

came later. Since food dominates this event, it is now called the "Food Fair." This event also gives recognition to persons who have contributed to the advancement of Carnival. From as far back as 1987 persons have been singled out starting with Horatio Millin Sr., a noted farmer and fair participant. The Fair was conducted on Tuesdays, then moved to Carnival Thursday. In 1996, the fair was moved to Wednesday to avoid conflict with J'ouvert, which is held on early Thursday morning of Carnival Week.

The first Virgin Islander to win an international Calypso competition was Calypso Bombshell, (Beryl Hill) in 1954 against Caribbean renowned artists such as Zebra, Duke of Iron, and Lord Melody. The only locals to hold that distinction since are Lord Blakie (Kenneth Blake), 1979 and Mighty Potter (Cecil Potter), 1980. The local calypso competition was conducted sporadically in the 1960's at the then Center Theater and later CAHS Auditorium. Names such as Lord Blakie, Mighty Bird, and Lord Sausage dominated that period. It was institutionalized in 1973, the first sovereigns being Mighty Lark and Ferrari. The current sovereign is St. Clair "Whadablee" DaSilva. The competition was renamed the Virgin Islands Calypso Competition about the mid 1980s and several calypsonians from St. Croix have won or were runners-up in the finals since their involvement. In the mid 1970s local Calypso tents were organized to select through the process of elimination, a field of 10 finalists for the local calypso competition. Today, almost 100 contenders perform in several tents hoping to be among the finalists and sovereign who holds the distinction of musical hero of Carnival. The oldest active Calypso Tent is the "Sanctum of Wisdom and Fun."

The inspirational mono of 1952, now called the Carnival theme, was "Roast-a-time & Bamboushay." Carnival themes were institutionalized in the 1970s. "Unity in '73" is the earliest recorded since '52.

Since 1952, the Gypsy Troupe, founded by the late Gertrude Lockhart Dudley Melchoir, and others, as well as the Traditional Indians have participated in every Carnival parade. I salute the organizers and members of these two long-standing organizations and thank them for keeping their tradition going for 50 years.

One event that has remained popular from its inception is Brass-O-Rama, now renamed, "Band-O-Rama" to include bands that do not have brass instruments. Formally a part of Carnival since 1980, Mandingo Brass was the first winner. This event started utilizing local bands but has expanded to involve bands from around the region. What used to be called Warm Up Morning when the Carnival was revived in 1952 was reintroduced as J'ouvert on Carnival Friday, 1973. The early risers would be adorned as in masquerade fashion, cross-dressing and sleepwear. Then they take to the streets reveling from 4:00 AM until it's time for the Children's Parade. Because the bands would be engaged earlier, then subsequently ready themselves to participate in J'ouvert, they would be tired to continue on in the Children's Parade. Thus, that parade suffered from a lack of live music. J'ouvert was eventually moved to Thursdays in 1996 to ensure live music for the children.

The full week of international Calypso Tents was reduced to two nights and the World Calypso King was dropped in 1986. In recent

years, Calypsonians from across the region can be enjoyed rather than just performers from Trinidad. Cultural Night is a free event night that goes back to the 1960's where a variety of Quadrille groups backed up by the fungi bands performed the seven figures of flat German Quadrille and other European dances such as Lancers, Seven Step, Two-step Mazurka, Skottiche and more.

Names such as Magnus "Mongo" Niles, Lucille Roberts and Moses Baptiste can still be heard rolling off the cultural memory scrolls. Today Cultural Night also features Bamboula Dancers, Quelbe, Merengue and the highlight is the King and Queen of the Band competition in Junior and Adult categories. On this night, the first glimpse of the troupe's most elaborate male and female costumes are on grand exhibition. The most recorded winners by any adult entry is William "Champagne" Chandler (King) and Arah Lockhart (Queen) and Alrid Lockhart, Jr. (Jr. King) and Ambi Lockhart (Junior Queen) in the children's category.

In 1977, our Carnival was graced with the presence of the late Esther Rolle of television fame for her role as a strong willed but sweet mother in the sitcom "Good Times."

In 1986, in response to Irving "Brownie" Brown's call, this author started the Quelbe Tramp. It features persons playing acoustical instruments such as guitar, ukulele, guiro, triangle, "donkey" pipe, tambourines, maracas, bottles, cans, and anything that can make rhythmic noise. Those who are not playing an instrument, sing as they tramp up Main Street. This tramp brings out from senior citizens to toddlers in strollers, spanning as many as five generations, dancing from Market Square to Carnival Village. It has been conducted on Carnival Wednesdays past but now starts around 8 p.m. on Carnival Tuesday following the Pre-Teen Tramp. On occasion, steel bands have added a level of grandeur to the Tramp.

In 1989, the Carnival Committee opened its first office after years of Operating from trunks of cars of the various Chairpersons, or from the workstations of the Chairperson of a given tenure. Today, an Executive Director with an Administrative Officer who coordinates and facilitates the efforts of the 29 Committees and activity centers of Carnival mans the office. The Virgin Islands Carnival Office is located on Kronprindsens Gade in the heart of downtown Charlotte Amalie. Since the establishment of this office, it has become the authority on revising operating procedures throughout the Caribbean. On any given day, a number of phone calls would be made to this office from other Caribbean committees seeking ways to improve the way they function.

The Virgin Islands Carnival's greatest impact was realized when the sequel to the movie "Weekend At Bernie's" was scheduled to be filmed entirely in the Virgin Islands and they wanted a Carnival scene. The Carnival parade scene which lasted over five minutes of the final scene, was a spirited climax of the movie titled "Weekend at Bernie's II."

Fifty years later, Carnival is still the single largest display of all aspects of Virgin Islands culture. This Golden Jubilee is a celebration of our struggles and triumphs as a people, and a sign that there is much more pageantry, creativity, camaraderie and tradition to be seen and to share with the rest of the world. May God bless the Virgin Islands of the United

States of America, our Nation and us all. Happy 50th Carnival Anniversary!

A TRIBUTE TO MAS AND MARCIA HASHIMOTO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the contributions made by two longtime community leaders. Mas and Marcia Hashimoto have been working tirelessly for years to educate our local communities about the World War II incarceration of Japanese and Japanese Americans.

Mas and Marcia created the idea of "Liberty Lost . . . Lessons in Loyalty", a re-enactment of the incarceration of Japanese and Japanese Americans and inspired in the larger community a call to action to commemorate an event of enormous historical significance to the Pajaro Valley and the United States. "Liberty Lost . . . Lessons in Loyalty" honors those incarcerated as well as those who, in single acts of kindness and compassion bravely and generously supported the internees. It also has captured the courageous stories and memories of Japanese and Japanese Americans incarcerated during WWII in a series of invaluable oral history recordings that will forever be treasured. "Liberty Lost . . . Lessons in Loyalty" educates the entire community about the dangers of wartime hysteria and racism and serves as a forum from which new cross cultural understanding of alliances may be formed.

Mas and Marcia are recognized community leaders and have each served as the president of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL and where, in their capacity as leaders, they have encouraged, motivated, and inspired all with which they have worked. Mas and Marcia Hashimoto have greatly contributed to the strength and vitality of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, the Japanese American community, and to the Pajaro Valley. As a team, Mas and Marcia have shared their lives, their warmth and enthusiasm, and their energy and passion in creating "Liberty Lost . . . Lessons in Loyalty." Their work, and this project, shall be forever cherished for all to remember.

IN SUPPORT OF THE LIFE INSURANCE EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION ACT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Life Insurance Employee Notification Act or the LIEN Act for short.

As a strong supporter of the American worker, I am here on the floor introducing legislation to stop American companies from profiting in the deaths of their employees.

A recent article in the Houston Chronicle brought to my attention a business practice involving employers purchasing secret life insurance policies on their employees without their knowledge or consent.

These policies are known as Corporate-owned Life Insurance or COLI.

Unfortunately, they also have another name, "dead peasant policies."

They are called dead peasant policies because these Corporate-owned Life Insurance policies are usually purchased for the rank-and-file employees and not the CEO, CFO, or the Board of Directors.

Executive Insurance is the norm in corporate America and I have no problem with that because it is disclosed to investors and the individual.

Dead peasant policies, on the other hand, are not disclosed to the low-level employee because he or she is not eligible to collect the death benefit.

This failure to notify the ownership of the death benefit is the crux of the problem.

American companies are purchasing secret life insurance on the chance that one of their employees dies and they can collect the six figure death benefit.

These companies have created a death derivative.

In a large company with thousands of employees, economic modeling can be done to predict how many policies will be collected on in a given year.

This blood money can be used for whatever the company wants, but most importantly it is rarely used to compensate the families of the dead employee.

While I find the use of life insurance in this manner offensive, I understand it is not illegal and is in fact condoned in many states; Texas is not one of them.

The LIEN Act is a sunshine bill that forces companies to disclose to the employee that a dead peasant policy has been purchased in their name.

In addition, it requires the company to provide the name of the insurer, the benefit amount, and under whose name the policy is in.

I do not want to ban this practice, but simply provide workers with more information about what the employer is doing on their behalf.

As we saw with Enron, corporations often do not provide pertinent financial information to their employees.

I am frankly disgusted with this whole practice and am amazed that this all began as a simple tax dodge worth billions of dollars.

In the mid 1990s, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) disallowed the classification of these policies as a legitimate business expense for the purpose of reducing their federal tax obligation.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation to protect all hard working Americans from dead peasant insurance.

IN HONOR OF ST. JOSEPH'S DAY AND THE DOWNRIVER ITALIAN- AMERICAN CLUB

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, as members of the Downriver Italian-American Club gathered together to celebrate St. Joseph's Day, they celebrated a feast day cherished by Italians and Italian-Americans everywhere. Honoring

the patron saint of families, working men, social justice, and the church, St. Joseph is remembered in the Catholic tradition as the husband of Mary and the earthly father of Jesus Christ. Celebrated across the villages of Italy on March 19th as a day of feast, the traditions of St. Joseph's Day continue to be honored by families outside of Italy by sharing the blessings of food, family, and good fortune with those in need.

Our nation's estimated 25 million Italian-Americans from all walks of life have left a permanent and undeniable mark on the history of America. From Alphonse de Tonty, the co-founder of Detroit, Michigan to Mother Frances Cabrini, the first American to be canonized, Italian-Americans have contributed in countless ways to the greatness of this country. Today, the strong relationship between the United States and Italy is a testament to the countless immigrants from Italy who made America their home generations ago.

Here in Michigan, the seeds of the Downriver Italian-American Club were planted when Joseph Menna of Trenton and Salvatore DiPasquale of Wyandotte visualized an Italian club inclusive of all the downriver communities in the fall of 1970. One year later, on April 28, 1971, with just 41 members and a slate of officers, they celebrated the chartered birth of the Downriver Italian-American Club and began a tradition for generations to come. Today, with a seventeen-member Board of Directors and social, civic, and entertainment committees, the Downriver Italian-American Club is a thriving center of language, culture, music, and social events. With over 500 members, communities are able to join together and celebrate Italian culture, traditions, food and wine. Joyfully celebrating St. Joseph's Day, the Downriver Italian-American Club continues to bring the traditions of Italian culture and customs to families across Michigan.

Italian Americans are an integral part of this nation's success. As Italians and Italian-Americans celebrate the holiday commemorating St. Joseph, we join them in their tribute and honor the contributions Americans of Italian descent have made to our great country.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today at the start of National Volunteer Week to recognize the invaluable contributions of volunteers to communities across the nation.

From the earliest days of our Nation's history, the spirit of volunteer service has been reflected by neighbors helping one another to overcome obstacles in the pursuit of happiness. The freedom and individual rights at the core of our society come from a shared responsibility for the health and well being of our communities and for each other.

National Volunteer Week is a time to recognize and celebrate the efforts of volunteers who play such an integral part in creating a sense of community and shared responsibility for our future. This year's National Volunteer Week theme, "Celebrate the American Spirit—VOLUNTEER!" is particularly appropriate as

we continue to witness the outpouring of contributions and compassion following the September 11 terrorist attacks. By celebrating the volunteer spirit, we can show the world that helping is healing for our country and can encourage men, women, and children to help make positive changes in the lives of others.

Volunteerism not only improves the lives of others, it builds a sense of community, breaks down barriers between people and develops leadership skills. Americans, young and old alike, can and do play important roles in our communities. For as long as the American people volunteer their time for the benefit of their neighbors, America's community spirit will continue to hold tremendous promise for the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF FIRST AN- NUAL NATIONAL HEALTHCARE VOLUNTEER DAY

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the first annual National Healthcare Volunteer Day, which occurred on Monday, April 22, 2002, during National Volunteer Week. This day was created to recognize the time and effort that many volunteers contribute in healthcare settings and was initiated and supported by the American Society of Directors of Volunteer Services, a national association of managers of healthcare volunteers, and the American Hospital Association.

The hope for this celebration is that through an annual recognition, the accomplishments of volunteers serving the needs of patients, residents, families, visitors, physicians, and staff may be publicized and commended.

I am proud to say that Reedsburg Area Medical Center, located in my district, was an enthusiastic participant in kicking off the annual National Healthcare Volunteers celebration!

I congratulate Reedsburg Area Medical Center on its participation in this day as well as the celebration of its 100th anniversary. I am proud to recognize both this medical center and the first annual National Healthcare Volunteer Day!

PROTECTING AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE SACRED LANDS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Native American Caucus, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2085, the Valley of Chiefs Native American Sacred Site Preservation Act, which would safeguard an area very sacred to a number of Indian tribes, and ask that my colleagues support this bill as well. In addition, I want to comment on the need to protect other threatened American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) sacred lands.

Our many democratic forums establish an opportunity for discussions to take place to