

Her reward for violating district policy occurred at the end of the school year. The students had taken the district wide achievement tests.

And one day, the principal called in Isabel and said "Mrs. Patterson, you must have a very exceptional class. They were 25% ahead of every other 5th grade in Long Beach."

Isabel smiled graciously and accepted the compliment.

In her heart, she knew that her teaching phonetics put her class ahead of every other class in the city.

Jack and Connie Shainline have been most helpful to her in these years when some infirmities were beginning to develop. During what would be her last evening she had enjoyed dinner with her good friend Dick Gaylord, who was always there for her at any hour of need.

Cam Killingsworth perhaps expressed the feelings of a lot of us when she wrote me a note: "Welcome home, even though the circumstances are sadder. We all have treasured memories—and maybe some not so—of our Dear Isabel, but nothing can overshadow how much I learned from her. The difference she made in my life and the hope that I might spend the rest of my life striving to make in difference in young people's lives, learning from her extraordinary example."

Cam continues: "I spent some time with her the night she died and I am grateful that she appeared well. We went through stacks of pictures that she had been working on for awhile preparing then to send to various friends. We had some laughs and reminisced some about the warm memories that the images evoked. But the pictures that warmed her heart the most were of the university, especially her birthdays at the Center."

Isabel was pleased to hear the latest news of our grandchild—and I know that she would understand and approve why Nini is not here for her today. She is in Phoenix with our grandchild who was born just a few weeks ago. It is the first opportunity Nini has had to spend a week there to help. Isabel knew that children come first and baby-sitting assignments by grandmothers are necessary.

Isabel Patterson, as we know, was a great woman, and a good woman, a great friend, and a rare human being. She touched the lives of every single one of us in this beautiful church. And I know that in the years ahead, many of things we do will be done because she came into our lives.

TRIBUTE TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the Church of the Ascension, which is located in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. I am proud to honor the Church of the Ascension here today in celebration of its 150 continuous years of service to its community.

The early days of the Church of the Ascension are remarkable. The church began in 1846, in the borrowed parlor of a house in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. It was officially incorporated as a church in December 1846, and the Sunday school was established in the following year. Services were held during those first years in the Sunday school room of another church, and later in the Odd Fellows Hall, until October 1853, when the first service

was held in the Church of the Ascension on Kent Street, in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. Ascension bears the notable distinction of being the first church established in Greenpoint, Brooklyn.

Today, I am proud to report that since June 1995, the Church of the Ascension has been led by its first female rector, Rev. Mabel Burke Lewis. Mother Lewis oversees an active Sunday school with regular classes of Bible readings, games, and projects. There are after-school programs and a summer day camp, opportunities for adult education, and adult and children's craft groups during the year. Ascension continues to take a leadership role in the Episcopal charities campaign, and has recently begun an adult literacy program and an AIDS ministry in local hospitals. Mother Lewis has introduced healing services at the church and has brought back 12-step recovery programs, after a long absence. Under the able cadence of Mother Lewis, Ascension works with other churches to feed the hungry in Greenpoint.

The Church of the Ascension has become what it is today through a long succession of very inspirational, effective, and dedicated ministers who led Ascension through good and bad times. Too numerous to list here, their contributions to the parish and to the community are the reason the Church of the Ascension can today celebrate 150 years. From fundraising and eliminating debt, to staging Shakespearean plays, to rebuilding after fire, those dedicated and selfless individuals enabled the Church of the Ascension to answer the spiritual and redemptive needs of its parishioners.

It is for these reasons, Mr. Speaker, that I rise today to pay tribute to the Church of the Ascension for its 150 years of service to the parishioners and community of Greenpoint, Brooklyn. I ask my colleagues to join with me in this tribute and in wishing Ascension another 150 years of continued service.

RECOGNITION OF SAMMY GORDON, A LOCAL HERO

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, not long ago I received word of some remarkable work by a very special young man from my district in Trenton, NJ. His efforts were truly commendable and an inspiration to us all. And so I rise today to pay tribute to Sammy Gordon for his efforts to help the victims of last year's bombing in Oklahoma City.

Last April, upon hearing of the tragedy in Oklahoma, Sammy, then age 12 and a 7th grader at Holy Cross School in Trenton, decided he wanted to help the victims. And help he did. Enlisting support from friends, parents, and local merchants, but mostly by his own wits and gritty determination, Sammy managed to raise \$3,300 selling lemonade. He chose a truly ingenious location—a local drive-by ATM machine—where the customers were both easily accessible and possessed of ready cash.

Sammy and his friend's original motivation for the endeavor had been the worthwhile goal of building a clubhouse. However, when

Sammy heard of the hardships that the bombing victims were enduring, he decided that it would be better to put the needs of others ahead of his own wants.

Sammy's compassion and determination to relieve suffering, stands in marked contrast to the despicable act of wanton cruelty which inspired his efforts in the first place. When a calamity like Oklahoma City is intentionally inflicted, it defies explanation. In the face of such meaningless terror, all of us can be tempted to despair. Responses like Sammy's, however, offer the rays of hope we all need to prevent this despair from setting in. By his act of kindness, Sammy reminds us that this world is far more defined by goodness, than by the evil. The extraordinary success of his endeavor also reminds us that when we take a small step to do good, it can serve as a catalyst and big things can sometimes result.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, this young man demonstrated that personal acts of charity are indispensable to the kind of society we all want to live in. In contrast to Sammy's fast action, it took the Government over a year to decide what the appropriate legal response to this tragedy ought to be. Sammy and others like him stepped forward almost immediately, as only individuals can, and began to fill the overwhelming needs of a community which had been so terribly battered.

In these respects, the money Sammy raised selling lemonade, and forgoing—temporarily, I hope—the construction of his clubhouse, not only helped those who were directly affected by tragedy, but rather it helps us all. That is no small accomplishment.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I rise not only to commend Samuel Gordon, but to thank him as well. I wish Sammy and his friends the best of luck in whatever the future brings them. I believe that if they continue to put the needs of others ahead of their own desires, they will be very happy in their own lives and we will all be richer for it.

AIRLINE PILOT HIRING AND SAFETY ACT OF 1996

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation, I am pleased that today the subcommittee approved H.R. 3536, the Airline Pilot Hiring and Safety Act of 1996. The bill requires airlines to share pilot performance records.

Over the past 8 years, there have been six commercial airplane crashes—all but one on small airlines. According to the National Transportation Safety Board, five of these crashes are attributable to pilot error; 111 people were killed in these crashes. In at least four of these fatal accidents, the employing airline was not aware that the pilots had documented histories of poor performance with other airlines that had employed them.

One of these crashes occurred on December 13, 1994, when American Eagle flight 3379 on route from Greensboro, NC, to Raleigh-Durham crashed 4 miles short of the runway while attempting an instrument controlled landing in poor weather conditions. Thirteen

passengers and the two crew members were killed. The pilot, Capt. Mike Hillis, was hired by American Eagle just 4 days after he was forced to quit by his previous employer because of poor piloting skills. American Eagle had no knowledge of his prior poor performance ratings or the fact that he had, in effect, been fired for poor piloting skills.

One of the passengers who died on flight 3379 was William Gibson of Kernersville, NC. Mr. Gibson's parents, Mary Ann and Howard Gibson, and his sister, Susan Gibson Berson traveled to Washington, DC, last December to appear before a subcommittee hearing on this issue. Mary Ann and Howard came all the way from Warren, OH, in my congressional district. The approval of H.R. 3536 today by the subcommittee is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and vision of the Gibson family and countless other families who have lost loved ones in plane crashes caused by pilot error.

It sorrows me to note that on January 20 of this year, Howard Gibson passed away. I can't think of a more fitting tribute to Howard Gibson and his son, William, than approval of H.R. 3536.

William Gibson was 39 years old when he died. In addition to his parents and sisters, he left behind his wife, Roberta, and three beautiful children: Katie, age 12; Courtney, age 9; and Ross, age 4. William was a senior executive accountant for American Sunroof Corp.

His death was a tragedy—a tragedy shared by the families and friends of other victims who died in airplane accidents that could have been avoided if the employing airline knew of the pilot's previous record.

According to the NTSB, the probable cause of the American Eagle flight 3379 accident was pilot error. The pilot mistakenly assumed that an engine had failed, and the pilot subsequently failed to follow approved procedures for engine failure, single-engine approach and go-around, and stall recovery. Most significantly, the NTSB found that a key contributor to the accident was the failure of American Eagle to identify, document, monitor, and remedy deficiencies in pilot performance and training.

The Federal Aviation Administration does not require a potential employer to conduct a pilot applicant background check. While the FAA requires airlines to conduct security checks of pilot applicants, there is no FAA requirement to verify flight experience, determine an applicant's safety/enforcement history, pilot training and performance in the pilot's previous position, or any criminal or driving history.

The Airline Pilot Hiring and Safety Act requires an airline to obtain the records of a pilot from the pilot's previous employer before hiring that pilot. The bill requires airlines to keep pilot records for up to 5 years, and allows pilots full access to their records and notice of whenever records are being provided. The bill also provides immunity to airlines unless the airline knowingly lies about the pilot's record.

I would like to note for the record that the airline pilots have raised some legitimate concerns about this bill. They argue that many pilot training records are subjective, and requiring record sharing and background checks will result in the sanitization of pilot records to protect pilots' careers. This, they argue, would have the effect of making the system less safe.

While I understand the pilots' concerns, I believe the bill before us strikes a reasonable balance between safety and privacy. And the bill does directly address another concern the pilots raised by requiring the FAA to issue a proposed rule within 18 months establishing minimum standards for pilot qualifications. The airline pilots are right on target when they note that one way to address the safety issue is for the FAA to standardize and tighten pilot hiring standards.

I would also repeat that the bill allows pilots to sue airlines if an airline lied about a pilot. The bill also includes clear language safeguarding the privacy of pilot records.

On balance, H.R. 3536 is a good bill and I am proud to support it. Most importantly, I am proud of Mary Ann Gibson, her daughter Susan, and the entire Gibson family for the work they have done to move this legislation forward. It is my sincere hope that this legislation is enacted into law this year.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT O'NEAL

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, Bob O'Neal was one of the best law enforcement officers ever in our country.

It was he who inspired the Indiana's sheriffs merit law which it was my privilege to sponsor in the Indiana General Assembly.

Sheriff O'Neal was also at one time my boss. I worked my way through night law school in Indianapolis as a sheriff's police officer during Mr. O'Neal's two terms of office.

Have thrown the mold away, they will not find another officer quite to fit the shoes of Bob O'Neal.

ROBERT O'NEAL, EX-CHIEF OF INDIANA STATE POLICE, FORMER COUNTY SHERIFF

Services for Robert Andrew O'Neal, 82. Speedway, retired Indiana State Police superintendent and former Marion County sheriff, will be May 24 at 9:30 a.m. in Conkle Funeral Home, Speedway Chapel, and at 10 a.m. in St. Christopher Catholic Church, of which he was a member.

Calling will be from 3 to 9 p.m. May 23 in the funeral home.

Burial will be in Holy Cross Cemetery.

He died May 20.

Mr. O'Neal joined the State Police in 1934. He was appointed superintendent July 1, 1952, becoming the first state police officer to be promoted progressively from the lowest to the highest position in the department.

In 1954, he was elected Marion County sheriff, a position he held until 1962, when he was appointed a U.S. marshal by President John F. Kennedy.

Mr. O'Neal was re-appointed superintendent of the State Police in 1965 and served in that position until retiring from the department in 1968.

He then was appointed police commissioner for the town of Speedway. He was re-appointed in 1980 and 1983.

He received numerous awards for his law enforcement activities. He received the Good Government Award by the Indianapolis Junior Chamber of Commerce, the State Legislation Citation for outstanding police work, the Liberty Bell Award by the Indiana State Bar Association and Sheriff of the Year Award by Indiana Sheriffs Association.

Mr. O'Neal served many years as chairman of the 500 Race Traffic Committee after

Anton "Tony" Hulman bought the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in 1946. After an unsuccessful bid to regain the Marion County sheriff's job in 1986, he served as the track's safety director from 1988 until his 1994 retirement.

Among the many positions he held in the Speedway community, Mr. O'Neal had been president of Speedway Lions Club and chairman of the Speedway High School Athletic Fund Committee. He also had been secretary of the Speedway School Building Corp. more than 20 years.

He was a member of Indianapolis Athletic Club, Knights of Columbus Council 437 and Indiana Sheriffs Association.

Mr. O'Neal was a graduate of the State Police Training School and FBI Academy.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Bob O'Neal Memorial Fund, in care of St. Christopher Catholic Church.

He was the widower of Emma F. Bernhardt O'Neal.

Survivors: children Robert A. Jr., J. William, John A., Joseph M., Mary Ann O'Neal; eight grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO THE BEACH HOUSE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a Toledo institution which has been serving women and their families for 75 years. The Beach House has worked to meet the needs of our city's homeless women, children, and entire families.

Our Nation's lack of affordable housing is a crucial problem and a principal reason why women often find themselves and their families without shelter. Beach House provides emergency shelter for 30 days in a clean and safe environment with 24-hour supervision 365 days a year. An on-staff licensed social worker helps clients to establish a plan of action, which includes finding housing and making referrals to other agencies for needed assistance.

Beach House opened its doors in May, 1921, under the guiding hand of Mrs. Helen Beach Jones, the wife of Toledo's Mayor "Golden Rule" Jones. Mrs. Jones worked with several women's organizations to establish the shelter, and named it Beach House in honor of her mother Harriet Beach. In 1982, the shelter expanded its clientele to include fathers and husbands in order to keep homeless families intact.

The Women's Protective Association has governed and managed the shelter from its inception. In 1941, Beach House moved to its present location, and in 1963, it received a charter as a nonprofit organization. A recent complete remodeling of the shelter has made it accessible to disabled persons.

Beach House also operates a transitional shelter project called Steinquest House that allows qualifying women and families to continue supportive services for up to 24 months.

Mr. Speaker, at 75, Beach House is a wonderful example of a community helping its own. It has seen good times and bad times. It has seen depression and war, and throughout its years Beach House has served the women of Toledo and their families with steadfastness and with compassion. I commend Beach House to my colleagues. We know it will be there whenever there is need.