

is a known leader in philanthropic and community causes in South Florida. Serving as Chairman of the Southeast Region of the American Jewish Committee for the Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem and as a pro bono counsel to the Miami Youth Museum, Gary recognizes the importance of community spirit and dedicates a good part of his time to the betterment of society.

Mr. Speaker, Gary Poliakoff has shown a tireless devotion to both his profession and his community. I could not think of a more deserving recipient of this prestigious award. I wish to convey a heartfelt congratulations to Gary, his wife, and his children on this special day, as well as many thanks to him for his work on behalf of the entire South Florida Community.

#### HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF FAIR LAWN

#### HON. STEVE R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 1999*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, March 11 marks the 75th anniversary jubilee of the founding of the Borough of Fair Lawn, NJ, a town in New Jersey's 9th Congressional District where I, and more than 30,000 other residents, make our home.

Fair Lawn is a compact community located in the Northwest corner of Bergen County, one of the most densely populated areas of our State. But it is a very liveable community, with interesting sites, and a distinctive history that I would like to briefly call to the attention of the House.

The 75th Anniversary jubilee celebration kicks off on March 11. To get the year-long series of anniversary events underway, the Fair Lawn League of Women Voters has invited residents to tour the building which houses the office of their local government, and to "Meet Fair Lawn's Government-Live!"

Beginning at 7 p.m., guests can be escorted into the Council Chambers and greeted by League members, Mayor David Ganz, Borough Manager Barbara Sacks, the Borough Council, 75th Anniversary Committee Chairman John Cosgrove, and some 75 year Fair Lawn residents.

Visitors will be able to select five or six departments to visit and Borough employees will be available to explain how their department works and to answer any questions guests may have. Among the departments available will be: Recreation, Fire, Engineering, Public Works, Finance, Building Tax Collector/Assessor, Police, Borough Clerk, Health, and Welfare.

Local students will act as ushers and help to distribute literature. As a special bonus, the first 300 visitors will receive a copy of the League's popular 45-page book, the "1999 Citizen Guide," which is everything you wanted to know about New Jersey Government.

No historic account of Fair Lawn would be complete without recognition of the Lenni-Lenapi ("original people"), native tribes of northern New Jersey. Their trails, campsites, rock shelters and hunting grounds became the roads and towns that Fair Lawn uses today.

When the first Dutch settlers made their way up to what we know as the Hackensack and

Passaic Rivers, it was to establish fur trading posts with the Hackinghaesaky Indians, one of the tribes of the Lenni-Lenapi. The great chief of the tribes was Oratam. As settlements grew, the Lenni-Lenapi were forced further west to unsettled land.

They left behind place names of Indian origin. Few of us realize how many such names are still with us, for example: Passaic (either "where the river goes over the falls" or "valley"), Paramus ("fine stream" or "place of wild turkeys"), Wagaraw ("crooked place" or "river bend"). Typically, River Road, one of the oldest roads in the eastern part of our country, was once an Indian trail, leading to the "Great Rock" tribal council site in Glen Rock.

The most interesting Indian relic in Fair Lawn is the fist trap (weir) in the Passaic River. It can be seen during low water 200 yards upstream from the Fair Lawn Avenue bridge. The trap consists of two rows of stones forming a V-shaped dam into which the Indians drove the fish during migration, closing the opening at the point of the "V" with weighted nets. The Dutch called this the "soltendam," or "sloterdam" from the verb sluiten, "shut."

This gave rise to the name of Slooterdam (also spelled Sloterdam) which was used to describe the surrounding area. Fair Lawn was known as Slooterdam as late as 1791, and River Road was called the "Slauterdam Road" until after the Civil War.

Probably the oldest structure standing in Fair Lawn is the Garreston-Brocker home, now known as the Garreston Forge and Farm Restoration, on River Road, south of Morlot Avenue. The west wing, the kitchen, was the original building built some time between 1708-1730. The main wing was built before 1800 but the gambrel roof, dormer and porch were added in 1903. The property, known at its purchase in 1719 as the Sloterdam Patent, was originally a huge plantation stretching between the Passaic and Saddle Rivers.

Another structure, almost as old, was built by Jacob Vanderbeck. It is located off Fair Lawn Avenue (formerly Dunkerhook Road) east of Saddle River Road. Nearby, on Dunkerhook Road ("Donckerhoek" or "dark corner" in old Dutch) is the Naugle House, built in the 18th century by Jacob Vanderbeck's son-in-law, a paymaster to General Lafayette's troops. Lafayette stayed in this house for several days in 1824 when he returned to this country after the Revolutionary War.

Another old structure is on Fair Lawn Avenue, east of Plaza Road. It is known as the "Dutch House" and has been a restaurant or tavern since 1929. The sandstone construction is typical of the early Flemish Colonial style. No early ownership has been established but it is believed to be the Bogert House built between 1740 and 1760. The land stretched to the Glen Rock area and was farmed until the Radburn developers bought it in the late 1920's.

The Thomas Cadmus House was moved to its site north of the Radburn railroad station from nearby Fair Lawn Avenue to save it from demolition. It is now the official Fair Lawn Museum. It has a typical dressed stone front and roughly coursed sides, wide board floors and hewn beams. It is thought to have been built before 1815.

The only other old sandstone house still standing in Fair Lawn is the G.V.H. Berdan

House on River Road between Berdan and Hopper Avenues. Although the exterior was carefully reconditioned with respect for its historic style when the building was converted to offices, the end facing the street has since been marred by numerous signs.

The "Old Red Mill," which is located along the Saddle River south of what is now Route 4, is another well-known landmark of the area. The original mill, believed to have been located on the Fair Lawn side of the river, was a central meeting place for the neighboring farmers. It gave the name "Red Mill" to the area. The mill, a large red wooden building, was built in 1745 and stood two and one-half stories high.

At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, the mill was converted to manufacture woolen blankets and yarn from flax grown in Fair Lawn. During the Civil War, the mill produced blankets for the Union Army. The mill was visited by at least two famous persons: Aaron Burr was honored at a Christmas party there during the Revolution and President William McKinley visited Easton's renowned lake and fountains.

Only a few minor skirmishes were fought during the Revolutionary War in the area later to be known as Fair Lawn. But Bergen County had the distinction of being the only county in all the nation which saw George Washington during each of the eight years of the War. When Washington and his troops retreated from the British across New Jersey to Pennsylvania in 1776, it was John H. Post of Sloterdam who dismantled the bridge across the Passaic River, preventing pursuit by Cornwallis after Washington's troops reached safety on the other side. With foresight, Post stacked the bridge planks on the far side of the river for future use.

The railroad came through town in the early 1880's and the trolley line to Hackensack and the Hudson River in 1906. Toward the end of the 19th century and in the early 20th, homes were built near the Passaic River, off Fair Lawn and Morlot Avenues ("the flats") and at Columbia Heights, to house workers for Paterson's mills and factories and for the Textile Dyeing and Finishing Co. on Wagaraw road. Warren Point also developed at the end of the 19th century, with a railroad station and post office, but most of the development was in what is now Elmwood Park.

Within Fair Lawn's boundaries is a unique community called Radburn. One of the first modern planned communities in the United States, it was intended originally to be a self-sufficient entity known as "Town for the Motor Age." The architect-planners Clarence S. Stein and Henry Wright enlisted the practical aid of financier Alexander Bing who had organized the City Housing Corporation in 1924. Bing's enthusiasm brought his corporation to New Jersey, and Radburn was born in 1928.

Unhappily, the Great Depression in 1929 struck Radburn hard and in 1933 the corporation went bankrupt. Unfortunately, the hope for self sufficiency for 25,000 residents in Radburn reached only 5,000 by 1964 when Anthony Bailey wrote his "Radburn Revisited" report in the New York Herald-Tribune. The Radburn idea did not die, however; it was admired, copied and improved on in England, Scandinavia, India, Canada, Russia, and in many "new towns" in the United States.

Fair Lawn's greatest period of growth was during the 1940's and 1950's. Vast areas of

farm lands were developed for single-family homes and several large garden apartment complexes. The population grew from 9,000 in 1940 to an estimated peak of about 37,000 in 1968. Fair Lawn Industrial Park on Route 208 was developed during the 1950's with several additions in the following decade. Among the Industrial Park's corporate residents are internationally known firms such as Kodak, Nabisco and Lea & Perrins.

By 1970, the last large tracts of land had been utilized. The last farm in Fair Lawn was a 20-acre tract in the Industrial Park at Fair Lawn Avenue. In 1998 this tract started development as apartments, and by the end of this year, there will be more than 340 new apartment units open. The certificates of occupancy for the first units were issued just a few weeks ago.

What began as an agricultural hamlet has grown into a suburban town providing homes, schools parks and shops for residents and jobs for thousands of workers in businesses, offices and industries.

All of us who reside in Fair Lawn are proud of our community and Mr. Speaker, I thought it would be appropriate to bring to your attention that this jubilee celebration gives us all the opportunity to celebrate not only a town and good government, but its good people.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT L. OZUNA

#### HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 1999*

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a heartfelt tribute to Robert L. Ozuna, Chief Executive Officer of New Bedford Panoramex Corporation from 1966 to date has died. Robert Ozuna died Saturday, March 6, 1999 at Queen of the Valley Hospital in West Covina. He was 69.

Robert Ozuna was the oldest of four children born in Miami, Arizona to Mexican-American parents. In 1940, after his father's early death, the family moved to East Los Angeles where he grew up with his mother, brother and two sisters. Robert was required to seek steady work at an early age to assist the family in meeting their financial burdens.

Robert Ozuna emerged as one of the leading Mexican-American entrepreneurs in Southern California as Founder and President of New Bedford Panoramex Corporation (NBP). He gained his business experience on the job and his engineering education by attending night school in the California community and junior college system.

In 1966, Mr. Ozuna began to build his company with a second mortgage on his residence, a few electrician's hand tools, hard work and entrepreneurial instincts into the thriving electronics manufacturing business it is today in Upland, California. NBP engages in the design, development and manufacturing of electronic communication systems and remote monitoring systems for its primary client, the United States Government.

Mr. Ozuna's hard work and dedication has been rewarded by receiving the Department of Transportation Minority Business Enterprise Award for 1987 and again for 1991. He received the Air Traffic Control Association Chairman's Citation of Merit Award in 1994.

He continued to be an active member of The California Chamber of Commerce for various cities and a founder of Casa De Rosa Annual Golf Tournament, which he instituted to raise funds for the Rancho de Los Ninos Orphanage in BajaMar, Mexico.

As industrious as Mr. Ozuna has been in business, he has been equally involved in sharing his prosperity with many philanthropic activities in his community. He is the sponsor of many events in the Hispanic neighborhood where he grew up, and he was a founding director in the East Los Angeles Sheriff's Youth Athletic Association, which promotes educational, athletic and drug awareness programs for more than 60,000 youths in the Los Angeles Metropolitan area.

Robert Ozuna is remembered by his employees at New Bedford Panoramex Corporation as a handsome man who had a passion for life. His concern for his employees and their families along with his abundant generosity to them was always present.

Robert Ozuna was married for 35 years to Rosemary, who passed way in November of 1998. He is survived by his mother, Amelia Ozuna; his sons, Steven Ozuna and Jeff Dominelli; his daughters Nancy DoSilva and Lisa Jarrett; his sisters, Lillian Gomez and Vera Venegas and his brother Tony Ozuna. He also leaves 8 grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, March 12th at 12:00 noon, at St. Gregory's Church, 1393 E. Telegraph Rd., Whittier, CA. The burial will follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Ozuna epitomized the American dream. It is a dream that promises that any citizen of this country can achieve anything to which he or she aspires, as long as they work hard and play by the rules. Robert Ozuna achieved that dream and he will be missed.

#### HONORING MR. WALTER D. WEBDALE

#### HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 1999*

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an individual who has dedicated the past 25 years of his career and life to serving the people of Fairfax County, VA. On Friday, February 26, 1999, Mr. Walter D. Webdale will retire as Director of the Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).

The Department of Housing and Community Development was established in 1974, and Mr. Webdale has been the Director since its inception. Under his leadership of the last 25 years the HCD has won nationwide recognition as one of the preeminent policy leaders and innovators in the fields of affordable housing and community development. The Agency has been the recipient of more than 40 major awards and special recognitions for project design and development, community development, property management, and affordable housing finance.

But more important than the national accolades are the tangible improvements he was able to provide to the people of Fairfax County. During Mr. Webdale's 25 years of service,

the HCD built or acquired more than 800 units of public housing. Additionally, 1,500 more units were developed under the Fairfax County Rental Program, an initiative of Mr. Webdale's, which preserved existing affordable housing and made it available to seniors and moderate income households not able to find housing through Federal housing projects.

One of Mr. Webdale's most lasting contributions to Fairfax County, and the Nation, will be the mixed income/mixed financing program which combines the use of Low Income Housing Tax Credits with Public Housing development funds, and has become the model which is being replicated across the Nation. Because of this innovative program, coupled with the Agency's financing expertise, the HCD secured the designation as an FHA Risk-Sharing Agency in Virginia. The Fairfax County Housing and Community Development Agency was the only local housing authority in Virginia to qualify for this designation.

While Mr. Webdale dedicated much of the Agency's resources to developing low-income housing, the HCD also implemented a strong series of programs to support and encourage first-time home buyers. All told over the past 25 years more than \$26 million was invested in needed home improvements to almost 1,700 qualified homeowners under the Home Improvement Loan Program. Complimenting the improvement funds, two separate home ownership programs were created which have subsequently provided more than 1,000 first-time home buyers with home ownership opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, I have merely hinted at the contribution Walter Webdale has made to Fairfax County. He is recognized nationwide as one of the leading Housing and Community Development professionals in the country. A number of the initiatives he developed in Fairfax County have been adopted by other Housing Authorities across the Nation. Mr. Walter D. Webdale has dedicated the best years of his life in the service of others, and has done it with a determination and professionalism well beyond the norm. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Fairfax County, VA, I wish to sincerely thank Mr. Webdale for all he has done and wish him well as he enjoys a long-overdue vacation.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE WHITE MOUNTAIN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS M CHAMPION GIRL'S BASKETBALL TEAM

#### HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 1999*

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the White Mountain Regional High School Class M Champion Girl's Basketball team. On Saturday, February 27, 1999, the Regional Girl's Basketball team capped what can only be described as a perfect season. It was perfect not only because the team won the first Class M Girls Basketball Title in the 30 year history of the regional high school, but because they did so by going an impressive 22-0 over the course of the entire season.

It should be said, however, that the climax of this spectacular season was not a fluke, as they say, but, instead, the result of years of