

While James Sherman has retired, and his wife Hazel has passed away, the Sherman family continues to operate The Clarkston News, The Oxford Leader, The Lake Orion Review, and Ortonville-Goodrich area's The Citizen. The group also publishes three weekly "shoppers" guides, two in Oakland County and one in southern Lapeer County.

The three Sherman children who grew up in the business are owners today, sharing supervision of day-to-day operations; and James Sherman continues, even in retirement, to delight readers by writing his popular weekly column, "Jim's Jottings."

The Shermans are part of the very fabric of life in their communities, deeply appreciated as community leaders who help local causes, contribute to local charities, and employ local residents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the commitment and achievements of The Clarkston News on its 75th anniversary and the James and Hazel Sherman family on the occasion of their 50th anniversary in the community newspaper business. They are truly deserving of our respect and admiration.

MAX LYON—DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the passing of a fine man, long-time Alaskan Max Lyon. Max was from Fairbanks, where he was the Director of Transportation for the Fairbanks North Star Borough. In this job, Max managed transportation and environmental issues for the Borough. He loved his job and did it well; he will be badly missed by his many friends and coworkers in Fairbanks.

Max was born in 1947 in Owosso, Michigan, but he grew up in DeKalb, Illinois. He was an avid sportsman. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and flying, and was a life member and Board President of the Tanana Valley Sportsmen's Association. He was a devoted husband and father, a community leader, and a good friend to many long-time Fairbanksians.

Before becoming an Alaskan, Max served his nation honorably in Vietnam. Immediately after graduation from high school, Max enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and was trained as a jet-engine mechanic. He was sent to Viet Nam where he was stationed at DaNang Air Base. During his tour in Viet Nam, Max volunteered his time to teach English to Vietnamese students and was known as "Teacher" to many of them. He received an honorable discharge in 1969.

That year, Max went to work in Sycamore, Illinois, where he met his future wife, Diane Leonhard. They married on May 16, 1970. In 1973, Max went to work for American Transit, which in 1977 sent him on a temporary assignment to Fairbanks to establish their first city transit system. That was the company's big mistake. Max and Diane fell in love with Alaska, and at the end of the 18-month assignment, Max resigned from American Transit and stayed in his adopted home for the rest of his life.

Over the next several years, Max worked as a mechanic and service manager on heavy duty trucks and then went to work for Dixon's Gun Shop. In 1982, Max bought the gun shop and owned it until 1985, when he sold it to build his dream house, a log home overlooking Fairbanks.

The Borough hired Max as Assistant Transportation Director in 1989, and he soon was promoted to Transportation Director, a job he held under several Borough Mayors until his untimely death this past weekend. Max was a member of the Elks, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and was a life member of the National Rifle Association.

Max loved the outdoors. It was what drew him to Alaska and kept him here. He loved his hunting and fishing camp near Kobuk, in interior Alaska; he spent as much time there in the Spring and Fall as he could. He also loved Baja California, where he planned to spend the winter months during a richly deserved retirement. He had just broken ground on a new house there.

Most of all, Max loved his family—his wife, Diane; his children Kristine and Andrew; his grandchildren Jordan and Jack; his mother Marlene; and his siblings Terry, Tim, Peggy, Cheryl, Robin, and Melissa. Lu and I send our deepest sympathies to them in their hour of loss. We hope they are comforted by the memory of Max's very full life, and of his many friends and admirers. I consider myself one of them.

URGING ALBANIAN AUTHORITIES TO HOLD FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing a concurrent resolution which calls for the July 3 parliamentary election in Albania to be free and fair. Joining me in the introduction of this resolution is Mr. ENGEL, and I want to thank my colleague from New York for his efforts over the years to help Albanians throughout Southeastern Europe be able to exercise human rights and fundamental freedoms that for so long had been denied them.

This resolution notes that Albania is a participating State of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, better known as the OSCE. It further notes that all OSCE participating States have accepted standards which define free and fair elections but that Albania has repeatedly fallen short of those standards. Some elections have been seriously flawed, while others demonstrated a clear and sometimes significant improvement.

As Albania approaches its next parliamentary elections on July 3, however, the resolution argues that meeting OSCE election standards is not only possible but a virtual necessity.

Meeting these standards is possible, fortunately, because Albanian authorities and political parties have adopted electoral reforms recommended by the OSCE. While Albanian stakeholders made the right and sometimes difficult decisions regarding reform, credit also needs to go to the OSCE Presence, or field

mission, in Albania which facilitated the dialogue and encouraged cooperation, as well as the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights which provided technical expertise to the reform effort. The OSCE was patient yet firm in pressing for change, while other international groups gave needed expertise.

Meeting these standards is necessary not only because Albania is committed to those standards, but also because a failure to do so will cost the country dearly in terms of integration into NATO and the European Union. While there are strong ties between the United States and Albania, which this resolution recognizes, it would be a mistake to excuse Albania from its OSCE commitments.

Our desire to see Albania succeed, in fact, is why our expectations regarding the elections need to be made so clear. Successful elections will certainly strengthen Albania's ties with the United States and Europe. More importantly, successful elections are something the people of Albania deserve. After centuries of foreign rule, decades of severe communist repression and isolation, and now more than a decade of transition hindered by official corruption, organized crime and civil strife, the people of Albania must finally be allowed to determine their own future by making their leaders accountable to them. Free, fair elections can make this possible.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that my colleagues agree and will therefore support this resolution. As Co-Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I have focused on the situation in Albania for many years, and I am confident that sending the message contained in this resolution will make a difference.

HONORING DOMINIC H. FRINZI, NEW PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and offer congratulations to Dominic H. Frinzi upon his installment this Saturday as president of the National Italian American Bar Association, an organization created in 1983 with the intent of advancing the interests of the Italian American legal community and improving the administration of justice.

A first generation American born of Sicilian parents, Mr. Frinzi has led a highly successful career as a Wisconsin attorney for over 50 years, while also making substantial contributions to Milwaukee's Italian American community. He has served as president of Milwaukee's Italian Community Center for a record five terms, and has also served as president of UNICO National, an Italian American civic organization, as well as the UNICO Foundation, Inc. and UNICO's Milwaukee Chapter. Additionally, Mr. Frinzi currently serves as Correspondente Consular, or Correspondent Consul, to the Consul General of Italy in Chicago, the Honorable Eugenio Sgró, providing assistance to Italian Americans on legal matters involving the Italian government.

The son of a butcher, and among the first in his father's family to forego this family business in 400 years, Mr. Frinzi nearly became a

Catholic priest instead of a lawyer. However, just months before completing seminary, he left to pursue law school. Since then, he has tried cases in every county in the state of Wisconsin, and has served as a Milwaukee County Court Commissioner for over 50 years.

Mr. Frinzi has received many high honors during his career, including the Justinian Society's Justinian Man of the Year Award, the Italian Community Center's Theodore Mazza Community Service Award, the Milwaukee Ethnic Council's Vision for Milwaukee Award, the Fraternal Order of Eagles' Italian Person of the Year Award, and UNICO National's Dr. Anthony P. Vastola Gold Medal Award for service.

In 2002, because of his tremendous accomplishments as an Italian American, Mr. Frinzi was knighted by the Italian government, receiving the title Cavaliere all'Ordine del Merto della Repubblica Italiana, or Knight of the Order of Merit.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating an outstanding Italian American jurist, community leader, and prominent Milwaukee citizen, Mr. Dominic Frinzi, on his achievements as he takes on the role of president of the National Italian American Bar Association. We in Milwaukee are truly blessed to have him as our neighbor and look forward to his many additional civic and professional contributions in the years to come.

HONORING CANDY GARDNER

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Candy Gardner, a longtime resident of San Antonio, whose family has woven itself into the fabric of our city over their four generations of residence. As leaders of the Temple Beth-El, they have worked tirelessly to improve the lot of the members of their congregation and those throughout the city. And, Candy has been no different as she has volunteered in a number of different capacities at Temple Beth-El and in San Antonio. In recognition of her efforts, on May 18, 2005 the Honors Committee of the Temple Beth-El Sisterhood will name Candy the 2005 Or Tamid for her countless hours of hard work in the Temple and our community.

A beautiful tradition stretching from the beginnings of Western civilization, Judaism is a faith built on works. It is the duty of every Jew to make a more perfect world not only for their family and immediate world but the larger community as well, and Candy's actions have been guided by this credo. Candy has devoted countless hours to the Sisterhood as the VP of Advancement of Judaism, VP of Human Relations, and President. She has also served as the committee chair for Publicity, Program, Docents, Oneg Shabbats, Yearbook, and Needlework Group. Moreover, in addition to her responsibilities as the Courtesy Chair and the Women's Torah Study Chair, Candy proofs the Bulletin, the publication of Temple Beth-El, and the Yom Kippur Book of Remembrance, and even leads docent tours of the Temple which is fitting since she rewrote the docent guidebook after the congregation moved back into the finished building.

However, I do not want to create the impression Candy limits her efforts to the Temple as she has served as President of the Any Baby Can Alliance, San Antonio Chapter of ORT, and School Class Acts. Also, she has been vital in fostering the arts in our city as a Friend of the McNay Museum, and a member of the San Antonio Symphony League. Of course, Judaism has long advocated for and supported the enrichment of our existence that art can provide, and her efforts have aimed to ensure San Antonio would not be without this vital sustenance.

As dedicated as Candy has been to building and strengthening the institution of Temple Beth-El, she has also worked to deepen her own understanding of Judaism and also to help others better know the Tanakh. Her devotion to continuing education embodies another central tenet of Judaism, that of constant investigation and reexamination in order to better understand the tradition as it has developed and progressed through the centuries. I laud this dogged pursuit of knowledge and enlightenment since it can strengthen the impulse to invest one's life in helping others. Candy's life is certainly living proof of this dynamic.

Of course, Candy is a wife, a mother, and a grandmother, the latter a job she considers the best of all. I imagine her family is proud that her years of dedication are being recognized as she receives this award. I am also proud to know that San Antonio is home to a person relentless in her mission to make it a better place.

IN HONOR OF PAIGE PETERSON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paige Peterson, an 11-year-old girl who passed away November 8th, 2004 after a long and valiant battle with cancer.

Like most 11-year-old girls, Paige Peterson loved to dress-up, dance, ride horses and spend time with her family and friends. But, unlike most little girls, Paige spent years battling neuroblastoma, an aggressive and deadly cancer.

Sustained by her extraordinary faith and spirit, Paige breathed life into the community of young cancer sufferers as a spokesperson for the Children's Hospice & Palliative Care Coalition. In her own words, she was proud to be a "guinea pig" in several clinical trials with the hope that one day one of these trials would find a cure for neuroblastoma.

Driven by her desire to proffer the message that "kids get cancer too," Paige met with First Lady Laura Bush, Congressman SAM FARR, Senator BARBARA BOXER, Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN, and hundreds of other individuals and organizations across the country. In the end, she left behind a legacy of compassion and courage and a challenge to Congress to enact healthcare policies which honor the unique needs of children with life-threatening conditions and their families, thus enabling children like Paige to live well and die gently surrounded by those they love.

Mr. Speaker I wish to honor this young girl for her strength and courage in battling this ill-

fated disease and speaking about her experience in order to generate positive change for future young cancer sufferers. Her attitude and goodwill have proven to be an example for us all. I join Paige's mother Suzanne Peterson, her father Scott Peterson, and members of the Children's Hospice & Palliative Care Coalition in honoring and remembering this heroic girl for her achievements.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GIVEN KACHEPA FOR BEING NAMED ONE OF AMERICA'S TOP TEN YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Given Kachepa, a Grapevine High School senior, for being named one of America's top ten youth volunteers by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. He was selected from a field of over 20,000 youth volunteers from across the country.

Given is an advocate for victims of human trafficking. An orphan at age 9 in his native Zambia, he was recruited two years later to sing in a boy's choir on an overseas tour. He was promised a salary and education, and that the money raised from the tour would be used to build schools in Zambia. None of these promises, however, were met.

For over a year and a half, Given and his fellow choir members performed six or seven times a day, sometimes with little food. After being saved by U.S. immigration authorities, Given used his own experience to help with the widespread human trafficking problem. He has educated the public through the media, and spoken about human trafficking at conferences, along with local and national law enforcement agencies.

I am proud to recognize Given for this high honor; he is well deserving of the award. The future of America is in good hands with leaders like him.

FASTER AND SMARTER FUNDING FOR FIRST RESPONDERS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1544) to provide faster and smarter funding for first responders, and for other purposes:

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, H.R. 1544, the Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responders Act is critically important for the entire country, but it is also good for rural America. I am pleased to share my support for this bill, which streamlines and prioritizes homeland security spending and should result in better stewardship of America's tax dollars committed to public safety.

Last year, the 9/11 Commission made clear to Congress that homeland security assistance should be based strictly on an assessment of risks and vulnerabilities.