

women who have been honored with Girl Scout Gold Awards by Michigan Waterways Girl Scout Council in Port Huron, MI. They will be honored on May 4, 1997, for earning the highest achievement award in U.S. Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development. The award can be earned by girls aged 14 to 17, or in grades 9 to 12.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., an organization serving 2.5 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Gold Awards to Senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must earn four interest patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, as well as design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling these requirements is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult volunteer.

As a member of the Michigan Waterways Girl Scout Council, the following girls will receive their Gold Awards: Angela Campbell, Jamie Welsch, Nicole Kwiatowski, Lisa Welsch, Leah Spesser, Joyce Schocke, Jennifer Schlegel, Heather McClellan, Theresa Walding, Halleé Vincent, Deborah Fields, Cari Malone, and Marylynn Lepien. They have all completed their public service projects and I believe they should receive the public recognition due for their significant service to their community and their country.

A SUCCESS STORY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, one thing that we do not do often enough is to go back to predictions that are made about legislation by both supporters and opponents and see whether these predictions have been born out. One somewhat controversial bill we passed recently was the General Aviation Revitalization Act of 1994, which altered liability law regarding aircraft. That legislation was strongly resisted by many who do not think we should not make any change in the product liability system in this country. I joined with the leading House proponent of the bill, the then Representative from Kansas who is now the Secretary of Agriculture. With his leadership role, despite opposition from some within the Judiciary Committee, we eventually passed the bill which became the General Aviation Revitalization Act, which the President signed into law in August 1994. I think it is reasonable to note that the consequences of that bill as of now have been entirely favorable. Thousands of new jobs have been created in the aircraft manufacturing industry, including a renewal of manufacturing of single engine aircraft. I am also not aware of any danger to aircraft safety that anyone can point to as a consequence of that act. While obviously we will continue to monitor the results of this, I think it is important to note that to date, 2½ years after its passage, the results of the enactment to this bill has been no decrease in safety,

while we have seen a significant increase in economic activity of a productive sort. The General Aviation Revitalization Act of 1994 has to date vindicated the views of those of us who pressed for it and I think it is important to note that.

TRIBUTE TO HIS EMINENCE ADAM
CARDINAL MAIDA AND RABBI
IRWIN GRONER

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on May 5, 1997, the Ecumenical Institute for Jewish-Christian Studies will present its Dove Award to two outstanding religious and community leaders, His Eminence Adam Cardinal Maida and Rabbi Irwin Groner.

All of the citizens of Michigan are blessed to have in our active presence Cardinal Maida and Rabbi Groner. Through their individual endeavors and their friendship and collaborative efforts, they have enriched the entire State in many ways and deepened goodwill.

They were instrumental in the establishment of the Religious Leaders Forum, which has stimulated dialog between the Christian, Jewish, and Muslim communities. Each has encouraged the spread of voluntarism to touch the lives of those beyond their own communities. They have been outspoken on society's need to attack bigotry and racism, wherever either might appear in our midst.

Of course, for both Cardinal Maida and Rabbi Groner, the wellspring of their ecumenical work has been their deep spiritual commitment to their faith. Since his appointment by his Holiness John Paul II to be archbishop of Detroit on June 12, 1990, Cardinal Maida has maintained a focus, during a period of relative prosperity for citizens living within the diocese, on the less fortunate, whether children without health care or otherwise at risk, retired priests or the seriously ill.

Rabbi Groner is the spiritual leader of Congregation Shaarey Zedek, a religious home for my family over many decades. He has been preeminent in the conservative Jewish movement in our Nation, through his writings and sermons and his executive positions on various boards.

In this day and age without global conflict but with persistent conflict and violence in daily life, it is rewarding for us all that these two distinguished people of peace are awarded for their work by the Ecumenical Institute. As one privileged to know them both, it is my honor to be able to ask today all of my colleagues to join in expressing congratulations and wishing to Cardinal Maida and Rabbi Groner many more years of service to their parishioners and to the public at large.

A TRIBUTE TO DOLORES COLUCCI

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention Ms. Dolores Colucci of

Clifton, NJ who is being honored by the Clifton Optimist Club.

A lifelong resident of Clifton, Dolores is one of seven children born to Dorothy and William Straub, a treadmill producer and a former airplane parts manufacturer. Her parents always advocated wholesome activity for youth, a legacy which Dolores does everything possible to continue.

A former student of Pope Pius XII High School in Passaic, Dolores decided to pursue a career in education. She graduated from Montclair State College with a bachelor's degree in education and thereafter began teaching in local schools, and subsequently obtained a master's degree in guidance and counseling from Kean College.

Dolores became involved with the local area youth in 1974, when she was a volunteer for the Girls' Club of Clifton. Two years later she became the club's executive director, and led the organization for 10 years. When the Girls' Club merged with the Boys' Club, Dolores became the new club's executive director.

As the executive director of the Boys' and Girls' Club, Dolores maintains a very busy schedule as she offers her services to many other community organizations including the Civic Affairs Committee of the North Jersey Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Clifton Inter-Agency Council, the Clifton Education Advisory Board, the Recreation Task Force, and the Strategic Planning Committee of the Clifton Board of Education.

In addition to her civic involvements, Dolores is also actively involved with projects for Zonta International, an organization for business and professional women, and religious programs at her parish, Saint Philip the Apostle Roman Catholic Church.

Dolores has been recognized numerous times for her work with youth and was honored in 1989 as Outstanding Executive by the New Jersey Area Council of Boys' and Girls' Clubs as well as being named Agency Executive of the Year in 1993 by the United Way of Passaic County.

Dolores always prioritized family. She and recently deceased husband Thomas proudly raised three children: Anne Sibilski, a kindergarten teacher at School 12 in Clifton; Thomas, a manager of a fitness store in Paramus; and Daniel, a sixth-grader at Woodrow Wilson Middle School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Dolores' family and friends, the youth of the Boys' and Girls' Club of Clifton, and the city of Clifton in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of the Boys' and Girls' Club 1997 Youth of Year, Dolores Colucci.

TRIBUTE TO MS. AURELIA
PUCINSKI, CLERK OF THE COOK
COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to an outstanding public official and close personal friend of mine on a very special occasion, her 50th birthday.

Ms. Aurelia Pucinski, clerk of the Cook County, Illinois Circuit Court, celebrated her

birthday recently with a surprise party thrown by her friends and colleagues, as well as her husband, Jim Keithley, and their three children, Rebecca, Annie, and Jimmy.

Clerk Pucinski has been one of the most popular elected officials in Cook County since her election as a delegate to the 1980 Democratic National Convention. She is currently in her third term as clerk where she administers the world's largest unified trial court system, which handles more than 18 million cases each year.

She has literally guided the clerk's office into the 21st century with improved computer systems and other technological advancements to make the office more efficient and more responsive to the needs of law enforcement officers and attorneys and all citizens.

She has saved tens of millions of dollars for taxpayers during her tenure by reducing staff and overtime, through interest earned on investments and deposits, and returned unclaimed bond money. Clerk Pucinski is also the first county official to institute a code of ethics and internal ethics board.

A testament to Clerk Pucinski's integrity can be found in the fact that during her first campaign for office in 1988, she proposed a 40-point plan to improve the office. She has implemented all those promises.

Clerk Pucinski is an outstanding public official, but perhaps more important, she is an outstanding human being and a wonderful wife, mother, and daughter. I have known her for more than 20 years, when I served on the Chicago City Council with her father, Alderman Roman Pucinski, a revered and respected public official who was a huge influence on his daughter. She remains devoted to her father as well as all of her family members, despite the demands and responsibilities of her office.

Mr. Speaker, I wish my dear friend, Aurelia Pucinski, a happy birthday and of course, many, many more.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND EUGENE RAWLINGS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, I take this opportunity to comment upon the life and the work of the late Rev. Eugene Rawlings, who passed away on Tuesday, April 1, 1997.

Reverend Rawlings was born February 17, 1906, and spent his early years in Lucy, TN, where he attended school and received his early religious training. He graduated from the SA Owens College in Memphis, TN, and received an associate of arts degree in religious education from the McKinley Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS. In 1931, he married Ms. Caldonia Stevens and they have one daughter, Eugenia.

In 1954, Reverend Rawlings migrated to Chicago, IL, where he spent the rest of his life organizing churches, pastoring, teaching, and being a community activist. He was an outstanding lecturer and orator, as he taught at the Chicago Baptist Institute, the Ministers Union of Chicago and vicinity, the Westside Ministers Conference, and Bethany Hospital.

Reverend Rawlings was a great civic, social, and political activist, as evidenced by his position as a Master Mason, organizer for the Westside waste management environment safety project, Block Club treasurer, and planning committee for the Community Bank of Lawndale.

Rev. Eugene Rawlings was certainly an outstanding clergyman, civic leader, and humanitarian. We wish his wife Odessa, daughters Evangelist Eugenia Thomas, Pat Merriweather, and Francis Morris and other members of the family all the best, as they revere the life of this great American.

LOUIS FREEH IS A GOOD MAN

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, FBI Director Louis Freeh is a good man in a thankless job.

There is a tendency in this town, especially during the last 4 years, to go beyond answering one's opponent or critic to the point of destroying him utterly, his name, his reputation, and his livelihood. We can't let that happen to Director Freeh.

Among the other disturbing trends is that of politicizing agencies of the Federal Government and then using them to reward friend and punish enemies. Director Freeh has done everything possible to spare his agency this fate, and this, in the opinion of many, has made his a marked man.

This is unfortunate, because Director Freeh is, again in the opinion of many, one of the best directors in modern FBI history, and it would be a tragedy if his independence and integrity were to be his undoing.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot let that happen. And I would call on Senators from the other body to recognize Director Freeh's merits and to protect him from attempts to undermine him.

I submit, for the RECORD, a recent Wall Street Journal editorial which eloquently states the case for Director Freeh.

FBI LEADERSHIP

With news swirling about the Federal Bureau of Investigation, it might be an apt time to review the last change of leadership there. It took place, you probably do not recall, on the most tempestuous weekend of the Clinton Presidency.

FBI Director William Sessions, under fire over expense accounts and the department of his wife, had already tendered his resignation, pending a replacement. But on Saturday, July 17, 1993, he was told to resign immediately or be fired. Bearing the message was Attorney General Janet Reno, Deputy Attorney General Philip Heymann, White House Counsel Bernard Nussbaum and now notorious Associate Attorney General Webster Hubbell. On the way out of the meeting, Mr. Sessions stumbled on the curb and broke his elbow. His replacement, former FBI agent and New York Judge Louis Freeh, was announced the following Tuesday morning.

"It had taken strenuous argument from Nussbaum to persuade Clinton not to name his old friend and fellow Rhodes Scholar Richard Stearns to the post," James B. Stewart reports in his book "Blood Sport." Mr. Stearns is a judge on the Massachusetts Superior Court, and that fateful Monday our own columns had reviewed his résumé:

"Judge Stearns and President Clinton were war protesters together as Rhodes Scholars at Oxford. Judge Stearns was also a deputy campaign manager in George McGovern's 1972 presidential race, as well as national director of delegates in Sen. Edward Kennedy's 1980 presidential nomination bid."

The same editorial said, "Judge Freeh is fine with us," but raised the question of why Mr. Sessions should be summarily fired if a replacement was ready. It started, "So the gang that pulled the great travel office caper is now hell-bent on firing the head of the FBI." In the event, the Freeh appointment was well received, not least, Mr. Stewart relates, because he was not a personal friend of Bill Clinton."

The appointment was announced simultaneously with the Supreme Court nomination of Ruth Bader Ginsburg. "We've just hit two home runs for the President," Mr. Nussbaum said to his deputy Vincent Foster. Mr. Foster had declined a Monday night Presidential invitation to a meeting to appoint an independent counsel in the campaign contribution scandal; the following day her Inspector General issued a scathing report on the mess at the FBI laboratory. And Senator Charles Grassley said the report shows the FBI "needs better leadership."

Senator, wake up. With the country in the middle of an ongoing Presidential scandal, the top ranks of the Justice Department are vacant—except for Ms. Reno herself, who battles Parkinson's Disease. We have an acting CIA head, and lame-duck Secret Service Director. Mr. Clinton is on his fifth White House Counsel. The last law enforcement soldier holding the line in Washington doesn't need carping from Republican Senators; he needs air cover.

The IG report on the lab, where problems clearly started well before the current director, is only the latest incoming fire. In the Washington Post's Sunday edition, for example, Mr. Freeh is accused of losing the confidence of his agents. An example: He told them they couldn't question Richard Jewell under a ruse, but had to give him a Miranda warning; therefore the Jewell imbroglio was the Director's fault, agents say. A somewhat less unflattering Newsweek profile repeats this complaint, while saying Mr. Freeh has thought of resigning.

Under Mr. Freeh the bureau has of course made mistakes, most spectacularly in sharing with the White House drafts of former agent Gary Aldrich's book when it was submitted for clearance. But more recently Mr. Freeh stood up to White House requests for intelligence on Chinese contributions. And most importantly of all, he dispatched top agent I.C. Smith to Little Rock, leading to a new vigor in probing corruption there.

It has to be understood, as well, that any FBI Director needs a perimeter defense, and also a few colleagues with personal loyalty. Veteran law enforcement officials elsewhere relate tales of FBI officials denying help that had merely been promised by "the front office," or that talking to the director "is not talking to the FBI." The carping at Mr. Freeh has to be understood in its full context. Not only that the current White House is a corrosive force on all law enforcement agencies; but also that do director since J. Edgar Hoover has succeeded in establishing effective control of the bureau.

Yes, obviously the FBI has leadership problems. The solution, in the hands of Senator Grassley and other members of the Judiciary Committee, lies in making sure its leader has authority commensurate with his responsibility.