

As she grew older, and her Uncles emerged as the first great heroes of the 20th century, Ivonette occasionally played a more active role on the public stage. While she was not the first American woman to fly, she did take the sky at an early date. In 1910, her younger sister Leontine wrote to Wilbur and Orville, who were in Europe at the time, asking if she could be the first American girl to fly in the U.S. The next summer, when their cousin Bertha Ellwyn Wright was visiting from Kansas, Orville invited all three young ladies for a flight. The great day was August 29, 1911. Twelve year old Leontine, who had, after all, asked, went first. Their visitor and guest, fourteen year old Bertha, was next. Then it was fifteen year old Ivonette's turn.

"We used Captain [Charles DeForrest] Chandler's coat and gloves," she explained. "He was taking flight training at the time." "I wore a small hat with a scarf tied tightly under my chin to keep it on. I climbed over the wires and took my seat on the wing to the right of Uncle Orv. Our feet were braced on a cross-strut—no cockpit. We took off and soon everything on the ground was dwarfed. I remember how squared off the fields looked, just like a patchwork quilt my grandmother used to have. We circled around over the field and after some minutes Uncle Orv pointed to the interurban car approaching in the distance from Springfield. He shouted above the noise of the engine, "There comes the traction car, shall be try to catch it?" I nodded. We came down, I slid out under the wires, dropped the coat and gloves off at the hanger for Captain Chandler as I went by and by that time the traction car was slowing to a stop and we joined the passengers boarding it."

As one of the last surviving Wrights with vivid personal memories of life in the house at number 7 Hawthorn St. in Dayton, Ohio, Ivonette delighted a great many people with her recollections of her famous uncles. But her notion of the serious responsibilities of family stewardship went well beyond that.

Ivonette and "Scribe" Miller devoted themselves to insuring that the precious historical treasures in their keeping would be presented as gifts to the nation, and that the achievements of Wilbur and Orville Wright would be fully understood and appreciated in an honest and accurate fashion. The Millers, and the other heirs of the Wright estate, played a key role in negotiating the presentation of the 1903 airplane to the Smithsonian, by means of an agreement that brought the forty year old dispute between the Wrights and the Institute to a final conclusion.

Moreover, the Millers took a deep personal interest in placing the Wright Papers in an archive where they would be available to the maximum number of researchers. The bulk of the papers went to the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. They insisted that the information in those precious documents be made widely disseminated. The result was the publication, in 1953, of the monumental two-volume set of "The Papers of Wilbur and Orville Wright."

Ivonette and "Scribe" befriended Marvin Wilkes McFarland, the chief editor and leader of the team of scholars who produced the published papers. And Mac was not alone. The Millers befriended two generations of Wright scholars. Their friendship with the great English student of early flight, C.H. Gibbs-Smith, was forged via the mails, and cemented when Charles spent a year in the U.S. as the Smithsonian's first Lindbergh Scholar. Charles dedicated his classic study, "The Wright Brothers and the Rebirth of European Aviation," to: "Ivonette Miller of Dayton, Ohio, First Lady of the Wright Descendants."

I was fortunate to count both Marvin McFarland and C. H. Gibbs-Smith as my mentors. In 1972, I was a twenty-seven year old doctoral candidate writing a dissertation on the early history of flight technology when Mac McFarland suggested that I would find the answers to some of my questions in the books and manuscripts still in the hands of Ivonette and Harold Miller in my hometown of Dayton, Ohio. It was material that the Library of Congress had chosen not to take as part of the Wright Papers.

Mac gave me Mrs. Miller's telephone number and advised me to call her the next time I was visiting my parents in Dayton. "They are nice folks," he assured me. "They won't mind." When I did make that call, I discovered that Mac had understated both the Miller's hospitality and their capacity to put up with an inquisitive graduate student requesting permission to poke around in the boxes stored in their basement.

I had never before encountered treasure of this sort outside a public repository. There were great aeronautical books—annotated by the Wright brothers. The manuscripts included volume after volume of a diary kept by their father, Milton Wright, from the middle years of the 19th century until the time of his death in 1916. One box contained Wilbur, Orville and Katharine's report cards, school papers, and early examples of the items printed by the firm of Wright and Wright. Other boxes were stuffed with financial records, and photographs, many of which I had never seen before.

At the end of that first day, Ivonette invited me to join her in the kitchen for tea and cookies. She was the real treasure. It is difficult to explain what it meant to be sitting there across the table from the woman who had sat on Wilbur's lap and written her name in his notebook; the seven year old who could remember what it was like when the news of success had arrived from Kitty Hawk; the fifteen year old who had donned Charles DeForrest Chandler's leather coat, gloves and helmet to go flying with her Uncle Orv. She was a living link to one of the great moments in American history.

Over the next decade and a half, I recycled the material in the Miller's basement into a dissertation, two books and a dozen articles. Very early on, I suggested that, while their home was as lovely and as fire-resistant as any in Dayton, they should give some thought to selecting a final home for what amounted to an entirely new set of Wright Papers unknown to researchers. Wisely, they selected Wright State University, then a relatively new institution of higher learning named for the inventors of the airplane. A decade and a half later, that collection has provided the basis for an entire series of books, exhibitions, and educational materials.

We own Ivonette and Harold Miller, and all of the Wright heirs, our gratitude for their wise stewardship. Thanks to them, the world's first airplane hangs in the place of honor in the world's most visited museum. The priceless record of one of the world's great achievements—the letters, notebooks, photographs and other documents relating to the invention of the airplane—are safely preserved in the greatest manuscript collection in the nation. It was at their insistence that the core documents in that collection were published. They saw to it that another large collection of Wright family materials would be housed in a second great archive in the city that was home to all of them.

Such a list of achievements scarcely scratches the surface of our debt to Ivonette Wright Miller. She was our personal link to that marvelous family which nurtured the inventors of the airplane. She represented them to a curious world with grace, warmth,

and dignity. Her memories helped all of us to see her uncles a bit more clearly and to appreciate their achievement a bit more deeply. The very definition of a gracious soul, she enabled those of us who knew her to touch an important moment in history. She has earned her place of honor and rest with the other members of the Wright family. We will not see her likes again, and those of us whose lives she touched can thank God for the privilege.

#### COMMEMORATING THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF DEDICATING THE FATHER JERZY POPIELUSZKO STATUE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 17, 1995*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the dedication of the statue honoring Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the young, idealistic priest who was brutally slain in October of 1984. To honor Father Jerzy and the people who built the statue in his honor, a special commemorative mass will be said on Sunday, October 22, at the Stanislaus Kostka Church. The people of Greenpoint, home of the statue, and the members of the Polish-American Congress deserve our support and praise for honoring a man as brave and good as Father Popieluszko. Father Popieluszko lived his life as an outspoken supporter of solidarity and human rights. Twelve years have passed since his death and his name has become a symbol of a heroic battle for truth and justice.

Father Popieluszko's funeral was a mass celebration which drew crowds of tens of thousands. His grave is always covered with fresh flowers and surrounded by many people—Poles as well as foreigners who visit Poland. His memory and his statue remind our community of the impact he had on his native Poles and the important message of what he preached and the way of life he showed. Many people have been and continue to be positively changed by his message of truth, justice, and moral strength.

The fifth anniversary commemoration at his statue between Bedford Avenue and Nassau Avenue in Greenpoint, Brooklyn will continue what Father Popieluszko did to unify people. His statue and his memory continue to teach us his message of forgiveness in the place of hatred and the importance of truth and courage.

Father Popieluszko was born to a poor farming family in 1947, in the village of Okopy, 20 miles from the Soviet border. From early childhood he was deeply religious: he rose every morning at 5 a.m. and walked 3 miles to serve as an altar boy before school. He became a priest in 1972 and worked as a priest for the next 8 years. He was loved by all with whom he worked. Mr. Speaker, it is important that we honor and remember a man who went wherever he was needed and worked hard, even in the face of his own serious illness.

The circumstances surrounding Father Popieluszko's abduction and murder are still unclear. But, the spirit of Father Popieluszko has outlived him and is rightfully honored in his statue and the fifth anniversary commemoration of its dedication. Mr. Speaker, I hope all

of my colleagues will join me in honoring Father Popieluszko, the Polish people, and the members of the Polish-American Congress who will honor him on Sunday, October 22.

# THE 72D ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST

HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 1995

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to challenge the notion that one shouldn't mix business and pleasure. That's exactly what we've been doing for 72 years in Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest, and it's worked remarkably well.

The Commonwealth's only national forest, it is one of northwest Pennsylvania's greatest assets. Selective harvesting of timber has created thousands of jobs, provides funding for schools and roads, and returns millions of dollars annually to the U.S. Treasury. The University of Pittsburgh at Bradford has estimated that "5,540 jobs are directly related to wood products, and another 12,576 are significantly impacted by the forest products industry."

But its economic benefits don't stop there. Each year, 12 million visitors—and area residents—enjoy camping, fishing, and hiking in the forest. If any of my colleagues and their families would like to visit, I'd be happy to identify some truly amazing sites.

I'm proud to say that this mix of work and pleasure is balanced with a keen awareness and diligent attention to the forest's conservation needs. By responsibly harvesting our renewable timber resources, we allow the forest to flourish and continue to fuel the economy.

The Allegheny National Forest strikes a wonderful balance between its many uses and its needs. For many, it's a source of livelihood; for millions more, a recreational haven. And, through its responsible management, it will remain so for generations to come.

The saying "don't mix business and pleasure" may have its merits, but it's also important to remember another, "there's an exception to every rule." Pennsylvania's national forest is certainly exceptional.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for this opportunity to recognize the Allegheny National Forest on its 72d anniversary, and to congratulate all those who have come to enjoy, respect, and benefit from it.

# THE FEDERAL BUDGET

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 1995

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, a constituent of mine, Mr. Norman Hardy of West Palm Beach, FL, sent me the following article regarding balancing the Federal budget. Mr. Hardy said this article is "right on the mark" and I agree with him. The same municipalities and local governments that the new Republican majority claim were the ones to request the block grants are now the ones saying we may need to slow down. Balancing the budget and block-granting Federal funds might have

sounded good in the abstract but the reality may very well be disastrous.

[From the Palm Beach Post, Sept. 24, 1995]  
WASHINGTON'S MESSAGE TO AMERICA'S CITIES:  
DROP DEAD

(By Nancy Graham)

I am gravely concerned about where this country seems to be heading. That puts me among the 60 percent or more of Americans who would like to join a third political party.

What I see at the state and federal levels in the way of partisan politics disgusts me. As the elected leader of the largest city in Palm Beach County, it is clear to me that our "elected representatives" at those levels, particularly those in Washington, have no knowledge of the world in which most of us live—and, frankly, I don't think they even care. If we have any hope of putting Americans first, the power plays and the ego-driven, mean-spirited partisan politics must give way to reason and logic.

There is not and should not be anything partisan about local government. We are closest to the people we serve, provide most of the services, have to pick up the pieces of people's lives fractured by the actions of the state and federal governments and still try to maintain some quality of life for all our citizens.

There is no greater example of mean-spirited, ego-driven partisan politics than in the current debate over the proposed federal budget cuts. I think I will be sick to my stomach if I see another 30-second sound bite by either party extolling the virtues of its actions on the budget, or slamming the other side's. What is frightening to me is that most Americans will sit back and take these professionally scripted sound bites for the truth. There is much not being told to Americans, particularly about how these budget cuts will affect each of us, no matter where we live.

Don't get me wrong. I strongly support the goal of balancing the federal budget, reducing the federal deficit and reforming a number of federal programs such as welfare and Medicare. We will all need to sacrifice to make them happen. West Palm Beach has to balance its budget every year, in good times and in bad. We know how to impose financial discipline. We know how to cut popular services, to raise revenues. West Palm Beach is ready to do our fair share.

Congress, however, is asking local communities to take a direct hit for its years of free-wheeling spending. The budget currently under consideration does not ask cities and counties to do their fair share to balance the budget. It asks cities and counties to do the lion's share.

Proposals in Washington would have a devastating impact on crime prevention, economic development, housing, children and our elderly. Amazingly, these proposals have received very little scrutiny.

So far, Congress has engaged in a "stealth" budget process. It appears that Congress is hoping that the American people don't figure out what's going on until it's too late.

The new Congress went to Washington promising to reform government.

Unfortunately, all they did was pass the buck.

The proposed budget doesn't actually solve problems, it just shifts the problems and shifts taxes to the local level.

Worst of all, this is a very short-sighted budget. It was put together with virtually no public input or hearings. The vast majority of the cuts being made are from only one-third of the federal spending, the domestic spending for Americans. In fact, the proposed budget adds about \$7 billion in the defense

budget, an increase not even requested. We are spending more for our foreign agenda than to preserve a decent quality of life for our own citizens.

# ECONOMIC FUTURE SACRIFICED

The proposed budget would sacrifice the long-term economic future of this country for short-term political gain. At a time when America should be investing in our people and our economic foundation, this budget is a unilateral retreat. This budget would cut job training. It would cut education. It would cut youth programs. There is absolutely no logic or rationale to the proposed cuts. No matter what political party one comes from, we should all agree on the need to invest in our economic future.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors and National Association of Counties recently conducted a survey of mayors and county officials to see how these proposed cuts would affect our cities and our citizens. The response was overwhelming—96 percent of the mayors believe the proposed cuts would hurt their cities and residents. Ninety-three percent believe the cuts would hurt their human-investment efforts; 84 percent foresee negative effects on their cities' economies; 85 percent see negative effects on their economic development efforts; and 86 percent believe that the effects of the cuts would extend to their regional economies.

For most city residents, the cuts would be felt in loss of services and/or increased taxes. Eighty-five percent of the survey respondents said that they would have to reduce city services; 61 percent said they would be forced to lay off city workers; 41 percent said they would be forced to raise taxes.

The survey responses from the National Association of Counties were very similar.

So what does this mean for West Palm Beach? If we are to revitalize our city, we must reduce crime, clean up our decaying neighborhoods, create economic development opportunities (businesses and jobs) and focus heavily on our youth. We have started these efforts over the past few years, but much more needs to be done. We have developed partnerships with the Palm Beach County School Board, our business community and non-profit groups to save taxpayers money. We have cut staff and worked to improve services. We cannot stretch any further.

Yet, several times a day I hear from frustrated people about what they see as a declining quality of life, fear of crime, lack of affordable housing, lack of jobs and other problems that are so complex and intertwined. Balancing the federal budget almost solely on the backs of domestic programs is going to substantially aggravate these problems and increase the public's frustration with government. West Palm Beach is by no means an isolated case.

We want welfare reform—and rightly so. Yet we cut—and in some cases eliminate—job training; we cut education, cut student loans, fail to provide decent, affordable health care, and penalize poor families who try to stay together. We talk to the working poor, and we tell them, "We want you to go to work. We want to end welfare." But what does this budget do? What messages of hope does it send to the working poor? It increases the tax burden on the working poor by lowering the earned income tax credit. The working poor will pay \$230 more a year in taxes. They are getting a tax increase. In many cases, that's a substantial percentage of their income. This is in the face of a proposed tax cut for the wealthy.

# CUTS WILL PRODUCE MORE CRIME

Crime among our youth is rising at frightening rates. Young people are dropping out of school at record levels. We talk to them about staying in school so they can get a