

and proceeded to develop a 297 acre farm into housing units know as Lock-Lon. Mr. Allard served as President of the Loveland Chamber of Commerce, President of the Loveland Board of Realtors and served for many years on the County Extension Advisory Committee. He also served as Chairman of the 4th Congressional District in Colorado.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Martin. Amos Allard is survived by his wife, Jean and their two sons, WAYNE and Kermit; a brother, George; five grandchildren: Christi (Steve) Johnson, Karen (Colin) Campbell, Cheryl (Eric) Smith, Jana & Sam; four great grandsons and numerous nieces and nephews.

Amos Allard will be sorely missed and warmly remembered. May we be thankful for his eternal peace and happiness. Amos was always there for me with sound advice or a kind word. I'll always remember his keen insight and wisdom. I found Mr. Allard to be a man of honesty, integrity and humility who touched many souls and raised many spirits. A devoted husband, father and a great American, he set a fine example for us all. To those Mr. Allard left behind, Washington Irving deemed, "The love which survives the tomb is one of the noblest attributes of the soul."

TRIBUTE TO EDWIN J. TANGNEY,
JR. UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 1999

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep thanks and appreciation for the service of my constituent, Edwin J. Tangney, Jr., on the occasion of his retirement. For 37 years, Mr. Tangney served the people of Macon County, Illinois, with diligence and professionalism, beginning with eight years as Harristown Township Auditor and four years as Macon County's first Code Enforcement Officer. In 1976, Edwin began serving as Macon County Recorder of Deeds, and was re-elected as Recorder of Deeds, and then as County Recorder, on five subsequent occasions. Under his leadership, the Macon County Recorder's Office has become one of the most efficient, accessible and accurate official records offices in the entire state of Illinois. Edwin has consistently ensured that his Office was both technologically up to date and, even more importantly, friendly and courteous to the public it serves.

Edwin Tangney retires leaving the Office of the Macon County Recorder well positioned to enter the new millennium, and I know the citizens of Macon County share my profound appreciation for his many years of dedication and leadership. Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in wishing Edwin the very best as he enters his well-deserved retirement from public service. He will indeed be missed, and his accomplishments will be remembered far into the future.

TRIBUTE TO A COMMUNITY
LEADER: LEO SMITH

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated volunteer and advocate, Leo Smith.

Mr. Smith, a tireless defender of social justice, died Wednesday, January 13th at the age of 80 after a lifetime of standing up for what he believed in.

Remembered by many as conscientious, Mr. Smith belonged to many church and public service groups including several that looked out for the rights of seniors. Working with a Southern Maryland group that aimed to improve housing conditions and eliminate open-air drug markets, he was often a mentor and a leader.

Mr. Smith was a founding member of the local chapter of the AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) and was the La Plata Richard R. Clark Senior Center's representative in 1994. It was in that year that the AARP, Sheriff's office, State Police and La Plata police signed an agreement to form TRIAD to both reduce crime and help seniors become more aware of protecting themselves.

Occasionally described as controversial because he went all out for what he believed, Mr. Smith was described by one of his co-workers as "a selfless community servant". The seniors of Charles County and the citizens of Southern Maryland will sorely miss his enthusiastic spirit and informed voice.

Leo Smith was born in Washington, DC and served in WWII in the U.S. Navy. He worked for 30 years for the U.S. Government in Greenbelt at NASA. He is survived by his wife Mary, five sons and six daughters.

IN MEMORY OF JACK AND RUTH
CORDES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Jack Cordes, 75 and his wife Mrs. Ruth Cordes, 72 of Cleveland. After 53 years of marriage the couple died a day apart.

Mr. and Mrs. Cordes grew up together and were inseparable. Jack Cordes served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Following the war both Jack and Ruth Cordes worked, Jack as a plumber and Ruth as a counter clerk for a bakery. Together, the couple lived through both joy and sorrow.

Jack Cordes battled several types of cancer before falling ill with lung cancer on November 18th. During this struggle Ruth never left his side, providing comfort and support. She stayed with him even though she was in great pain. She suffered a heart attack from watching as her beloved husband grew ill. Ruth suffered a second heart attack on Sunday the 22nd and died later that afternoon. Jack died just a day later.

Their lives were so interconnected; their true love was so interdependent; their commitment

to each other was so evident. By living their lives as a true partnership, Jack and Ruth's passing reflects the true meaning of "till death do us part."

Ladies and gentlemen, the Cordes' lives and deaths are testaments to the strength of love. Please join me in remembering this extraordinary couple.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 13107 IMPLEMENTING HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I submit to the RECORD the following thoughts of John and Carol Loeffler, on President Clinton's Executive Order (EO) 13107.

Date: 12/15/98

Assertion: Last weeks, President Clinton signed an Executive Order setting up a new bureaucracy to implement international human rights treaties. This is yet another end run around Senate approval of controversial UN treaties.

Factoids: The Executive Order 13107, entitled "Implementation of Human Rights Treaties," at first glance appears to be an administrative tool to carry out the implementation of international treaties within the U.S. governmental agencies. However, there are some phrases within the order that should raise a red flag to anyone who is concerned that our national sovereignty and constitutional rights could be eroded by various UN treaties.

For example, the introductory paragraph specifically cites the implementation of three treaties which have already been ratified by the Senate; that is, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. There are provisions in these treaties that have been argued to undermine our own Bill of Rights, but this is only the tip of the iceberg.

The order goes even further by including "other relevant treaties concerned with the protection and promotion of human rights to which the United States is now or may become a party in the future." This sweeping statement seems to indicate that the administration intends to enforce human rights treaties that have not yet been ratified by the Senate.

If so, there are a number of controversial UN treaties that have not been ratified because they also could potentially nullify rights granted to us under the Constitution. Treaties such as the UN Covenant on the Rights of the Child, which offically designates the state as the guardian of children's best interest, insuring that the state knows better than parents what materials are appropriate and what associations are beneficial. It is also responsible for protecting the child when parental beliefs conflict with the rights of the child. Politically incorrect beliefs such as spanking or religious indoctrination could be grounds for placing children into foster care.

Another controversial treaty is the Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. This treaty has been criticized in part because it forces countries which sign it to allow abortion rights to women, whether or not there is national legislation prohibiting abortion.

It doesn't take much imagination to project what agencies like the Department of Education or the Department of Health and Human Services could do with directives such as these.

The agency Clinton has set up with the issue of this Executive Order has been directed to monitor agencies, coordinate responses to human rights complaints, review proposed legislation for violations, and monitor the actions of states, commonwealths, and territories of the United States, as well as Native American tribes. It would appear that no local governments will escape the scrutiny of this new political bureaucracy.

INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION SERVICES PROVIDER REGISTRATION ACT

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 1999

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I have reintroduced legislation to provide a resource to people seeking reputable agencies and facilitators that process intercountry adoptions. The bill, entitled the "Intercountry Adoption Services Provider Registration Act," requires people licensed to process intercountry adoptions or involved with intercountry adoptions to register with the U.S. State Department's Office of Children's Issues. The agencies are required to disclose all addresses, employees and sources. If any agency fails to comply, it may suffer financial penalties or a loss of its operating license.

When I became a member of this body, I vowed to give a voice to those with no voice and to protect people from being victimized. Accordingly, when a constituent from my 17th district told me about her horrible experience with an intercountry adoption, I was compelled to take action.

My constituent and her husband had tried for many years to have a second child. When circumstances beyond their control would not let them have another child, they decided to adopt a foreign-born child. They researched the international adoption process and adoption agencies. They contacted the State Department and national adoption networks to gather information before proceeding with their adoption. Finally, they settled on what they thought to be a reputable agency from New Mexico. The adoption process was underway. The New Mexico intercountry adoption facilitator asked for and received prepayment, followed by several installments to cover costs. The couple understood that an intercountry adoption was an expensive process, but knew that the cost would not matter when they had a child in their arms.

After a few months, a photograph of a three-year-old Russian girl was sent to the couple. They were told she was eligible for adoption. In order to prevent the child from being adopted by someone else, the couple was told to send additional monies to secure the adoption. The facilitator explained that the final adoption would take six to eight months to process. The couple gladly sent the money. What they weren't told was that Russia had placed a moratorium on all foreign adoptions. The moratorium took effect even before they were sent the photo of the child. The child

was never placed in their home and they lost more than \$12,000 to a foreign adoption con artist. When the adoption facilitator was confronted with the moratorium information, he changed the name of his organization and moved to another state. After several months of searching for the agency, the couple is suing for a refund. The case is pending in a New Mexico court.

While completing research for this bill, I discovered many other couples who have similar horror stories of intercountry adoptions. Fraud, deceit and lots of money were involved in each of the tales. The House of Representatives must provide some consumer protection for persons who wish to adopt a foreign-child.

The Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention, a convention convened to protect children and co-operation in respect to intercountry adoptions, has yet to be signed by the United States. Among other matters, this treaty addresses the fraudulent and unscrupulous practices of a minority of agencies that participate in selling children, bribing parents and government officials, deceiving adoptive parents and failing to ensure that each and every adoption is in the best interests of the children concerned. However, the Hague Convention gives no specific legal protection to any person or provide a resource regarding the adoption process. Each individual country must protect its citizens. The Intercountry Adoption Services Provider Registration Act will provide a much needed source of information and protection for prospective adoptive parents.

THE REINTRODUCTION OF A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ABOLISH THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 1999

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to reintroduce, along with Congressman WISE from West Virginia, a constitutional amendment that seeks to end the arcane and obsolete institution known as the Electoral College.

It is no accident that this bill is being introduced today, the day that the electoral ballots are opened and counted in the presence of the House and Senate. I hope that the timing of this bill's introduction will only underscore the fact that the time has come to put an end to this archaic practice that we must endure every four years.

Only the President and the Vice President of the United States are currently elected indirectly by the Electoral College—and not by the voting citizens of this country. All other elected officials, from the local officeholder up to United States Senator, are elected directly by the people.

Our bill will replace the complicated electoral college system with the simple method of using the popular vote to decide the winner of a presidential election. By switching to a direct voting system, we can avoid the result of electing a President who failed to win the popular vote. This outcome has, in fact, occurred three times in our history and resulted in the elections of John Quincy Adams (1824), Rutherford B. Hayes (1876), and Benjamin Harrison (1888).

In addition to the problem of electing a President who failed to receive the popular vote, the Electoral College system also allows for the peculiar possibility of having Congress decide the outcome should a presidential ticket fail to receive a majority of the Electoral College votes. Should this happen, the 12th Amendment requires the House of Representatives to elect a President and the Senate to elect a Vice President. Such an occurrence would clearly not be in the best interest of the people, for they would be denied the ability to directly elect those who serve in our highest offices.

This bill will put to rest the Electoral College and its potential for creating contrary and singular election results. And, it is introduced not without historical precedent. In 1969, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a bill calling for the abolition of the Electoral College and putting a system of direct election in its place. Despite passing the House by a vote of 338-70, the bill got bogged down in the Senate where a filibuster blocked its progress.

So, it is in the spirit of this previous action that we introduce legislation to end the Electoral College. I am hopeful that our fellow members on both sides of the aisle will stand with us by cosponsoring this important piece of legislation.

IN MEMORY OF PADDY CLANCY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a music legend, Paddy Clancy of The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem. The Clancy Brothers were one of the first Irish musical groups to achieve international notoriety. The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem created numerous hit songs in the 1960's.

Paddy Clancy was born in Carrick-on-Suir in Tiperrary county to a family of nine, all of whom were musically inclined. In the 1950's he and his brother Tommy emigrated to New York to pursue acting careers. It seemed the brothers were destined however, to make their mark not as thespians but as musicians. Later, their brother Liam was to join Paddy and Tom, with Tommy Makem they created The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem. The Clancy Brothers were known for their incredible harmonies and their energetic concerts. These talents were quickly recognized, and they built a loyal fan base, playing folk clubs in Greenwich Village.

In 1961 they gained national notoriety following an incredible 16-minute set on The Ed Sullivan Show. Their music defied definition. It was both beautiful and raucous at once. They blended American folk music with traditional Irish forms. Paddy was equally capable of singing an Irish drinking song or an elegant ballad. Paddy and the Clancies also performed with Bob Dylan and Barbara Streisand. The Clancies were able to expose Americans to the glorious music of Ireland and still incorporate American folk into their music.

Ladies and gentlemen, the contributions made by Paddy Clancy to music were incredible. I ask you to join me today in remembering this fine musician.