

Somehow the Yellins are able to balance their commitment to Shaarey Zedek Congregation with full professional lives and parental responsibilities. Yakov is vice president-counsel at the Walt Disney Co., a job that requires his intimate involvement in all aspects of litigation. He has also traveled around the world lecturing on ethical standards and legal compliance matters. For her part, Sylvia is vice president of Adams Speciality Shop.

The Yellins have five children, who range in age from 10 to 24, one grandchild and another on the way.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting Yakov and Sylvia Yellin, whose spirituality, selflessness, and devotion to family is an inspiration to us all.

HONORING BRENTWOOD EARLY RISERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 1997

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Brentwood Early Risers Toastmasters Club [BERT] for 20 years of service. On May 5, 1997, the Brentwood Early Risers Toastmasters Club in Brentwood, TN will celebrate their 20th anniversary. The first BERT meeting was held two decades ago at Nobles Restaurant in Brentwood at 7 a.m. The club met on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Saturday then and is still meeting at those times today.

The co-founders of the club were E.D. Dyer and Bunny (Ward) Woods. E.D. Dyer was the first president and Bunny Woods was the first secretary. W.D. Dyer was the only one of the 20 charter members who had any previous Toastmasters experience.

Bunny Woods is the only charter member who is still active in club activities. Ms. Woods has served as various officers for the club, including the office of president. She serves as an example and mentor for all club members. Bunny Woods is to be commended for her individual efforts for the good of all members of BERT for these 20 years. Thank you, Bunny Woods.

MILDRED BUNDY: ONE OF OUR COMMUNITY'S BRIGHTEST STARS

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 1997

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize this year's winner of the Rancho de la Nacion Optimist Club's Camacho-McCartney Award, Mildred Bundy. Mildred has lived in the 50th District community of National City for over 56 years, and she continues to shine as one of its brightest stars.

Each year, the Rancho de la Nacion Optimist Club gives the Camacho-McCartney Award to a community member who has put their heart and soul into volunteer work on behalf of our community's youth. But saying that Mildred puts her heart only into youth-oriented voluntarism does her a great disservice, because there is not a corner of the community that hasn't been touched by her incredible energy, dedication, and love for her community.

Besides all the work she does on behalf of our community's young people, including volunteering for the May Time Band Parade, the National City Girls and Boys Club and serving as a friend of the National City library, Mildred participates in We Are Your Neighbors, a program that seeks to find community answers to community problems. She also volunteers with the Christmas in July program, which assists senior citizens in making repairs and improvements to their homes.

If I am ever given the opportunity to rewrite the dictionary, I will make sure that under the words "community," "caring," "kindness," or "compassion," it will say—"see Mildred."

Thank you Mildred, thank you for everything.

HONORING THE 1997 FAIRFAX COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VALOR AWARD WINNERS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 1997 Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Valor Award winners. On Tuesday, February 13, 1997, the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce presented the annual valor awards at the McLean Hilton.

The valor awards honor public service officers who have demonstrated extreme self-sacrifice, personal bravery, and ingenuity in the performance of their duty. There are five categories: the Gold Medal of Valor, the Silver Medal of Valor, the Bronze Medal of Valor, the Certificate of Valor, the Life Saving Award.

The Valor Awards is a project of the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. This is the 19th year that these awards have been presented.

The Gold Medal of Valor is awarded in recognition of acts involving extreme personal risk far beyond the call of duty. The Gold Medal of Valor Award winner for 1997 is: Technician George Lewis.

The Silver Medal of Valor is awarded in recognition of acts involving great personal risk. The Silver Medal of Valor Award winners for 1997 are: Officer Chris Hayo, Officer Troy Payne, Master Technical Michael Huffman, and Technician Beverley Carroll.

The Bronze Medal of Valor is awarded in recognition of acts involving unusual risk beyond that which should be expected while performing the usual responsibilities of the member.

The Bronze Medal of Valor Award winners for 1997 are: Officer Michael Bishop, Officer Robert Greissing, Sgt. Francis Stecco, Officer Dennis Vorbau, Officer Kenneth Campo, Officer Michael Twomey, Officer Mark Dale, Officer Steven Carroll, Officer Kevin Murphy, Detective John Kuch, Detective Richard Reeder, Detective Thomas Soltow, Detective Ronquillo Dean, Detective Warren McGee, Detective Jack Kirk, and Technician Michael Weldon.

The Certificate of Valor is awarded for acts that involve personal risk and/or demonstration of judgment, zeal, or ingenuity not normally involved in the performance of duties.

The Certificate of Valor Award winners for 1997 are: Officer Donald Cooke, Officer Jason

Reichel, Officer Shawn Bennett, Capt. Donald Simpson, 2d Lt. Dennis O'Neill, Officer George Lopez, Officer John Absalon, Officer Wade Jordan, Officer James Nida, Officer David Bane, 2d Lt. Margaret DeBoard, and Recruit Gary Beaver.

The Lifesaving Award is awarded for acts taken in life-threatening situations where an individual's life is in jeopardy, either medically or physically.

The Lifesaving Award winners for 1997 are: Deputy Charles Brown, Corporal Vernon Thompson, Deputy Scottie Dotson, Officer Steven Faett, 2d Lt. Robert Hersey, Officer Christopher Thomas, Supervisor John Kirby, PSCA III Susan Farria, Capt. Michael Ward, Technician John Chabal, and Lt. Jerome Williams.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in commending these fine citizens who are truly deserving of the title "hero."

TRIBUTE TO PAUL WOLFE

HON. DAN MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 1997

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today, I respectfully pay tribute to a long time friend, Mr. Paul Wolfe. He is an accomplished musician whose influence in the artistic and musical world has been felt in southwest Florida and throughout the world. On March 3, the American Jewish Committee in Sarasota, FL, will honor Mr. Wolfe with their 1997 Human Relations Award. Let me tell you about Paul Wolfe.

Mr. Wolfe began to play the piano at the tender age of 2 years. At the ripe old age of 4 years, he began his study of the violin and as a young teen, began performing with a group on radio. His illustrious career as a musical conductor was born.

Mr. Wolfe participated in a fantastic variety of performances. He played in the first violin section of the New York City Symphony, enjoyed an assignment to the Air Force Band, and performed in the show orchestra for "South Pacific." Despite his professional demands, his formal education remained a top priority. In an incredible balancing act, Paul Wolfe completed his undergraduate work and then actively pursued business administration at Columbia University while receiving his master's degree in music. With the support of his wife, Doris, he even made symphonic recordings for Columbia Records and RCA during these years.

In 1961, Mr. Wolfe was invited to become the artistic director of the 13-year-old Florida West Coast Symphony in Sarasota, FL. He adeptly molded the enthusiastic community orchestra into the outstanding symphony we have today and cofounded the prestigious Sarasota Music Festival. Paul Wolfe is also dedicated to passing the joy of music on to the next generation through the Florida West Coast Symphony Youth Orchestra. The symphony's nationally recognized youth programs have grown under his direction to include five youth orchestras and are among the most extensive of any in the country.

Upon his retirement from the Florida West Coast Symphony in April 1996, Paul Wolfe assumed the well-deserved title of conductor laureate. Today, he continues his involvement by

working Saturday mornings with young musicians as well as participating with the Florida String Quartet.

I have known Paul personally for many years. He is well loved by our community for his humor, warmth, and modesty. Though he is hanging up his professional baton, his legacy will remain for his tremendous contribution to music education for our youth. I honor Paul Wolfe today as a friend, musician, and civic leader and praise his contributions on behalf of the 13th Congressional District of Florida.

TRIBUTE TO JACQUELINE D. WARD

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, public service is not an option for everyone, but it is the foundation upon which Jacqueline Ward has built a career.

Jacqueline has been on the frontline of numerous political campaigns, and has demonstrated her tenacity and passion for participating in the political process. Her many talents have been utilized by a host of New York State and city political luminaries, including, former Governor Mario Cuomo, Mayor David Dinkins, Comptroller Carl McCall, and Brooklyn county leader Assemblyman Clarence Norman.

Jacqueline Ward has acquired considerable background in accounting and bookkeeping services as a result of her work with numerous businesses which provide financial services.

Ms. Ward has a 17-year-old son Mark, and resides in Jamaica, NY. I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the public service career of Ms. Jacqueline Ward.

TRIBUTE TO PHILIP MORSE

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, 25, 1997

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Philip Morse for being recognized by the American Associates Ben-Gurion University of the Negev for helping to establish a Chair for Clinical Studies in Rheumatology. Mr. Morse's vision, leadership, and enduring support as a businessman and as a philanthropist in the United States and abroad is a beacon for us all.

Born in Poland in the 1920's, Mr. Morse was smuggled across the border of his homeland at the young age of 19 to escape the horrors of the Holocaust. By way of Sweden, Russia, Japan, and Seattle, he arrived in New York City in 1940 greeted by relatives he had never met. Philip Morse came to America penniless, alone and determined to pursue his dream of success and freedom. It was his creativity and wit that would help him become an extremely successful industrialist.

Philip Morse's experience in repairs and reconditioning of machinery helped him to establish the Morse Electro Products Corp. where he first revolutionized the sewing machine. Soon after, he developed a way to transform the massive radio console into a compact

stereo. His innovation was the most inexpensive way to build a personal stereo making it affordable for working America for the first time ever. Furthermore, he provided thousands of jobs for workers by setting up an assembly line to manufacture the compact stereo at industrial parks in New York, Texas, and California.

In addition to his business success, Mr. Morse is committed to support Judaic causes. Several times a year he travels to Israel to promote the Zionist movement and encourage business development in Israel. Through his own personal interest and painting experience, he established a business in Israel that reproduces serigraphs and lithograph paintings of young and unknown artists. Today, he is acknowledged throughout Israel for his commitment to education at yeshivas and at the Ben-Gurion University.

Mr. Morse remains active in the Jewish community in south Florida as a founder and distinguished member of the board of directors for the Aventura-Turnberry Jewish Center and as a member of Hashomer Hazair.

I wish Philip the best on receiving this prestigious recognition from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. I know he will continue to be an effective voice for business development and for the Jewish community in south Florida and in Israel.

LEGISLATION TO FIX HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT OVERCHARGES: SUPPORT FROM NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, Representative BILL COYNE and I have introduced legislation (H.R. 582) to stop immediately the overcharging of Medicare beneficiaries in hospital outpatient departments [HOPD's].

I am pleased to report that the President's fiscal year 1998 Medicare budget also proposes to fix this gross overcharging of beneficiaries through a 10-year return to the 80-20 percent split that prevails in the rest of Medicare Part B.

It is way past time that we fixed this problem. Four and a half years ago the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare wrote about it in their July/August issue of Secure Retirement. It is a good explanation of the problem—and why we should fix the problem this year, before it gets even worse.

[From Secure Retirement, July/Aug. 1992]

WHY MEDICARE OUTPATIENT AND INPATIENT FEES CAN BE AS DIFFERENT AS APPLES AND ORANGES

(By Jeff Archer)

If you need surgery and your doctor recommends outpatient treatment, check the price first.

While both physician fees and hospital inpatient charges are strictly controlled by Medicare, no similar limits are imposed on what an outpatient center may charge.

As a result, Medicare beneficiaries are not protected from excessive charges by outpatient services, says a recent report by the

Prospective Payment Assessment Commission, the non-partisan body created by Congress to study Medicare's payment systems.

Seniors who don't have the most recent version of the Medicare Handbook might not realize this. Last year's handbook contained a chart of covered benefits for outpatient hospital treatment, which said: "You pay . . . subject to deductible plus 20 percent of approved amount."

But in reality, seniors may wind up having to pay more, possibly 30 percent or higher than Medicare's approved amount for the procedure.

That's because Medicare actually has no direct control over the outpatient service fee. No matter how much is charged, Medicare tells beneficiaries they must pay 20 percent of the bill.

Medicare does have approved amounts for these procedures, but they are used only to determine how much the health agency pays—not how much the beneficiary owes.

So while the health care agency and health care providers talk apples and oranges, the beneficiary is left completely unprotected from excessive outpatient charges.

The situation has been going on for years.

In fact, Medicare itself has pointed out the problem and the need to control outpatient fees in the same way that hospital inpatient charges are regulated.

"Currently, the beneficiary pays 20 percent of whatever the [outpatient] hospital charges for a procedure, while Medicare pays 80 percent of a payment that is at least based on costs," former Medicare Administrator Gail Wilensky told Congress in 1991. "Payment should be the same regardless of whether the procedure is performed in an outpatient department, an ambulatory surgical center or other center."

Medicare beneficiaries also have realized the error.

Kenneth Lee, of Everett, Wash., noticed the problem after his wife, Barbara, sought treatment as a hospital outpatient about two years ago. The Medicare form they received showed them having to pay 20 percent of the bill from the outpatient center.

But when Mr. Lee called his Medicare representative, he found the health care agency paid the facility much less than 80 percent of the total bill. That meant the Lees actually had to pay more than 20 percent of Medicare's approved amount.

"They're saying there are two reasonable amounts, one for Medicare and one for you," says Mr. Lee, calling the practice double bookkeeping. "It's misleading and false—they don't cover 80 percent of the bill."

The 1992 Medicare Handbook has been changed to indicate beneficiaries are responsible for 20 percent of the billed—rather than the approved—amount. But outpatient service fees still are not controlled by Medicare.

In its recent report to Congress, the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission called for controls on outpatient service fees, stating the current practice "unfairly penalizes beneficiaries who receive care in the outpatient setting."

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT: CONSTITUTIONAL BOONDOGGLE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 1997

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am attaching a copy of an important editorial appearing in last week's Wall Street Journal entitled "Constitutional Boondoggle" strongly opposing the