

mean that when you read of hooded men shouting "Death to Jews" attacking a Jewish soccer team in suburban Paris, as happened recently, it should prompt some profound soul-searching about whether the past has come calling.

IN RECOGNITION OF HAROLD
SNYDER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Harold Snyder who will be celebrating his 80th birthday on April 25, 2002. Mr. Snyder has been a successful business man, a philanthropist, and a visionary.

Harold Snyder was born and raised in New York City. The son of immigrants, he grew up in desperate poverty, often going without adequate food or shelter. With determination and hard work, he helped raise his younger sister and in 1939 graduated from Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn, New York. After graduating, he served his country bravely and proudly in the Air Force from 1941 to 1945. He was able to use the benefits he received from his service to attend New York University, where he graduated in 1948. He then received his Master's degree from Columbia University in 1950.

With his wife Beatrice, Mr. Snyder began a personal and professional partnership that would last 50 years. In 1964, Harold and Beatrice co-founded Biocraft Laboratories, Inc. Under Mr. Snyder's leadership, Biocraft became one of the largest manufacturers of generic drugs in the United States. During the three decades of his tenure as President and Chief Executive Officer, Biocraft also became the first generic drug company listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

In 1996 Biocraft was acquired by Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., the largest pharmaceutical company in Israel. Mr. Snyder now serves on the Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd. Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

Along with his many professional accomplishments, Mr. Snyder was at the forefront of the effort to pass legislation to encourage the use of generic drugs, giving millions of people access to safe and effective low cost drugs. Mr. Snyder is one of the founders of the Pharmaceutical Industry Association and has lectured extensively on pharmaceutical manufacturing at various colleges and universities.

Mr. Snyder enjoyed 50 years with his beloved wife Beatrice, before she passed away in 1998. With their three children, Beryl, Jay and Brian, he formed the Beatrice Snyder Foundation which has championed a number of philanthropic causes, including the Lincoln Center of Performing Arts, the Memorial Sloan Cancer Center and the New York Hospital Medical Center of Queens. The generosity of the Snyder family has also touched the lives of those most greatly affected by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, with their generous support of the September 11 Fund. Most recently, Mr. Snyder sponsored a scholarship to send an inner city high school student to Antarctica to work with scientists. By providing this exceptional opportunity, he

hopes to inspire a talented young person to achieve.

Mr. Speaker, for his many contributions, I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting Mr. Harold Snyder.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM M. VACCA

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding individual, Mr. William M. Vacca, of Totowa, New Jersey, who was recognized on Wednesday, April 17, 2002 for his lifelong dedication to Don Bosco Technical High School in Paterson, New Jersey.

Bill Vacca joined the Athletic Department at Don Bosco as a volunteer in 1970, and has been there ever since. A full time employee in Passaic County's historic textile industry, Bill has dedicated an immeasurable amount to those who make up the Don Bosco Tech family.

It is thus only fitting that he be honored, in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on earth. This is a man who has lived the phrase "give something back."

Born in Paterson on September 29, 1953, to William and Catherine Vacca, Bill attended local public grammar school before moving on to Don Bosco Tech. Upon his graduation in 1970, he immediately began to invest his energies back into the institution he loved. After eleven years as Assistant Athletic Director, Bill Vacca was named Athletic Director in 1981.

Sadly, Don Bosco Tech will be permanently closing its doors later this year. This does not obscure the fact that Bill Vacca, along with so many other caring colleagues, made Don Bosco Tech a special place.

Mr. Speaker, I sent all three of my sons to Don Bosco. I can say without reservation that the work of individuals like Bill Vacca will live on in the faces of those who attended that wonderful school.

While the closing of Don Bosco Technical High School will cause great sadness in the greater Paterson area, it also be a time for celebration. All those touched by Bill Vacca and the Don Bosco community will treasure the memories and honor the successes they achieved.

The job of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing the efforts of individuals like Bill Vacca.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the City of Paterson, Bill's family and friends, the Don Bosco Technical High School family, and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service of William M. Vacca.

HONORING CALHOUN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor to the Calhoun High School "We the

People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" team from Port Lavaca, Calhoun County, Texas. Under the exemplary leadership of Gennie Burleson Westbrook, the 2001-2002 Calhoun High School team placed third in the statewide competition held on January 5, 2002, at the University of Texas Law School in Austin, Texas, which was hosted by the State Bar of Texas. The team included the following students: Karin Chen, Candice Cook, Chelsea Ghiselin, Tiffany Harvey, Kimberlee Hobizal, Major Hoffman, Stephen Jedlicka, Scott Kelly, Josh McClellan, Thomas Nguyen, Matt Thomas, Vanessa Thorne, and Andrew Wu.

The "We the People" program was begun in 1987, with the goal of enhancing students' understanding of the institutions of American constitutional democracy, while guiding them to discover modern day applications of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. It is a time consuming study requiring many hours of preparation, both in and out of the classroom. Each participant takes a multiple-choice test, and prepares for a simulated Congressional hearing in which students "testify" before a panel of judges.

Following a prepared five-minute presentation covering specific topics demonstrating their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principals, the judges quizzed the students with thought-provoking questions pertaining to their subject. The students took and defended their positions, using both historic and contemporary examples.

Preparation for the state contest also required assistance from members of the community who came forward to volunteer to work with the team members. I salute the following volunteers: Connie Hunt, Mark Daigle, Shannon Salyer, Britney Salyer, Edris Montalvo, Darren Hartl, Joane McDonough, Phillip Swope, and Larry Nichols.

I am proud to have these students in the 14th Congressional District of Texas. I am proud of the commitment to excellence and perseverance shown by each student. I am proud of the support shown by the parents and volunteers which helped them reach for their goal.

I trust all my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2001-2002 "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" team on their third place win in state competition.

MEDIA MERGERS ATE OUR NEWS

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention an excellent article that recently ran in Seven Days, a weekly newspaper in Burlington, Vermont. The article discusses the increasingly superficial reporting and a growing conservative agenda dominating the nation's televisions, radios and newspapers. The article also highlights a Congressional Town Meeting that I held to discuss the topic of corporate control of the media.

[From the Seven Days, Apr. 24, 2002]

MEDIA MERGERS ATE OUR NEWS!

(By Susan Green)

The families flocking to Palmer? Here are some of the things that took place last

Thursday: An Amtrak train derailed in Florida. Families of Flight 93 passengers listened to the September 11 cockpit voice recording. The Senate defeated a Bush administration proposal to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. And four Canadian soldiers were killed by American "friendly fire" in Afghanistan.

But what did all three cable news channels—CNN, MSNBC and Fox—spend the night broadcasting? The arrest in Los Angeles of actor Robert Blake for murder. Their reports included his entire uneventful 40-minute ride to the police station.

"We're inundated with scandal and sensationalism in the media. Important topics get very little attention," suggests U.S. Congressman Bernie Sanders, who is alarmed that just a few multinational corporations "own and control the flow of information in the United States."

This week Sanders will come home to host "The Media and Democracy," two back-to-back forums on what he sees as increasingly superficial reporting and a growing right-wing agenda dominating the nation's television, radio and newspapers. The town-meeting-style discussions, on Sunday in Montpelier and Monday in Burlington, will feature Robert McChesney and John Nichols, co-authors of *It's the Media Stupid*.

Sanders and his two guests are particularly alarmed that a handful of media outlets—AOL/Time-Warner, Fox, NBC and Viacom—recently won a lawsuit to abolish a longstanding Federal Communications Commission rule that prohibited cable companies from acquiring local TV stations. In addition, any one company may soon be able to provide television service to more than 35 percent of the nation's households, an arrangement that was previously forbidden. Smells like a monopoly.

"I'm organizing members of Congress to justify why it's important to maintain those rules," Sanders explains. "Radio was deregulated in 1996, and that's been a disaster. Big companies, like Clear Channel, have bought up hundreds of locally owned stations across the country. Talk radio is now completely dominated by the Right. It's a very frightening situation." Of the 1225 stations Texas-owned Clear Channel owns nationwide 10 are in Vermont, four of those in the Burlington market—WCPV, WEZF, WJVT, and WXZO. Independents like Ken Squier find it challenging to compete. "They've got all the syndicated shows we might want and they go after the same advertising dollars," says the head of Radio Vermont, a family of stations that includes WKDR, WCVT and WDEV. "Vermont Public Radio is also a problem. They are government-subsidized but hitting on the same sponsors we do."

Vermont's radio wars make more noise than corresponding battles in the print media. For one thing, there are fewer paper soldiers. The Burlington Free Press, purchased by the Virginia-based Gannett Corporation from a local publisher in the 1970s, maintains a moderate political tone in a one-daily town.

But "following the standard corporate line," as Sanders puts it, may explain why the largest newspaper in Vermont never took a stand on the civil-union controversy, while David Moats at the independently owned Rutland Herald won a Pulitzer Prize for his editorials advocating equal rights for gay couples.

Author John Nichols, a Washington correspondent for *The Nation*, believes that the impending changes in FCC regulations "could have a profound effect on corporations like Gannett." Despite owning 95 daily newspapers, 22 TV stations and the flagship national publication *USA Today*, the company is "not a major player" compared with

an outsized media mogul like Rupert Murdoch, says Nichols. Sanders asserts that the Australian honcho is an "extreme right-winger" who is "pushing the other media to the right." The U.S. holdings include *The New York Post* and Fox. Murdoch's News Corp. is fifth on a list of media monopolists, after Time Warner, Disney and Viacom. General Electric ranks seventh. Nichols thinks it's probably just a matter of time before News Corp. or an equivalent mega-media organization grabs Gannett and turns all the little Free Press-like rags into strident conservative mouthpieces.

Of course, many Americans are getting out of the reading habit altogether. Television rules. Sanders points out that the three area network affiliates, WVNY, WPTZ and WCAX, are cogs in the machinery of giant conglomerates: Disney's ABC, GE's NBC and Viacom's CBS, respectively.

Dianne Lynch, chair of the journalism department at St. Michael's College in Colchester, suspects Sanders is "right about mainstream TV," but, she suggests, "mainstream TV is no longer our only choice in getting information."

As someone who's professionally "wired"—she writes a column about women and technology for ABC.com—Lynch sees the Internet as a wellspring of diverse voices, along with cable television and many small publications. "When I was growing up, we only had four television channels to choose from. Today, I can get the BBC on my cable channel or read *The London Times* online," she says. "People looking for a range of opinions know where to go for them."

Nichols and McChesney believe those diverse views should come to us more easily—and claim it's not too late to make sure they do. "We are actually at a critical transition point," Nichols observes. If the 800-pound gorillas get their way, he contends, "in places like Burlington, newspapers, cable companies, TV and radio stations could all be owned by the same company. That's not healthy—and I'm not overstating the case. We must be vigilant. A lot can be done at the grassroots level."

That's where Nichols, now 41, got his start. As a kid, he wrote for weekly newspapers in rural Wisconsin. "I'd take a camera and ride my bike to every little town meeting," he recalls. "Apart from a few deviations into rock bands, journalism is what I've done all my life."

In addition to the book he wrote with Robert McChesney, a University of Illinois research professor, Nichols penned last year's *Jews for Buchanan*, about the 2000 presidential election fiasco in Florida. The duo teamed up again for *Our Media, Not Theirs*, a sequel to *It's the Media, Stupid* due out this fall.

McChesney hosts "Media Matters," a weekly radio AM program in his home state. He's also written or edited a total of eight books, including *Rich Media, Poor Democracy: Communication Politics in Dubious Times*, which was published two years ago. Like Nichols, he has rock 'n' roll roots. In 1979 McChesney founded a Seattle music magazine, *The Rocket*, that helped give birth to the grunge scene.

Not surprisingly, both men advocate self-empowerment. "The American people own the broadcast airways," Nichols says.

"We have not begun to exercise our legitimate authority. But first, we have to think about what we would like. Once we imagine a media we want, then we can act. We have the ability to develop BBC-quality programming."

Nichols acknowledges that the "unmitigated crap" now on TV should not be censored, however. "I'm not saying that, in my perfect media world, all we'd do is sit

around and watch PBS. It doesn't mean everything has to be of redeeming value. I just want citizens to understand they have a right to demand better."

"Jerry Springer," "Fear Factor" and "Judge Judy" should take note: Mindless programs can co-exist with more intellectual offerings. "But that lowest-common-denominator media does affect public policy," Nichols says. "Stations like Fox have such jingoistic and irresponsible journalism. The Florida recount coverage was woefully inept, driven by the spin of the Democratic and the Republican camps. That's what happens when you have bad media."

Nichols, who has written for the *New York Times* and other prestigious publications also warns, "Until we get a better media, a lot of work we do on fundamental issues will go for naught. Without a media that allows diverse voices, it's going to be hard to get the message out on all other important struggles."

MSNBC runs a promo that boasts it's a channel "with so many different points of view, one of them is bound to be yours." But it's unlikely any of them is Bernie's. Sanders asserts that both newspapers and cable channels fail to present a true leftist or even balanced perspective. Programs devoted to serious news only explore opinions ranging from the center to the extreme right.

Oliver North, the Marine colonel who masterminded much of the covert and seemingly illegal Iran-Contra dealings in the '80s, has been recruited by Fox News to command his own talk show. Not to be outdone, MSNBC boasts Alan Keyes, an ultra-conservative candidate in the last presidential election, now offering nightly punditry. CNN's "Crossfire" always manages to find arch Republican cheerleaders like Robert Novak who can overpower even formidable Democratic operatives like James "Ragin' Cajun" Carville.

Yet the tone of debate—when there is any—tends to be purposely theatrical. "Politics has become entertainment," Sanders laments. Nobody's talking about the nuts and bolts, he argues. "Despite all the hoopla over the economy, Americans are working longer hours for less wages. People have two or three jobs. That doesn't sound like a boom economy to me. Who's focussing on the plight of the middle class? It's a good issue, right? It's never discussed. The richest 1 percent owns more wealth than the bottom 95 percent does. Ever hear that on a TV program?"

Ditto for unionization, health care and a plethora of other themes neglected in favor of shallow examinations of movie stars who murder their wives, or the personal indiscretions of political figures. "We get endless coverage of sex, celebrity and crime," Sanders says.

He wonders why right-leaning news outfits have become so influential when "we are really a centrist country. Al Gore and Ralph Nader got a few million more votes than Bush, so actually we might be a hair to the left." Even in left-leaning Vermont, Sanders laments the dearth of progressive voices on the radio.

As one of only two Independents in the House of Representatives—Virgil Goode, Jr. of Virginia is the other—Sanders worries that the very notion of independence is being erased from what Americans see, hear and read. He compares the media monopoly by the Communist Party in the former Soviet union to today's corporate totalitarianism here.

The motivation is different, though. "If the progressive point of view was a marketplace seller, you would find it everywhere," Lynch suggests. "I do think everything's market-driven. Welcome to the world."

Whatever the agenda, Sanders sees diversity of viewpoints itself as crucial to our way of life. In a brochure announcing his "Media and Democracy" town meetings, he writes, "If just a few corporations are allowed to control both production and distribution of the news and programming across America, democracy itself is in danger." In a world in which cable companies, TV stations and local newspapers are all merged, "Millions of Americans will be receiving virtually all of their information from a single source," he points out.

Though she is also wary of "media consolidation," Lynch is more skeptical about championing the alternatives. "We have to be careful not to idealize independent ownership," she says. "Commercial pressures do not go away when you're individually owned. You don't suddenly have total freedom of expression, freedom from the marketplace. The homogeneity of the message is as much about commercial pressure as it is about corporate structure."

But Nichols hails the Green Mountain State as one of last bastions of media liberty. "Look at the Rutland Herald, a Pulitzer Prize-winning small newspaper. Vermont ain't perfect, but it's better than many places in the country. You still have a lot of locally owned operations. Things aren't so bad there."

Halfway around the globe, there's evidence of a movement to create a people's media. Nichols has spent time in New Zealand, which is "expanding the number of radio stations in the public sphere." He touts a station operated by the island nation's indigenous Maori people, and another "run by and for those under the age of 25."

In this corner of New England, "an individual state can have a lot of impact," Nichols adds. "You guys can really be part of a solution. Why not increase public funding for public radio or create an all-news-all-the-time station? In the little state of Vermont, there is a lot you can do. If one place does it right, you can dramatically influence the rest of America."

Congressman Bernie Sanders, Robert McChesney and John Nichols weigh in on "The Media and Democracy" on Sunday, April 28, 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church in Montpelier; and Monday, April 29, 7:30 p.m. at the CC Theater in Billings Student Center at the University of Vermont. A special free media workshop for teachers, and students and community members will be held on Monday at 4 p.m. in Waterman's Memorial Lounge at UVM.

IN RECOGNITION OF SENATOR ROY M. GOODMAN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to State Senator Roy M. Goodman, who was one of the most effective legislators ever to serve the East Side of Manhattan. Senator Goodman has devoted his career to making New York City a better place to live. His decision to retire from office has cost East Siders a remarkable leader and a renowned champion of the Arts.

A stalwart supporter of civic and community causes, Senator Goodman served 33 years in the State Senate. In recognition of his leadership skills, he was appointed the Senate's Deputy Majority Leader for Policy. During his

tenure in Albany, more than 1,200 of the bills of which he was a sponsor became law.

Senator Goodman's major initiatives have included sponsorship of legislation to increase police patrols and toughen gun and ammunition controls; provide tax fairness for the owners of co-ops and condos; expand women's right to choose; increase protections against domestic violence; cut the state income and corporate taxes; provide better housing and tenant protection; protect children against abuse; combat discrimination; and expedite school construction. In addition, Senator Goodman was often chosen to be lead sponsor of the Mayor's proposals to increase state aid for New York City.

As the leading legislative advocate of the arts in New York State, he was Chairman of the Senate Special Committee on the Arts and Cultural Affairs. He is legendary for his success in obtaining state funding for New York's museums and cultural organizations. Senator Goodman was also appointed by President Bush and unanimously approved by the U.S. Senate as a member of the National Endowment for the Arts Council, on the basis of his distinguished service and eminence in the arts. In 1996, he was named Ambassador for the Arts by the National Endowment for the Arts in recognition of his unwavering support of the arts and cultural affairs.

From 1972 through 1975, Senator Goodman served as the Chairman of the New York State Charter Revision Commission for New York City, which significantly revised City government structure. In 1977, he was the Republican candidate for Mayor of New York City.

Father of three and grandfather of three, Senator Goodman received an A.B. degree with Honors from Harvard College in 1951 and a Master's Degree with Distinction from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration in 1953. He received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Pratt Institute.

Senator Goodman serves on the boards of the Carnegie Hall Corporation, Temple Emanu-El, and M & T Bank Corporation. He is also a member of the Harvard Overseer's Visiting Committee for the John F. Kennedy School of Government and a Fellow for Life of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Additionally, he is President of the Goodman Family Foundation, a philanthropic trust. Senator Goodman will continue to play significant role in public life as CEO and President of the United Nations Development Corporation. I look forward to working with him in his new capacity.

In recognition of his many outstanding achievements, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring State Senator Roy M. Goodman. Senator Goodman's years of devoted public service shine as a model for us all.

HONORING SAN MARCOS HIGH SCHOOL

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor to the San Marcos High School "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" team from San Marcos, Hays County, Texas.

Under the exemplary leadership of Paula Wolking and Leslie Wiederhold, the 2001-2002 Calhoun High School team placed second in the statewide competition held on January 5, 2002, at the University of Texas Law School in Austin, Texas, which was hosted by the State Bar of Texas. The team included the following 29 seniors: Kelli Avila, Jason Baen, Marisa Bell-Metereau, Erin Blum, Paul Buntyn, Mariah Campbell, Amy Carlson, John David Carson, Samantha Charleston, Justyn Contreras, Heather Davis, Jacob Delgado, Veronica De La Garza, Matt Diaz, Shelby Eastland, Jessica Gifford, Megan Hansen, Kari Howe, J R Manrique, Rachel Martin, Genesis McCoo, Jenny Morrison, Lani Ogle, Valerie Perez, Amara Richardson, Orlando Sanchez, Francesca Scanio, Kim Spire, and Joshua Yanity.

The "We the People" program was begun in 1987, with the goal of enhancing students' understanding of the institutions of American constitutional democracy, while guiding them to discover modern day applications of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. It is a time consuming study requiring many hours of preparation, both in and out of the classroom. Each participant takes a multiple-choice test, and prepared for a simulated Congressional hearing in which students "testify" before a panel of judges.

Following a prepared five-minute presentation covering specific topics demonstrating their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principals, the judges quizzed the students with thought-provoking questions pertaining to their subject. The students took and defended their positions, using both historic and contemporary examples.

I am proud to have these students in the 14th Congressional District of Texas. I am proud of the commitment to excellence and perseverance shown by each student. I am proud of the support shown by the parents and volunteers which helped them reach their goal.

I trust all my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2001-2002 "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" team on their second place win in state competition.

CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION ACT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 476, the Child Custody Protection Act, is an important measure that Congress should pass and allow President Bush to sign. Transporting minors across State lines for abortions to circumvent State parental involvement laws is a widespread problem in our country.

In this Country we, as citizens, do not allow our minor children to drive a car, to buy alcohol, or cigarettes, or even to vote. How can we as parents allow minor children to travel across certain State lines to obtain an abortion, without parental consent?

The purpose of the Child Custody Protection Act is twofold. The first is to protect the health and safety of young girls by preventing valid and constitutional State parental involvement laws from being circumvented. This is not a Federal parental involvement law. This plainly