

Phil Anschutz. Dick is still very active in the Horatio Alger organization, which provides scholarships for kids with disadvantaged backgrounds.

Nancy was born and raised in Denver. Her grandfather founded Olinger Mortuaries, which Nancy's father eventually took over. Nancy and her sisters Gwen, Val, and Marilyn worked odd jobs at the family business before they all would eventually attend the University of Colorado. All four of the VanDerbur girls were beautiful, young, and successful women. Nancy's sister Marilyn would go on to win Miss America in 1958. Nancy is the consummate wife, mother and friend. She provides the strength that motivates Dick to be a strong father and community figure, and her work behind-the-scenes is worthy of multiple praises. Nancy is a warm and friendly person who is beloved by her many friends and family members, including each of her five children.

Mr. Speaker, it is a rare and beautiful thing when a couple's love and devotion for each other shines as brightly as does the love between Dick and Nancy Knowlton after fifty years of marriage. I rise before my colleagues today to recognize that beautiful accomplishment and to applaud the example that Dick and Nancy's loving marriage provides to countless Coloradans. It is an honor to congratulate them on fifty years of dedication to each other, and I wish them all the best in the years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 5, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, because I was part of a Congressional delegation that traveled to Iraq, I missed several votes last week.

Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall No. 469, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 785, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 470, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 794, waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1308) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to accelerate the increase in the refundability of the child tax credit, and for other purposes, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 471, on adoption of H. Res. 794, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 480, adoption of the conference report on H.R. 1308, I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO SAN FRANCISCO AIDS FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PAT CHRISTEN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 5, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, tonight in my district, community leaders will gather to pay trib-

ute to the work of Pat Christen, Executive Director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation for the past 15 years. I want to join in expressing my admiration and gratitude for Pat's outstanding leadership in the fight against HIV/AIDS in San Francisco, across America, and around the world.

Pat has effectively and enthusiastically led the San Francisco AIDS Foundation through some of the most difficult times of the epidemic. She is the longest serving Executive Director of an AIDS service organization in the nation and has established a remarkable legacy.

In 1988, after returning from Africa as a Peace Corps volunteer and volunteering with the Foundation's hotline, Pat was named the Foundation's first director of public policy. Within a year, she gathered colleagues from across the nation to address the growing crisis of caring for the thousands of people with AIDS who were critically ill and had no means of support.

Those initial discussions laid the foundation for the Ryan White CARE Act. I was an original co-sponsor of that legislation, and joined Congressman HENRY WAXMAN, Senator EDWARD KENNEDY and many of our colleagues who worked with Pat and community leaders from across the country to ensure swift passage. The CARE Act has proven to be one of the most significant public health achievements of the Congress in the past 15 years. Declines in AIDS deaths are a direct result of the therapies and services that have been made more widely available through the CARE Act to large numbers of uninsured and under-insured people with HIV and AIDS.

Pat's courage and competence later drew San Francisco to the forefront of the fight for effective needle exchange programs. When most leaders were intimidated by this innovative and controversial approach, Pat led the charge to city hall and Sacramento to put needle exchange in our HIV prevention strategy. Pat and others in San Francisco were also early to see that mobilization against this pandemic had to be international. She founded Pangaea, the global affiliate of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, to apply San Francisco's experience as a leader in the domestic fight against HIV/AIDS to the global crisis. Through Pat's vision and leadership, Pangaea has brought hope and care to thousands of Africans facing HIV/AIDS.

I have been proud to work with Pat and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation over the years to ensure that HIV/AIDS care, treatment, prevention, and research initiatives, domestically and internationally receive the funding they need, and to improve and strengthen those programs as the epidemic evolves.

Pat Christen's leadership at the Foundation may be coming to an end, but her legacy will live on as the fight to end AIDS continues. Her success reminds us what community leadership can do. It inspires us to not only work effectively at the local level, but also to take responsibility to make change at the national and global level. I know I join many in saying that the world is a better place because Pat Christen graced it with her leadership, vision, and integrity.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PEDRO PICAZO-POTEET

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 5, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Pedro Picazo-Poteet, an extraordinary fifteen year old who has overcome seemingly impossible obstacles in order to compete in martial arts competitions. Pedro is a true fighter, and someone other citizens can look to for inspiration. I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this Nation today to recognize his accomplishments.

In 2002, Pedro was riding his bike to school when he was hit by a car. His injuries were so extensive that the doctors were not certain whether he would live, and resulted in the loss of an arm. Pedro's grandmother Darla, who has raised Pedro since the age of eight, stayed by his side during his entire stay at the hospital. Although the family had to move to a different home to help pay for Pedro's medical costs, Darla refused to let Pedro quit pursuing his passion of martial arts. With the encouragement of his coach and family, Pedro has returned to martial arts and trains in the stick fighting competition. Pedro practices for hours, preparing himself for older, stronger, and more physical opponents.

Mr. Speaker, Pedro Picazo-Poteet is a strong, dedicated individual who has triumphed in the face of difficult obstacles. His persistent determination has taken him further than anyone imagined and I am honored to stand here before this body and recognize the efforts of such a zealous young man. Good luck with your martial arts training, Pedro, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

OSHA'S FAILURE TO ESTABLISH AND ENFORCE SAFETY STANDARDS

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 5, 2004

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, since 2001 the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, OSHA, has failed to carry out its core mission of protecting the health and safety of American workers. By withdrawing more rules aimed at workplace safety than it has promulgated over the past 4 years, OSHA has set an appalling track record indeed. As such, OSHA and the Bush administration have earned the dubious distinction of definitively turning back the clock on worker safety.

As documented by the Government Accountability Office, GAO, in a March 2004 report, OSHA has decreased the proportion of its budget dedicated to enforcement activities by 6 percent at the same time it has increased by 8 percent the proportion reserved for its Voluntary Protection Program, VPP. Under the VPP, OSHA offers regional partnerships with certain industry associations—such as construction—to reduce worker injuries and illness. In return for keeping injury rates 25 percent below the industry average and holding comprehensive training sessions for workers,

participating contractors receive a lower priority for scheduled OSHA inspections. Although certain contractors participating in the VPP have met with some success in reducing injury rates, this can never suffice as a substitute for adequate enforcement of U.S. safety standards.

In its budget request for fiscal year 2006, the Bush administration promises to undermine even further OSHA's ability to develop and enforce essential safety and health standards through funding cuts of \$12 million. This is a clear subversion of congressional intent in passing the OSHA Act more than 3 decades ago. Let me remind my colleagues that OSHA's clear statutory mandate is to "assure every working man and woman in the United States safe and healthful working conditions."

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that an article that appeared in today's Washington Post, outlining OSHA's woeful neglect of worker safety, be printed in the RECORD at this point.

[From the Washington Post, Oct. 5, 2004]

OSHA WITHDRAWS MORE RULES THAN IT MAKES, REVIEWS FIND

(By Cindy Skrzyzcki)

It's no secret that the Bush administration prefers voluntary, collaborative efforts on the part of companies to improve their safety records. Since the administration took over in 2001, the Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has forged hundreds of agreements with companies and business associations to improve their safety records while rulemaking has been sharply curtailed.

According to OSHA Assistant Secretary John Henshaw, the approach has resulted in safer workplaces with fewer fatalities, injuries and illnesses—what he calls the triple bottom line. "I've seen what works and doesn't work on the shop floor," said Henshaw, reflecting his own career as a safety and health professional at chemical companies, Monsanto Co. and Astaris LLC, before he came to the safety agency.

But labor unions and some watchdog groups would rather OSHA play its more traditional role, issuing regulations.

"We have a preference for an actual regulation that is enforceable and fair across the board," said J. Robert Shull, senior regulatory policy analyst at OMB Watch, a non-profit group funded mostly by foundations that has three union officials among its 15 directors.

Adds Peg Seminario, director of occupational safety and health for the AFL-CIO: Setting and enforcing standards is part of their mission. "So why aren't they?"

Since fall 2000, the agency has not been regulating in the traditional sense, OMB Watch found in a series of reviews. Twenty-four rules that were in some stage of development on OSHA's agenda were withdrawn by the administration. Nine rules were completed, but none were major and several were related to recordkeeping.

In examining the agency's December 2003 and June 2004 regulatory agendas, which track the progress of its rules, OMB Watch found that since last December, OSHA has revised a rule on commercial diving operations, reexamined one on mechanical power presses and changed how musculoskeletal disorders are reported. It completed one rule, to protect shipyard workers from fire hazards, and yesterday proposed new standards to protect workers from hexavalent chromium, a chemical used in chrome plating. That was under a court order.

"It's a meager output. It's the black hole of government," Shull said. "OSHA cleared

the decks of its agenda. Just swept it clean." His group maintains that gutting the agency's regulatory agenda is a sop to business, which won a big victory when the Bush administration cancelled a final rule to protect workers from ergonomic injuries.

Early in the Bush administration, Henshaw said he didn't put much stock in the regulatory agenda, calling it a wish list that contained proposals that had been incubating for years with no result. He said he preferred a "to-do" list—which OMB Watch now calls a "do-nothing" list.

That list has 24 items, including whether employers have to pay for protective equipment for their workers.

Said Henshaw, who inherited the protective equipment proposal from the Clinton administration: "We're reviewing the comments now and we're committed to taking the next step. But I don't want to say exactly what the next step is."

His emphasis, he said, has been on cooperative efforts with business and stepped-up enforcement of "bad actors" who are responsible for most safety problems.

The agency has formed 231 long-term alliances with trade associations and companies since 2002 that emphasize outreach, education, and sharing "best practices." OSHA under Henshaw has forged 214 active strategic partnerships that set safety goals involving 4,762 employers, and there are 1,153 voluntary protection program sites, where companies with exemplary safety records forego routine inspections.

Critics of the agency are leery of these arrangements, where union participation is minimal. And they don't entirely trust the numbers OSHA uses to support its claim that injuries and illnesses are decreasing. Unions don't consider the reports dependable, she said, because they are furnished by employers.

Seminario points out that there have been two major changes in the way employers collect injury and illness data since 2002, making comparisons to earlier years difficult. For example, the incidence of musculoskeletal injuries on the job—injuries from repetitive work and poorly designed workplaces—is no longer reported separately.

Data collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on days missed from work for illness show that over the past few years, the percentage of days taken off due to injuries and illnesses related to ergonomic issues has remained constant—about 34 percent—though the overall number of injuries and illnesses has decreased.

The business community said it wasn't that focused on the proposed rules OSHA axed but wanted to prevent new regulations. And groups like the U.S. Chamber of Commerce have been unhappy that the safety regulators issued citations for ergonomic violations under a broad enforcement authority. Since Congress killed the ergo rule two years ago, OSHA has opened cases against seven companies for ergonomic-related violations.

Randel Johnson, vice president of labor, immigration and employee benefits for the chamber, called the trend troubling. "The agency has aggressively pursued ergonomics citations . . . demanding abatement measures that sound much like the repealed regulation and micromanaging targeted employers with a laundry list of requirements. Despite what the unions may allege, our life with OSHA has been no rose garden."

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES OF CARIBBEAN DEVASTATED BY HURRICANES CHARLEY, FRANCES, IVAN, AND JEANNE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 5, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today to support H. Con. Res. 496 commending the governments of the countries of the Caribbean for their efforts to respond and assist the people of the region after the devastation caused by Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne from August to September 2004. I also recognize American aid workers, development organizations, and the response teams who have provided humanitarian assistance to the people of Grenada, Jamaica, the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and the other affected island nations.

Coming from Houston, I know all too well that hurricanes are a fact of life for anybody living in the region. But this year's hurricane season is different. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicted that 2004 would be an above average Atlantic hurricane season and three of these four hurricanes have been categorized by the National Weather Service as "major" hurricanes. The American people have also endured the impact of this year's hurricane season.

The challenges that the people in the Caribbean have faced since Charley's arrival in August have been particularly great. Hundreds have died and tens of thousands of people are displaced or are homeless as a result of these hurricanes. Some estimate that the cost of reconstruction in the region could exceed a quarter billion dollars.

Nevertheless the effects would have been greater were it not for the actions of the Caribbean governments and the international community. The U.S. assistance to the region is being coordinated by the U.S. Agency for International Development with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency and donor organizations in the Eastern Caribbean Donor Group. International organizations such as the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the United Nations, and the Organization of American States have joined the U.S. in providing necessary assistance to the region.

I support this resolution and ask my colleagues to encourage the President and the Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development to provide the funding to private volunteer organizations, the United Nations, and regional institutions that will help to mitigate the effects from Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne and to provide technical assistance for the reconstruction that will help to minimize the impact of future hurricanes in the region.