

IN MEMORY OF REVEREND
RUDOLPH S. SHOULTZ

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 8, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I share an article from the March, 2000 issue of the Pure News, published in Springfield, Illinois, by T.C. Christian.

BUT HE TRIED TO HELP SOMEBODY

(By T.C. Christian, Jr.)

It would be wonderful if I could remember and name all the wonderful people who have made a difference in my life, but that just can not be done. Part of the problem is that there have been too many to count and no matter how good my intentions may be, somebody would undoubtedly be missed.

However, death has a way of refreshing our memory by placing yesterday's faces, deeds and conversations on a giant screen where we can all watch the previews at the same time.

Such was the case in hearing about the death of Reverend Rudolph S. Shoultz, pastor of the Union Baptist Church in Springfield, Illinois. His death refreshed my memory that life is but a book, sometimes a short story, sometimes several chapters, sometimes a happy beginning and sometimes a sad ending.

After reading and listening to all the different tributes paid to this man whom some even called the "Godfather," a stranger would have to conclude that "this preacher must have helped somebody." In one chapter of the "Life of Reverend Rudolph S. Shoultz," somebody called him a civil rights leader who fought in the trenches, another writer said he not only fed his members with religion but fed them with state jobs, one minister said the good Reverend adopted him as his son and just before we get to the final chapter, there was recognition of the awards he received and how he provided housing for senior citizens.

In reminiscing about yesterday, I decided to review another book yet to be published. This book's title is "The Life of T.C. Christian, Jr." This book contains several chapters about Reverend Shoultz.

In chapter one, the author (yours truly, of course) is introduced to the Reverend and a friendship develops.

In another chapter, which was written and dated November, 1983, Reverend Shoultz appears on the front page of the very first issue of The Pure News. Also in that chapter, the author describes how Reverend Shoultz provided personal assistance to help maintain the existence of the newspaper you're now reading.

The chapter in the middle of the book describes the wedding of the author which was also performed by Reverend Shoultz. And in "telling it like it is," in that same chapter (as a result of the Reverend's political connections) the author's newly wedded bride was soon to be employed in the Governor's office.

And incidentally, we did not agree on everything which gives credence to a statement made by one minister during the funeral when he said, "If two people think just alike, one of them is not necessary."

Reverend Rudolph S. Shoultz, who died on March 3, 2000 at the age of 81, was a living legend. Perhaps his legacy can best be remembered as a preacher who was always trying to help somebody.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 8, 2000

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Nurses Week, and to especially express gratitude and appreciation to the outstanding Nursing Staff at Edward Hine's Junior Veteran's Medical Center.

Throughout the year, these compassionate, hardworking nurses are entrusted with the care of our nation's veterans. The nursing staff at Edward Hine's Junior Veteran's Hospital is comprised of 518 Registered Nurses (RN), 144 Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), 40 Nursing Assistants (NA), 56 Health Care Technicians (HCT), and 91 Clerks, all dedicated individuals whose diligent care is deeply appreciated. I recognize their commitment and endless efforts to offer exceptional patient care, while taking part in research, education, quality improvement, infection control, administration, and many other areas. Clearly these nurses make a tremendous contribution to the well-being of their patients.

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to those who served and sacrificed for our freedoms. It is only fitting they in turn receive the best quality care.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I am proud and honored to offer to my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives an example of the American Spirit where traditional patriotic values of "Helping Sharing, Always Caring for Our Veterans" are practiced on a daily basis. The Nursing Staff at Edward Hine's Junior Medical Center is recognized for their professionalism, sensitivity and interpersonal skills as well as their altruistic dedication.

IN HONOR OF LEMONT'S MEGAN
DOHERTY—ONE OF AMERICA'S
TOP TEN YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 8, 2000

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Megan Doherty of Lemont, Illinois, for being named one of America's top ten youth volunteers by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

As my colleagues are no doubt aware, the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards honor outstanding volunteer community service. The award was created five years ago by Prudential to encourage youth volunteerism and to identify and reward young role models.

And what a role model Megan is.

Though just a junior at Mt. Assisi Academy in Lemont, she has proven that one person can make a difference.

Over the past two years, Megan raised more than \$56,000 to bring 29 young cancer victims of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster in Ukraine to Illinois for life-saving medical treatment and dental care that were not available to them in their own country.

Inspired by a speech by the executive director of "Camps for Children of Chernobyl," Megan first asked her parents only to be a

host family for one of the sick children. However, upon learning that the children had to travel in groups of 10 or more to hold down costs, she set out to find enough host families and raise enough money to bring an entire group to Lemont.

She was more than successful.

In the summer of 1998, 13 cancer-stricken children traveled to Lemont, and 16 more came in 1999. Two of the children underwent major surgery and another is now in the process of being adopted by an American family.

Megan isn't finished either. She plans to bring another 16 Ukrainian children to Lemont this summer.

Being named as one of the top ten youth volunteers in the nation—out of more than 20,000 nominees—is a true achievement.

More importantly, though, at a time when we all too often hear only of the senseless or negative acts of our nation's youth, Megan proves again the enormous capacity for goodness that our children and youth possess.

It is an honor to represent this outstanding young woman in Congress and a privilege to recognize her achievements here today.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM AND
CATHERINE UPCHURCH

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 8, 2000

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful Arizona family on the very happy occasion of the 40th anniversary of William and Catherine Upchurch. From this marriage came two beautiful daughters who have always been a source of pride and joy to their parents. Susan Upchurch was born on May 1, 1962, and Sharon Upchurch was born on November 5, 1963.

The marriage of Sharon Upchurch to Michael Maita has been blessed with two children. William and Catherine are the proud grandparents of Alyssa Morgan Maita, born on January 5, 1998, and Andrew Jordan Maita, born on October 1, 1999.

I am pleased to help honor the Upchurches, their strong and enduring marriage, and the wonderful family they have raised. Mr. Speaker, I am sure the whole House will join me in wishing the Upchurches all the best in the years to come.

RECOGNITION OF FOOD ALLERGY
AWARENESS WEEK

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 8, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues the celebration of Food Allergy Awareness Week, which will be observed around the country this week, May 8–12. The Food Allergy Network, which is based in my district, is celebrating this week to increase the public's awareness of food allergies and anaphylaxis.

Scientists estimate that more than 6 million American children and adults have food allergies. A food allergy is the immune system's

reaction to a certain food, which differs from food intolerance; a metabolic disorder. During an allergic reaction the immune system mistakenly believes that a harmless substance, in this case a food item, is harmful. In its attempt to protect itself, the body creates specific antibodies to that food. The next time the individual eats that food, the immune system releases massive amounts of chemicals and antihistamines. These chemicals trigger a cascade of allergic symptoms that can affect the respiratory system, gastrointestinal tract, skin, or cardiovascular system.

Any food can cause an allergic reaction, but eight foods cause 90 percent of all food allergies and they are: milk, egg, wheat, peanut, soy, tree nuts, fish, and shellfish. In most cases, children outgrow their food allergy with the exception of allergies to peanuts, tree nuts, fish, and shellfish, which are life-long allergies.

Presently, a cure does not exist for food allergies, only a strict avoidance of the problematic food will allow these individuals to lead a near-normal life. Therefore, accurate food labeling is vital to avoid life-threatening allergens.

If a problematic food is consumed, the individual will experience symptoms ranging from a tingling sensation in the mouth, swelling of the tongue and the throat, difficulty breathing, hives, vomiting, abdominal cramps, diarrhea, drop in blood pressure, loss of consciousness, to death. Symptoms will typically appear within minutes or up to two hours after the person has eaten the food to which he or she is allergic. The most severe reaction will cause anaphylactic shock or anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a sudden, severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. It typically involves two or more of the body's systems and can be fatal, sometimes within minutes. Peanuts, nuts, fish and shellfish commonly cause the most severe reactions.

Epinephrine also called adrenaline, is the medication of choice for treating a severe food allergy reaction. Epinephrine usually relieves anaphylactic symptoms for about 15 minutes, just long enough for the patient to get medical treatment. That is why it is so very important that ambulances and emergency health care providers, such as EMT's carry and be allowed to administer this life-saving drug. Unfortunately, only nine states currently allow EMT's to administer epinephrine, but the Food Allergy Network has been working hard to educate states about why this is so vitally needed.

Mr. Speaker, physicians are reporting an increase in the number of patients with food allergies across the country. It is estimated that between 100 and 200 people die each year from food allergy-related reactions. That is why the Food Allergy Network's mission of increasing public awareness about food allergies and anaphylaxis, to provide education, and to advance research on behalf of all those affected by food allergies is so important. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in supporting Food Allergy Awareness Week and recognizing the valuable work of the Food Allergy Network.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AND
COMMENDATION FOR ALVIN R. BELL,
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM PUBLIC
EDUCATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 8, 2000

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to spotlight a very special individual who has unselfishly given his time, energy, and spirit to

others in the Fourth Congressional District of Ohio. The month of June will pose many challenges to Findlay High School since it will be losing a top notch teacher and educator to a well-deserved retirement. His shoes will be very difficult to fill.

Al Bell has taught at Findlay High, my alma mater, in Findlay, Ohio since 1964. It is not every high school that can boast of a teacher who has taught there for 36 years. Over the years I have witnessed how Al cares very deeply for his high school community family. For twelve years, Al has instructed and guided his students to state and national awards for their accomplishments in the We the People . . . competition. He has served eleven years as the History Department chair at FHS. Al sat on the Strategic Planning Committee for Technology and the Selection Committee for the Robert H. Hill Award for Findlay City Schools. Al has served in all aspects of academic life. He has been a teacher, advisor, scholar, international consultant and mentor. He knows inside and out how to guide a school to academic success and national recognition.

The Center for Civic Education has also recognized that Al's academic strength and professionalism can benefit those around the world. He has served in both consultative and editorial roles for the Center. The Center has twice selected Al to travel to war-torn Bosnia to help educate Bosnian teachers on the virtues and benefits of democracy and how to impart this knowledge to young Bosnians. Al Bell is a peacekeeper in his own right.

Though he will no longer work as a teacher for FHS, he will never be far from it in mind and spirit. The inspiration to "think" is perhaps one of his greatest legacies which lives on in those blessed enough to have known him. To Al and his wife, Judy, all the best as they approach this new adventure of retirement together.