

A dyed-in-the-wool Republican his whole life, Chris left an indelible mark on the Pueblo community as a city councilman. As an at-large council member, Weaver was widely acclaimed for his leadership and vision on a wide range of issues, including HARP, the Pueblo Convention Center, and increased benefits for retired firemen. In his time on the council, Chris served with great distinction leaving a lasting legacy that will long benefit Pueblo.

At age 6, Chris moved to Pueblo with his parents, the late Dr. John Weaver and his wife Frances, from Concordia, Kansas. Following his graduation from Centennial High School in 1966, Chris studied briefly at the Colorado School of Mines and later transferred to the University of Southern Colorado where he graduated in 1982.

A certified public accountant, Chris was an active member in the Kiwanis Club, the Private Industry Council, and the National Association of Accountants.

I am hopeful that Chris' family—including his wife Mary, his children Andrew, Donald, and Jennifer, his mother Frances, and his siblings Ross, Matthew and Allison Swift—will all find solace in the remarkable life that he led. Indeed, like myself and the many others that counted him a friend, Chris' family should find peace in the knowledge each is a better person for having known him.

THE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Emergency Food Assistance Enhancement Act of 1999. My bill increases TEFAP commodity purchases from \$100 million to \$125 million in an attempt to help food banks meet the needs of their communities.

It is unfortunate, Mr. Speaker, that there is a need for food banks. Even though our farmers and ranchers are the most productive and efficient in the world, the need for food banks continues. Food banks often meet the needs of their communities by managing donations from the Government and the private sector. Most Government donations are the product of the Emergency Food Assistance Program. It is a unique program that has the ability to provide nutritious domestic agriculture products to needy Americans while at the same time providing support to the agriculture community. In the welfare reform bill, Congress made TEFAP commodity purchases mandatory because of the integral role this program has in the provisions of food assistance to needy families.

This program is a quick fix, something to get families through tough times. It gives them the support they need, but it doesn't ensnare them into a cycle of dependency for which other Federal assistance programs are infamous. TEFAP purchases also provide much needed support to the agriculture community. While other food assistance programs are much larger, TEFAP has a more direct impact for agriculture producers, while at the same time providing food for those in need.

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 included hundreds of millions of dollars for Employment

and Training Program aimed at those able bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD) whose eligibility for the Food Stamp Program was restricted by a work requirement in the Welfare Reform Act of 1996. The money is dedicated to training programs that keep any ABAWD on the food stamp rolls if they participate. Several hearings and reports have said that the money is going unspent because very few are taking advantage of the programs. At the same time, food banks are reporting an increase in demand from the same demographic group.

Why not put the money where the need is? Annually the Secretary reviews the States employment and training programs and allocates the money he considers appropriate and equitable. If a State doesn't use the money allocated to them, the Secretary can reallocate the money to another State. My bill does nothing to change or restrict that authority. My bill simply allows the Secretary of Agriculture to spend up to \$25 million of unobligated employment and training money on TEFAP commodity purchases.

Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that the Emergency Food Assistance Enhancement Act will enjoy resounding and rapid support from the full House of Representatives. It is important that we increase commodity purchases for this important program.

TRIBUTE TO MS. JILL COCHRAN

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I want to join Chairman STUMP and Ranking Member EVANS in acknowledging and saying thank you to Ms. Jill Cochran, long-time Democratic staff director for the Subcommittee on Benefits, who will retire next month following 25 years of dedicated service to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Jill's contributions to the enactment of legislation such as the Montgomery GI bill, on which she worked with our distinguished former chairman for 7 years, vocational rehabilitation, veterans employment and training, homeless veterans, and transition assistance issues—just to name a few—I believe, are unsurpassed.

Jill personifies unselfish public service in her commitment to America's sons and Daughters who have served our Nation. We'll miss her compassion, her great spirit of cooperation, her expertise, and most of all—her exceptional leadership.

Jill, our kindest wishes and godspeed.

IN HONOR OF JOHN A. KAY

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and memory of a great American, Mr. John Kay. John was a constituent of mine from Rio Rancho, NM, who passed away in October. He was a personal friend and a strong advocate for vet-

erans, John had a very distinguished career, having retired from both the U.S. Army and the Central Intelligence Agency. He loved our country and was very proud to have dedicated his life to serving it.

During his military service, John served with distinction in WWII and in the Korean conflict. In recalling his own military career, he was very proud of his service during WWII where he served with the infamous 9th Reconnaissance troop of the 9th Infantry Division. A unit that fought courageously in virtually every major campaign of the European theater.

What made John so special was his open hearted and generous nature. After his retirement from the CIA, he dedicated himself to informing his fellow veterans about the issues important to them. Specifically, he was the author of a monthly column in a local newspaper dedicated to helping veterans.

Mr. Speaker, John Kay was a true gentleman who constantly searched for new proposals and reforms in an attempt to help his community. He was always open minded and he was always generous in his assistance to others. He will be sorely missed by myself and by his community.

ADLER PLANETARIUM AND THE MARS MILLENNIUM PROJECT

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to recognize one of Chicago's premier institutions, the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum, as they kick-off their contribution to the Mars Millennium Project and celebrate the grand reopening of their landmark building on October 1st.

Located on Chicago's beautiful lakefront, the Adler was founded in 1930 by Max Adler "to be the foremost institution for the interpretation of the exploration of the Universe to the broadest possible audience." To help fulfill this mission, the Adler has become actively involved in the Mars Millennium Project using its StarRider™ Theater Mars Millennium Show as the centerpiece of their contribution.

The Mars Millennium Project is an official White House Millennium Council Youth Initiative, challenging students across the nation to design a community yet-to-be-imagined—for the planet Mars. This national arts, sciences and technology education initiative is guided by the U.S. Department of Education, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and its Jet Propulsion Lab, the National Endowment for the Arts, the J. Paul Getty and others.

The world's first StarRider™ Theater is a 3D interactive virtual reality experience, which will transport visitors on a voyage to Mars and allows the audience to participate in developing a viable Martian colony. The audience flies over Mars, picks a place for their colony and then designs the architecture, cultural icons and symbols that will make the colony unique.

The Adler is working with the Illinois State Board of Education and the Chicago Public Schools Teachers Academy for Professional Development to involve classrooms from across Illinois in the Mars Millennium Project.

Throughout the project year, teachers will engage their students in project-based learning opportunities that will result in the development of student-created Mars colonies and Web pages.

Mr. Speaker, as we move into the Millennium it is important to engage the public in science and technology. The Adler's work with the Mars Millennium Program through the StarRider™ Theater and the reopening of their historic dome marks the advent of new era for the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum.

CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
ADVOCACY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, for the past decade, the Center for Human Rights Advocacy (CHRA), a public interest law firm based in my congressional district, has been monitoring and analyzing social, economic, political, and ethnic problems and anti-Semitic activities in Russia and the former Soviet Union. The organization's President and Chief Counsel, Mr. William Cohen, is frequently called upon in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom to provide expert information and testimony pertaining to human rights and anti-Semitism in Russia and the former Soviet Union. Mr. Cohen also serves on the board of the executive committee of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

The primary focus of Mr. Cohen's advocacy "is to make sure the doors remain open for Jews and all persecuted minorities." His recent report, "The Escalation of Anti-Semitic Violence in Russia," demonstrates the level of danger facing Russian Jews in light of the increased frequency of anti-Semitic activity.

The report documents the chronology of the latest anti-Semitic events in Russia and the former Soviet Union. Much of this information has never been reported in the media. Mr. Cohen has gleaned most of this information from clients seeking asylum or refugee status.

Following is the summary of Mr. Cohen's report. I urge my colleagues to contact my office or the Center for Human Rights Advocacy in Boulder, Colorado, for a copy of the full report.

THE ESCALATION OF ANTI-SEMITIC
VIOLENCE IN RUSSIA

(By William M. Cohen)

I. SUMMARY: ANTI-SEMITISM AND PERSECUTION
OF JEWS IN RUSSIA HAS DRAMATICALLY AC-
CELERATED.

The Center for Human Rights Advocacy (CHRA) has been monitoring and analyzing social, economic, political, ethnic and anti-Semitism developments in Russia and the former Soviet Union (FSU) since its inception in early 1991. In addition, because of the persistent evidence and reports of anti-Semitism in Russia, the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ), on which the author serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, has steadily increased its monitoring and reporting on human rights and anti-Semitism in Russia. In cooperation with the Moscow Helsinki Group, and aided by a grant from the United States Agency for International Development, trained monitors located throughout

Russia now regularly report to UCSJ and CHRA on this growing phenomenon.

The persistent pattern of anti-Semitism and the pernicious practice of persecution of Jews in Russia was identified and summarized by CHRA in March of 1996:

"This phenomenon [i.e., steadily growing anti-Semitism] is an atmosphere of economic hardship following the breakup of the FSU] is exploited by politicians and elected officials for political gain. It is manifested by acts of discrimination, insults, threats, and violence against Jews, Jewish property, and Jewish institutions. It is aimed, in substantial part, at driving Jews out of Russia to make room for Russians in a time of scarcity, economic distress, and political instability arising out of the destruction of the Soviet Empire. Moreover, it is clear that there now exists no Russian governmental agency able or willing to protect Jews from persecution because of their nationality or religion. The absence of any meaningful deterrent to such conduct plus the permission given to anti-Semites by leading politicians and elected officials to engage in such conduct encourages those who would persecute Jews to do so with impunity.

Since the economic crisis and the collapse of the ruble which struck Russian in August 1998, anti-Semitic expressions by leading politicians and elected officials, aimed at demonizing and scapegoating Jews, and, ultimately, at driving them out of Russia, have dramatically accelerated. This increase in anti-Semitic rhetoric has been accompanied by a concurrent increase in the number of violent acts targeting Jews, Jewish property, and Jewish institutions. Such violence is now frequent and widespread throughout the vast number of Russia's regions as well as in the major city centers of Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Nizhny Novgorod, the location of the three largest population of Jews in Russia.

The frequency and ferocity of the various anti-Semitic violent acts appears to be accelerating. At the same time, the governmental institutions upon which Jews and other targeted minorities must rely for protection against extremist violence are either unable or unwilling to effectively provide that protection.

In addition, during the political and economic crises which continue today in Russia following the August 1998 collapse, militantly anti-Semitic groups, such as Russian National Unity (RNU), have grown in size and popularity. Sensing both the impotence and indifference of law enforcement agencies, these groups have increased the openness of their anti-Semitic expressions with little or no effective action by government authorities to deter them. Under these circumstances, Jews in Russia continue to be vulnerable to anti-Semitic discrimination, violence, and persecution without any effective recourse to the Russian government at any level for protection against such prejudicial treatment.

Indeed, the risk to Jews in Russia today is greater than at any time since the breakup of the Soviet Union. The Russian government has so far demonstrated that it is both unwilling and unable to deter growing anti-Semitic violence against its steadily diminishing Jewish population. Hence, those aimed at driving Jews out of Russia, punishing them because of hatred of Jews, and scapegoating Jews for a variety of political ends can generally do so with impunity.

Faced with escalating anti-Semitic violence combined with indifference to these attacks by the general Russian populace, political exploitation of the phenomenon and government impotence to protect them, the Jewish community has resorted to funding its own security for Jewish institutions and

turned to Western governments and non-governmental human rights organizations for help. Increasingly more Jews are also leaving Russia and the FSU permanently for Israel, the United States and other countries where they will be free from persecution because of their Jewish religion and nationality.

Absent a dramatic change in the economic, social and political climate in Russia, it is highly unlikely that the current atmosphere of openly and violently expressed anti-Semitism will diminish any time soon. To the contrary, the escalating incidents combined with government silence and ineffective law enforcement, indicate that Jews are at great risk in Russia today and for the foreseeable future.

This Report will first document the chronology of recent anti-Semitic events which demonstrate both the increased frequency and level of danger which accompanies them as well as the Russian Jewish Community's reaction. Next it catalogues the Western governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGO)'s response to this growing problem. Finally, it outlines the less than adequate, largely rhetorical response by the Russian Government to this problem.

HONORING PEGGY BRAVERMAN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the Bronx is losing one of its most distinguished public servants and a woman who has done more for her borough and her community than we can ever thank her for. Peggy Braverman is retiring after more than 15 years as Deputy County Clerk for the Bronx where she oversaw a staff of more than 80 people as they helped residents secure business certificates, passports, and other significant documents while answering questions about jury duty and other matters.

She was always active in her community and the political arena. She was an administrative assistant in the Bronx Borough President's office from 1979 to 1985 and before that she served as an administrative assistant for then Councilman, now Assemblyman Stephen Kaufman. She was also Democratic District Leader for the 81st Assembly District.

At least as extensive was her work in the voluntary area. She was an active member of the Educational Jewish Center, the Morris Park Community Association, the Allerton Avenue Homeowners Association and the 49th Precinct Community Council. She also served as President of the PTA of Christopher Columbus High School and Vice President of JHS 135. She was also a scout leader.

Peggy Braverman is that rare person who serves her neighborhood and her fellow citizens in so many capacities, someone, who by their service, does so much to make government work and the community prosper. The people of the Bronx will miss her in government; let us hope we can keep her helping in the community. I want to join her legion of friends and admirers in wishing her in retirement what she has learned—the very best from life.