

show fired up at 6:45 every morning, and the theme song was Eddy Arnold's "Cattle Call."

If you are not familiar with the tune, let me inform you: It starts cold with Eddy yodeling. I cannot begin to describe the mental state that can be induced by a clock radio awakening someone from a sound sleep to the sound of a long, high, drifting yodel.

I knew the show was working when my first-grade teacher, Mrs. Timmons, asked her class to stand and introduce themselves. When I stood up and proudly said, "Walker Johnson, and my daddy has the J&K Super Stores," that yodel drifted up from the back row.

Carl was my dad's account executive. Today the title of longest-running account in held by Maryville Furniture, and Carl is also their link to the station. A strictly unconfirmed report places Carl's age at 81; if that is true he holds seniority over every broadcast account executive I've ever known.

There is a absolutely no way I can begin to cover the entire history of WGAP in two short columns. An entire book could be written about the Sunday live broadcasts when preachers and singers would lift the roof off the station.

Another chapter could tell of the station's involvement with Blount County's "Hillbilly Homecoming" and how WGAP provided emcees to introduce such acts as the Lennon Sisters, Pat Boone, Red Foley and Patsy Cline.

And somewhere in that book there might be a tiny paragraph about a fine-looking 22-year-old announcer who was discovered by the station through the help of his father, who just happened to be their oldest advertiser.

WGAP is a classic example of the need to preserve our broadcast heritage before the memories and the pioneers all fade away.

I promised you last week I would tell about the cherry-bombing of the Blount County Courthouse. I'll give you the Cliffs Notes version.

When the station was across from the courthouse, a certain current station owner and a former Blount County politico and pizza proprietor came to the realization that the Blount County jail was well within sling-shot range.

Late one evening a fine and accurate sling was procured, along with a number of cherry bombs. Yardage was carefully calculated, windage checked, and repeated launchings commenced.

Heavily armed officers charged out of the jail doors, looking for the gun battle that must be taking place in the street. The launch team quickly faded back into the shadows of WGAP, and to this day, their identity is a deeply guarded secret.

QUICK TAKES

WMYU's morning co-host is leaving the station. Dean Scott told me he is running two businesses, and he just ran out of time for radio. Scott said his last day on the air will be Aug. 22.

Account executive Jamie Lewis has also resigned from WMYU; she will be the sales manager for Praise 96.3 WJBZ.

My 102 Boomsday activities will not include the My 102 Boomsday 5K race on Saturday, Aug. 30. Promotions Director Mary Deschamps said the station has expanded the program to such an extent on the day of the show that they will no longer do the race.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JON CHRISTENSEN

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, before the August recess I inadvertently voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 336. I ask that the RECORD show that my intention was to vote "aye."

TRIBUTE TO JUDITH AND ARTHUR HIRSHBERG

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, my colleague Mr. SHERMAN and I are honored to pay tribute to my good friends Judith and Arthur Hirshberg, who are receiving the 1997 Annual Achievement Award from Action Democrats of the San Fernando Valley. We cannot think of any two people more deserving of an award that recognizes party loyalty and community involvement.

Judith has spent much of her life involved in politics and civic causes. She began her career in Massachusetts, where she was president of the Swampscott Chapter of the League of Women Voters.

After moving to California Judith became a member of the Wednesday Committee, a Los Angeles County organization of women's PAC's. She is also vice president of Penny Lane, a residential treatment facility for emotionally disturbed and abused adolescents, and vice president of Project Focus, a drug and alcohol abuse education center.

Judith is probably best known for having spent the past 9 years as a deputy for Los Angeles city councilman Marvin Braude, who retired in 1997. Before that she worked for former Los Angeles mayor Tom Bradley. Through the years Judith used her political positions to help many people and organizations.

Arthur displays a similar devotion to his community. He was a board member of YEOP, the youth program administered by the EDD. In the aftermath of the Los Angeles riots, he served on President Bush's Commission on Los Angeles riot relief. Arthur is also a board member of the Valley Jewish Business Leaders Association, a support group for the Jewish Home for the Aging.

We ask our colleagues to join us today in saluting Arthur and Judith Hirshberg, whose dedication to politics and their community is a shining example to us all. These are two people who have truly made a difference.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARISH OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, WILLIMANSETT, MA

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to have this opportunity

to congratulate both the Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield and the Parish of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Willimansett, MA as they celebrate their 100th anniversary. Representing and serving the parishioners of this church is indeed an honor. The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary has responded tremendously to the needs of its ever expanding faith community. Providing a strong foundation of Christian values for its spiritual community and offering a forum for Christian worship, this parish has generously given 100 years of devoted service to the residents of Willimansett and beyond. I am proud to share the history of this fine parish as I submit the following historical notes in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PARISH OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, WILLIMANSETT (CHICOPEE) MA

HISTORICAL NOTES

THE FOUNDATION

Until 1894, Catholics living in Willimansett travelled either to Holy Name Parish, Chicopee Center, or to Saint Joachim's (now Saint George's) in Chicopee Falls, to fulfill their religious obligations. In the summer of that year, however, representatives of local families petitioned The Right Reverend Thomas Daniel Beaven, Bishop of Springfield, to establish a mission church in the village. The Bishop readily agreed to their request, and delegated Father Alexis Delphos, Pastor of Saint Joachim, to found the mission. Father Delphos rented Perreault Hall, on Olivine Street, as a temporary chapel. On Sunday, December 23, 1894, three Masses were said in the chapel, the first by Father McCoy, Pastor of Holy Name, the others by Father Delphos.

The following year, the catholic population of Willimansett had grown sufficiently to consider establishing a parish with resident pastor. September 1st 1897, Bishop Beaven named Father Hormisdas Hamelin as pastor of the new parish, which would serve the Catholics of the districts of Willimansett and Aldenville. September 12, 1897, Sunday within the Octave of the patronal feast, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Father Hamelin was officially installed in his new parish.

THE EARLY YEARS

During the twelve years he spent in Willimansett, Father Hamelin was to oversee the construction, in 1898, of a parish church as the corner of Chicopee and Newton Streets; in 1901, that of a rectory. Soon, the pastoral needs of the two districts required the opening of a mission church in Aldenville, and the naming of a curate, Father Peter Higgins.

In 1909, Father Hamelin was named to the pastorate of Notre Dame Parish, in Adams. He was replaced by the Reverend Doctor James Francis McGillicuddy, who served as pastor of Nativity until 1916. Father McGillicuddy purchased the church bell which has since been placed in the bell tower of the new church. He was replaced by Father Emilien Delage, who remained Pastor until his death in 1919.

Father Delage was succeeded by Father Louis Arthur Simard. From the time he arrived at Nativity, Father Simard began a campaign to build a parochial school. To this end, he obtained title to the land adjoining the rectory, between Newton and Division Streets. On September 5, 1922, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School was opened, under the supervision of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary. At first, the Sisters were lodged in the school, using classrooms converted into chapel, community room, dining

room and dormitories. In 1932, the school enrollment having grown, every room was needed to provide classroom space. Father Simard then acquired two adjoining properties on Saint Louis Avenue (formerly Newton Street), to build a convent. The Sisters moved into their newly built residence in October 1932.

During the pastorate of Father Simard, the Parish of the Nativity developed rapidly. In 1909, at the end of Father Hamelin's pastorate, the Aldenville mission had become the parish of Saint Rosa de Lima. In the '20s a number of families of Polish ancestry had settled in Willimansett. In 1925, these families asked Bishop O'Leary to establish a parish of their own. The Bishop asked the Franciscan Fathers to take charge of this foundation. In April 1925, the new church was dedicated as Saint Anthony of Padua Parish.

THE DREAM OF FATHER SIMARD

The Catholic population of Willimansett continued to expand during the '30s. In 1937, the parish numbered 4,500 souls. Despite the fact that seven Masses were being celebrated every Sunday, the church was hardly large enough to accommodate its parishioners. Father Simard seriously considered building a new church, to be erected between the rectory and the convent, at the corner of Chicopee and Mount Carmel. However, the difficulties of the times constrained him to forego—or at least to postpone—the fulfillment of this dream. Father Simard decided, instead, to restore the existing church. The renewal project was launched in the Fall of 1937. Soon, a newly redecorated church became a source of joy and wonder for all the parishioners.

Father Sauvageau was replaced as pastor of Nativity by Father L. George Clermont. It was during his administration that the Sisters of the Presentation, who had directed and staffed Mount Carmel School since its opening, let it be known that, due to difficult circumstances, they were obliged to withdraw from the school. The parishioners of Nativity, recognizing the immeasurable value of their parochial school, decided to embark upon an ambitious project, one that, until then, had been untried in the Diocese of Springfield. The parish school would heretofore be staffed and directed entirely by lay persons. This challenging venture has been quite successful. Under the principalship first of Frederick Becklo, and since September 1980 of Kathleen Hill, Mount Carmel School continues to provide for our young people a solid basis formation in the secular subjects, and a stable formation in Christian values.

THE DREAM FULFILLED

In 1974, his health failing, Father Clermont retired. Father W. Donald Fournier, who had been his curate, became pastor of Nativity. It was he who, at long last, saw the fulfillment of the dream shared by priests and parishioners of Nativity since the time of Father Simard: the building of a new parish church. [The government sought to take the land occupied by the church built by Father Hamelin for the building of Interstate Route 391. The monies offered for the expropriation of this property were sufficient, in the judgement of diocesan authorities, to launch the construction project. An enthusiastic building fund campaign by the parishioners, generously supplemented by gifts of donors, brought in sufficient funds to complete and furnish a magnificent new church and a spacious parish hall. On Pentecost Sunday, May 25, 1980, His Excellency Joseph F. Maguire, Bishop of Springfield, presided at a Concelebrated Mass marking the dedication of the new Nativity Church, in which the Liturgy has been celebrated since Holy Week 1980.]

In November 1980, Father Fournier answered his country's call, and began a tour of duty as a Chaplain in the U.S. Navy. He has been replaced by Father William Paquin. Beginning in December 1980, Father Paquin assumed the pastorate of Nativity. With the assistance of his curate, and the valuable support of the Parish Council, Father Paquin strives to provide for the spiritual needs of his flock, to maintain the parish buildings, to promote the generosity of the parishioners, to encourage among the faithful a genuine spirit of community—of family.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, as we return from the August break, this Congress has one last opportunity to change the current campaign finance system. We have missed earlier opportunities to have a vote on the floor of the House of Representatives for campaign reform. If we fail to act before the House recesses in October we will not see any reform of the current system in the 105th Congress. I urge the leadership of the House of Representatives to allow the Members of Congress an opportunity to vote on campaign finance reform legislation.

It is obvious that the current system is broken and needs dramatic change. Too much money is being spent on campaigns. This has prohibited many qualified individuals from running for office, it has created disgust with the democratic process and it has resulted in some of the lowest voter turnout in years. It is our responsibility as elected officials to change the current system.

As a freshman member who recently went through my first election I understand the problems in the system. I have been working with some of my freshman colleagues to draft and introduce the Bipartisan Campaign Integrity Act. This act would ban soft money and enact more stringent contribution disclosure requirements for candidates and independent groups. This act would take the biggest money out of elections and begin to restore some credibility to the system. The public is demanding that we enact some form of campaign finance reform. The Bipartisan Campaign Integrity Act was negotiated between Republicans and Democrats and is the proper piece of legislation to be considered.

Over the next month and a half we will have plenty of opportunities to move a bill forward, through the committee of jurisdiction and to the floor of the House of Representatives. I will be following the committee and floor schedules closely in order to insure that time is available to consider campaign finance reform legislation before the end of this session. I strongly urge the leadership to take quick action to allow a vote on campaign finance reform. If we fail to act now, we will have missed our best opportunity to bring some respect back to this great institution and restore the public's trust in our democratic process. If we don't act now, next year will be too late.

IN MEMORY OF WALTER D. RAMSAY

HON. THOMAS J. MANTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate Mr. Walter D. Ramsay, an outstanding individual whose untimely passing will be felt and mourned by many in Washington.

Walt Ramsay, an independent consultant for the precious metals industry and a former long-time administrative assistant to Senator Harrison A. Williams of New Jersey, succumbed to lung cancer early yesterday morning at Inova Hospital in Alexandria, VA. I know my colleagues will join me in offering condolences to his wife, Leslie Sorg Ramsay, his son, Sean Ramsay, and his other family members and many, many friends.

Mr. Speaker, I consider myself very lucky to have had the good fortune to meet Walt shortly after coming to Congress. I was equally blessed with the opportunity of getting to know him better over the years. As a lobbyist, he did not have any issues of concern which came under the jurisdiction of any of my committee assignments, or, at least, any that he felt compelled to raise with me, yet he was always a friendly face in the office. His many stories and anecdotes, as well as his keen political insight, always made him a welcome participant and a joy to speak to at any office gathering.

Mr. Speaker, quite simply, Walt Ramsay was the best of men. He was intelligent and wise, kind and good natured, friendly and humorous, stoic and humble, and, of course, he was Irish. He will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that an obituary which appeared in the New Jersey Star-Ledger be placed in the RECORD.

[From the New Jersey Star Ledger, Sept. 3, 1997]

WALTER D. RAMSAY, 62, CONGRESSIONAL AIDE
(By Robert Cohen)

WASHINGTON.—Walter D. Ramsay, longtime chief of staff to former New Jersey Sen. Harrison A. Williams and the mentor to many young Capitol Hill aides, died yesterday after a battle with cancer. He was 62.

Ramsay first came to Washington in 1969 as Williams' press secretary and later took over as his top aide, navigating the legislative and political waters for the senator on Capitol Hill while keeping his finger on the pulse of politics back home in New Jersey.

White House press secretary Mike McCurry, who got his start working under Ramsay in Williams' Senate office, said he was "a great teacher" and "as smart and disciplined when it came to politics and policy as anyone I have ever met."

"He taught me how to be a press secretary," said McCurry.

McCurry said Ramsay could be "a very demanding boss," but had a sense of humor, a broad range of outside interests that included literature and music and "a different perspective than your typical overachieving Capitol Hill aide."

Jim Mathews, now the top aide to Rep. Thomas Manton (D-NY) and a former legislative staffer in Williams' office, said he always considered Ramsay his mentor.

"He was the nicest, best-humored person I ever knew," said Mathews. "He never took himself too seriously and understood that