

rewards and success. Congratulations Robby, and good luck in your future endeavors. You are a future leader in this country, and I, on behalf of this nation, thank you for all that you have done thus far and look forward to seeing what you will undoubtedly achieve in the future.

HONORING WHALEY CHILDREN'S CENTER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Whaley Children's Center for the presentation of an endowment garden. There will be a ceremony to unveil the garden on June 5, in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Whaley Children's Center was the dream of Robert J. Whaley to honor the memory of his son, Donald M. Whaley. Robert Whaley conceived the idea for a home that would support the social, emotional, and physical growth of neglected and homeless children. His original idea was to provide a place where the children could live until they reached maturity. In 1924 under the control of the vestry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the Whaley Foundation was organized. Under the direction of its first president, Charles S. Mott, and the guidance of the Child Welfare League of America, the memorial home was built in 1926. Today the focus of care is to nurture the child and restore the youngster to a family setting.

Over the past seven decades the Whaley Children's Center has cared for more than 7,500 children. It has four group homes within the community that care for 6 children each between the ages of 5 and 12. On its main campus Whaley provides additional care for 24 other children. To achieve the goal of effectively placing a child with a family, the staff work closely with both the families and the children. Whether it is with the original family, foster parents, or if the children are being adopted, special attention is given to ensure a smooth transition and a successful placement. The purpose is to maintain a positive influence on the children so that they can grow to be contributors within the community.

The Whaley Children's Foundation has added many new facilities and programs since the conception of the children's memorial home. In 1955 a recreational facility was built with a gym, classrooms, and a craft room on the campus. In 1977 the Foundation was one of the few who offered a treatment foster care program with a specially trained family. During that same year an educational facility was built that had five new classrooms, a meeting room, and several offices. In 1982 Whaley's Special Needs Adoption program was started. In 1984 a board of directors was established to take over daily control of the Foundation. Since then they have expanded their fundraising efforts through the Whaley golf outing, the "World's Greatest Office Party", and a "Whaley of an Auction."

Their newest project was made possible by the ideas and direction of the board members to build a garden to recognize those who have worked with the neglected children in the past, present, and future. To thank the contributors of the Whaley Foundation there will be

plaques with their names in the garden. Each year the names of new contributors will be added in the garden. The garden is 80 feet long and is located in the center of the campus.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Whaley's Children Center for the construction of a garden that honors those who contributed time and money to underprivileged children.

TRAFICANT TRIAL: A RAILROAD OF JUSTICE

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the government presented a ten-count indictment against me on May 4, 2001. And convicted me on those ten counts, Thursday, April 11, 2002.

Initially, the two most significant accusations were a contract murder scheme and a purported \$150,000 barn to have been built on the Traficant Family Farm for supposed favors. Both matters made national headlines poisoning the jury voir dire, but after the government's intimidation tactics were exposed, I was charged with neither.

The following affidavit by Mrs. Sandy Ferrante, the supposed target, outlines the saga of the alleged murder-for-hire:

AFFIDAVIT OF SANDRA FERRANTE, TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2002

I hereby swear that the following is a true and accurate statement.

In middle to late August, 2000, three males arrived at my ex-husband's residence on Applegate Road in North Canton, Ohio. They identified themselves as agents of the F.B.I., Rich Deholm, Chuck Perkins and Mike Pecunis, and requested that we go into the house so that they may talk to me on a matter of great importance. I suggested that we go to a public location. We, my ex-husband, myself and the three agents met at a nearby Wendy's restaurant.

The agents proceeded to play a 40-minute tape for me, which intimated that Jim Traficant wanted to have me murdered. On the tape I heard three voices, Clarence Broad, and two unknown individuals which I was told were an undercover agent of the F.B.I. and another male who dropped the agent off to meet with Broad.

I proceeded to ask if this was something they were using to get me to say something against Jim Traficant. The agents stated that they were only there to protect me. They never stated that Jim Traficant was responsible but led me to believe that he was involved in this conspiracy to take my life.

After this meeting with the agents, I received a phone call from an F.B.I. agent who suggested that to ensure my own safety that I should go public with this information and announce the conspiracy.

At some point afterward, an F.B.I. agent notified me that Clarence Broad was moved to Elkton Prison, in Elkton, Ohio and it was unusual that he was moved to this facility. Also, the agent insinuated that his move could have been done at the request of Jim Traficant.

I testified before a grand jury on two occasions in the matter regarding Jim Traficant. During this time the F.B.I. paid \$800 to house my dogs in kennels and also paid for my two round trips to Louisville, Kentucky to testify.

After testifying truthfully and when the government didn't hear what they wanted to hear the U.S. Attorney, Craig Morford proceeded to demean me in front of the grand jury. In addition, at the time of my testimony in front of the grand jury I publicly apologized to Jim (Traficant) and his wife for allowing the government to trick me into believing this conspiracy.

When the indictment came down, I discovered that there were no charges filed in association with the murder issue. In addition, I read news articles that had information that were never on the tape.

Since the time of the first meeting with the F.B.I. agents, my husband has suffered a debilitating stroke and requires constant care and my health continues to deteriorate due to the stress and the traumatic nature of the events in this case.

Signed and sworn before a notary public on April 30, 2002.

Then, Henry Nemenz, a man with a conscience, surprised me at a local restaurant where I was having lunch with a friend, John Innella. At that meeting, Mr. Nemenz apologized for untrue statements he had made to the government to avoid indictment. I asked Mr. Nemenz to sit down and proceeded to ask him questions regarding the so-called \$150,000 barn deal and at the completion of that meeting, I did the following two things, (1) secured an affidavit summarizing what John Innella had witnessed take place between myself and Henry Nemenz and (2) telephoned Ms. Robin Best, Henry Nemenz's girlfriend, the next day, who confirmed that "Henry told me everything about the meeting and the government was furious and hauled him up to Cleveland."

The following affidavit by John Innella describes the conversation I had with Henry Nemenz:

STATE OF OHIO, COUNTY OF MAHONING,
AFFIDAVIT OF JOHN INNELLA

After being duly cautioned on my oath in accordance with the law, I, John Innella, hereby depose and say:

At approximately 1:00 p.m. on Monday, April 30, 2001, I was in the company of James A. Traficant, Jr. and was unexpectedly interrupted by Henry Nemenz.

1. Henry Nemenz voluntarily told James Traficant in my company "Morford was trying to put words in his mouth."

2. His (Nemenz) attorney told him to "tell Morford what they wanted to hear so that he would not be indicted."

3. In my presence, James Traficant and Henry Nemenz talked about their original deal, which was \$17,000 for the barn and additions because Jim Traficant already had the poles and metal for the building.

4. In my presence, they discussed that the construction man said he would bring in twenty (20) Amish and they would get the job done in a week.

5. Nemenz said that he eventually got rid of his construction man because of faulty construction and poor management.

6. Nemenz and Traficant discussed the fact they legitimately came to a reasonable business settlement that Nemenz would have made with anyone under similar circumstances.

7. Nemenz told Traficant that he was told by Morford "not to talk to Traficant."

8. Nemenz told Traficant that all money Traficant owed, was paid in full, including the truck.

9. In my presence, Traficant and Nemenz agreed that the stretching out of the work to be performed was the cause of the cost overruns, and that it was not the fault of James

Traficant, which they had mutually agreed to be \$17,000.00 in addition to the truck.

10. Traficant and Nemenz agreed in my presence that Traficant had settled the accounts in full.

11. Nemenz stated in my presence that when Morford interviewed him, he had four assistants, and the situation was intimidating. He said that they did not want to hear what he was saying. He said that he basically "told them what they wanted to hear."

12. In my presence, Nemenz also said that the conversation was "bull shit."

13. Nemenz said that he had agreed to sell Traficant a black corvette. He said that he had realized that Traficant had invested money in the car to make repairs because it had sat so long unused. He further stated that he realized Traficant put hardly any miles on the corvette. But when the flap developed over the barn Nemenz decided he wanted the car back, saying that he would give credit for any of the expenses. The real reason he wanted the car back was that it was purchased as a graduation present for his son, and his son was upset because Henry had sold it. Henry also said that he was also upset over the problems that had developed concerning the construction work at the farm. Nemenz admitted that he agreed to sell the car to Traficant, and thanked Traficant for returning the car.

14. I was present during this entire conversation at Bruno's Restaurant in Poland, Ohio.

Signed and sworn before a notary public on June 13, 2001.

In summary, the government had to back off the big barn hoax, but by that time the damage had already been done to poison the jury pool.

Tomorrow, stop one. . . . I mean count one on the government's railroad regarding the charges involving Anthony Bucci, who was in the process of the 3rd federal plea agreement and perjured himself with his testimony against me.

ON THE 25TH BIRTHDAY OF ISRAELI MIA GUY HEVER

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 25th birthday of Israeli MIA Guy Hever. This is the fifth consecutive year that the Hever family has marked this occasion since Guy disappeared after leaving his base in the Golan in August 1997. While Israeli authorities have been unable to unearth any substantive clue as to Guy's fate, there is growing suspicion that the answers lie in Syria. The Syrians to date, have refused to answer any questions on the topic.

Syria's reticence in this matter comes as no surprise. Over the past twenty years Syrian intransigence has obstructed the efforts of the international community to resolve the cases of both Arabs and Jews who have been held captive in Syria and in Lebanon under Syrian control. In particular, American efforts to secure the release of American citizen, and my former constituent, Zachary Baumel, have been repeatedly stymied by Damascus since his capture in a battle with Syrian forces in 1982.

The Hevers and the other MIA families have not given up hope that their loved ones will

come home alive, nor should they. Given Syria's record of holding prisoners incommunicado for as long as twenty years before releasing them, it is not at all inconceivable that live Israelis are being held under Syrian tutelage.

Mr. Speaker, our government should be far more aggressive in demanding the release of Israel's missing men. Israel, the only true democracy in the Middle East, is our closest ally in that region. In 1991, when Americans were held hostage in Lebanon, Israel went to extraordinary lengths to help secure the release of those hostages. As Syria and others in the region who have benefitted from American aid and military assistance equivocate as to whether to assist America in its war on international terror, Israel has always been by our side. Israel's steadfast reliability as an ally should not be forgotten.

The time has come Mr. Speaker, to strike a blow at the hostage industry that Syria and its terrorist proxies have utilized so effectively against Israel and the West over the past twenty years. The events of September 11th have made it abundantly clear to Americans that yesterday's terror in Israel will become tomorrow's tragedy in America—unless we act. And if we allow Syria or other states to remain unaccountable for holding Israeli hostages, we are simply inviting more hostage taking in the Middle East and throughout the world. We cannot be complacent—if Elchanan Tannenbaum, an Israeli taken hostage by Hizbullah in October 2000, can be abducted from Europe, so can any American citizen. If Guy Hever, who was reportedly last seen near the Syrian border, can disappear off the face of the earth without a trace, so can any American traveling in the Middle East. Unless we act more forcefully, Zachary Baumel will not be the last American hostage to be held in Lebanon or Syria, and in the aftermath of September 11th, we will not be able to claim that it could not be foreseen.

Mr. Speaker, in 1999 I cosponsored HR 1175—A Bill to Locate and Secure the Release of Zachary Baumel an American Citizen and other Israeli Soldiers Missing in Action. The bill was passed by Congress and signed by President Clinton. But not enough has been done to ensure compliance with the legislation. H.R. 1175 is the law and it must be upheld. This June, as Syria assumes the rotating Presidency of the United Nations Security Council and Zachary Baumel marks the twentieth anniversary of his capture, I urge the President to stringently apply the provisions of H.R. 1175, which is now Public Law 106-89. I also call on my colleagues to support the Syrian Accountability Act, which will force Syria to end its role in the taking and holding of hostages. And I call on the leadership of this House to bring this bill to a vote.

At this time I also ask my colleagues to join me in support of Guy's parents Rina and Eitan, and Guy's twin siblings Shir and Or, who continue to turn over the world in search of information regarding Guy. Their nobility and determination during these five sleepless years of doubt and terror, should be matched by our own vigilance in enacting initiatives to deprive terrorists and their sponsors of this most cruel weapon of kidnapping. Guy Hever—Eifo Ata? (Where are you, in Hebrew.)

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WAYNE HARBERT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life of Wayne Harbert. After 81 full years of life, Wayne finally succumbed after a long battle with a difficult illness. Wayne was not only a pillar of the Granby, Colorado community, but also embodied the pioneering spirit of my district. As his family mourns his loss, I think it is appropriate to remember Wayne and pay tribute to him for his contributions to his community.

Wayne was born in a sod house on the plains of Eastern Colorado in January of 1921. In 1942, Wayne left Colorado to join the Navy where he proudly served his country in World War II on several submarine missions. Wayne returned in 1944 on short leave and married his high school sweetheart, Marjorie. In his lifetime, Wayne was a rancher, proprietor of the local general store and equipment dealer, but one thing has remained the same—his work ethic and his gentle nature. No one knows this better than the family who survives him. Wayne was known as a loving husband, devoted father of two, and grandfather of two.

Wayne has long been known in his community as one always willing to give his time to a worthy cause. He was a member of the Middle Park Stockgrowers, the Colorado Hereford and Cattlemen's Association, the VFW, and the American Legion. In service to his community, Wayne gave his time to the Kiwanis Clubs and provided his leadership to the Granby Fire Department Board of Directors and as chairman of the Grand County Republicans. A true Coloradan, Wayne could often be found in the outdoors enjoying the splendor of our state snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, hiking, backpacking, and camping.

Mr. Speaker it is my privilege to bring the life of Wayne Harbert to the attention of this body of Congress. His journey from such humble beginnings, rising to become a pillar of the community, stands as example to us all. His dedication to his family, friends, work, and community certainly deserves recognition. Although Wayne has left us, his good-natured spirit lives on through the lives of those he touched. I would like to extend my thoughts and deepest sympathies to Wayne's family and friends during this difficult time.

HONORING PONTIAC NORTHERN HUSKIES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Huskies of Pontiac Northern High School, on winning the 2001–2002 Michigan High School Athletic Association Class A State boys basketball championship. The Huskies defended their 2000–2001 championship by defeating the Detroit Redford Huskies 66–58 in the final game, becoming the 15th team in state history to win consecutive titles.