

that are the embryos of hurricanes first form. When the Sahel is wetter, Dr. Gray found, more embryos form. This year, the Sahel is wet.

Another factor is the phenomenon known as El Nino, the huge pool of warm water that develops every two to seven years in the eastern tropical Pacific, changing weather patterns around the world. When it is in place, high-level winds blowing from the west tend to shear off the tops of developing hurricanes in the adjacent Atlantic, causing them to abort. El Nino may make an appearance later this year, forecasters say, but the Colorado group predicts that it will not do so in time to affect the hurricane picture.

Other elements include the behavior of stratospheric winds that circle the globe high above the equator and weather features far remote from the Atlantic hurricane belt—things, for example, like the temperature high above Singapore. On balance, the forecasters say, the indicators point to higher-than-average activity this year.

One of the most powerful indicators, according to the new study by Dr. Saunders and Andrew R. Harris, climate scientists at University College London in Britain, is the Atlantic sea-surface temperature. Their statistical analysis found that while most of the relevant factors were indeed favorable for hurricane development in the banner year of 1995, the dominating influence was the unusually warm ocean. The temperature in the region where hurricanes develop was 1.2 degrees Fahrenheit above the 1946-1995 average, a record. The development region was 0.36 of a degree warmer than average last year and is about 0.9 of a degree warmer now. This, said Dr. Saunders, presages another active season. His study appeared in the May 15 issue of the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*.

The researchers suggest that warmer seas cause more water to evaporate from the surface. With evaporation, latent heat is released in the atmosphere, and the researchers believe that this is what imparts more energy to the embryonic storms coming out of Africa, making it more likely that they will develop into hurricanes. "It seems that this is a stronger effect than any other mechanism, like El Nino or the monsoon in the western Sahel," Dr. Saunders said.

The question, he said, is whether the rising sea temperature is a natural expression of the climate system's variability, independent of any influence from a warming atmosphere. Dr. Gray, for his part, says he believes the warmer ocean temperature is "a manifestation of a major change in North Atlantic ocean circulation." Stately currents in the North Atlantic undergo periodic shifts on decadal time scales. Dr. Gray said he believed that a new pattern was in place, and that it was likely to presage a decade or two of above-average hurricane activity.

"This is the greatest fear we have," he said, "that we're entering a new era. I believe we are."

If so, the new Federal study on hurricane damage may offer a preview of what lies ahead. In the study, Dr. Roger Pielke Jr. of the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo., and Dr. Christopher Landsea of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's hurricane research division in Miami calculated how much damage would result from past hurricanes if they had occurred in 1995, when the coasts held many more people and much more wealth than earlier.

The calculation, which also accounts for inflation, shows that if the more numerous storms of the very active quarter-century prior to 1970 were to hit the mainland now, each of the storms would cause far more damage than it did back then.

It has been suggested in the past that escalating hurricane damage in more recent decades has resulted from an increase in the number and severity of storms. The Pielke-Landsea analysis found this is not so. In fact, when all hurricane damage was assessed as if it had occurred in 1995, the four biggest hurricanes of the last eight years were no longer the most damaging in history. Andrew, which exacted an all-time record \$26.5 billion in actual damages, was downgraded to second place by a monster that struck Florida and Alabama in 1926. Hugo (1989), Opal (1995) and Fran (1996) slip far down the list.

The analysis, its authors wrote, indicates clearly "that the United States has been fortunate in recent decades with regard to storm losses." Now, they wrote, multibillion-dollar losses may become increasingly frequent, and it may be "only a matter of time" before a single storm exacts \$50 billion in damages.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF DEDICATION

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, recently in my district a celebration was held for Cecil Clark of Leesburg, FL on the 25th anniversary of Cecil Clark Chevrolet. I appreciate this opportunity to congratulate Cecil for a quarter century of service to our community.

Fifty years ago Cecil Clark sold his first Chevrolet, along with his first Frigidaire appliance. In 1972, he opened up his own car dealership—Cecil Clark Chevrolet. Over the last 25 years he has sold 25,000 new cars and trucks, and he has sold over 40,000 used vehicles.

His wife Jackie has shared his vision for almost 50 years and has worked with him at his dealership. Now, his son Greg has assumed responsibilities for the dealership as co-owner, and Mr. Clark's daughter, Cindy Clark Brooker, opened her own dealership last year in Wildwood, FL.

Our society is a mobile society, and we are dependent on automobiles. Cecil Clark and his family have been essential in meeting the needs of thousands of people in my district.

Congratulations, Cecil, and my best wishes to you and your family.

FATHER CUNNINGHAM: PASSION, COURAGE, TENACITY

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a special person—Father William Cunningham—who passed away last week. Detroiters, those in need and Catholics across America have not only lost a kind benefactor and gentle heart, we have lost a hero, friend, and a perfect model of inspiration and hope.

A visionary pragmatist who founded Focus:HOPE, one of the Nation's largest civil rights organizations, Father Cunningham worked tirelessly for more than three decades

building racial harmony and creating jobs in the city of Detroit. Although we have not yet reached his goal, because of his passionate work, relations among our citizens have improved dramatically.

It was a shock to everyone last October to learn that this great man was stricken with cancer, but his courage and tenacity shone bright as the Sun as he fought his deteriorating health to the very end.

His long request to his long-time friend and cofounder of Focus:HOPE Eleanor Josaitis: no plaques, no streets, no buildings named after him, "Just make sure my work continues."

Even during his last breath, this hero to many was still concerned about us—about the future of the city and its people he loved with all his soul.

Focus:HOPE will serve as his lasting legacy. Born out of the ashes of the Detroit riots of 1967, Father Cunningham made his dream of helping the poor a reality. Whether it was food, jobs, or racial harmony, Father Cunningham and Focus:HOPE were on the leading edge, breaking new ground, winning the war on poverty inch by inch.

It was an honor to know such a great man. He was a generous man with a kind heart. His service was to God and his fellow man. He always had a kind word, willing ear, and helpful advice.

Father William Cunningham was a good friend to all he knew and those he didn't know, but could help. He will be missed sorely, but his legacy and spirit will remain ingrained in our souls forever.

TRIBUTE TO ROZ AND BARNEY COOPERMAN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, we are honored to pay tribute to our dear friends, Roz and Barney Cooperman, who this year are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. On June 29, Roz and Barney will celebrate this special occasion in the company of children—they have five—and grandchildren—they have six. Roz and Barney are wonderful parents who have always placed family above all else.

Roz and Barney met in 1946 while attending the University of California at Berkeley. The next year they got married in Brooklyn; the year after that the couple moved to Los Angeles, where they have lived ever since. Barney went into law practice in 1949, while Roz became a history instructor at Los Angeles City College. In 1952 she left teaching to raise a family.

Almost as long as they have been married Roz and Barney have been involved in community and political affairs. Barney has served on the boards of a public radio station, a teacher-training nursery school and Temple Israel of Hollywood. He also started a leading Democratic club, organized local Democratic nominating conventions and served on the state Democratic Central Committee. In 1980 Barney was appointed to the bench as a superior court judge, in which position he served with great distinction until 1995.

As a mother and teacher, Roz has been quite active in the area of education. She has served on the Los Angeles Unified School District's Gender Equity Commission, the LAUSD's Parents' Collaborative and on the Intergroup Relations/Multicultural Education Committee. She has otherwise worked with pro-choice groups and on issues such as welfare reform and affirmative action. She is truly a model of civic involvement.

We ask our colleagues to join us today in saluting Roz and Barney Cooperman, whose devotion to each other and their community is a model for us all. May they have many more years of happiness together.

DISMANTLING THE SAFETY NET

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, in the few short months since Congress has embarked on the misguided and destructive mission of welfare reform, the dismantling of the safety net necessary for the health and well-being of our Nation's most vulnerable populations—our children and the elderly—has reaped deadly effects. The Republican wish has come true. Republicans have successfully removed the neediest Americans from the rolls—permanently.

In March of this year, one man took his own life to avoid the uncertainty of the future. After receiving a letter informing him that he might be cut off of Social Security, Ignacio Munoz, a 75-year-old elderly legal immigrant, put a gun to his head and pulled the trigger. Mr. Munoz had worked in the United States for 40 years, but the Social Security Administration had payment records only for 10 years. Mr. Munoz committed suicide because of extreme fear of being cut off from his only means of support. Mr. Munoz' fear of being left out in the cold continues to grip the legal and elderly immigrant community.

Still, with vehement opposition from State and local governments, advocacy groups, and poor and disabled Americans themselves, Republicans continue to turn a deaf ear while unashamedly forging ahead. As the Ways and Means Committee begins the welfare reconciliation markup, I believe it is important to heed these predictions from experts concerning the impact of welfare reform:

CHILDREN

In California, nearly 250,000 children would be denied benefits.—Children's Defense Fund

Nationwide, nearly 1/2 of all children with disabilities, or 140,000, will lose SSI.—Children's Defense Fund

Nearly 3.3 million children would be denied welfare assistance.—Children's Defense Fund

1.14 million children will be driven into poverty, making one child in four poor in America.—Children's Defense Fund

Nearly 134,000 children in New York State would be impoverished.—Children's Defense Fund

300,000 children will be cut from SSI.—Social Security Administration

50,000 children will lose Medicaid benefits.—Social Security Administration

Over 57,000 children in Texas would be reduced to poverty.—Children's Defense Fund

Nearly 64,000 children in Michigan would be made poor.—Children's Defense Fund

1.2 million legal immigrants, including 450,000 children, would lose SSI and/or food stamps.—Children's Defense Fund

10% of all families nationwide would lose some benefits.—Children's Defense Fund

For families with children, more than 20% would lose some benefits.—Children's Defense Fund

20% of families with children would have their incomes reduced by \$1,300 a year.—Children's Defense Fund

LEGAL IMMIGRANTS

500,000 legal immigrants will be cut off the SSI rolls.—Washington Post, May 3, 1997

Nearly 1,000,000 legal immigrants will lose food stamps.—Washington Post, May 3, 1997

400,000 elderly legal immigrants will not receive SSI.—Los Angeles Times, June 5, 1997

100,000 severely disabled legal immigrants will be cut off SSI.—New York Times, June 5, 1997

1,000,000 legal immigrants could lose food stamps nationwide.—Los Angeles Times, May 2, 1997

Four states—California, New York, Florida, and Texas, with 1/3 of the House of Representatives and all with Republican governors—would be the hardest hit under this new law.—Newsday, April 10, 1997

Legal immigrants account for 5% of those in the U.S. who receive welfare, but will bear 44% of the cuts.—San Francisco Chronicle, February 13, 1997

Legal immigrants—including those poor legal immigrants over 75 or permanently disabled—are wholly ineligible for food stamps.—Center on Budget

CALIFORNIA

224,000 legal immigrants will be cut off in California.—Rocky Mountain News, May 17, 1997

Over 3,000 elderly legal immigrants will lose welfare benefits in Sacramento County.—Sacramento Bee, May 17, 1997

41% of all legal immigrants who are scheduled to lose disability payments live in California.—Los Angeles Times, May 2, 1997

427,000 legal immigrants live in California.—Los Angeles Times, May 2, 1997

135,000 legal immigrants over 65 years old live in California.—San Francisco Chronicle, April 19, 1997

Three-fold increase in the number of new homeless.—Alameda County Health Care Services

In California, hundreds of thousands coming off the welfare rolls would vie with one million already on the unemployment rolls for entry-level jobs.—San Francisco Chronicle, January 10, 1997

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

In Los Angeles County 430,000 legal immigrants could lose food stamps and other federal aid.—San Francisco Chronicle, February 13, 1997

In Los Angeles County, welfare cutbacks will impact 518,000 people.—Children's Defense Fund

Up to 227,600 people could lose health care insurance in Los Angeles County.—Children's Defense Fund

Up to 30,000 women could lose prenatal care in Los Angeles County.—Children's Defense Fund

Up to 21,000 additional children could wind up in Foster Care in Los Angeles County.—Children's Defense Fund

Nearly 200,000 legal immigrants on AFDC in Los Angeles County would lose their benefits.—San Francisco Chronicle, February 13, 1997

150,000 receive SSI in Los Angeles County.—San Francisco Chronicle, April 19, 1997

90,000 receiving SSI in Los Angeles County are children.—San Francisco Chronicle, April 19, 1997

200,000 legal immigrants in Los Angeles County on AFDC face a cutoff.—San Francisco Chronicle, April 19, 1997

In Los Angeles County, 430,000 legal immigrants could lose food stamps and other federal aid.—San Francisco Chronicle, February 13, 1997

Nearly 200,000 legal immigrants on AFDC in Los Angeles County would lose their benefits.—San Francisco Chronicle, February 13, 1997

CONNECTICUT

19,000 legal immigrants in Connecticut are on SSI.—Hartford Courant, January 31, 1997

PENNSYLVANIA

484,000 families on AFDC will be affected in Pennsylvania.—Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, March 2, 1997

NEW YORK

The new law will affect 70,000 in New York City.—Newsday, April 22, 1997

85,000 legal immigrants will lose benefits in New York City.—New York Times, May 10, 1997

In an area of Brooklyn called Southside, nearly 1/2 of the 27,000 residents receive some form of public assistance. If thousands lose their benefits, it would bring extreme hardship to this neighborhood.—New York Times, March 10, 1997

FLORIDA

54,000 legal immigrants live in Florida.—Sun-Sentinel, April 20, 1997

39,000 legal immigrants in Florida are over 65 years old.—Sun-Sentinel, April 20, 1997

43,000 legal immigrants in Florida live in just one county, Dade County.—Sun-Sentinel, April 20, 1997

GRAND OPENING OF THE SUTTER ROSEVILLE MEDICAL CENTER

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the momentous occasion of the grand opening of the new Sutter Roseville Medical Center, located in Roseville, CA. The center will officially open its doors to patients on Sunday, June 22, 1997.

Sutter Roseville Medical Center is an affiliate of Sutter/CHS, one of northern California's largest not-for-profit health care systems. The medical center will open with 168 licensed beds and the capacity to expand to 188 beds if the need arises. The inpatient areas of the new medical center will include a dedicated birth center, an emergency department and trauma center that is three times the size of the existing Sutter Roseville, and a beautiful, home-styled skilled nursing facility.

The 315,000-square-foot medical center was designed by staff, physicians and members of the community to be responsive to patient and family needs. A critical aspect of the