

Extraordinarily Well." I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the Paul VI and its dedicated administration, faculty, staff, and students.

JOIN IN SUPPORTING THE CALIFORNIA MISSIONS PRESERVATION ACT

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 20, 2003*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the California Missions Preservation Act. This legislation, which would authorize \$10 million to repair some of our Nation's most important historical landmarks, promises to allow future generations to enjoy California's unique cultural heritage.

From San Diego to Sonoma, the missions of California dot the Pacific coast with beauty and tradition. They were constructed in the 18th and early 19th centuries by the Spanish government as a defense against Russians who, it was thought, desired to move south from the Bering Strait. Spain hoped the settlements would solidify its political authority, as well as extend its religious values into the New World.

Since the missions were built two hundred years ago, the Golden State has evolved from a sparsely populated frontier to the world's technological epicenter. The missions still stand, however, as a source of pride and tradition to all Californians. All 21 are California historical landmarks, and seven have national landmark status. The missions are the State's most popular historic sites, attracting an estimated 5.3 million sightseers last year. Some 745,000 of these visitors are schoolchildren. Mission visits are a valued part of California's fourth grade curriculum, as students build mission models and write research reports on this colorful aspect of California's history.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues will no doubt be disappointed to learn that California's missions are in various states of decay and disrepair. At San Gabriel Archangel, east of Los Angeles, a termite-infested redwood beam crashed to the ground at the church's main entrance last year, forcing another five beams to be removed as a safety precaution. The beautiful mission at San Miguel has cracks in its façade that are large enough to fit several fingers. San Francisco's famous Mission Dolores is also slowly crumbling away.

Mr. Speaker, the passage of the California Missions Preservation Act, along with the significant fundraising efforts of the nonprofit California Missions Foundation, will enable us to preserve our State's historical legacy. I strongly encourage my colleagues to vote for its passage.

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADVANCED LIGHT SOURCE RESEARCH CENTER

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 20, 2003*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, this Wednesday, October 22, 2003, marks the 10th anniversary of

one of our Nation's premier scientific research centers, the Advanced Light Source (ALS), a Department of Energy facility located at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. The 9th District of California is the proud home of this remarkable facility and many of the scientists, students and administrators at the ALS are my constituents.

The ALS is a national user facility that generates intense light for scientific and technological research. It produces light in the x-ray region of the electromagnetic spectrum that is one billion times brighter than the sun. As one of the world's brightest sources of ultraviolet and soft x-ray beams—and the world's first third-generation synchrotron light source in its energy range—the ALS makes previously impossible studies possible.

The light is directed along 27 different beamlines toward experimental workstations, giving a wide range of researchers almost simultaneous access to the light source. This extraordinary tool offers unprecedented opportunities for state-of-the-art research in materials science, biology, chemistry, physics, and the environmental sciences. Ongoing research topics include the electronic structure of matter, protein crystallography, ozone photochemistry, x-ray microscopy of biological samples, and optics testing.

Since its inception in 1993, the ALS has been at the forefront of science. Among its many accomplishments, it has helped reveal how bacteria resist antibiotics, how inexpensive and efficient solar cells can be fabricated, and how strange substances like quasicrystals possess properties never before seen. And among the ALS's many distinguished users is Roderick MacKinnon, a biophysicist who recently won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry based in part on research conducted at ALS beamline 5.0.2. His prize-winning foray into the properties of ion channels in cell membranes could lead to potential treatments for diseases like cystic fibrosis, epilepsy, and heart arrhythmia.

In the future, the ALS will stay at the forefront of science thanks to the dedicated staff at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory and the more than 1,200 scientists who each year travel from around the world to conduct cutting edge research.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the dedicated employees at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory past and present who have worked so diligently to reap the full benefits of one of the world's great tools of science.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF GARFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 20, 2003*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the 50th anniversary of Garfield Elementary School on October 16, 2003.

Garfield Elementary School, located in the heart of Springfield, currently serves approximately 335 students in kindergarten through sixth grade. In 1952, the Garfield School was established to meet the educational needs of

the rapidly emerging Springfield area of Fairfax County. First staffed with only seven teachers, Garfield conducted classes on the grounds of Franconia Elementary School under the supervision of then Franconia principal, Mr. James Robinson. The following year, in September 1953, Garfield opened its own school on Old Keen Mill Road, staffed with 18 faculty members and with Mr. Robinson as its first principal.

Since then, Garfield School has been renovated twice in order to better meet the needs of its students. First, in 1967–68 the library was refurbished, administrative offices were added, kindergarten and primary classes were created and a gymnasium was built. Later in 1989, a fresh look was added to the front of the building. And most recently in 2001, new state of the art windows were installed to help reduce the noise created by the ever-widening Old Keene Mill Road.

For the past 50 years Garfield has demonstrated great commitment to providing a high-quality learning environment for the students of Springfield. By placing emphasis on literacy, hands-on experience, critical thinking, cooperation, and cultural sensitivity, Garfield has exceeded all standards set by the Virginia Department of Education. Today, Garfield embraces a richly diverse cultural population and is known statewide for its language arts program. From humble beginnings, Garfield most certainly has emerged as an exemplary elementary school.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate Garfield Elementary School on their 50th anniversary and wish them continued success for the future. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding their dedication to excellence in the field of education.

IN MEMORY OF BARRY BERINGER, CHIEF COUNSEL FOR THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 20, 2003*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Barry Beringer, chief counsel for the House Committee on Science, who passed away 3 weeks ago.

Barry served the Science Committee for 14 years, under three different Chairmen. He had an immense store of knowledge about the history and jurisdiction of the Committee. He was an invaluable asset in guiding bills through the legislative process, which at times can be cumbersome and confusing. I was always confident that Barry's thoughtful, careful work on parliamentary procedures would result in high-quality legislation and proper procedures.

Prior to joining the Science Committee, Mr. Beringer served as associate undersecretary for economic affairs in the U.S. Department of Commerce. He was a graduate of Dickinson College and active in the Arlington County Republican Committee. I will always remember Barry for his high ethical standards, and his kind way of always putting others' needs before his own. Mr. Beringer was a consummate gentleman, always polite and considerate, and had a wry, but always funny, sense of humor.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to Barry's wife, Bonnie, and their children Francis and