LeMoyne College in Syracuse summa cum laude in history and was awarded the Bishop Ferry Prize for highest grades in religion.

Anna has served on many boards with organizations such as the Salvation Army, the YWCA, the County Community Services, the Groton Health Center, and the J.M. Murray Center. She is a member of Zonta, the Fortnightly Club and the Church Women United, and since her retirement has remained active as a hospital volunteer and chair of the southern zone of the State Hospital Volunteer Association.

Anna Forcucci is a citizen of the highest character, integrity and ethical standards. It is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to recognize her accomplishments and to thank the Zonta Club of Cortland County for naming Anna the Woman of Achievement for 1998.

ACKNOWLEDGING ASHLEY SCOTT
AND MEAGHAN MOORE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge two young constituents from Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, Miss Ashley Scott and Miss Meaghan Moore who have the courage to speak out on a subject which most adults are noticeably silent—what happens to children who are raised in a society which has lost its respect for life. Violent acts committed by children have increased in the last two decades. With each terrible incident, we are struck with horror and bewilderment, unable or

perhaps unwilling to answer our own question—what has happened to our children?

The answer to this question comes not from scientists or statesmen, but from the mouths of babes, the children whose lives have been profoundly affected by a culture of violence. Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit for the RECORD a letter submitted to the Coloradoan April 16, 1998 by Ashley and Meaghan, both twelve years old.

We want to inform people about how abortion is affecting children like us. In Arkansas recently, two boys, our age, murdered four young girls and one teacher. They are still to be punished for their crime. We want to know why mothers can get away with abortion when 12-year-old boys may get punished for murder.

We believe murder is murder, whether it is a shooting, stabbing, or abortion. Numerous amounts of mothers have killed an unborn child and not given them a chance to live. We also believe that doctors who carry out abortions are wrong. Everyone should have a chance to eat ice cream and get messy, play in puddles and get wet. And every mother can experience the warmth of a hug from a child. We understand mothers are confused and afraid, but they should think twice before getting pregnant. If we all take a stand, we can stop abortion.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for considering the opinions of these two young and bright constituents from Colorado.

WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY:
FRIENDS OF LABOR AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Tong, Molly Busico and Michael Busico, as they are honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO for their dedication to helping working families and organized labor.

Mary Tong has worked for the labor movement for more than twenty years. She began her tireless efforts while still a teenager as she helped organize agricultural workers.

In 1993, she founded the Support Committee for Maquiladora Workers. As the Committee's Executive Director, she faces considerable risks to support the unionizing efforts of maquiladora workers. Mary played a critical role in assisting the workers at the Han Young plant to accomplish an historic feat by establishing the first independent union in the maquiladora industry in the Tijuana border region. In battling the corporations that move jobs south to Mexico to attempt to exploit workers, pay starvation wages, and disregard health and safety standards, Mary continues to break new ground in bringing together workers across borders.

Molly and Michael Busico are a labor family, and they are also a labor business. They give generous financial support to San Diego's labor movement through their family business, American Income Life. Molly and Mike volunteered to fund the Labor Council's Organizing Program and financed a toll free number and other campaign materials including banners and bumper stickers. Through American In-

come Life, they graciously host hospitality rooms for various union conferences.

Molly and Mike collect food on a monthly basis and donate it to the Labor Council's Community Services Program. When things get particularly busy, Molly volunteers in the Labor Council office. The Bosicos attend affiliate rallies together, and recently the entire family participated in the Strawberry Workers March in Watsonville. The Bosicos are a good example of the family that organizes together, stays together.

These three individuals are being honored by the Labor Council as Friends of Labor—members of the community whose work has strengthened labor's efforts and who have touched the lives of thousands of San Diegans. It is truly fitting that the House of Representatives join in this recognition, and I am proud to salute this year's honorees: Mary Tong, and Molly and Mike Busico.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOB
DUNCAN

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bob Duncan for being honored with the Silver Medallion Award. This award is the highest honor bestowed by the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. Bob Duncan has been a life long supporter of the Boys & Girls Club and is very deserving of this honor.

Bob Duncan was born and raised in Fresno, California. He is the son of Lee R. Duncan and Mary Erma Duncan and has four grandchildren. He attended California State University, Fresno and served in the United States Army for three years during World War II, where he was a Lieutenant in the Medical Administration Corps.

Bob Duncan is currently on the Board of Governors at California State University, Fresno. He serves on the Steering Committee of the American Lung Association Celebrity Waiters Luncheon and is a member of the Fresno Rotary, Presidents, Circle-California State University, Fresno, and Little Hero's-Big Heroes of Valley Childrens Hospital Program. He is the Director of the Fresno Metropolitan Museum, Fresno City and County Boys & Girls Club, and the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame. Additionally, he serves on the Executive Committee of the Fresno Business Council, the Executive Committee of the Fresno Convention & Business Bureau, and the State Center Community College Foundation.

Bob Duncan has been honored with many awards. He has received the Presidents Award, been named Optimist Of The Year by the Greater Fresno Optimists, recognized as Boss of The Year by the National Secretaries Association and has received the Alumnus Award from the California State University, Fresno School of Business. He has been named Honorary Member of Beta Gamma Sigma and was honored with the Top Producer Award by the California State University, Fresno Bulldog Foundation. He has received the Friend of Youth Award from the Optimists Club, the Citizens Service Award from the Fresno Association For the Retarded, and has appropriately had the Campus Athletic Building at California State University, Fresno named after him.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Bob Duncan for receiving the Silver Medallion Award. I applaud his leadership and exceptional community involvement. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Bob Duncan many more years of success.

RECOGNIZING MOTHER
CHARLOTTE EADES

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to rise today in recognition of an exceptional and inspirational woman, Mother Charlotte Eades, to mark the occasion of her appointment as State Supervisor of Women, 1st Jurisdiction of Illinois-Church of God in Christ. Mother Eades has served for twenty-eight years as the First Assistant to former State Supervisor of Women, Mother Carrie Cantrell. Sadly, Mother Cantrell recently passed away, but there could be no more dedicated, experienced or respected woman to succeed her than Mother Eades.

In addition to being a devoted wife, mother, sister and friend, Mother Eades has served the church in many capacities. She has been a teacher, an evangelist, a missionary, an advisor, and for the past seven years, she has served as Dean of the C.H. Mason/William Roberts Bible College. Mother Eades is a true leader and a role model who gives selflessly and generously of her wisdom, time, experience and talents. She has already touched so many lives, and as State Supervisor of Women she will have the wonderful opportunity to touch so many more.

On May 2, Mother Eades will be honored at a ceremony in Hickory Hills, Illinois, in recognition of her ascendance to the position of State Supervisor of Women. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to add my congratulations and to express my deep gratitude for Mother Eades' years of dedicated service and for the excellent example I know she will continue to set for Christian women everywhere. I know my colleagues join me in saluting Mother Eades on this very special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM KONAR

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today representatives of the Congress, the Administration, and the Supreme Court gathered in the Great Rotunda of this historic building for the National Civic Commemoration to remember the victims of the Holocaust. This annual national memorial service pays tribute to the six million Jews who died through senseless and systematic Nazi terror and brutality. At this somber commemoration, we also honored those heroic American and other Allied forces who liberated the Nazi concentration camps over half a century ago.

Mr. Speaker, this past week Fortune Magazine, April 13, 1998, devoted several pages to an article entitled "Everything in History was

Against Them," which profiles five survivors of Nazi savagery who came to the United States penniless and built fortunes here in their adopted homeland. Mr. William Konar of Rochester, New York, was one of the five that Fortune Magazine selected to highlight in this extraordinary article, and I want to pay tribute to him today.

William Konar, like the other four singled out by Fortune Magazine, has a unique story, but there are common threads to these five tales of personal success. The story of the penniless immigrant who succeeds in America is a familiar theme in our nation's lore, but these stories involve a degree of courage and determination unmatched in the most inspiring of Horatio Alger's stories.

These men were, in the words of author Carol J. Loomis, "Holocaust survivors in the most rigorous sense," they "actually experienced the most awful horrors of the Holocaust, enduring a Nazi death camp or a concentration camp or one of the ghettos that were essentially holding pens for those camps."

They picked themselves up "from the very cruelest of circumstances, they traveled to America and prospered as businessmen. They did it, to borrow a phrase from Elie Wiesel, when everything in history was against them." They were teenagers or younger when World War II began. They lost six years of their youth and six years of education. "They were deprived of liberty and shorn of dignity. All lost relatives, and most lost one or both parents. Each . . . was forced to live constantly with the threat of death and the knowledge that next time he might be "thumbed" not into a line of prisoners allowed to live, but into another line headed for the gas chambers." Through luck and the sheer will to survive, these were some of the very fortunate who loved to tell the story of that horror.

The second part of their stories is also similar—a variant of the American dream. These courageous men came to the United States with "little English and less money." Despite their lack of friends and mentors, they found the drive to succeed. As Loomis notes, "many millions who were unencumbered by the heavy, exhausting baggage of the Holocaust had the same opportunities and never reached out to seize them as these men did." Their success in view of the immense obstacles that impeded their path makes their stories all the more remarkable.

One other element that is also common to these five outstanding business leaders—they are "Founders" of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum here in Washington, DC. They have shown a strong commitment to remembering the brutal horrors of the Holocaust, paying honor to its victims, and working to prevent the repetition of this vicious inhumanity.

Mr. Speaker, William Konar is one of the five Holocaust survivors and leading American entrepreneurs highlighted in this article. Mr. Konar was extremely successful in developing a chain of 84 discount drugstores, and he has been active and successful in real estate after selling the drugstore operation. As we here in the Congress mark the annual Days of Remembrance in honor of the victims of Nazi terror, I am inserting the profile of William Konar from Fortune Magazine be placed in the RECORD.

WILLIAM KONAR

ROCHESTER, N.Y.—RACK JOBBING, DRUGSTORES,
REAL ESTATE

In the years since World War II, Bill Konar, now 68, has talked very little of his Holocaust experience, and as he made the effort recently for a visitor, his face gradually tightened, coming to look as if he could barely squeeze out the words. He was the youngest child of four in a family that lived in the central Poland city of Radom. His father, a leather wholesaler, died when he was 4—but not before the father had identified this son, Welwel by name then, as an uncontrollable piece of work, a stealer from the father's cash register even, who would surely someday "end up in Alcatraz" (indeed, infamous even in Radom).

After the Germans marched into Poland, Radom's Jews were first forced into work, then into ghettos, and ultimately into terrible episodes of separation, with the women and small children taken away and the men left in the ghettos. Bill, though only 12 and slight in build, was put with the men. After the time of separation, in July 1942, he never again saw his mother, his sister, her baby, or her husband (who had refused to leave his family).

Throughout these years, Bill's older brothers, Herszek (now Harry) and Moshe (now Morris), both teenagers, worked for the Wehrmacht. Aware, though, that his youth and small size made him look useless and expendable, Bill hid in ghetto attics for long periods. Later he worked, doing food-depot duty that he remembers as grueling.

By the summer of 1944, the Russians were advancing fast on the eastern front, and the Germans in Radom grew apprehensive that their Jews, many by then well-trained war workers, would escape. So the Konars and hundreds of other victims in the area were put into a forced march for more than 100 miles and at its end herded into railroad box-cars said to be headed for work camps in Germany. The stops turned out to include Auschwitz. There, the Jews were ordered out of their cars and subjected to still another weeding out in which the weak, elderly, and sick were shunted off to the gas chambers, and the others were shoved back onto the train. When the cars pulled out again, Bill was aboard, and so were his brothers.

The three ended the war at a work camp near Stuttgart, Germany, where Bill fell under the protection of a German cook, who liked this imp of a kid, let him sneak food to his family, and, in the final days of war, even helped him hide a brother threatened with transport one more time. On liberation day for the Konars, May 7, 1945, Bill was 15—hardened way beyond his years, but still 15.

Right after the war, Bill got into a school run by a relief agency and began to learn English. That gave him a head start when, in 1946, he became part of a boatload of orphans brought to the U.S. and dispersed country-wide to homes that either wanted or would have them. "They picked Rochester for me," he says, and that's where he's been ever since (along with his brothers, who came later). In the city's leading hospital, Strong Memorial, there is a renowned unit called the William and Sheila Konar Center for Digestive and Liver Diseases that would not exist had not Rochester gotten hold of this 16-year-old.

The U.S. government paid \$10 a week to a Mrs. Goldberg to keep him. He somehow passed tests that qualified him to enter the junior class of Benjamin Franklin High School, and in his two years there he played soccer, worked for 25 cents an hour at a supermarket, and otherwise took on the spots—though definitely not the accent—of an American teenager. Once graduated, he