

\$25,000 a year. The UNOS Foundation owns something called the Transplant Informatics Institute, a for-profit company run by organ network staffers. Transplants Informatics is so secret that even some UNOS board members are unaware that it exists.

What does the institute do? The government thinks it markets UNOS-developed software to organ network members. In an audit looking into the use of registration fees for lobbying, the Office of the Inspector General got just that impression. What the institute really does is analyze and sell organ network data to profit-making companies like Fujisawa, the Japanese firm that sells drugs for transplant patients. When the institute has not been able to cover its costs with such sales, UNOS has used its registration fee income to make up the difference. Prospective organ recipients are therefore effectively funding this hidden business.

You'd think someone on UNOS' board would scream bloody murder about all this. After all, the 40-person board is almost half doctors, dedicated to saving lives. But the directors have little idea what's going on. "The board is kind of in the dark," sighs patient advocate Charles Fiske, a former board member.

"We received an annual financial report and pretty much accepted it as written," says University of Oklahoma transplant doctor Larry R. Pennington, a board member from 1996 to 1998. They really don't know how to interpret the data. "All I'm familiar with is hospital sort of activity," admits transplant physician William Harmon.

Realizing that UNOS is out of control, Shalala has put out feelers for a replacement. "I hope we have some bidders this time," sighs Claude Fox, a pediatrician who, as administrator of the Health Resources & Services Administration, oversees transplants for Shalala. The only prospect so far is Santa Monica-based Rand.

Determined to see that Rand does not walk off with the contract, UNOS' lobbyists are pushing for a law that would insure that Graham's group will keep the contract forever. Last month Biley's committee held hearings on a bill which would require the organ rationing contractor to have experience, something no group but UNOS has. It would also allow UNOS' members to vote on the choice.

"Anything that gives them more of a stranglehold isn't in the public interest," says Fox. "It's like giving the EPA to some land-fill company," says Dr. Fung.

It would be nice if UNOS didn't have a lock on this business. Better still if the federal government stepped out of the process altogether and let doctors come up with creative ways to increase the supply of organs. (How about giving people who sign up as potential donors when they are young some priority in getting organs when they are older?) Once there are enough hearts and livers to go around, there won't be unaccountable arbiters holding sway over our lives.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF DICK
G. LAM, JR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Dick G. Lam, Jr. He has been instrumental in developing and implementing economic and academic development programs. Dick remains committed to improving the quality of life in his

community. Presently, Dick is the President of Operation Salvation for Youth (OSY). As the president, he directs a Brooklyn based organization devoted to helping youth gain digital literacy and access to new technology. In the program, special emphasis is placed on welfare mothers who have young children. The OSY is currently working with the New York City Housing Authority, the Miracle Makers, Inc., and several private firms on the development of a new project.

Dick's work continues to provide a foundation for social progress. As a Senior Fellow for the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning at Hunter College, he worked to develop a Spatial Analysis Management System to analyze a range of urban problems, including transportation, housing and welfare to work issues. Dick also holds advisory positions as the Senior U.S. Consultant to the Tianjin Municipal Utility Bureau, The Peoples Republic of China and the Senior U.S. Consultant to the All China Taxi Association, The Peoples Republic of China.

Our community is a better place today because Dick has chosen to commit himself to urban renewal and development. Dick has accomplished his objectives by working in key positions such as: Director of the Mayor's Office of Midtown Manhattan Planning and Development, New York City, Director of Transportation and Regional Planning, New York City Planning Commission, and Special Assistant to the Deputy Under Secretary, United States Department of Transportation. Our society is a better place today because of the contributions made by Dick.

I commend Dick G. Lam, Jr. and pray that he will succeed in all future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF MR. RAMON DE LA
CRUZ, PRESIDENT OF THE HIS-
PANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF
NEW JERSEY, FOR HIS OUT-
STANDING ACHIEVEMENTS THIS
YEAR

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Ramon de la Cruz, President of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey, for his outstanding work on behalf of the Hispanic Community.

An active member of the Hispanic Bar Association for more than ten years, Mr. de la Cruz was recently appointed as the New Jersey Regional President of the organization. And he has shown continued commitment to its growth and success.

From fighting racial profiling and domestic violence, to battling against anti-diversity efforts across the country, the Hispanic Bar Association has been a motivating and unifying force for the Hispanic community in New Jersey under Mr. de la Cruz's leadership.

In addition, Mr. de la Cruz and the H.B.A. of New Jersey have worked extensively with several associations to bring attention to the lack of Hispanic representation on the New Jersey federal judiciary. Because of his efforts and vision, Mr. de la Cruz was instrumental in the recent recommendation of New Jersey's first ever Hispanic to be nominated to the U.S.

Court of Appeals of the Third District in the State.

Knowing the importance of a clear and unified message from the H.B.A., Mr. de la Cruz served as editor of ABOGADO, the official newsletter of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey, Inc., for four years. Highlighting the accomplishments of fellow Hispanic abogados y abogadas, as well as confronting the tough issues that the Hispanic community faces, Mr. de la Cruz's work has made the newsletter an informative report to the community.

For all of these achievements and for his remarkable leadership, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. de la Cruz and the H.B.A. on another year of hard work and dedication to both the Hispanic community and the State of New Jersey.

INTRODUCING THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER CONFIDENTIALITY ACT OF 1999

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Social Security Number Confidentiality Act of 1999. In a time of increasingly easier access to personal information by people other than the owner of that information, "Identity Theft" is becoming more and more of a problem.

Given this significant problem, I found it alarming to learn from senior citizens in my district that the Social Security Administration openly displays a recipient's Social Security number, name and address in the window of the envelope. This same envelope makes its way through the United States Postal system.

By simply taking a quick peek in a mailbox, or in a pile of mail left in a person's car, anyone could obtain the information needed to steal someone's identity. The open display of such private and confidential information is an invitation for scam artists to rip off our senior citizens.

As I investigated this situation, I found that the Social Security Administration knowingly continues this practice. At the same time they advocate the need to keep Social Security numbers confidential.

Ironically, in the July/August issue of Social Security Today, the agency advises us that, "All the information Social Security collects about you is kept confidential: it's protected by law," and reminds us to "protect your Social Security number. Be careful how you use it and keep it confidential whenever possible."

Mr. Speaker, this is a glaring inconsistency that requires immediate attention. My legislation will prohibit the appearance of Social Security numbers on or through the window of unopened Social Security checks. It will allow the Social Security Administration to practice what they preach—that we all need to be careful and keep our Social Security numbers private and confidential. In all fairness, the checks are printed by the Department of Treasury, and my legislation will direct them to change their procedures.

In closing, I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting the Social Security Number Confidentiality Act of

1999. This important legislation protects our senior citizens from scam artists and maintains the privacy and confidentiality of our Social Security numbers.

TRIBUTE TO TODD STORZ

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Todd Storz by marking the 50th anniversary of the creation of the Mid-Continent Broadcasting Company, later known as the Storz Broadcasting Company.

Todd Storz developed the radio rotation format known as "Top 40." This innovation made rock and roll a part of American history and changed the sound of radio forever. Through his Mid-Continent Broadcasting Company, Todd Storz initially influenced radio in Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, and New Orleans. Soon, other radio stations adapted their formats to the "Top 40" rotation style. His pioneering work in radio made popular music a component of American culture.

Todd Storz's idea for "Top 40" radio came about through competition with a rival station that featured a one hour "Top 20" radio show. The two hour "Top 40" format won over listeners as well as other radio programmers. As a result, it soon became the standard format. The Mid-Continent Broadcasting Company's successful approach to radio broadcasting helped radio survive and flourish in spite of the popularity of television.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring Todd Storz on the 50th anniversary of the founding of his Mid-Continent Broadcasting Company.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF SAM GUBODIA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Sam Gubodia. Sam, a native of Nigeria, has dedicated his life to the academic and economic empowerment of our community. He strives to improve the quality of life for African Americans and the African World. Our society needs more educators and business leaders like Sam because he has helped to rebuild our community. Sam has utilized his knowledge and skills to make positive changes in the African American community.

Before and after completing his doctorate degree in International Finance, Sam has worked diligently to uplift African American and African World people. Upon arriving in the United States, Sam embarked on a promising academic and career path. He worked as a Consular Assistant at the Nigerian Consulate General. As a student at Stony Brook, Sam held many notable positions: for example, he was President, African Students Organization (1977-1979), and he organized several clothing drives for the people of South Africa and Zimbabwe, and he served a President of the

Third World Graduate Students Organization (1980).

While attending graduate school at Stony Brook, Sam realized that he would be a great service to his community if he pursued an academic profession, and from there he began to work as an educator. Sam has held many positions as an educator: He taught at Bendel State University, The University of Benin, Stony Brook, and The College of New Rochelle. Currently, Dr. Gubodia is an exemplary Grade Leader-Advisor for the Honors Economic Program at Boys and Girls High School. The lives of many people have been enriched because of Sam, and our community appreciates the important role that he has played as an educator. Sam is also a published scholar, and we appreciate his innovative ideas on economic development.

I commend Sam Gubodia and pray that he will succeed in all future endeavors.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3064,
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 1999

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my profound disappointment with the legislative process in this chamber and the bill that is before us today.

In the House of Representatives, we have one primary duty—to pass the thirteen annual appropriations bills. Today, one day before the scheduled adjournment date, we have not yet completed our work on five of the thirteen. To add insult to injury, we are being asked to vote on a "pre-conferenced" Labor-HHS-Education spending bill that this House has not the opportunity to debate and amend under regular order.

To say that the bill before us today misrepresents national priorities would be false—in fact, the bill before us today represents no priorities. Perhaps, if the House had an opportunity to address this bill in the normal fashion—with debate, amendment and compromise—the House could have come to consensus as it has for the past 105 Congresses. Of course the federal government can cut 1% of fat—but to blindly cut that 1% across the board is lazy and irresponsible.

Mr. Speaker, the priorities of the Kansans that I represent are ill-served by this ham-handed approach to legislating that is before us today. This bill would block grant the class-size reduction initiative enacted by Congress last year, and deny \$200 million needed to hire 8,000 new teachers. A 1% across-the-board reduction would cut benefits for 71,000 needy individuals benefiting from supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). It would result in 1.3 million fewer "Meals on Wheels" delivered to shut-in seniors and 4,888 fewer low-income children being able to benefit from the highly successful Head Start program.

I am voting against this bill today hoping that the House will go back to the drawing board and, like the Senate, set responsible spending levels that reflect our priorities as a nation.

IN HONOR OF THE WEST HOBOKEN SOCIAL & ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION OF UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY, ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the West Hoboken Social & Athletic Association of Union City, New Jersey, for its hard work and dedicated service to the community for the past fifty years.

Organized after World War II to reunite friends and foster continued camaraderie, the WHSA championed public and private causes in an effort to follow its motto, "service to the community."

During the early years, the association sponsored several sports teams to encourage youth involvement in athletics. Today, it continues that tradition by offering youth athletic programs and positive adult role models as coaches. The WHSA was instrumental in providing the necessary financial aid and guidance to one young athlete who competed in the World Special Olympics.

The WHSA has developed programs to help the members of their communities by providing a summer camp program for underprivileged children, awarding savings bonds to school children for higher education with the "Edward Trevelese History Award," and organizing companionship and entertainment for the elderly through the "Walter Scarpetta Nursing Home Volunteers" program. The WHSA continues to work with other organizations and charities such as the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and United Cerebral Palsy, providing expertise, leadership, and support.

For its service to the residents of the West Hoboken community in the State of New Jersey, and its long tradition of active leadership, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the West Hoboken Social & Athletic Association and all of its members as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF PEGGY RODGERS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Peggy Rodgers. Peggy is a community activist who has dedicated her time to assisting people in need. As a volunteer in State Senator John Sampson's office, she focuses on helping senior citizens and homeless people. She diligently works on finding adequate housing for senior citizens and the homeless.

Peggy is a hard working model citizen. After graduating from Canarsie High School, she went on to attend Brooklyn College. At Brooklyn College, Peggy recognized her interest in business, and, as a result, she decided to pursue an education at the Robert Finance Business Institute, where she received a certificate in Business Management. Upon completion of her studies, Peggy worked at Merrill Lynch Brokerage Firm in Accounts Receivable.