

higher leadership posts until becoming assembly speaker in 1992. Speaker Haytaian has retired from the legislature but will continue as chairman of the New Jersey Republican State Committee, a role he took on in 1995 at the request of Gov. Christine Todd Whitman.

Prior to his 4-year term as speaker, Speaker Haytaian served as both minority leader and majority leader in the assembly. He began his political career as a member of the Warren County Board of Freeholders from 1976 to 1981, serving as Freeholder director in 1977 and 1980. He became chairman of the Warren County Republican Committee in 1990, served as a member of the reapportionment committee and was a delegate to the 1988 Republican National Convention. He was one of New Jersey's representatives to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Speaker Haytaian, of American heritage, is a national leader in Armenian-American affairs, participating in a number of Armenian cultural events each year, serving as a trustee of the Hovhannian Armenian School and as a director of the Armenian assembly. He is a trustee of Centenary College, a member of the honorary board of directors of Warren County Community College and a former chairman of the Warren County Cancer Society and the United Way campaign for Warren County.

A 1961 graduate of the University of Alabama, the New York City native is marketing director for Superior Graphics Inc. A wonderfully devoted family man, he is married to the former Joan Mardenly. The couple have two sons, David and Darrell, a daughter, Debra Haytaian Snyder, and a granddaughter, Nicole Corrine Snyder.

TRIBUTE TO GWYN GANDY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I come before the House today to extol the many milestones of Gwyn Gandy. Gwyn is the chief executive officer and president of G&G Insurance Brokerage Co., Inc., a full-service firm specializing in all forms of insurance. Gwyn is a 12-year veteran of the insurance industry and has the distinction of being the only African American female from New York to participate in the Democratic National Convention [DNC] which awarded a contract that provided for special events coverage as part of the DNC.

Gwyn's parents left the rural south and traveled to Brooklyn where she was raised as the oldest of six children. Financial necessity prompted Gwyn's entrepreneurial talents to shine through, as she became a very competent door-to-door saleswoman. She graduated from Franklin K. Lane High School at the age of 17. A marriage which ended in divorce produced three children, Kenneth, Sheree, and Kevin, each of whom has distinguished themselves academically and professionally.

Ms. Gandy is a graduate of Hunter College and the Fashion Institute of Technology. She is a staunch environmentalist and community activist. Gwyn serves as a member of the Bedford Stuyvesant YMCA Board of Managers, and has served on the trustee board of the First A.M.E. Zion Church in Brooklyn. I am

delighted to share her vast contributions to the community and America with my House colleagues.

TRIBUTE TO BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF COACHELLA VALLEY, CA

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, at a time in America, when many areas are experiencing an increase in juvenile crime, a society that is more violent than ever, when there is virtually no training for youngsters to prepare them for a productive adult life and the number of needy families and children is on the increase, there exists an organization in California that is doing their part to fight all of these social problems. It is the Boys and Girls Club of Coachella Valley.

On a recent visit to California, I had the opportunity to see firsthand the work that is being carried on by this fine organization. In addition to offering a full schedule of activities for children on a daily basis that includes athletics, homework assistance, fine arts, health education, community service, cooking instruction, and computer classes, I also witnessed the following very meaningful programs: A nutrition program where meals with substance are served on a daily basis to the children. The club also identifies needy families in the community through the churches and other social service organizations and distributes nourishing food to them. The club's nutrition program is operated in conjunction with a local food bank called FIND, Food In Need of Distribution. FIND serves 7,200 needy families weekly and distributes 3,200,000 pounds of food annually.

I also witnessed another program operated by the Boys and Girls Club called Building Horizons. How appropriate a name, as this program teaches high school students from five different high schools the skills necessary to pursue a career in the construction industry upon graduation. On-the-job training is created for the students by constructing two homes each school year. Through a partnership with a local city the homes are sold to low- and moderate-income families. This program is also run in cooperation with the local school districts and the building industry. So you can see where the Building Horizons program serves two purposes, one, to provide career opportunities for aspiring students in the construction field and much needed affordable housing in the Coachella Valley.

Finally, their criminal justice program accepts youngsters who are referred from the local police department who commit minor infractions. Successful solutions to the child's problem are found and the child is encouraged to get involved in Boys and Girls Club programs and with their professional staff, who are wonderful role models. Their counselor also works with young people who are trying to separate themselves from gang involvement.

The Boys and Girls Club of Coachella Valley does an incredible job with the children. As you can see, one of the things that they do extremely well is partnership with other agencies and organizations both private and public.

I congratulate my good friend Leo Wyler, who is one of the leaders in the Coachella Valley, for dealing with these problems as well as all of the other people in that area who are working so hard to make their young people successful, productive adults.

The future of America, in my view, depends on programs like these and the involvement of leaders in the community in making sure that we have productive alternatives for our young people. If we don't emulate programs like these, then the future of America as respects drugs, crimes, et cetera, will not be very bright.

Again, Mr. Speaker, my congratulations go out to all of those who support these programs, including my former colleagues Al McCandless and my good friend Leo Wyler.

\$100 WILL BUY \$1,615.00 WORTH OF FOOD

Hunger cannot be adequately described by numbers. But "numbers" tell the story of FIND's 1994 services to the needy families of eastern Riverside County:

Families served weekly	17,200
Volunteers	465
Annual volunteer hours	85,000
Value of volunteer hours at minimum wage	\$404,009
Pounds of food distributed annually	3,200,000
Annual operating costs (1994)	325,000

175 percent of the families served by FIND have monthly incomes of less than \$800.

If purchased at store, you would have spent \$5,250,000.

And we spent \$325,000. This is accomplished through the energy and time of our volunteers.

[From the Desert Sun, Nov. 27, 1995]

LEAVING THE GANG BEHIND

(By Lauralee Ortiz)

Armando is thinking like a typical teenager.

He plans to graduate next year and make some serious career plans.

The 16-year-old wants to join the U.S. Marines to become a tank specialist or a military police officer.

Every time Armando steps outside, he risks being shot at or beaten up by a gang member.

The Indio High School junior has been jumped twice already—once for wandering into rival territory; the second time, he said, the gangbangers thought he was somebody else.

These days, the youth is among more than a dozen with similar tales who are making an effort to separate from a life they describe as dangerous and frightening.

But, as one former gang member named Joe said, "It's a lot easier to get in than it is to get out. You can't just walk away."

If you do, he said, the people you thought were friends become enemies.

Joe tried to change his look with long hair and a beard in hope that he wouldn't be recognized by former rivals.

Armando said he is not and never has been a gang member.

Admittedly, he's surrounded by gangs, he knows gang members and, yes, he's been hanging with them since he was 12 years old.

Guilt by association?

Last year, he was expelled from a neighboring city school for his role in beating up a student trying to dissociate himself from the group.

In his defense, Armando said he was a bystander in the incident.

He said he transferred to the school earlier in the year to get away from problems at Indio High School.