

Department. He was then hired as a Police Officer with the Fairfield Police Department on October 29, 1984. As an officer, he worked in various capacities including Patrol, Investigations, Special Operations, Narcotics, and Field Training. He earned the Police Officer of the Year award in 1996, joined the Crisis Negotiation Team in 1997, and was promoted to Police Corporal on December 31, 1999.

On December 28, 2001, Michael was promoted to Police Sergeant and ultimately served in a number of capacities including Patrol, Investigations, Professional Standards, and Public Information. He was a strong and decisive leader which led to him receiving the Manager of the Year award in 2003. On December 7, 2007, he was promoted to Police Lieutenant and served as Commander for Patrol, Quality of Life, and Administrative Divisions. As the Police Department experienced changes in leadership and command staff, Michael consistently stepped in and assisted City management in filling the gaps. Over the last two years, he assumed the Captain's position and managed Patrol Operations twice and he also acted as Deputy Police Chief when needed.

Michael was a valued employee and leader of the Fairfield Police Department. His commitment to the community was unwavering. He was a loyal representative of the law enforcement community and admired amongst his peers for his hard work, dedication and positive work ethic.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to pay tribute to this dedicated public servant. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing Michael M. Johnstone continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING ALDO SANTORUM

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2011

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Aldo Santorum, the father of my friend and colleague, former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum.

Aldo Santorum passed away on January 15th in Crescent Beach Florida at the age of 88 in the home where he and his wife, Catherine Dughi, had spent the past 20 years together.

Aldo was an American patriot who served alongside fellow members of the Greatest Generation who honored the call to service in World War II.

After the war, Aldo Santorum took advantage of the GI Bill to earn a degree in psychology from St. Francis College in Loretto, Pennsylvania as well as a graduate degree from Catholic University in Washington and a doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Ottawa.

Instead of going into private practice, Aldo devoted his professional career to serving fellow veterans as a clinical psychologist for the Veterans Administration.

Throughout his career, Aldo Santorum served in VA hospitals in Martinsburg, West Virginia, Butler, Virginia and in Chicago until 1990, when he and his wife Catherine retired to Crescent Beach, Florida.

In addition to his wife and children, Aldo Santorum is survived by an extended, but closely-knit family of 10 grandchildren.

I extend my condolences to Rick Santorum and the entire Santorum family for their loss.

INTRODUCING THE FEDERAL RESERVE TRANSPARENCY ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2011

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Federal Reserve Transparency Act. Throughout its nearly 100-year history, the Federal Reserve has presided over the near-complete destruction of the United States dollar. Since 1913 the dollar has lost over 98% of its purchasing power, aided and abetted by the Federal Reserve's loose monetary policy. How long will we as a Congress stand idly by while hard-working Americans see their savings eaten away by inflation? Only big-spending politicians and politically favored bankers benefit from inflation.

Serious discussion of proposals to oversee the Federal Reserve is long overdue. I have been a longtime proponent of more effective oversight and auditing of the Fed, but I was far from the first Congressman to advocate these types of proposals. Esteemed former members of the Banking Committee such as Chairmen Wright Patman and Henry B. Gonzales were outspoken critics of the Fed and its lack of transparency.

Since its inception, the Federal Reserve has always operated in the shadows, without sufficient scrutiny or oversight of its operations. While the conventional excuse is that this is intended to reduce the Fed's susceptibility to political pressures, the reality is that the Fed acts as a foil for the government. Whenever you question the Fed about the strength of the dollar, they will refer you to the Treasury, and vice versa. The Federal Reserve has, on the one hand, many of the privileges of government agencies, while retaining benefits of private organizations, such as being largely insulated from Freedom of Information Act requests.

The Federal Reserve can enter into agreements with foreign central banks and foreign governments, and the GAO is prohibited from auditing these agreements. Why should a government-established agency, whose police force has federal law enforcement powers, and whose notes have legal tender status in this country, be allowed to enter into agreements with foreign powers and foreign banking institutions with no oversight? Particularly because the Fed has operated swap lines with foreign central banks and provided hundreds of billions of dollars of bailouts to foreign commercial banks, the Fed's negotiations with the European Central Bank, the Bank of International Settlements, and other foreign institutions should face increased scrutiny, most especially because of their significant effect on foreign policy. Given the currency crisis in Europe and the prospect of the Fed propping up foreign governments or bailing out American banks invested in European debt, this issue is of especially pressing concern.

The Fed's funding facilities and its agreements with the Treasury should be reviewed. The Treasury's supplementary financing accounts that fund Fed facilities allow the Treasury to funnel money to Wall Street without

GAO or Congressional oversight. Additional funding facilities that have allowed the Fed to keep financial asset prices artificially inflated and subsidize poorly performing financial firms should be scrutinized, as well as the Mortgage-Backed Securities Purchase Program, which has subsidized banks by transferring trillions of dollars of worthless debt off their books.

The Federal Reserve Transparency Act would eliminate restrictions on GAO audits of the Federal Reserve and open Fed operations to enhanced scrutiny. We hear officials constantly lauding the benefits of transparency and especially bemoaning the opacity of the Fed, its monetary policy, and its funding facilities. By opening all Fed operations to a GAO audit and calling for such an audit to be completed by the end of 2012, the Federal Reserve Transparency Act would achieve much-needed transparency of the Federal Reserve. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING PETE CARIS, RECIPIENT OF THE 2010 WESTERN SPRINGS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Pete Caris, who will receive the 2010 Western Springs, IL Citizen of the Year Award on January 30, 2011. Born and raised in Western Springs, Mr. Caris has been selected for this award in large part due to his accomplishments with the Western Springs Historical Society.

Mr. Caris was the president of the Western Springs Historical Society Board from 1999 to 2006. During his tenure, he has worked hard to raise funds for the Ekdahl House project to preserve and showcase one of the oldest houses in Western Springs. He has also volunteered at the Tower Museum where visitors can learn about the rich history of Western Springs. Mr. Caris stood out as a nominee for his award not only because of his position on the board, but also because of his hard work increasing the visibility of the Historical Society. He consistently leads public events including the Gathering on the Green and the Christmas Walk in his hometown.

In addition to being active with the Historical Society, Mr. Caris has been involved with the First Congregational Church of Western Springs for many years. He has also acted as a mentor to many young citizens while coaching church league basketball for 23 years. All of Mr. Caris' work in Western Springs, whether leading youth teams or ensuring the preservation of local historical treasures, makes him a deserving recipient of the 2010 Citizen of the Year award.

I ask you to join me in honoring Mr. Pete Caris on his selection as a 2010 Western Springs Citizen of the year, and may he continue to happily serve the citizens Western Springs, IL, young and old.