

DON'T STOP THIS TRAIN

Bart's plans to reach San Francisco International Airport by the year 2000 have run into two potentially significant adversaries in the nation's capital. One is the airline industry, which has been concerned that the airport might try to raise landing fees or slap on a ticket surcharge to cover its \$200 million share.

Although the airline industry carries clout on Capitol Hill, we are confident that Congress will not be swayed by a selfish pitch against a project of such importance. Besides, the industry may eventually realize that this huge step in convenience to its passengers is well worth a relatively modest investment.

A more unsettling development is the effort of a handful of peninsula naysayers to resurrect the battle they clearly lost at the local level. Their testimony before the House Appropriations Transportation subcommittee last week may have given some legislators the impression that the Bay Area is still debating how to best provide mass-transit service to the airport.

And Congress may be reluctant to commit \$700 million when the issue remains unsettled.

Well, the matter is settled.

After years of torturous deliberation, there now is an overwhelming consensus on a plan that would put a BART station just outside the International Terminal. It would get at least half the passengers within a five-minute walk to a ticket counter and it would have a light-rail connection to other terminals. It is a good compromise.

It's time to get on with it. Opponents of the airport BART station are living in a dream world if they think that derailing the project will suddenly lead Congress to shift the money over to Cal-Train. The proposed \$87 million fiscal 1997 federal contribution to the BART project would almost surely be scooped up by another legislator for another region.

We trust that the subcommittee members, having seen the strong support of six Bay Area members of Congress, will realize that the fighting is finished. This train is on the move.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE
GREEK AMERICAN MONTHLY

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 1996

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to The Greek American Monthly on the occasion of the first anniversary of this outstanding publication, and to congratulate my colleague from southwestern Pennsylvania, Congressman RON KLINK, who has been awarded The Greek American Monthly's first annual Hermes Award.

The Greek American Monthly is a periodical dedicated to promoting, preserving, and perpetuating Greek culture, history, and heritage. It also serves as a timely source of information on issues of importance to people of Greek ancestry throughout the world. I am proud to say that The Greek American Monthly is based in Pittsburgh, PA, which is part of my congressional district.

The Greek American Monthly has accomplished a great deal in its first year. In just 1 short year its readership has grown from 2,000 to nearly 30,000, and it has attracted readers from all over the world. It is linking

members of the Greek community around the world in a new way. Its focus on content has resulted in a journal filled with important world news and cultural events from around the globe. I anticipate only continued and greater success for The Greek American Monthly in the future as more and more members of the Greek community—and other people in the United States and abroad—become acquainted with this excellent publication. The publisher and staff have produced an outstanding publication.

I also want to congratulate Congressman RON KLINK, who has been awarded The Greek American Monthly's first annual Hermes Award for his promotion of Greek culture and of issues of interest to the Greek-American community. Congressman KLINK, who has Greek forebearers, was chosen for the Hermes Award because he has introduced legislation of great interest to the Greek-American community, and because he has been tireless in his advocacy for issues before Congress that are important to the Greek-American community—issues like the partition of Cyprus and the treatment of ethnic Greeks in Albania.

In closing, I want to congratulate Mr. Gregory C. Pappas, editor and publisher of The Greek American Monthly, and the staff of this fine publication on the first anniversary of its founding, and I want to commend them for selecting Congressman RON KLINK as the first recipient of The Greek American Monthly's annual Hermes Award.

MARIETTA'S "MIRACLE"

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 1996

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my fellow colleagues to read the following editorial from the Marietta Daily Journal which describes the wonderful opportunities Habitat for Humanity has offered many of my constituents. I have volunteered for Habitat in my district and can attest that it is a very rewarding experience to see future homeowners alongside public-spirited citizens. Furthermore, it is a program that combines prayer with practical help.

American-style volunteerism is proven every day by those noble individuals who are willing to give their time to make others' lives better. In the American tradition of volunteerism and charity, I would encourage all of my friends and colleagues in the House to get involved with Habitat in their own communities, as well.

[From the Marietta Daily Journal, Feb. 28, 1996]

MARIETTA'S "MIRACLE"

Many people lament the plight of the homeless, but leave to others the hard work of housing the less fortunate. Not so those involved with Habitat for Humanity.

Since the establishment of its first Cobb County branch in 1986, Cobb Habitat has built or rehabilitated 54 homes: 22 in Power Springs, 16 in Marietta, nine in Acworth, four in Kennesaw, two in Smyrna and one in Austell.

Now the group is in the process of acquiring 11 properties in one of Cobb's most drug- and crime-ridden neighborhoods. The project has been christened "The Marietta Miracle: Roosevelt Circle Renewal," and is focused on

the Roosevelt area, where drug dealers, prostitutes and vacant houses have blighted what was once a fairly typical working-class community and where law-abiding residents sometimes are afraid to leave their houses.

The targeted properties consist of a variety of vacant lots and dilapidated duplexes. Habitat will buy the properties, refurbish the duplexes and build single-family homes on the vacant lots. The upshot is that when the project is complete, up to 18 families will have new homes.

As with all Habitat projects, the new owners will be picked from a pool of qualified families based on need, their willingness to work in a partnership and their ability to repay the 15-year loans used to finance a house. Only those with incomes are considered as prospective owners. Those chosen also must undergo a rigorous interview process and put in 300 hours of "sweat equity" on Habitat construction projects.

"It'll be a big leap of faith for the families that will move into the homes," said Craig Satterlee, Cobb Habitat's executive director. "Our mission is to eliminate poverty housing in Cobb by building new homes and rehabilitating existing homes. There is no place more in need than Roosevelt Circle."

The project is expected to cost \$730,000, of which \$400,000 already has been pledged by local churches and businesses, including eight Catholic churches, St. Catherine's Episcopal, St. James Episcopal, Home Depot, Crawford & Co., the Cobb Board of Realtors, and students at Kennesaw State College.

"Far more important than the economics is the spirit of giving of yourselves. That's what makes a good community," said U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-east Cobb, at Saturday's kickoff for the "Marietta Miracle" at First Baptist Church of Marietta. "Habitat doesn't give to the poor—it involves the poor in creating a better life for themselves."

And as Marietta Ward 5 Councilman James Dodd put it: "Other people in the [Roosevelt Circle] community will see these homes and will use them as a model to upgrade theirs."

Hopefully, the Habitat project will have a ripple effect in the community, as its others have so many times before. And hopefully, those ripples will continue to widen.

CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE ACT OF
1996

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 1996

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Citizen Representative Act of 1996.

For years, it has been widely recognized that deep flaws and gaping loopholes in the way campaigns are paid for in America have amplified the importance of well-heeled special interest groups, reduced the clout of small individual contributors, and favored wealthy candidates while effectively silencing the voices of citizens unable to raise the large sums of money needed to mount a campaign for Congress.

Citizens across the country and many here in Congress understand that our system for financing campaigns in this country is broken and needs to be fixed. Skyrocketing campaign costs discourage everyday Americans from running for public office. Small, individual campaign contributions are crowded out by big money contributions from political action committees [PAC's]

I believe the best way to accomplish meaningful campaign finance reform and make Congress more accountable to the public is to encourage congressional candidates to raise more of their campaign funds from small contributions from individual donors.

The bill I am introducing today motivates candidates to rely on small contributions in two primary ways: funds from a voluntary checkoff of Federal tax returns will go toward a Citizen Representative Fund established at the Treasury Department to finance voter communications vouchers for candidates agreeing to observe the bills spending limits; and ceilings imposed on campaign spending from PAC's and large contributions will increase the importance of small donations.

Enacting lobby reform legislation and tightening gift rules have generated momentum we now should harness to pass real, comprehensive campaign finance reform. We have a unique opportunity to invigorate our democratic process, return power to voters across the country, and restore faith in the Congress. We must not let this moment pass.

If we fail to act, we will be preserving a system stacked in favor of wealthy individuals while preventing many potential candidates from getting a seat at the campaign table. Last month, press reports indicated that 11 House candidates each have used at least \$100,000 of their own money to finance their 1996 campaigns, and 26 candidates have put at least \$50,000 of their personal funds toward their races.

A hefty bank account should not be a prerequisite for running for Congress. That's why the bill I am introducing today restricts to \$25,000 personal contributions a candidate can make to his own campaign if the candidate wants to be eligible to receive the benefits provided in the bill.

The bill also tames the powerful influence of PAC's. Last summer, the public interest watchdog group Common Cause released a study indicating that in the first half of the 1995 contributions from PAC's accounted for large chunks of House candidates' total campaign funds. The legislation I am introducing today requires candidates agreeing to the bill's spending caps to limit their expenditures from PAC's to 15 percent of their total spending. That's a maximum of \$90,000 from PAC's.

To ensure that voters get the facts about candidates running for House seats, the bill makes participation in two nonpartisan debates a requirement for receiving communications vouchers. Our democracy is fueled by full and open discussions of the important issues facing our Nation, and all candidates should communicate their positions to the voters so that well-informed decisions can be made.

I have long believed that individual citizens should have more of a voice in campaigns for Congress. My bill expands the participation of everyday Americans in political campaigns through the voluntary checkoff and the emphasis on small contributions. I am hopeful that the House Oversight Committee will act on this legislation.

As people around the world strive to build democracies in States where ballots once listed only one choice for seats in a bureaucracy unconcerned with the needs of its own citizens, we need to increase participation in the electoral process here at home to maintain a healthy democratic system that is responsive to all Americans.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ABE LEBEWOL

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents and to mourn his tragic and premature death.

New York truly suffered a devastating loss this week with the death of Abe Lebewohl. On Monday, March 4, his life was cut short when a robber shot him twice as he went to the bank to make the daily deposit for his deli.

Mr. Lebewohl founded and owned the Second Avenue Deli where he will always be remembered as a hard worker, a brilliant businessman, an enlightened employer, and a distinguished community leader. A Holocaust survivor, he started the deli in 1954 as a 12-seat diner. After 42 years of hard work, Mr. Lebewohl built it to the current 250-seat restaurant that is known all over the world. Not only did the community lose a wonderful man and a great entrepreneur, but also one of the last links to the historic old Jewish neighborhood of the Lower East Side.

Abe Lebewohl greeted people by name, gave free sandwiches to homeless people or to anyone out of work, and supplies nourishment to workers on strike. He made everyone feel like family, never hesitating to give a helping hand when they were down on their luck.

The Second Avenue Deli has become one of their most popular landmarks in New York City. Almost every day, famous people come to eat and tourists often line up around the block in order to taste one of Abe's sandwiches or his soup. But more than anything, Abe's deli was a part of his community. It was his neighbors, employees, and family who stood outside of the deli on Monday to mourn his passing.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that my colleagues join me in sending our deepest condolences to Abe's wife, Eleanor, his daughters, his grandchildren, his employees, and his friends on this most devastating loss.

HATRED MARKS PAPER TRAIL

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 7, 1996

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, during these political primaries, it is important that the American public has as much information on the candidates as possible. In pursuit of that goal, I am submitting for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD an article written for the Jerusalem Post on past statements made by Pat Buchanan.

[From The Jerusalem Post, Feb. 23, 1996]

HATRED MARKS PAPER TRAIL

Pat Buchanan has toned down his comments, but hasn't backed down, Elli Wohlgerlenter reports.

Pat Buchanan's upset victory in the New Hampshire primary on Tuesday has once again focused heightened attention on the man and his words, and on the people surrounding him in his campaign.

When two staffers in two days last week had to step down for questions that were

raised over their ties to white supremacists, it came as no surprise to Jews here and in the US who remembered what Buchanan used to say and write, before he toned down his rhetoric when he began running for president in 1992.

It goes back to the 1970s, when what began as a trickle—a snide comment here, a hard-line position advocated there—soon started snowballing until, on the eve of the Gulf war in 1990, a mini-war broke out over flagrant and vicious antisemitic comments made by Buchanan.

To recap a few: In 1976, when the Ford administration proposed selling arms to Egypt, Buchanan urged Congress not to "hearken * * * to the counsel of the Jewish lobby and its Washington representative Henry Jackson."

In 1977, when president Jimmy Carter endorsed legislation against the Arab boycott of Israel, Buchanan objected and warned that Israel would be blamed as a result when Americans lost their jobs.

He later maintained that Americans were asking "why the U.S. is siding with three million Israelis instead of 100 million Arabs who have oil."

In 1981, he wrote, "Many Americans are growing bone-weary with carrying the diplomatic, economic and military cost of underwriting Menachem Begin's policies."

Throughout the 1980s, Buchanan exhibited a fiery and indignant pose in a campaign to defend former Nazis, whomever they were and however evil their prior deeds.

As early as 1977 he wrote of Hitler: "Though Hitler was indeed racist and antisemitic to the core, a man who without compunction could commit murder and genocide, he was also an individual of great courage, a soldier's soldier in the Great War, a political organizer of the first rank, a leader steeped in the history of Europe, who possessed oratorical powers that could awe even those who despised him."

From this followed his strong defense of Nazi criminals, and his denunciation of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations, which pursues Nazi criminals: "You've got a great atrocity that occurred 35, 40 years ago * * * Why put millions of dollars [into] investigating that?"

There were other remarks he made about targets of war-crimes allegations, including:

When the U.S. apologized to France for sheltering Klaus Barbie, the "Butcher of Lyon," Buchanan complained: "To what end all this wallowing in the atrocities of a dead regime?"

He campaigned against the deportation to the Soviet Union of Karl Linna, who ran a Nazi death camp in Estonia, when the US Court of Appeals ruled that there was overwhelming evidence of his guilt.

On the isolating of Kurt Waldheim: "The ostracism of Kurt Waldheim [has] an aspect of moral bullying and the singular stench of selective indignation."

And of course, there was his spirited defense of Ivan Demjanjuk and his statement that he could never get a fair trial in Israel.

Alan Ryan Jr., former head of OSI at the Justice Department, said then that "Pat Buchanan is going to bat for any Nazi war criminal in the US," and called him "the spokesman for Nazi war criminals in America. His campaign on behalf of these people is so infused with distortions and misrepresentations of the facts that it's almost impossible to engage in any sort of response. He simply piles lie upon inaccuracy upon surmise upon personal attack."

Not content to defend Nazis, Buchanan shifted to questioning aspects of the Holocaust. Gas chambers could not have killed human beings, he wrote, because "in 1988, 97 kids, trapped 400 feet underground in a Washington, DC, tunnel while two locomotives