

he required help getting in and out of a wheelchair, said former Citrus Commissioner Hank Cohen.

Cohen and his wife, Miriam, visited Mr. Walker in Tampa less than two weeks ago. Mr. Walker's voice was so weak that he wrote his words on paper instead of speaking, Cohen remembered.

Catherine, who is older than Mr. Walker, wheeled him to the window for what turned out to be a last farewell.

"That was a hard," Cohen said, his voice breaking. "We could see him wave through. He waved to us, we waved back. We knew that would be last we saw him."

GOLD STAR AWARDS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, the Matagorda County 4-H will hold an awards program on the 20th of August and this is a very important event Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I have, in the past, pointed out how important an organization 4-H truly is for those of us who were raised on farms and who represent agricultural communities. As I have said in the past Mr. Speaker, one of the primary missions that this organization undertakes is agricultural education. I believe that this mission is so critical that, earlier this year, I introduced a bill which would exempt the sale of livestock by those involved in educational activities such as FFA and 4-H from federal income taxation. By making young men and women who participate in these activities hire a group of tax accountants and attorney we are sending the wrong message. Young people who sell livestock at county fairs and the like should be rewarded for taking self initiative and allowed to keep the money they've earned to help pay for their education or to re-invest in other animals to raise. My bill would eliminate the current policy of forcing these youngsters to visit the tax man.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the following winners of the Gold Star, the highest award possible at the county level, for achievements in competition at state levels, leadership ability, community service and years of service. They are: Kim Evans, Courtney Wallis and Lindsey Kubecka. Again, I want to commend these young people for their achievements.

TO COMMEMORATE THE OPENING OF CHARTER SCHOOLS IN PEM- BROKE PINES, FLORIDA

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the City of Pembroke Pines for responding to our community's concerns regarding the education of our youth. In an effort to ease some of the overcrowding and to better prepare students for the challenges they will face in the new millennium, the City of Pembroke Pines has taken the bold initiative of creating the nation's first elementary charter

school owned and operated by a municipality. On August 29, 1998, Mayor Alex Fekete, Vice Mayor Frank Ortis, City Manager Charles Dodge, and Commissioners William Armstrong and Susan Katz will proudly participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony for this innovative educational facility which represents the first fruition of their vision for greater educational opportunity in South Florida.

As members of the school's advisory board, along with the school principal, parents, and business representatives, they will oversee the day-to-day operation of the school in a partnership that will, as Mayor Fekete so nicely states, "bring education back closer to the people." The school will focus on the core disciplines and modern educational technology. Perhaps more importantly, it will emphasize character development as well as parental and community involvement.

To ensure a nurturing ambiance conducive to intellectual, emotional, and social development, class size will be limited to a maximum of 25 students, and a fully accredited teacher as well as a teacher's aide will be assigned to each class. The school will deliver high quality education while being more cost effective than other schools managed by the district. The per student station cost for the Pembroke Pines Charter School comes to \$8,600 in contrast to the \$13,000 per station average for the state schools.

I commend the efforts of these elected officials, Mayor Alex Fekete, Vice Mayor Frank Ortis, City Manager Charles Dodge, and Commissioners William Armstrong and Susan Katz, who dared to take a step in a new direction. The rest of our country will be closely watching the progress of this new educational alternative and may soon follow the innovative lead of these municipal officials. I share in their excitement because this Charter School provides another creative option for public education. Our future resides in our children, and our schools must commit themselves to excellence as they strive to better prepare them for the next century.

F-1 STUDENTS

HON. BILL MCCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to give American high schools the ability to welcome foreign exchange students into their schools without requiring them to charge tuition. I am pleased to be joined by my colleagues, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts and Mr. PICKETT of Virginia.

It was brought to my attention that individual schools which participate in informal programs to allow foreign exchange students to attend school in the U.S. are required to charge these same students tuition. The F-1 visa is for students who seek to enter the U.S. temporarily and solely to pursue a course of study. Under existing law, even if the school and the local school district do not want to charge the student for accepting an invitation to study in the U.S., the student will not be able to receive an F-1 visa without paying the fee. In some cases, the school, which otherwise would welcome a foreign exchange student, may be deterred from allowing them to

attend due to the administrative burden of administering the fee. In other cases, American schools entering into informal sister-school exchanges with a foreign school may find that they are forced to charge the foreign student tuition while the American student is attending their sister-school for free.

This tuition requirement does not apply to foreign students who come to the U.S. to study in a program designated by the Director of the United States Information Agency (USIA). These students receive a J visa and are not required to reimburse the school for the cost of their attendance. On the other hand, foreign exchange students in the U.S. under an F-1 visa are usually attending school under informal arrangements, with a teacher or parent having invited them to spend time in the U.S. as a gesture of American hospitality and goodwill. Some schools participate in informal sister-school exchanges where one of their students will go abroad and the school in turn will sponsor a foreign student here. Although these are informal, flexible, private arrangements between schools and students that are not designated by the USIA, they are no less valuable in developing goodwill and greater understanding among people of different nations. In many cases, it simply does not make sense to charge tuition to foreign exchange students simply because they have an F-1 visa rather than a J visa.

The legislation I am introducing today will give schools the ability to have the Attorney General waive the F-1 visa tuition fee requirement. Schools that certify that the waiver will promote the educational interest of the local educational agency and will not impose an undue financial burden on the agency will be able to allow foreign exchange students to attend without charging a fee. On the other hand, schools that do not want to waive the fee will still be able to collect it. This legislation will simply give schools added flexibility to sponsor foreign exchange students without limiting the right of schools to collect needed fees. I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation.

MR. STARR DEPARTS HIS PRI- VATE PRACTICE FAR TOO LATE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr announced his decision to take an unpaid leave of absence from his partnership at the well known law firm of Kirkland & Ellis. This decision has been a long time in coming: Mr. Starr's work with his law firm was often a direct conflict of interest with his work as Independent Counsel.

Mr. Starr had been earning up to one million per year and sometimes more for his services as a partner in the firm. Whether or not this steady source of income from private practice allowed him the luxury to drag on an investigation that is going into its fifth year and has cost American taxpayers more than forty million is a matter that is not entirely clear. In the meantime, Mr. Starr has taken on additional law clients and handled their legal matters notwithstanding criticism from some of his allies

and even a few within the law firm who felt it more appropriate that he spend his time on his government responsibilities as Independent Counsel. This does not take into account the additional time he has devoted to academic teaching and public speaking appearances unrelated to either his private law practice or his governmental duties.

It has also been observed that some of Mr. Starr's private representation has been in conflict with his duties as independent counsel. For example, his firm has represented the Republican party. He has also represented tobacco companies, an industry that the Clinton Administration has exposed for misleading and fraudulent tactics, and other corporations that have been in opposition to the Clinton administration policies or have been under scrutiny by federal agencies. In another instance, one or more of Mr. Starr's law partners has worked with the lawyers of Paula Jones. Notwithstanding the appearance of a potential conflict of interest, the law firm of which the Independent Counsel was a member took no dispositive action to remedy the situation. Even the legal ethics advisor to the Independent Counsel, Mr. Sam Dash, said that Mr. Starr's representation of private clients "had an odor to it."

Why would Mr. Starr leave his firm at this point in time as he moves into the fifth year of his prosecutorial responsibilities? Mr. Starr has explained that wrapping up the investigation will be a full-time job. This explanation may betray a failure on his part to understand that during the preceding four years, the investigation should always have been a full-time job. The beginning of his work should have been as important as the end of his work.

It is certainly high time that Mr. Starr has resigned from private practice. It should have come much sooner. Perhaps now the investigation will proceed, and the American people will be able to put the controversies created by allegations of Mr. Starr's abuses and excesses behind them in the near future. Regardless of these reservations about Mr. Starr's belated departure from his private practice, we can assure him and our colleagues that whatever report he submits to Congress will be given a careful and non-political examination. The House Committee on the Judiciary is committed to discharging its responsibilities in a way that will satisfy every citizen of our seriousness and commitment to due process for both the President and the Independent Counsel.

REGARDING H. RES. 507

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, on July 30, 1998 Congressman HOEKSTRA stated during the debate on House Resolution 507 that "two IBT employees wearing green uniforms delivered an industrial size shredder to the office of the IBT communication director, Matt Witt, during the week of July 13, 1998, and that the noise of the shredder operating in that office could be heard on Saturday, July 18, when Mr. Witt was in the building." Later that afternoon, at the Committee on Education and the Workforce's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations hearing, this accusation was again repeated by the Majority's co-lead

counsel Vicki Toensing who also alleged that Mr. Witt had resigned.

In an effort to determine the merit of these charges, during a break in the hearing, I met with Mr. Witt. I found him to be appalled by the criminalizations, which he stated had no merit. He asked that he be able to address the Subcommittee in order to deny the charges against him under oath. He told me that he would deny that he had resigned, would deny having a shredder delivered to his office, and would deny being in the building or shredding documents on July 18th. At the resumption of the hearing, Representative SCOTT asked for unanimous consent to permit Mr. Witt to deny the outrageous charges against him. Congressman HOEKSTRA refused to permit Mr. Witt the opportunity to deny the allegations, objecting to the unanimous consent request and ruling the Minority's motion out of order.

Unfortunately, this irresponsible allegation by the Majority has cast grave doubt on the Subcommittee's investigation. The Majority has made a serious allegation of criminal behavior and then refused to permit the person maligned an opportunity to rebut the charges. Rather than admit that their charges were baseless, the Majority refused to allow the individual about whom they made their allegation the right to defend himself. I find this unworthy of a Congressional investigation.

LAS CASAS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I want to share with my colleagues the positive impact that can be made by people who care. In East Dallas, there's a small neighborhood that makes a great impact in the lives of many. The Las Casas Neighborhood Association, which is headed by the indomitable Mary Malone, has grown exponentially since its inception, and it has made that part of East Dallas safer and better for everyone in that community and in surrounding areas.

Early in its tenure, the Las Casas Neighborhood Association consisted of a few interested neighbors meeting occasionally to discuss problems in their community. Thanks to Mary Malone, the group has begun to meet more regularly, and its annual meeting draws as many as 300 people. At one time, this simple, neighborhood meeting drew more than 500 people.

Each year, Mary Malone's Las Casas Neighborhood Association annual meeting is the gathering of those interested in making a difference. From fighting crime to improving traffic safety, the Las Casas Neighborhood Association meeting joins residents of East Dallas, elected representatives, and public officials to discuss the status of efforts to improve the neighborhood and the lives of the families that live there. I know that the Mayor of Dallas, Ron Kirk, will be in attendance, as will members of the Dallas police force.

Mr. Speaker, I have the honor of acting as the Master of Ceremonies at this year's Las Casas Neighborhood Association annual meeting. Since 1993, I have been deeply involved with the Association and the Dallas Po-

lice Department in the fight against crime and drug activity in the neighborhood. And it's my honor to join Mary Malone, the President of the Association, because she has sacrificed to help so many others.

Mary Malone has been honored with a proclamation by the State of Texas. She has been honored by the Dallas Police Department, and I had the pleasure of attending an event in her honor at the East Dallas Rotary. There is not enough room in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to name the things she has done for the Las Casas Neighborhood or the awards she has received to honor her work. But I want my colleagues to know that, when friends, neighbors, and families join in an effort to improve their lives, we can make a difference. And there is no better example of this than the Las Casas Neighborhood Association and Mary Malone.

STEVE HORNİK HONORED BY MONMOUTH-OCEAN CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, August 19, at the Breakers in Spring Lake, NJ, Mr. Steve Hornik will be honored by his many friends at a testimonial dinner on the occasion of his retirement as President of the Monmouth-Ocean Counties Central Labor Council.

Mr. Speaker, Steve Hornik has been President of the Monmouth-Ocean Council for more than 25 years. His has been a career in which he came up through the ranks, serving the labor movement at virtually every level. Through it all, he has put first and foremost the needs of working men and women, whose interests he has defended so staunchly for decades. Indeed, you could say that his enthusiasm and dedication for fighting for working people is in his blood. His father, Stephen, was a truck driver and is a retired member of the Teamsters Union. His mother, Frances, was a counter girl at Woolworth's, who walked picket lines to try to organize her co-workers, and later became a member of Local 56, the United Food and Commercial Workers Union (U.F.C.W.).

Steve Hornik first became a charter union member when he was 14 years old while working at Yankee Stadium and the Polo Grounds as a vendor for Harry M. Stevens Concessions, where he helped to organize his fellow workers. He was later a member of the Teamsters Union Local 814, then the Mailers Union of the big six Newspaper Guild at the New York Times and John Sweeney's Local 32A, working nights while going to school. He later went to work at the Maxwell House Coffee Plant in Hoboken, NJ, where he became a member of Local 56, Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen's Union of North America, which has since merged to become the U.F.C.W.

Steve Hornik has been a member of Local 56 for 40 years, during which time he moved up the ranks from Alternate Department Steward and Department Steward of 250 members, then Chief Steward of the plant of 1,200 members, after which he was put on the Local 56 staff as Organizer, Business Representative,