

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER DEDICATES NEW HEALTH CARE CENTER

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, June 21, 1997

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on June 18, 1997, Monmouth Medical Center in Long Branch, NJ, hosted a dedication of the new community health center. This center's main purpose is to benefit the residents of the Long Branch area that are currently medically underserved.

The new community-based center represents a major outreach from Monmouth Medical Center. This expansion is proof positive that Monmouth Medical Center is true to its commitment to the Long Branch community. Residents of the city and the immediate surrounding area will be able to share and experience high quality, convenient and comprehensive medical care.

I am delighted that several organizations and agencies joined together to bring about this endeavor. I would like to pay tribute in particular to some of the individuals whose efforts have made this dedication possible, including the executive director of the Long Branch Housing Authority, David A. Brown, Lisa Thornton, president of the Long Branch NAACP, Phyllis Kinsler, executive director of Planned Parenthood, Joseph Ferraina and other administrators from the Long Branch

Board of Education, Antonia Alvarez, from Hispanic Affairs, Rodney O'Neal and Webster Tremell of the Monmouth County Urban League, representatives from my congressional office, and so many others that have contributed enormously to this endeavor.

PROVINCETOWN'S 50TH BLESSING OF THE FLEET

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, June 21, 1997

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, far from the salt air and sea breeze, to pay tribute to the rich heritage in southeastern Massachusetts—and across the Nation—of Americans of Portuguese ancestry, whose courageous forebears set sail over uncharted waters to explore and settle in the Americas.

Their resolve to set new roots here ensured our Nation would be enriched by the profound and diverse influence of Portuguese enterprise and culture—from our commercial fishing and whaling industries, to the work of John Dos Passos and John Philip Sousa.

The melting pot which is our Nation consists of many strong and enduring flavors. From the 1500's, when Portuguese navigators mapped the New World; to colonial days, when Portuguese Jews in Newport worshipped with President Washington; to the wave of immigration here from the Azores, Madeira, and

the Cap Verde Islands; to an exhibit of maps and photos honoring this remarkable history which now adorns the Halls of Congress—there is a great deal to learn from the principles of family, faith, and self-reliance that has sustained a very proud people.

It is thus a particular pleasure to note, with much personal anticipation, the first Annual Portuguese Festival to be held later this month in Provincetown, MA, where you can always get the best kale soup on this side of the Atlantic. This long weekend of reflection and recreation is scheduled to coincide with another wonderful milestone: The 50th anniversary of the celebration of the blessing of the fleet in Provincetown.

As Portuguese sailors first reached North America, who could have imagined the determination and productivity of their descendants?

From the familiar faces at the donut counter at Adams drug store, or the enticing aroma of the linguica roll tray at the Portuguese bakery; the immediacy of the response when the firehouse sirens ring, or an SOS crackling over the ship-to-shore; the zeal for the sea and for local history embodied by the Heritage Museum model of the *Rose Dorothea*; even the sometimes life-threatening adventure called Provincetown Town Meeting—from all these, and much more, the tangible tradition of extended family in this extraordinary community makes the blessing and the festival very special celebrations for all of us.

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