

Benny Hadnot; mother-in-law, Edith Del Prete; brother-in-law, Gino Del Prete. He was preceded in death by his son James, Jr. He will be missed by his family, friends, colleagues and the community.

TRIBUTE TO SOPHIE MADEJ

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sophie Madej, a remarkable woman, a Polish-American from Chicago who recently closed the doors to her neighborhood diner, The Busy Bee Restaurant. Ms. Madej's Busy Bee was a beloved community gathering place for 33 years. Ms. Madej purchased the restaurant in 1965, fourteen years after she courageously immigrated to the United States from Germany. Her country of birth was Poland though, a land which she was forced to flee in 1943 due to the Nazi's labor laws. Ms. Madej, who recently turned seventy on July 5, plans on visiting her homeland during her retirement.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I submit today, for the record, an article from The Chicago Sun-Times that acknowledges the work of Sophie Madej and the closing of her Busy Bee Restaurant. Although, the Busy Bee will be missed, all of those who dined there will have many lasting memories. May I wish Ms. Madej continued happiness and success.

RETIREMENT OF THOMAS SHIVELY

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished gentleman in my district who has performed commendable service to the U.S. Air Force.

On Friday, August 7, 1998, Colonel Thomas L. Shively, Commander, Air Force Cataloging and Standardization Center (CASC), in Battle Creek, Michigan, will retire from active duty after over twenty-six years of service in our U.S. Armed Forces. Also on this day CASC will be deactivated and Michigan will lose its last remaining active duty Air Force installation.

Colonel Shively served as CASC Commander from September, 1996 to August of this year. During that time, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with him and his staff on issues facing the CASC and all cataloging operations at the Federal Center.

Tom served as the Air Force's representative to the Department of Defense's Cataloging and Centralization Study which selected Battle Creek as the site at which to centralize all cataloging operations. Colonel Shively and the men and women of CASC, along with the Defense Logistics Service Center, now known as the Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS), were instrumental in the decision-making process to locate the new cataloging center in Battle Creek in March of 1997.

Mr. Speaker, it should be readily apparent that Colonel Thomas Shively accomplished much during his tenure as Commander. CASC has been a leader in improving its operations through automation, process improvements, and entrepreneurship, which has resulted in improved efficiency throughout the organization. As the Air Force has moved away from focusing on measuring processes to measuring performance, CASC has been a role model for the extensive customer service oriented approach it has taken over the last several years.

The men and women of CASC have become experts at what they do. So much so that today they handle cataloging functions for the National Weather Service and the Federal Aviation Administration, and, at this time, are negotiating contracts with other agencies as well.

CASC also has put its expertise to work to help identify those Missing in Action during the Vietnam War by matching aircraft parts to the corresponding aircraft, which in turn help identify the crews aboard those planes.

Colonel Shively also reduced the work force by over one hundred people without involuntary separation and streamlined the budget for 1998 saving taxpayers over \$3.7 million, which was returned to the Air Force Material Command to meet other budget shortfalls. These are examples of the bold and responsible leadership Colonel Shively has demonstrated and what others have come to expect from him.

Colonel Shively also has been an active member of our Battle Creek community. He is a member of the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, the American Business Clubs (AMBUCS), the Knights of Columbus, Character Counts, a volunteer at the Veteran's Administration Hospital, a speaker before numerous groups, and a member of St. Phillip's Catholic Church.

Colonel Shively plans to remain in the Battle Creek area to become the Assistant Director of the Battle Creek Area Math and Science Center. I am confident that the bright and talented students of the Math and Science Center will benefit from the same type of leadership that Tom has given CASC over the years.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, Bonnie and I salute Colonel Shively and wish him, his wife Barbara and their two children the very best in the years to come. On behalf of my constituents in Calhoun County, I also offer Colonel Shively my profound thanks for a job well done.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, MR. STARR

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, anniversaries are typically a time for reflection—a time to think about where we came from and where we are going. Yesterday was the fourth anniversary of Mr. Starr's \$40 million investigation of the President, and it is appropriate that we take a moment to reflect upon what the Independent Counsel has done over the years, and what he is doing now.

Four years ago, Mr. Starr was appointed by the Special Division of the D.C. Circuit to look into allegations of wrongdoing involving an Ar-

kansas land deal called Whitewater. While he did obtain several convictions and guilty pleas in that case, I think it is wrong that he has never publicly cleared either the President or First Lady. His role as Independent Counsel is not simply to charge wrongdoers with crimes, but to clear the innocent when the facts warrant it. When the Whitewater grand jury in Arkansas finished its business months ago without any further indictments, a duty arose to publicly clear the President and First Lady of the public smears that have been made against them.

Two-and-a-half years ago, Mr. Starr turned his attention to the firing of the White House Travel Office, the so-called Travelgate matter. So far, we have not heard a peep from the Independent Counsel on Travelgate, even though it is widely reported that there has not been any grand jury activity on that front for some time. Once again, Mr. Starr has not admitted to the public that the President and First Lady were innocent of any wrongdoing.

Two years ago, Mr. Starr's investigation expanded again, this time to whether White House staff may have misused confidential FBI files, the so-called Filegate matter. As with Travelgate, we have not heard anything from Mr. Starr on this topic, even though there does not seem to have been any grand jury activity in some time. But again, no steps have been taken to publicly clear anyone in the White House.

Now, as we know, Mr. Starr is investigating the President's sex life. That is unheard of in the history of American politics. I think George McGovern said it best this week when he remarked that "this whole Ken Starr shenanigan is a disgrace to the Republic. I find it almost impossible to believe that we have a publicly-paid sex policeman roving around this country."

I couldn't have said it better. After four full years and \$40 million, we are investigating things that are strictly the business of the President and the First Lady, and no one else. Mr. Starr, if you are going to send a report to Congress, send a report. But let's not drag this never-ending investigation on toward another unprecedented and unnecessary anniversary.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on July 18, 1998 the African-American Civil War Memorial was dedicated in Washington, DC. This memorial pays tribute to the Black soldiers who fought in the Union Army to end slavery and preserve the United States of America as one nation committed to freedom and justice for all. Among the words of praise given for these brave souls was a poem written by San Francisco columnist and civic leader Noah Griffin. I submit for the RECORD To The Massachusetts 54th, In Memoriam, a tribute to one of the black regiments which fought in the Civil War.

TO THE MASSACHUSETTS 54TH IN MEMORIAM
When the drumbeat and the fife subside
And the celebration's done,

When the memory of the men who died
Both North and South is one.

This regiment will still shine forth
In annals of the free:
The Massachusetts Fifty-Fourth
Who fought for Liberty.

Abe Lincoln had refused to act,
Moreover, Stanton too.
The one to recognize the fact
Was the Governor John Andrew.

He fought to do what saved the war:
Bring Blacks into the fray.
For up 'til then there'd been a bar
By both the Blue and Grey.

When Lincoln signed the document
Which brought Emancipation,
The administration did relent,
Accompanying authorization.

From the Commonwealth the call rang out:
"Come Colored Men to Arms."
Amid the ridicule and doubt
They answered war's alarm.

They came from city and the farm;
Left sweethearts, wives and mothers
To wear that Union uniform,
And free their shackled brothers.

From every state they filled the roll,
From Maryland to Maine.
The Gov'nor more than reached his goal,
The mandate now was plain:

To show that these Black fighting men
Were equal to the task:
To never have to prove again;
To never have to ask.

They served for less than equal pay,
Accepting none, 'til righted.
Enlisted, they remained to stay,
Their honor yet unblighted.

Eli George Biddle, Edward Hines
And Sergeant William Carney:
The knowledge of whom redefines
The Northern Grand Old Army.

Andrew had turned to Robert Shaw
To lead this regiment.
For in this bold Brahmin he saw
The strength of firm commitment.

The men trained with exactitude,
To Milit'ry precision.
With courage, strength and fortitude
They faced their disposition.

Fort Wagner in South Caroline
Would prove their maiden test,
To see if courage would align
By bringing forth the best

From Blacks who fought to free the slave,
For Justice and the Right—
These soldiers who when called on gave
New meaning to the Fight.

With neither map nor smooth terrain
They charged the mouth of Hell.
Into the with'ring blast they came
Ignoring shot and shell.

Young Colonel Shaw, while rallying forth
With sword clutched in his hand.
Exhorted, "Onward Fifty Fourth"
His ultimate command.

He died upon the parapet.
He fell amidst his men.
All buried in a common pit,
Returned to earth as kin.

The standard bearer breathed his last;
The flag was going down.
Thrice wounded Carney grabbed it fast:
"It never hit the ground."

This soldier from New Bedford soil,
Who hailed from Company "C"
Half-dead amid the bloody toil,
Dismissed his own safety.

The men fought valiantly that day,
Though victory was denied.
Amid the wreaths and laurels lay
A source of new found pride.

For courage, neither black nor white;

Resides within us all,
When we surrender to our plight
And answer duty's call.

When the drumbeat and the fife subside
And the celebration's done,
And the memory of the men who died
Both North and South is one.

This regiment will still shine forth
In annals of the free:
The Massachusetts Fifty-Fourth.
They died for Liberty.

SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM: AMERICANS SKEPTICAL ABOUT PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, during the past year the President has engaged Americans in a dialogue about the reform of Social Security. This dialog is a precursor to the President and Congress addressing Social Security reform next year.

Last week, President Clinton participated in dialog in Albuquerque, NM, and he outlined five fundamental principles with are essential to Social Security reform. These principles are: universality and fairness, provide a benefit people can count on, continue to protect the disabled and low-income beneficiaries, fiscally disciplined approach, and strengthen and protect the guarantee.

Social Security was created as part of the New Deal and it benefits 44 million elderly and disabled Americans. The system needs to be reformed, but there should not be a shift away from its fundamental principles. Without making changes, the system will be insolvent by 2032.

Many of us in Congress differ on how to fix Social Security. Even a commission assigned with the task of reforming Social Security could not reach a unanimous consensus and instead, reported out three very different solutions. The concept of allowing individuals to place a portion of their payroll tax in a private account has been suggested and serious deliberation needs to occur to understand the consequences such a change would have on the guarantee of the benefit provided by the system.

On July 25, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare released a study which was conducted by Peter Hart Research Associates which surveyed a sample of 1,094 adults and 326 of these individuals were aged 18–34. The survey focused on Social Security and proposals to reform the system which included private accounts. The crux of the survey was Generation Xer's want the Social Security system fixed but oppose tax increases, benefit cuts, and a higher retirement age.

Generation Xer's share the same sentiment as their parents and grandparents in agreeing that "Congress should fix Social Security by strengthening its financial condition, so that future retirees will be guaranteed a reasonable level of benefits." Many believe that younger Americans would like Social Security privatized and invested in individual accounts. This study showed that most Americans including younger Americans want the system fixed and do not think privatization is the answer.

Of all the adults surveyed, 73 percent believe the Social Security system can work for young people when they retire if Congress will strengthen the system's finance and 69 percent of the adults surveyed that were between 18 and 34 years old agree. The survey inquired about private accounts and only 39 percent of those surveyed between 18 and 34 years of age supported allowing individuals to invest their Social Security contributions in the stock market, so that people can manage their accounts. Only 32 percent of all individuals surveyed support private accounts.

This survey helps us realize that Americans are concerned about Social Security, but they do not want the guarantee that is the fundamental principle of Social Security changed. Social Security has become a safety net for retirement for all American workers and we should not take action to weaken this safety net. We should consider all aspects of the Social Security system as we moved forward with the debate on reform.

REGARDING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to, and recognize the anniversary of the historic Voting Right Act, August 6th. It was almost a frightening coincidence that on the anniversary, many of my colleagues were attempting to defeat efforts that would prevent the use of statistical sampling to accurately count America's minorities. The opponents of an accurate count wanted to prevent minorities from being counted because it could indirectly heighten their influence in elections and the drawing of congressional districts. Mr. Speaker, the floor debate did not mark the first time that efforts were used to prevent the political franchisement of African-Americans. Indeed, the very purpose of the creation of the voting rights act was done to address the countless obstacles African-Americans faced in electing their own to Congress.

Before the enactment of the Voting Rights Act, minorities were subjected to these efforts to dilute their voting power: Gerrymandering, removing minorities from voting rolls and even outright threats of bodily harm.

The Voting Rights Act was instrumental in protecting the voting opportunities of minorities. In addition, to the chagrin of those who would like to see the clock of progress turned back, the Voting Rights Act has directly resulted in the fair election of African-Americans to Congress.

However, Mr. Speaker, I stand not only to call attention to the benefits of the Voting Rights Act, but to ask that Americans be ever vigilant in protecting the Voting Rights Act from those who wish to forever confine it to the annals of history.

As the uses and benefits of the Voting Rights Act are forever enduring, so are the attacks and efforts to eliminate it. Unfortunately, there are those who seek to eliminate or weaken the protections provided by the Voting Rights Act. If they are successful, then the wonderful diversity of Congress that mirrors