

had medicinal powers and these beliefs overruled the smell.

My grandfather was a man who could not be defined by labels. He was a craftsman who worked with his hands in the trade he learned at Tuskegee, the institute founded by Booker T. Washington decades earlier. Grandpa believed deeply in Washington's message of blacks acquiring economic power through working in agricultural and business trades. My grandfather practiced these beliefs by training hundreds of black plumbers through a school he founded in 1944 and operated until 1962. He taught his only son, William J. Ware Jr., the trade and he has turned it into a lucrative business.

But Grandpa also lived by the words of W.E.B. Dubois, the black intellectual and a founder of the NAACP who, among other things, advocated the importance of protest to fight racial injustice.

My grandfather not only stood up for what was just in his professional life, but he made sure his children received every right and privilege they were entitled to.

In 1947, when my mother, Philomena W. McClellan, was a senior at Notre Dame Academy—now Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School—one of the nuns told my grandfather, "Philomena Ware will not go to the prom." It was implied that because of my mother's race, she should not be allowed to attend. According to my mother, Grandpa assured the nun, "Philomena Ware will go to the prom."

At 16, my mom wasn't dating yet, so Grandpa went out and arranged a date with a family friend. My mother and her date were the only black couple at the prom—and they danced, too.

Grandpa believed in the importance of education as a means to success. He sent his four daughters to college and encouraged his grandchildren to follow their example.

My grandfather also fostered our appreciation of the fine arts.

In fact Grandpa is responsible for taking me to my first opera—Shakespeare's tragedy "Othello." As an elementary-school student, I barely understood the plot and I remember catching a few winks during part of the production. But as an adult, I will be forever grateful for the experience.

I had other firsts with Grandpa. In 1973, I took my first plan ride in his presence when he and my grandmother took my cousins and me to Houston for a plumbers convention. While there, I went horseback riding, another first.

Grandpa gave us a little taste of rural life when he would take us to his farm in Bath Township. Decades earlier, my grandfather had taught his city-born offspring a thing or two about farming on a piece of land he owned in southeastern Cuyahoga County, about a mile from where my husband and I live today.

And then there were those hot summer nights when Grandpa would pile his grandkids into his car and head to the Miles drive-in for a movie. At the time, I had no idea that this was Grandpa's second time around—in the 1930s and '40s he used to take our parents to the drive-in.

Through my visits to the opera, the travel and my grandfather's entrepreneurship, I learned by example that black people were entitled to the same rights and privileges as anyone else. And Grandpa's perseverance in pursuit of civil rights taught me at an early age that there are times when you must stand up for what you believe in.

Grandpa's health took a turn for the worse on April 22, as he went through a rehabilitation program after heart surgery. My husband and I were attending an Indians game that night when my family had us paged over the loudspeaker, but we were unable to hear the page.

When we arrived home after 11 p.m. there was an urgent message on the answering machine saying that Grandpa didn't have much time left, so we rushed to the hospital.

Moments before Grandpa died, I was able to hold his hand and whisper to him that I loved him.

I am just as grateful for those last few moments as I am for all of the memories of the good times and the things Grandpa did that molded my life and made me who I am today.

Thank you, Grandpa, for teaching me the art of living a good life. I am honored to be a small part of your legacy.

NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE
PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 437) to reauthorize the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 437, the National Sea Grant College Program Authorization, which would extend through fiscal year 2000 a valuable program which has vastly improved our knowledge about ocean and coastal resources. Established more than 30 years ago in 1966, the National Sea Grant College Program operates through a network of 26 Sea Grant College programs and three smaller designated institutional programs.

The Sea Grant College Program at University of Hawaii in my State, within the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology, has made tremendous economic strides in aquaculture research and development on species such as the freshwater prawn and marine shrimp, working with State agencies. Sea Grant continues to look at marine issues of vital importance to Hawaii and the Pacific Ocean, such as risks of oil spills, coastal pollution, marine mammal strandings and entrapment, and health of reefs and coral populations.

The program's past history includes supporting development of the first State plan for aquaculture and the Pacific Island Network—an entity which assists Pacific Islanders seeking to achieve self-determination and economic self-sufficiency. Recently-retired Dr. Jack R. Davidson served 25 years as the program's director and built a strong reputation for Sea Grant in Hawaii and the Pacific Basin. Like achievements by other Sea Grant programs nationwide have enjoyed similar success.

I am pleased that the bill before us, with agreement between the Resources and Science Committees, no longer continues a sunset clause that would have taken effect in fiscal year 2002. As stated by Dr. Rose Pfund, University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program association director, "At a time when our coastal and marine environments and resources are threatened by natural and man-made disasters, the need for academia's knowledge and capabilities for research is greater than ever." To approve a sunset date

for the program would be to deny this need and shut down current programs generating valuable information to meet this need.

I also rise to support an amendment that may be offered to H.R. 437 that would reinstate a provision authorizing use of funds for research on all nuisance species, rather than solely on zebra mussels as approved by the Science Committee. This body should call for fairer distribution of the \$2.8 million earmark in this bill—the level authorized annually under the 1990 Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act.

I strongly urge that my colleagues support this amendment, should it be offered, and vote "aye" on H.R. 437 to reauthorize the National Sea Grant College Program.

ENDING AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an issue which should concern every American. In the wake of President Clinton's speech in San Diego CA, I want to stress the importance of ending affirmative action.

Treating people differently because of their color used to be called discrimination, today it is called affirmative action. I disagree with the President's stance on affirmative action. I believe the popular support of proposition 209 in California shows our great State's commitment to the historical ideals of liberty and equal justice under law.

President Clinton's speech was symbolic but without the proper substance. If he wants to improve race relations in America he must take something back from California. He should listen to what Californians are saying and end every form of racial preference. I urge the rest of the Nation to follow in California's footsteps and close the doors on affirmative action and open the doors on fairness and equality.

For America to stand united, we must first stand as individuals who are equal in the eyes of the law. In order for us to solve the problems that stand in our Nation's work place and our communities, every American needs to be able to stand balanced under blind justice.

Affirmative action is state sponsored discrimination. As long as it is part of our society, the character, the motivations and achievements of some Americans will remain suspect in the eyes of others. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reconsider the remarks of the President and to heavily consider the continued failure of affirmative action to heal our Nation's racial discord.

"WORKING CLASS ETHIC MADE
PUBLIC HOUSING PROUD; IT
COULD AGAIN

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to read the attached op-ed from the June 18, 1997, edition of the USA

Today. The article asserts that the public housing bill recently passed by the House would return a sense of stability and work ethic to American communities. In fact, the author argues that to leave the current system of public housing intact is "only to punish the poor in the name of protecting them."

In anticipation of House consideration of the conference report on the House and Senate public housing bills later this year, I commend the attached article to Member's attention.

[USA Today, June 18, 1997]

WORKING-CLASS ETHIC MADE PUBLIC HOUSING
PROUD; IT COULD AGAIN
By Samuel G. Freedman

On a frigid morning in January 1949, about 500 people lined up, shivering but stoic, to apply for apartments in the first low-income-housing project to be built in New Rochelle, N.Y. War veterans still bunking with relatives, Italian laborers barely recovered from the Depression, blacks working as maids or drivers for the affluent—all had been waiting years for this chance.

None of them saw residence in the Robert Hartley Houses as anything but a privilege, and a privilege that connoted responsibilities. They had to produce wedding licenses and military-discharge papers; they had to submit to a virtual whiteglove evaluation of their housekeeping skills.

And for 240 families who passed muster, there was the rule book. The rule book specified the week each tenant was required to sweep the stairwell and the type of pushpin acceptable for hanging pictures. It dictated the fines for a child who walked across the grass. Where the rule book left off, the building superintendents picked up, enforcing an unofficial curfew for teen-agers with 11 p.m. knocks on the door.

The social compact established in the Hartley Houses and scores of similar developments made public housing one of New Deal liberalism's greatest successes for a time. Hartley was integrated by race and religion and animated by the ethics of hard work and upward mobility. As late as 1964, a single mugging in the complex of five buildings was rare enough to make news.

Just about that time, however, two devastating changes were taking place. The first generation of Hartley residents, having climbed into the working class, moved out, partly because their incomes exceeded the project's upward limits for tenants. Simultaneously, the wave of litigation that came to be known as the "rights revolution" began destroying the honorable bargain between the taxpayers who funded the welfare state and the tenants who enjoyed its benefits.

Individually, the court cases that undermined public housing seemed reasonable enough. They won the rights of various types of people, from political radicals to single parents to welfare clients, to be permitted into public housing and to stave off eviction from it.

Collectively, however, these cases taught the managers of public-housing projects—whether run by the federal government or, like the Hartley Houses, by state and local agencies—that screening current or prospective tenants invited costly litigation. The doors of public housing swung open as long as one was poor enough to qualify.

By the early 1980s, then, the Hartley Houses had gone from a stepladder for the working poor to a sinkhole of the welfare poor, with 85% of the households headed by a single parent and relying on public aid. The local housing authority defaulted on loan payments to the state. An \$11 million program of repairs had to be halted due to rampant vandalism. Drug use and violent

crime grew so brazen that in 1990 the tenants themselves asked the city to declare a state of emergency in the project.

Sadly, there is nothing new in the saga of the Hartley Houses. It is the story of the Robert Taylor Homes in Chicago, a vast project known locally as "the world's biggest mistake," and of the Flag Houses in Baltimore, which will be razed in 2000. One of its predecessors in demolition, the Columbus Houses in Newark, N.J., had been pronounced by a federal inspector unfit even for animals. And who has lost, after all, in the failure of public housing? In a political sense, liberals have. But day by day, the poor have. They are the ones isolated and beleaguered; they are the ones left to beg for martial law.

So liberals and Democrats, including President Clinton, should not be so quick to dismiss the public-housing bill recently passed by the House of Representatives and headed for the Senate simply because it is the handiwork of the same conservative Republicans who designed the punitive welfare-reform law. The lesson of that law, in fact, is that when liberals refuse to reform failed social programs, they leave correction, by default, to the right.

The housing bill has its flaws, particularly in its intention to alter the Section 8 program that already succeeds in using market incentives with private landlords to distribute poor tenants throughout metropolitan areas rather than concentrating them in bleak, highrise projects. But in direct ways, the measure would restore public housing to its original ideal of placing the fabric of community above the rights of the individual. Among its provisions, the bill would streamline the eviction of dangerous tenants, refuse housing to those with proven histories of sexual violence or substance abuse, and give housing officials unprecedented access to national criminal records in screening applicants.

Most importantly of all, moderate-income tenants would be permitted to rent apartments at market rates alongside the poor. In the heyday of public housing, it was working-class families that established the value system of places like the Hartley Houses. Their return can again provide a critical mass of stability and work ethic.

There is a reason many middle-aged blacks speak almost wittfully about the segregated neighborhoods of their childhood. Those neighborhoods, walled in by white racism, contained all the social classes, from the hod carrier to the teacher to the dentist. With fairhousing laws came black flight, transforming ghetto into slum.

If some of the workers still in the central cities can be enticed by decent rents to live in public housing, then no one will benefit from their presence more than their impoverished neighbors. It is not sufficient to say, as opponents of the housing bill have, that the neediest people stand to lose. There already are huge waiting lists for public housing, and the federal government has gotten out of the business of building low-income projects. To leave the current system intact is only to punish the poor in the name of protecting them.

PENNSYLVANIA SHERIFF'S
ASSOCIATION 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Pennsylvania Sher-

iff's Association on its 75th anniversary. For 75 years, this association and the sheriffs of Pennsylvania have worked together to improve the office of sheriff so as to better serve the public. Under the dynamic leadership of Butler County sheriff, Dennis Rickard, the association has continued providing a forum for the sheriffs to exchange ideas and experience and provide training and education programs for sheriffs and their deputies. It has done this to ensure that every sheriff has the skills and knowledge to perform his or her duties in a professional, responsible, and efficient manner.

We all know the law and legal procedures have become infinitely more complicated than they were 75 years ago. The increase in volume of work has also imposed more burdens on Pennsylvania's sheriffs.

The association has helped our sheriffs shoulder these burdens in a manner that has reflected well on Pennsylvania. Because of this, I want to congratulate the Pennsylvania Sheriff's Association on its 75th anniversary and commend it and Pennsylvania's sheriffs, for a job well done.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE J.
KOURPIAS

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great friend of working people throughout the world: George J. Kourpias is retiring tomorrow from his post as president of the International Association of Machinists; he will be deeply missed.

As president of the Machinists, Mr. Kourpias has served as a member of several governmental and labor organizations. In particular, I would like to note his service on the board of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, also known as OPIC. I have fought throughout my career for increasing the export capabilities of our Nation's businesses. At the same time, I have been concerned that we do not trample on labor rights as we make American business more competitive. That is why I was so pleased when President Clinton appointed Mr. Kourpias to the board 4 years ago. This vital organization for the first time has a working voice on the board. We can learn a lot from that example.

Mr. Kourpias also has done tremendous work for our senior citizens, working both with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the National Council of Senior Citizens to ensure the retirement savings of our retirees.

Mr. Kourpias' dedication to improving the lives of working Americans goes back long before he achieved the highest post with the Machinists. Before his term as president began, he served as vice president at the Machinists, overseeing the National Capital region. As an expert on the IAM's governing document, Mr. Kourpias has been of great help to Presidents before him. Learning the details has always been important to Mr. Kourpias, same as the details are important in the work of the machinists he represents.

His leadership has been clear to the world since the 1950's when he first began taking leadership positions in the union movement.