

Amos Lodge No. 136 of Scranton. Attorney Bishop will be presented with the award at a dinner on May 18, 2003.

Attorney Bishop, a Hazleton native, is a graduate of Penn State University and Temple University School of Law, where he received his juris doctorate in 1971. He was a major in military intelligence in the Army Reserves, where he served from 1971 to 1986.

Attorney Bishop is now a partner in the prominent Northeastern Pennsylvania law firm of Hourigan, Kluger & Quinn, P.C., where his emphasis and expertise is in the areas of commercial law, real estate and estate planning. He is a member of the Pennsylvania, American and Lackawanna Bar Associations, a member of the Exceptional Children Lawyer Referral Network of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and a mediator in the Pennsylvania Bar Association Lawyers Dispute Resolution Program.

Throughout his professional career, he has served as an officer and a director of many charitable, civic and religious organizations. Over the past three decades, he has served as president of a variety of community organizations including Temple Israel of Scranton, Jewish Family Services of Lackawanna County, the Scranton Counseling Center, St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen, the Eastern Pennsylvania Council of B'nai B'rith, the Eastern Pennsylvania Region of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and Amos Lodge No. 136 of B'nai B'rith.

He currently serves as president of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and president of Glen Oak Country Club. He also now serves as vice president of the Association for Retarded Citizens of Lackawanna County and the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce. He also serves on the boards of directors of no less than eight additional organizations.

In recognition of his service to the community, Attorney Bishop has received the Jewish Community Center Man of the Year Award in 1996 and the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Scranton Counseling Center in 1997.

Attorney Bishop and his wife Faye reside in Scranton and have three children, David, Stefanie, and Craig.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Attorney Richard S. Bishop on receiving the Americanism Award from B'nai B'rith Amos Lodge No. 136, and I extend my best wishes to him and his family.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ARON
RALSTON

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct honor to stand before this body today and honor a remarkably courageous young man from my district. Many of you have already heard of Aron Ralston and marveled at his story—one that has captured this nation's attention.

Aron went canyoneering in a remote part of Utah recently, and while scrambling up the side of a canyon wall, the unthinkable happened. A 1,000 pound boulder shifted and pinned his arm to the rock face. Aron tried

every plausible means of escape, but nothing worked. He had only intended to be gone for one day, and by the third day, he had exhausted his supply of water. Eventually Aron realized that help probably wouldn't come soon, which led him to do something most people probably could not have done. On the fifth day of his ordeal, Aron amputated his own arm in order to save his life.

Once free, Aron set up anchors and amazingly rappelled about 70 feet with one arm. Then, even though he was bleeding, famished and dehydrated, he hiked some five miles out of the canyon to find help. Once news of his story got out, much of the world marveled at Aron's resourcefulness and will to live.

Mr. Speaker, Aron is an experienced adventurer with a long list of impressive athletic achievements. He has climbed all of Colorado's 14-thousand foot peaks and ascended 45 of the 57 alone in winter. We honor him today, though, not for conquering another mountain, but for overcoming an even greater challenge. Aron's amazing bravery in the face of adversity has made us all proud. He is not just an outstanding athlete—he is an inspiration. I wish him a quick recovery and all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING REVEREND PHILLIP C.
LAWSON

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to honor a great religious, spiritual, and civic leader, Reverend Phil Lawson, for his magnificent ministry. In June 2003, Rev. Lawson will retire as Pastor of Easter Hill United Methodist Church in Richmond, California. Today we honor and celebrate this giant of a human being.

The Rev. Phil Lawson came to Easter Hill in June 1992, from First United Methodist Church in Vallejo, California, where he served as pastor for six years following a six-year pastorate at El Cerrito United Methodist Church. Before coming to California, Rev. Lawson was pastor and Executive Director of the Methodist Inner City Parish in Kansas City, Missouri.

Along with his pastoral duties, he has worked with the Vallejo School District, Vallejo City government, Vallejo ministers and congregations to develop a community feeding program. Phil received special commendations from the Vallejo School Board and City Council, for his creativity and energy in serving the community.

Rev. Phil Lawson is the son of a Methodist minister, and the brother of Rev. J.M. Lawson, former pastor of Holman United Methodist Church in Los Angeles. He is a graduate of Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana, and the Methodist Theological School in Ohio, where he received a Master of Divinity degree in 1968. From 1971 to 1973, Phil was selected as a Martin Luther King Fellow in Black Church studies, by Colgate-Rochester Divinity School. As a MLK Fellow, he studied in Nigeria, Ghana, and Atlanta, Georgia.

From an early age, Rev. Lawson has had a passion for justice and peace, nurtured in high school in Massillon, Ohio, when several drug

stores were desegregated through nonviolent direct action in 1950. At the age of 16, following high school graduation, Rev. Lawson joined the Fellowship of Reconciliation, and met with youth from across America in Washington, DC, where they experimented in non-violent direct action to integrate movies, swimming pools and drug stores in the Nation's capital.

Rev. Lawson's Ministry for Justice reached nationwide attention in the United Methodist Church in the 60's and 70's when his ministry led him into close relationship with the Kansas City, Missouri, Black Panther Party. Additionally, his passion for peace led him to travel to the former Soviet Union and North Viet Nam in 1970. Consequently, the Internal Security Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives began its investigation of the Black Panthers by subpoenaing Rev. Lawson in 1970, and the Missouri West Annual Conference convened a special session to "deal with Phil Lawson," also in 1970. Both events generated national support for Rev. Lawson and his ministries. He has consistently spoken "truth to power."

Rev. Lawson is very active in ecumenical activities as President for the Northern California Inter-Religious Conference and its Peace with Justice Commission, and the Inter-Faith Witness for Peace. In the California-Nevada Annual Conference, he has served for 8 years as Chairperson of the Board of Church and Society, and on the conference Council of Ministries. The world has benefited from his spirit-filled leadership.

Finally, as we honor Reverend Lawson today, we want to thank him for being an exemplary role model, pastor, and preacher. He has been a friend who has shared his wisdom and has given us tremendous support. Most of all, we thank Pastor Lawson for his indomitable spirit and for his prayers.

We take great pride in joining Reverend Lawson's wife JoAnn, daughters Kelly and JoyceRenee, grandson Kelle, friends and colleagues to salute the extraordinary Phillip C. Lawson as he retires as Pastor of Easter Hill United Methodist Church.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GILBERT
SANCHEZ

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Gilbert Sanchez of Pueblo, Colorado, and his contributions to the field of mental health. Gilbert has long dedicated his life to serving mentally ill children throughout my state, and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize his hard work and dedication before this body of Congress.

For over twenty years Gilbert served as President of the Spanish Peaks Mental Health Center in Pueblo, Colorado. He has also served with many state, local and national mental health advocacy organizations, including the Child Advocacy Center, the Colorado Association of Community Mental Health Centers and Clinics, and the National Coalition of Hispanic Health and Human Services Organizations. Gilbert is dedicated to serving his

community and has also served on the Governor's Commission on Life and the Law and has been an influential member of the Latino Chamber of Commerce. However, it is not these appointments and honors that I wish to recognize, but rather his unceasing commitment to public service. Coloradans know Gilbert not only as President of the Spanish Peaks Mental Health Center, but also as a committed volunteer for children's mental health. For his efforts, Gilbert has received the Robert Hawkins Award for excellence in Mental Health Leadership given by the Mental Health Association of Pueblo.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize this man who has made such a significant difference in the lives of children. His dedication to the children of this nation deserves our recognition and our admiration. It is a great honor to recognize Gilbert Sanchez before this body of Congress and our nation today.

HONORING DENIS J. McELLIGOTT

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Denis J. McElligott, who will be honored by the Smithtown Democratic Committee tonight.

Denis has been committed to politics since his early years on the campaign trail with his father. He went on to intern for my predecessor, Congressman Tom Downey in Washington. During his service on the Smithtown Committee from 1992 to 1999, Denis worked tirelessly to preserve the true spirit of the committee.

In 1999, Denis was tapped by New York State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer to run the Attorney General's Suffolk Regional Office. Since then, he has successfully represented the State of New York in various types of litigation.

In addition to his work in politics, Denis is also an active member of the legal community. He is a member of the Suffolk County Bar Association and has served as chairman of the Plaintiff's Negligence Committee.

I commend Denis on his commitment to the Democratic Party and his service to New York and Long Island.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KAY WYLEY

HON. SCOTT McINNS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor Kay Wyley of Creede, Colorado and congratulate her upon her retirement from the Creede Repertory Theater. While retirement often means an opportunity for well-deserved rest and relaxation, Kay instead has chosen to continue her service to the citizens of Colorado as a respected advisor to the Colorado Council on the Arts. I admire Kay's dedication and it is my distinct honor to recognize her before Congress and the nation.

There are few in Colorado who have done more to preserve our heritage and to promote

the arts than Kay, who presided over the largest expansion in the history of the Creede Repertory Theater, as well as the restoration of the historic Rio Grande Hotel. Kay's years of dedicated service have touched the lives of countless artists, art patrons, and Coloradans. A lifelong native of Creede, Kay has truly given back to her home state.

Mr. Speaker, Kay has inspired many, and continues to do so each day. Her dedication to her work serves as an example to all Americans, and has made Colorado proud. It is a great honor to represent such a fine person who has worked to make my state a more beautiful and enjoyable place to live. Congratulations on your retirement Kay, and I wish you all the best in the future.

HONORING NEW YORK'S ANTHONY FISHER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, on April 4, 2003, the country and the city of New York suffered a tremendous loss when a plane carrying real estate developer Anthony Fisher and his wife, Anne, crashed 35 miles northwest of Boston.

He was one of this city's greatest jewels, a dear friend who dedicated his many talents to both the financial and cultural future of our fine metropolis.

Mr. Fisher was a founder and partner at the equity firm of FdG Associates, as well as a senior partner at the prestigious real estate firm of Fisher Brothers Inc. His development efforts, including the Alliance Capital Building in Midtown, Park Avenue Plaza, and Third Avenue, proudly continued his family's tradition of redefining the city's physical and commercial landscape.

However, the city has lost not only a successful businessman, but also a social entrepreneur whose energy and philanthropy were as magnificent as any of one of his buildings. As chairman and chief executive officer of the Intrepid Sea-Air Foundation, I will fondly remember how he often put his money where his heart was, ensuring that both our city and our country did not forget the tireless efforts of its military veterans. Although he never formally served, he understood the debt that we owe to those that put on the uniform and the duty we all share in ensuring that those who are fortunate to return are well-cared for and appreciated.

Above all else, my sincerest condolences go out to Tony's five children, who have lost two loving parents. My heart goes out especially to his niece Tora, the sole survivor of this horrible crash. I join his family and friends in wishing her a speedy and successful recovery.

Words, no matter how true or eloquent, can rarely ease the pain of such a terrible tragedy. However, we can all draw strength and comfort in knowing that much of who Tony was still remains for the world to enjoy and marvel. His legacy and love will endure forever, in the buildings he erected, the charities to which he contributed and the hearts that he touched.

A RESOLUTION HONORING RYAN SHANNON, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER OF GRAND LEDGE, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence he has compiled in academics, leadership, and community service, that I am proud to salute Ryan Shannon, winner of the 2003 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Ryan is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, MI.

Ryan is an exceptional student at Grand Ledge High School, and possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. Ryan has received numerous awards for his excellence in writing, math, and music, as well as his volunteer activities with the Grand Ledge High School National Honor Society. Ryan is a winner of the Candy Hyland Award for Mathematics and numerous awards for his participation in band.

Therefore, I am proud to join with his many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Ryan Shannon for his selection as winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to his success. To this remarkable young man, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.

LAKE ALLATOONA AWARENESS WEEK

HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Lake Allatoona Awareness Week as proclaimed by Governor Sonny Perdue of Georgia.

Lake Allatoona is located in the foothills of north Georgia. The lake provides drinking water for over 500,000 Georgians and recreation activities for millions, and its watershed provides habitat for a number of endangered species, including the American Bald Eagle.

The counties of Cobb, Bartow, and Cherokee that surround the lake are some of the fastest growing in the country—making the preservation and restoration of this vital resource extremely important. In 1999, the Lake Allatoona Preservation Authority was formed to provide stewardship and education to the surrounding communities about the Lake Allatoona Watershed.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize this week of May 12, 2003, as Lake Allatoona Awareness Week to acknowledge the ongoing