

dedicated themselves to providing the best possible education to its students.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, Angelo State University will complete construction of its Rao Alumni and Visitors Center in 2001; and

Whereas, This center will serve as a link to the future and the past of Angelo State University, welcoming both new students and its alumni; and

Whereas, Angelo State University has made an ongoing commitment to the future by providing a top rate education to students from across Texas, the United States and the world; and

Whereas, The dedication of this time capsule by the Alumni Association serves as a symbol of Angelo State's commitment to the future; and

Whereas, We included in this capsule a flag flown over our nation's capitol on October 4, 1999, as symbol of our dedication to those future generations who will open it during the 2025 Angelo State University homecoming celebration, be it

Resolved, That I, Charles W. Stenholm, as Congressman for the 17th District of Texas, do officially recognize and extend my best wishes on the dedication of this capsule by the Angelo State University Alumni Association and that an official copy of this resolution be presented to the University and Alumni Association as an expression of my high regards for their efforts.

CHARLES W. STENHOLM,
Member of Congress.

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GAMBIA AND NASA

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 1999

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight for my colleagues the continued cooperation between The Gambia and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The Gambia's President, Dr. Yahya Jammeh, recently completed his first visit to the United States as head-of-State, and I had the opportunity to meet with him personally to discuss issues of mutual interest.

The Banjul Airport has been among four select locations in the world designated as augmented emergency landing sites and recovery locations for the United States Space Shuttle. NASA space shuttles, launched eastward in a ballistic trajectory over the Atlantic Ocean, fly directly over Banjul, thus making it an ideal location for emergency landings if needed. Banjul International Airport (BIA) boasts an ultra-modern \$10 million passenger terminal, a new nine-floor Air Traffic Control Tower, newly installed security systems, and upgraded airfield lighting and navigation systems. In addition, The Gambia's Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) works closely with the United Space Alliance, which is responsible for operating the Transoceanic Abort Landing (TAL) sites for every NASA space shuttle mission.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend NASA and President Jammeh for their cooperation, and I strongly encourage them to continue to work together in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO ROY QUICK OF QUICK TAX & ACCOUNTING SERVICE ON SELECTION TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 1999

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a resident of Missouri's 2nd District and a friend—Mr. Roy M. Quick, Jr. on his selection to serve as a member of the Internal Revenue Service Advisory Council (IRSAC). Roy, who is a small business owner back home in St. Louis, runs Quick Tax and Accounting Service with his wife Edith.

The primary role of the IRSAC is to advise the Commissioner of the IRS on the public's perceptions of IRS activities and current and future tax administration programs and initiatives. As a Member of Congress who attends many town hall meetings, women in chamber and business roundtable events back home, I can tell you that this is definitely an area where the IRS has plenty of room for improvement. The group suggests operational improvements and offers constructive observations about current or proposed policies, programs and procedures. In essence, the men and women who sit on this Council could be called the inner voice of the IRS.

While I am proud to announce the selection of Roy Quick to the IRSAC, I am especially pleased by the fact that seven of the new IRSAC members are small business owners. For too long, small business owners have not had a seat at the table when talking about the complex regulatory and tax issues that leave them in a quagmire of compliance paperwork. I am hopeful that with seven of the fourteen slots on the IRSAC now being held by small business owners that these men and women will offer guidance and a real life perspective to the decision-making process that affects more than 12 million small business owners across the nation.

Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the House Committee on Small business, I ask all of you to join me in offering not only our congratulations but our appreciation to these men and women—the small business owners like Roy Quick—who every day are working to keep America's engine—small business—running and on course to a better tomorrow.

A TRIBUTE TO SENIORS HELPING PEOPLE

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 1999

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Al Graff and Dick Wheelock for their humanitarian contributions to our local community. The article below from the June 17, 1999, Coast News highlights their tremendous accomplishments in providing health care to the uninsured in San Diego County. Mr. Graff and Dr. Wheelock deserve our sincere congratulations for their efforts. They should be proud of their work, and I am proud to have such fine individuals as constituents.

[From the Coast News, June 17, 1999]

RETIRED FRIENDS TENDING TO THE PEOPLE'S NEEDS

By Jack Broward

EDEN GARDENS—There is no more appropriate term in describing Al Graff, 80, and his partner Dick Wheelock, 73, than synergism: working together as a team, they exceed what could otherwise be achieved individually.

Yet, judged individually, Graff stood at the very pinnacle of his engineering profession as an executive with General Atomics before retirement in 1983 as director of International Operations.

Dr. G. Richard Wheelock, founding Medical Director in 1955 of the Del Mar Medical Clinic, was for the seaside community of Del Mar, only the area's second medical doctor to practice there at that time. It was not long before Wheelock's medical colleague retired, leaving him as the only physician in town.

Like all areas of North San Diego County's coastal region, the climate, lifestyles and informality attracted tens of thousands of new residents. In time, new doctors, joined the clinic as patient load increased.

In retrospect, Wheelock thinks now that he might have never retired without the retirement party that his wife threw for him without advance notice!

For as many years as he can remember, Rancho Santa Fe resident Al Griff has been an advocate for social justice, a calling he refers to as "the needs of the people."

The Berkeley graduate forged over the years, a dedication to social justice that eventually manifested itself in his ordination as a deacon at Solna Beach's St. James Catholic church. His new role in life began the day after his retirement in 1983.

The plot thickens with Wheelock's retirement from practice in Del Mar after 44 years as "the village doctor."

Graff's good health, agile mind and aggressive spirit were the elements key to the ultimate establishment of a medical clinic here in Eden Gardens.

His lengthy friendship with Wheelock included participation in community efforts to aid the poor and needy residents of Tijuana. "We were returning from Tijuana one Saturday afternoon after delivering medical supplies donations from area hospitals in the region," recalls Graff. "Dick asked me what I thought about opening a small clinic adjoining St. Leo's Mission."

Through arrangements made by St. James Pastor, the Reverend John Howard (St. Leo's Mission is a subsidiary of St. James), it was agreed that a clinic was needed. The Mission, located on some four acres of property, is a focal point of community life in Eden Gardens. Social as well as religious events draw parishioners to the facility for wide ranging activities throughout the week.

"We situated the clinic in a single room in the back of the church, using the kitchen facilities as a patient waiting room." Dick Wheelock recalls, telling how, in 1992, the clinic's presence was a "word-of-mouth" operation.

Sunday Mass announcements included (and still do) a run-down about clinic hours, special education awareness programs, vaccinations for babies, a yearly mammogram program for women over 40 years of age as well as numerous other special programs offered by the clinic. In a short time, the clinic patient load outgrew its single-room operation. The addition of two more small rooms plus an indoor patient waiting room that also serves as the filing-administration section was eventually provided.

Thursday evenings from 6-9 p.m. and Saturday mornings from 9 until noon are the

current scheduled hours of operation. But I noticed in visits for this story, that the medical staff, comprised of Wheelock and an all-volunteer team of area physicians, medical students from UCSD, nurses, technicians and administrative personnel remained at the clinic as long as patients were waiting to be seen.

"From the beginning, we realized the need for dispensing dignity and integrity along with medical treatments," notes Graff, explaining that the \$5 per-patient "donation" may only be a token exchange for services and payment. "But, this helps preserve the patient's dignity. Those unable to pay are treated with equal respect and medical care. All examinations, medications and related services are free. But the \$5 fee creates a fund used for the purchase of logistical needs not donated by outside sources," Graff explains, noting that the clinic's overall operations are supported by grants that he applies for and receives from a variety of institutions and non-profit organizations.

With diabetes within Hispanic communities a major concern for the medics, the clinic conducts weekly diabetic health education programs for Eden Garden families. There is an estimated population of 12,500 residents in the area, according to Graff. Ninety-five percent of those who come to the clinic are from working poor families, the majority of whom are without health coverage, he said, emphasizing that "Everyone who comes through that door is accepted." Patients on MediCare are referred to medical facilities elsewhere, it was noted. On a Saturday morning during one of my visits to the clinic, a multitude of patients, mothers with their infant children, husbands and wives, school-age youngsters, all were waiting in a patio shaded by trees. Patient loads currently are running at about 60 patients on each of the twice per-week days of operation.

One of the most redeeming qualities associated with the clinic is first, that an efficient, highly professional medical facility is maintained in close proximity to community residents. Next, that those patients seen by the clinic relieves the burden that otherwise would necessarily be cared for by public health agencies, explained Victor Tostada, another of the staff volunteers who serves as administrative director.

In an annual report issued last February, it is emphasized that "All patients, especially infants and children, are accepted regardless of race, color, origin or creed."

In its mission statement accompanying the report, it is also noted that the clinic presents "no competition with medical, dental or hospital professions, but a relief of a burden of caring for the working poor."

States Deacon Graff, "We estimate about \$600,000 yearly in services and medicines as well as specialized requirements (provided at no cost by other medical institutions) are provided for our patients free from any impact on local, state or federal government resources. Because St. Leo's Mission is the sponsoring agency, our patients accept our services as they do in all other church-sponsored benefits."

Among the clinic volunteers on duty during my visits was Dr. Marsha Blount, a resident family practice physician at Sharp's. Rounding out a full year of service, the North Carolina native and graduate of Duke University and Jefferson Medical School in Philadelphia, commented to me, "You learn to think on your feet here. It is hands-on experience that would otherwise be hard to gain."

Another resident physician at Sharp's, Jill Panitch, agreed with her colleague and told how second and third-year resident physicians volunteer one year of service to the clinic.

Michael Tilton, an undergraduate medical student at UCSD has been volunteering his services for the past 18 months. And fifty-year, now-retired nurse Martha Moyer, a Del Mar resident, explained between treating patients that the clinic tries to serve the working poor from Del Mar to Encinitas. She recalls in 1992 reading about the clinic that was intended to open at St. Leo's in Eden Garden. "That's how I wound up as a volunteer."

It is reflection of my limited abilities to not include in this story all of the names of clinic volunteers. The redeeming quality about their service, though, is that they serve—at no cost—because they are needed. Fulfillment, professional and personal, is their reward.

Already on the drawing board at the clinic is a 600 square-foot dental facility to be constructed by volunteer labor and funds supplied by the parish of St. James and St. Leo's Mission as well as from the Del Mar and Sunrise Rotary Club members. Three dental chairs, x-ray equipment and ancillary requirements are identified in the construction plans, according to Graff. His programs, current as well as those on the horizon, are extensive and infinite in measures of contributions to be made to community life in Eden Gardens. He manages dedication, consistent with his and Wheelock's accomplishments of the past.

I waited until now to introduce more fully Dr. Wheelock, a type-cast-physician who may've posed a half-century ago for one of artist Norman Rockwell's cover paintings for Saturday Evening Post. He reflects in his conversation and mannerisms a sense of genuine modesty, characteristic of remote regions of Arizona and the southwest where he was born and raised.

Recalling his closing years as head of the old Del Mar Clinic, Wheelock told of young doctors at the clinic approaching him on the subject of expanding the facility that he founded, keeping pace with the population growth and adding to a facility that was dedicated to serving the medical needs of families in the community. I felt the pressures but I just didn't feel comfortable with the prospects of expanding. So I retired.

But not for long. Today, after six years of building-back growth in his and Al Graff's new clinic, there has likely been restored in the career of Dick Wheelock, a sense of picking up where he left off so many years ago, during the infancy of his Del Mar Clinic. Says his partner, "Dick Wheelock is deeply devoted to his profession and those who look to him for relief from pain. He has great empathy for his fellow human being."

Which makes this story all the more remarkable is that two individuals in totally different professions would become friends in later life, then partners in an endeavor whose function is enriched with feelings of warmth, compassion and love for those less fortunate than themselves.

ENTERPRISE ZONE/EMPOWERMENT COMMITTEES PROGRAM

HON. DONNA MC CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 8, 1999

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to authorize the Virgin Islands and the others U.S. Insular Areas to participate in the Enterprise Zone/Empowerment Communities Program.

The U.S. Virgin Islands has been an unincorporated territory of the United States for 82

years. In 1917 we will celebrate the centennial of this relationship. It is important to the People of the Virgin Islands that we begin the second one-hundred years on a sound economic footing, and as a self-sustaining, contributing member of the American Family. This bill can be the vehicle to this economic empowerment and sustainable growth and development.

Although the Virgin Islands enjoys generous business tax benefits currently, the loss of Section 936 and the coming of NAFTA create significant challenges as we strive to establish our place in the national and world economy. An empowerment zone would encourage an ongoing community planning process and provide for a local-federal partnership that is the best framework for us to move forward.

What this bill seeks to do is to develop a process for us to come together as a community and a part of the United States to address a myriad of issues that have plagued us, from land use planning, to housing, to education, to drugs and crime, and business and the economy, so that by the time we celebrate the 100 year anniversary of being a part of the American family we will do so with the pride and dignity that befits us and the ancestors on whose shoulders we move forward.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this bill and of its enactment into law.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER PAYTON

SPEECH OF

HON. ROGER F. WICKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 3, 1999

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of fellow Mississippian Walter Payton who died earlier this week at the age of 45. Walter Payton was born in Columbia, Mississippi, on July 25, 1954. Following his outstanding career at Jackson State University, he was drafted by the Chicago Bears where he would spend the next 13 years rewriting the NFL record books.

Walter Payton's on-field accomplishments, his engaging personality and his off-the-field contributions to community and civic affairs have earned him a lasting place in the hearts of millions of Americans.

He proved that a strong work ethic and a commitment to excellence could propel an undersized athlete from a small college in Mississippi to the top of the professional football world. He was praised for bringing positive attention to the abilities of players who come from small colleges. Among his admirers is Jerry Rice, another Mississippian from a small school who became an NFL superstar. "He paved the way for so many small schools and players, including myself, because he opened a lot of eyes," Rice said.

Mississippians are proud of this Hall of Fame running back for his success in running over, around and through opposing defenses. We are equally proud of his commitment to family, church, and community.

Many people will recall his work to ensure that thousands of children received toys and clothing for Christmas. Among his activities were efforts to help over 9000 churches, schools, and social service agencies raise money to support their missions, and establishing scholarships so that children, who had