

Ellis said Tuesday from the Chicago headquarters of Farley Foods. "I met the family, and when you stand there and realize that her son's heart is in your body, well, I just, I get kind of choked up talking about it. I could tell it was the same for her when she looked at me."

Ellis and the Robisons decided to share their story to help increase awareness during National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week, which began Sunday and runs through Saturday.

Across the United States, transplant centers are suffering a critical shortage of organs and tissue and have launched the first nation-wide campaign to increase the number of donors. The Coalition on Donation has enlisted Michael Jordan of the Chicago Bulls as its national spokesman. Jordan will be featured in 30-second radio and television commercials, on billboards, transit advertising and through direct mailings throughout the country.

The coalition is a national, non-profit alliance that represents nearly 100 organizations involved in organ and tissue procurement and transplantation. The thrust of its campaign is to motivate more Americans to discuss with family members their decision to become donors. The coalition estimates that permission required from next-of-kin is denied in 50% to 85% of the cases where there is high potential for donation. Discussions prior to death can eliminate confusion and uncertainty about the desire to be a donor and help make it easier for family members to carry out a donor's wishes, said coalition president Howard Nathan.

More than 45,000 critically ill Americans are on waiting lists for organ transplants, with a new name added every 18 minutes. Last year, more than 19,000 transplants were performed in the United States. But 3,000 people died while waiting for a suitable donor.

In Utah, 190 people are awaiting vital organ transplants. And many more are in need of tissue such as bone, skin and corneas. During 1995, 207 patients received organ transplants from 57 Utah donors.

Utah Gov. Mike Leavitt is joining the effort by holding a press conference at 10:15 a.m. today at University Hospital in the second-floor conference room. And at noon, Intermountain Organ Recovery System will hold a tree planting ceremony in Canyon Rim Park, 3100 S. 2900 East, in a tribute to donor families and transplant recipients.

The decision to donate was an obvious choice for Tracy and Conan Robison.

As a nurse at Utah Valley Regional Medical Center, Tracy Robison witnessed miraculous changes in patients' lives after their diseased organs were replaced by healthy ones.

She was working at the hospital on the evening of Sept. 12 when her mother called and said Travis had been hit by a car a half-block from home. "She said he was unconscious and his legs were twisted. I didn't totally panic at that point because unconscious to me is possibly not as critical," Robison said. "We see it here all the time."

But then the E.R. got a call from the ambulance en route. "They said they were coming in Code 3, which is the worst you could come in with," she said. Travis' pupil's were fixed and he was breathing erratically. "The worst insult was to his brain."

Tests two days later confirmed Robison's worst fear: Travis was brain dead. Within a few hours, transplant technicians were removing his organs.

In addition to his heart going to Ellis, Travis' liver went to a father of five in Springville and both kidneys went to two different women in Salt Lake. And his eyes restored the sight of two others.

"I really think that somebody else should have the opportunity to improve their life

with something that somebody else doesn't need," Robison said. "It's not going to do any good for Travis to keep it. And for me, it has brought an incredible amount of peace and happiness that others have been benefited."

When looking at Ellis, she added in a choked voice, "I can see Travis in so many ways. I can't think of a better person that his little heart could have gone to. Travis had a big heart and Bill does, too."

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST ZIONIST CONGRESS

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure I rise before you today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first Zionist Congress. The first meeting of the Zionist Congress occurred on August 29, 1897 with 204 participants from 17 countries. Now, 100 years later, the anniversary of this important date will be celebrated by Jewish communities across the world.

In 1897, the first Zionist Congress was called in Basle, Switzerland with the purpose of establishing the State of Israel as a homeland for the Jewish people under public law. Theodor Herzl emerged as the father of modern Zionism and founder of the World Zionist Organization. He believed a mass exodus to the Jewish homeland was the only response to the anti-Semitism the Jews were faced with in Europe. He wrote in his Zionist novel, "If you will it, it is no legend," a sentiment that became the mantra of the Zionist movement.

Though Herzl never lived to see the establishment of the State of Israel, his legacy lived on through the movement. The Zionists remained committed to their goal throughout several years of turmoil. Despite religious persecution by the Nazi regime in Europe, and an intense struggle with militant Arab opposition, the Jewish initiative prevailed. The Zionists' goal was finally realized on May 14, 1948 with the U.N. resolution of November 1947, which established the State of Israel. This resolution allowed the Jewish people to live in their historic homeland, free from the religious persecution they were facing in Europe.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join with me in commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Zionist Congress, an organization which has shown perseverance through adversity and a dedication to the principles of the Judaism.

WORKLINK

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the city of St. Peters for the successful implementation of WorkLink, the first telecommuting center in the State of Missouri and the entire Midwest. Opening in July 1996, WorkLink was designed as a community-based telecommunications center equipped to provide individuals, businesses, and organiza-

tions with a wide array of advanced telecommunications and related services. WorkLink promotes telecommuting as an efficient way of doing business and helping employees better balance their time between work and family.

WorkLink offers an alternative to many companies and employees to maintain and encourage performance and productivity; assists companies in cutting expenses by consolidating office and parking space; improves employee moral by accommodating work and family needs; and helps the community by reducing traffic congestion and improving air quality.

Currently, two-thirds of the available space at WorkLink is equipped with offices and workstations with the advanced technology and inter-connectivity to handle most advanced office telecommunication functions. The facility houses many business types, including engineering, financial, computer consulting, computer programming, sales/marketing, healthcare, publishing, distance learning, and charitable professionals.

By stepping out onto the cutting edge of telecommuting, the city of St. Peters is offering those in their community a tremendous opportunity. I am sure WorkLink will serve as a model for other communities, and I commend Mayor Tom Brown and Helen Robert, WorkLink manager, for their vision and hard work.

RECORD STATEMENT IN HONOR OF ZAIGA ANTONETTI

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and appreciation that I rise today to express my appreciation to Zaiga Antonetti, for her tireless efforts for small businesses in the State of Connecticut.

Ms. Antonetti has served on numerous statewide and regional committees and commissions involving small business issues, and worked hard to assure that the needs of Connecticut's small businesses are met. She serves on the board of directors of the Connecticut Community Accounting Aid and Services, Inc., and the Hartford Business Advisors. She was twice honored by the U.S. Small Business Administration for her work with small business owners as Small Business Advocate of the Year and Women in Business Advocate of the Year.

Zaiga deserves the many accolades she will receive as she is honored for her accomplishments and dedication. For her tremendous contributions to small businesses in Connecticut, I salute and thank her.

THE FREEDOM FROM RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION ACT OF 1997

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on International Relations met last week to

hear testimony on H.R. 2431—formerly H.R. 1685—the Freedom From Religious Persecution Act of 1997.

The long list of witnesses heard by the committee is a reflection of the strong interest generated by this legislation among human rights groups and religious and public policy organizations nationwide.

For those of my colleagues who have not yet had an opportunity to study this bill, I want to share a letter submitted to the committee for inclusion in the hearing record from representatives of six prominent human rights organizations.

I hope my colleagues will find this thoughtful statement useful as the debate on this legislation moves forward.

HON. BEN GILMAN,

Chairman, International Relations Committee.

DEAR CHAIRMAN GILMAN: We in the human rights community strongly support the goals of the 'Freedom From Religious Persecution Act' of bringing the spotlight of attention on governments that persecute persons for their religious beliefs, putting pressure on the authorities to end religious repression, and assisting victims of religious repression who seek to come to the U.S. as asylum applicants or refugees. We have worked for many years on ending religious intolerance and persecution, as well as improving U.S. immigration and refugee policy. We believe that the proposed 'Freedom From Religious Persecution Act' could better achieve these shared goals if the following changes were made.

Findings: The Findings section is largely limited to persecuted Christians and religious minorities in communist countries. We believe that the section should be enlarged to include other vulnerable religious communities so that the bill will have more universal resonance and be more effective in combating religious persecution. We understand that the sponsors of the bill have indicated a strong desire to insure that the bill is applicable to all persons facing religious persecution and we welcome that commitment. Naming certain Muslim groups could help insure that the bill is not perceived as having an anti-Muslim tone.

Application and Scope: The bill includes two separate standards for triggering an investigation of persecuted groups. One standard is that those named in the bill will automatically be investigated by the Office of Religious Persecution Monitoring. All other groups may be taken up at the discretion of the director of the Office. This dual standard might be taken to mean that the bill creates a preference for certain religious groups. Because the automatic imposition of sanction and the creation of new refugee and asylum protocols are so central to the bill's structure we believe that having a single standard that is applicable to all those vulnerable to religious persecution is more appropriate. Such an approach will actually be better for beleaguered Christians than a more specific standard. Frequently Christians (as well as Baha'is, Jews, and other) are wrongly accused of being foreigners or in league with Western powers. In these circumstances, singling them out for special treatment above all other religious minorities might actually embolden those who desire to harm them.

Sanctions: Our organizations¹ favor the imposition of certain sanctions against governments found to be engaged in gross abuses of human rights, including the perse-

cution of religious believers. We strongly support existing human rights law that prohibits bilateral aid (Section 502B of the Foreign Assistance Act) and U.S. support for multilateral aid (Section 701 of the International Financial Institutions Act) to countries engaged in a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights. The "Freedom From Religious Persecution Act" provides less rather than more protection than existing human rights law. While the list of abuses it targets (such acts as rape, crucifixion, slavery and imprisonment) would be embraced by the "gross violations" standard of existing law the "Freedom From Religious Persecution Act" would impose sanctions only if such acts were "widespread and ongoing." That standard is tougher to demonstrate than the finding of a "consistent pattern" required under current law. We urge that the bill's standard be eased. In addition, we believe that the definition of persecution should be broadened to include forms of discrimination and intolerance that do not reach the extreme measures outlined in the bill but are forms of persecution faced regularly by religious communities around the world, including government restrictions on worship, proselytizing, religious education, freedom of the press and expression, and freedom of movement.

We are also concerned that the trade sanctions against abusers have been so narrowly drawn that even if a government meets the bill's current narrow standard and is found to have engaged in religious persecution, there is little likelihood that exports of persecution-related products will be limited. In particular, the bill requires that the identification of persons involved in religious persecution be drawn as narrowly as possible. If implemented in this way, the Office of Persecution Monitoring will have difficulty in stopping sales of police and military equipment to governments, heads of state, institutions like the police, military, intelligence services, or even officers who may have ordered but not directly participated in abuse.

The sanctions section, in summary, is not strong enough to insure that it will have a serious impact on abusive governments. We urge that it be strengthened so that it is applicable to the widest possible number of regimes, institutions, and individuals that abuse in any way the right of religious freedom.

Creation of a New Bureaucracy: The bill sets up a separate structure in the White House to engage in investigation and reporting and conduct U.S. policy towards those found to be engaged in religious persecution. The desire to have an office which focuses exclusively on religious persecution and which is, at least on the organizational chart, closer to senior level decision makers, is understandable. On the entire range of human rights issues, the Bureau of Democracy, Labor and Human Rights (DRL) must contend with the traditionally powerful regional bureaus, the growing influence of agencies promoting trade, combating narcotics trafficking, and pursuing other priorities. A White House office could come to bolster and add diplomatic weight to the Human Rights Bureau and other quarters in the executive branch engaged in promotion of human rights if its work is integrated into that of others.

On the other hand the record of such separate "coordinators," (such as the Ambassador at Large for Refugee Affairs) has not necessarily been positive. In some past instances, such offices have largely stood outside the policy apparatus and far from elevating, actually served, unwittingly, to downgrade attention to an issue. A separate White House office of Religious Persecution Monitoring would be apart from the informa-

tion-gathering capacity of the State Department and its formal diplomatic apparatus. Moreover, many proponents of the bill rightly argue that religious persecution rarely operates in isolation from the repression of other basic rights and freedoms. Yet the bill might handicap the defense of religious freedom by isolating it from information about other forms of repression undertaken by abusive regimes. We believe an office of religious persecution monitoring might be more effectively placed within existing human rights machinery in the State Department Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor and the National Security Council. Existing human rights machinery, if bolstered by staff specially tasked to work on religious persecution, would be able to draw on extensive information about a government's human rights record and build a stronger case for sanctions against those who violate religious freedom than would a stand-alone office of religious persecution operating in isolation. Additional staff and resources for DRL would permit the office to conduct field missions, press U.S. embassy officials to be more attentive to religious persecution, issue reports, and integrate the religious persecution issue into all multilateral and bilateral relations.

Asylum provisions: Human rights groups have strongly opposed the changes enacted by Congress in asylum law last year, namely the adoption of summary exclusion procedures which we believe make it much more difficult for those fleeing persecution of any type to make their case and receive asylum. We question whether the beneficial treatment for asylum seekers fleeing religious persecution, as intended by this bill, will actually be realized under the current, flawed summary exclusion procedures, which rely upon low-level, secondary inspectors to decide the fate of asylum seekers. This crucial deliberation by inspectors will apply to even those fleeing religious persecution, who will be required to prove that they are members of the named groups. This process will be conducted without any public scrutiny and without any counsel of any kind allowed for the asylum-seeker. Moreover, it is not clear what will happen to individuals who are permitted to bypass the credible fear determination process. For example, will such individuals be detained pending an asylum hearing, as is currently the case with most asylum seekers, or will they be released into the community?

The bill's exemption of persons whose religions are named by the Office of Persecution Monitoring is a clear and very welcome indication that Congress knows that the summary exclusion provision is a problem for those fleeing persecution. We appeal to the Congress to act on that assumption, which we share, and eliminate this unjust requirement for all who flee persecution of any type.

Failing that, however, the Congress should at a minimum enlarge the definition of religious persecution so that the broadest number of victims might take advantage of the asylum protections in the bill, and the maximum number of vulnerable religious believers might be spared the summary exclusion process and the possibility of forced return to persecution. A definition of religious persecution that is restricted to the most severe forms of persecution or to adherents of faiths that happen to be named in the bill risks sending many persecuted believers back to their persecutors.

Refugee Preference: We strongly support the granting of refugee status to members of persecuted religious groups, who should certainly fall within existing refugee law. However, we fear that granting special preference for the religiously persecuted over other victims of persecution and reserving slots for

¹ As a matter of Amnesty International policy applicable to all types of human rights violations, Amnesty International does not take a position for or against economic sanctions.

them out of existing numbers may result in one persecuted group being pitted against another. A preferable approach to the proposed legislation would be simply to expand the number of slots available for refugees so that no one currently eligible will be denied entry because of preferences created by this act.

Sincerely,
Kenneth Roth, Executive Director
Human Rights Watch; Leonard S.
Rubenstein, Executive Director Physi-
cians for Human Rights; Jack Rendler,
Executive Director Minnesota Advo-
cates for Human Rights; William
Schulz, Executive Director Amnesty
International/USA; James Silk, Execu-
tive Director Robert F. Kennedy Cen-
ter; Felice Gaer, Director Jacob
Blaustein Institute for the Advance-
ment of Human Rights.

TRIBUTE TO JOEL BONE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize a young man in my district who should truly be an inspiration to us all. His name is Joel Bone and he is from Glenwood Springs, CO. Joel attends Glenwood Springs High School and has worked diligently in recent months to organize the Prime Monday Sports Club which is a forum he creates in order to bring together special needs students and teachers so they could get to know each other outside the classroom.

Joel was recently recognized by the National Downs Syndrome Congress for his efforts and presented with their Outstanding Citizen Award, which is traditionally given to young adults who exhibit a high degree of selfadvocacy.

The award was presented to Joel at the 25th annual convention of the National Downs Syndrome Congress in Phoenix, AZ on August 8. Joel was given the honor of being seated at the head table and then read his acceptance speech in front of 2,000 people where he himself praised all the risk takers in the audience.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand here today to tell the entire House of Representatives about this fine young man from Glenwood Springs whose attitude and work ethic is a lesson to us all.

TRIBUTE TO WOODROW F. BROKENBURR

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure I rise before you today to pay tribute to Woodrow F. Brokenburr, the outgoing Chairman of the Board of the Thousand Oaks/Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce.

President Kennedy once wrote, "For of those to whom much is given, much is required." Woodrow Brokenburr is an individual who has fulfilled this prophecy through his countless contributions to our community.

When asked to describe Woody, the first word that comes to the minds of his friends and colleagues is committed. In addition to a full time career as a Senior Engineer/Project Manager at GTE California, Woody spent several years on the Board before assuming the additional responsibility as Chairman this past year. His commitment to service and responsibility extends to every aspect of his work. At a recent speech before a delegation from China, Woody spoke to the crowd for the first three minutes in Chinese. This attention to detail and thoroughness of preparation is just one example of his dedication and has distinguished Woody as an individual who sees everything through to the end.

In addition to his experience on the Board of the Chamber of Commerce, Woody Brokenburr has sat on the board of several other community organizations, including the Conejo Free Clinic, the Consortium for Advanced and Technical Education and the International Development Research Council. Woody has recognized the importance of our children's education in order to prepare them for a bright and promising future, and he started the Education Committee at the Chamber of Commerce to address problems and questions facing our schools.

Within our community, Woody is seen as an excellent role model, and his career has been highlighted with several awards and distinctions. He is the recipient of five United Way Leadership Awards, the Distinguished Service Award from the California Association of School Administrators, Region XII, and the GTE's Outstanding Volunteer Award.

I join these organizations in commending Woody for the contributions he has made to our community. Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to Woodrow F. Brokenburr as he concludes his term as chairman of the board.

THE FATHER OF ROSELLE

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, the Chicago Tribune of last Sunday provided a feature article on one of my district's finer public servants, Joseph Devlin. The article describes Joe's active life and his great contributions to Roselle, IL, and DuPage County as well. I proudly share this with my colleagues:

[From the Chicago Tribune, Sept. 14, 1997]

THE FATHER OF ROSELLE—JOSEPH DEVLIN
WEARS MANY HATS WHILE SERVING OTHERS

(By David Sharos)

If public service were a commodity that could be marketed and sold, Roselle's Joseph Devlin would probably be one of the western suburbs' leading entrepreneurs.

Devlin wears many hats, which currently include village trustee, the administrator for the Roselle Historical Foundation, a member of the DuPage County Stormwater Committee, the DuPage Water Commission and financial officer for the American Legion. He is also a former mayor of Roselle.

Roselle Chief of Police Richard Eddington still calls him Mr. Devlin in public, but in the community he has called home for more than 40 years, Devlin says he wishes people would simply call him Joe.

Devlin moved from Pennsylvania in 1953 and has seen Roselle, a town that then boasted 1,000 people and barely a square mile in size grow to 23,000 people and 8 to 10 square miles.

"Joe's the father of our village," said Marj Peterson, a longtime friend. "Roselle as we know it today was really launched as a result of him."

Before moving to Roselle, he fought in a war, went to college and earned a degree in mechanical engineering; he became president of an electric heater and supply company, helped raise three daughters and worked in public office for more than 25 years.

He has also overcome personal hardships. In World War II, Devlin served on a B-24 as a navigator and was captured behind enemy lines after his plane was shot down over Romania and became a prisoner of war. In civilian life, his greatest hardship occurred three years ago when his wife, Barbara, died of cancer.

Not long ago, he said, "I received a card from board members on one of my birthdays that said, 'Congratulations, you've survived another year.' When I opened it, the card said, 'In fact, you've survived it all.' I guess maybe I have."

Serving his fellow citizens and the community he loves is what continues to drive Devlin.

"I'm proud of everything I've done my whole life," Devlin said. "I tend to take over things once I get involved, not because it's a power trip or anything but because I think I'm a natural problem solver and I like to get things done."

Many citizens and public officials in the village say Devlin has lent a guiding hand in making Roselle the community it is today. From sidewalks, which were once non-existent, to upgrading sewer plants and streets, to obtaining Lake Michigan water, to building a \$3.5 million Village Hall, Devlin's mark is everywhere.

"Of all the services Joe has performed, I still have this image of him carrying a shovel around in the trunk of his car . . . to repair ruts in the streets after it rained," said village administrator Robin Weaver. "Joe would go over to people's houses he didn't even know and help them pump out their basements if they were flooded. He still does."

The Village Board presented him with a plaque in 1994 for 25 years of public service. During the presentation, he listened to a letter drafted by Mayor Gayle Smolinski that cited many of his accomplishments.

"Joe is one of those pillars of the community who has just always been there when we needed him," Smolinski said. "He often kids us during meetings when a female board member or I cast a deciding vote against him. He'll say, 'I knew we shouldn't have given [women] the right to vote,' but Joe's been one of the greatest influences in terms of empowering women in local government that I know. He has three daughters, and I think that's influenced him."

Devlin said that during his eight years as mayor from 1973-81, Roselle became one of the first towns to hire a female police officer and a female firefighter. He also says having women on the Village Board is an asset because they look at things in a different way from men.

Fred Koehler, who owns and manages the Lynfred Winery in Roselle, said Devlin is the person who made his business possible. "Joe was the guy who supported the winery all the way and thought it would be a good thing for the village and would bring people here," Koehler said.

As mayor, Devlin appealed to State Sen. Doris Karpiel, who in 1980 successfully steered two bills through the legislature that