

As a Senior Software Engineer in the House Information Resources Information Management Directorate's Applications Support Branch, John made significant contributions as a team member in the implementation and enhancement of the Fixed Assets and Inventory Management System (FAIMS). FAIMS is a mission critical system used by the Chief Administrative Officer to collect, record and report official financial information on fixed assets, generate related payments, and report on Accounts Payable, Purchasing and General Ledger activities.

John has been a valuable, loyal, hard-working and customer-oriented employee, who takes pride in consistently delivering quality products to customers. His great attention to detail and passion for his work have resulted in special recognition for his work on FAIMS and FMS. John has dedicated himself to ensuring that the needs of his customers in the Office of Finance, House Support Services, the Sergeant at Arms, the Congressional Budget Office, the Office of the Clerk, and the Committees are met. John's adaptability, his extensive knowledge of software engineering, and his excellent relationship with his customers were invaluable to deploying and enhancing FAIMS.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to John for his many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the House of Representatives. We wish John many wonderful years in fulfilling his retirement dreams.

HONORING PAUL SIDNEY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate a good friend, neighbor and constituent, Mr. Paul Sidney, for his extraordinary accomplishments, which are being celebrated and honored by winning this year's Long Island Lifetime Achievement Award.

Everyone on Long Island knows Paul Sidney is the man behind the music. He is the president, general manager and program director of radio station WLNG, owned by the independent Main Street Broadcasting Company and based in Sag Harbor in my district on eastern Long Island.

Paul Sidney's broadcasts can be heard from Mastic to Montauk. The signal even reaches parts of Rhode Island and Connecticut. Listeners tuning into 92.1 FM are almost always certain to hear sounds that were the standards when Paul was growing up in Brooklyn.

After graduating from NYU with a communications degree, Paul launched his career playing oldies for WLIS-FM in Old Saybrook, Connecticut. While the radio industry nationwide and locally has witnessed considerable change in that time, WLNG established its signature style long ago with Paul leading the way and building a loyal, ever-growing fan base on Long Island that continues to feed off his charisma and his familiar, swift-talking voice.

Paul and WLNG have been in business for 41 years. He has worked tirelessly to solidify

ties to local businesses, including advertisers ranging from Lamplighter Wines in Southampton to Hildreth's Department Store in the East End to Suffolk County National Bank. The station hosts some 250 live remote broadcasts each year from local stores, street fairs, antique auctions, car shows, and sporting events. It even broadcast live from the Cole Brothers Circus, when it appeared in Southampton and Greenport.

At most of these remote broadcasts, Paul works from the mobile control room, and one or two of the other D.J.'s host live on-the-air interviews in the crowd. When not broadcasting from a remote location, Mr. Sidney and his staff work out of their modest studio on Redwood Road, by the waterfront of Sag Harbor Cove.

The station reflects Paul's style by still embracing old-fashioned radio favorites. Listeners also regularly receive a big dose of local news, weather and information, like birth announcements, birthday and anniversary wishes and reports of missing pets. Perhaps the spirit of his radio station was best summed up when Paul recently said, "If someone loses their puppy, we treat it as a big deal. . . This is radio the way it used to be, being with the community, talking to them."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all of his devoted listeners on Long Island, it is with great pride that I recognize one of Long Island's trademark personalities and congratulate Paul Sidney for winning this year's Lifetime Achievement Award. We look forward to hearing him on the radio well into the future and wish him and his family well.

HONORING THE EXCELLENCE OF WEST VIRGINIA IN HOSPITALS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to three West Virginia hospitals that have been commemorated by the AARP, as being three of the Best Employers for Workers over the Age of 50. The well deserving hospitals include St. Mary's Hospital in Huntington, Cabell Huntington Hospital and West Virginia University Hospitals in Morgantown.

The AARP is among the premier advocacy groups for adults over 50. The award in question was quite competitive: the AARP received over 145 applicants from across the Nation. Only 50 winners were chosen, including the three West Virginia hospitals. Criteria used for selecting the winning employers included employee development opportunities, health benefits for employees and retirees, age of employer's workforce, alternative work arrangements, and retirement benefits. Nineteen percent of West Virginians age 65 and older are still in the work force.

These institutions have a proven track record, of accomplishment. Over the years they have proven their commitment to both their patients and employees alike. St. Mary's received the award for the third year and West Virginia University Hospitals were recognized

for the second year. We in the Mountain State take pride in all our citizens. We are all thankful for the exemplary institutions that give individuals an opportunity to showcase their talents and I am very pleased that AARP has recognized West Virginia's role in what is the best healthcare in the world.

THANKING LYDIA BROWN FOR HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement in September 2005, we rise to thank Lydia R. Brown for 21 years of outstanding service to the United States House of Representatives.

Lydia started in 1984 as an administrative assistant in the Office of Telecommunications under the Clerk of the House. Her fearless initiative and hard work allowed her responsibilities to expand to include paying district telephone bills. In 1997, Lydia transferred to the House Information Resources division of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. She became an inventory management specialist for HIR, performing a wide range of duties that included receiving equipment and supplies for HIR, requesting furniture and repairs, assisting with payment processing, ordering and distributing water for five locations in the Ford Building, and inventorying equipment. Lydia maintained the property records for HIR meticulously, bar coding all new equipment and ensuring that old equipment was disposed of properly. Lydia was an energetic worker for HIR who was willing to perform a variety of tasks.

In 2002, Lydia transferred to House Support Services under the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, working for the Vendor Management division. Lydia's assignments included the payment of purchase orders for equipment, supplies, and furniture for Members, Committees, Officers, and Support offices of the House of Representatives. She made the transition from HIR inventory specialist to Vendor Management counselor swiftly and successfully. Lydia's energy, conscientiousness, and knowledge of the policies and procedures enabled her to be an industrious worker, providing passionate customer service for the House community. During the October 2001 anthrax incident, as Members and staff were relocated to an off-site location, Lydia worked tirelessly to coordinate and ensure delivery of equipment and supplies to House offices at the alternate location. Lydia has worked since she was 14 years old; she served her country in the Army reserves, and she also obtained degrees in Accounting and Business Administration. In her long career, Lydia has frequently gone above and beyond the call of duty. Today we commend her dedication, initiative, and hard work, and wish her many happy years of retirement.