

policy and the simple way they treat everyone who works at Wright-K. I believe that this attitude of respect comes back tenfold to the company since everyone feels that when the company rises, all boats within the company also rise.

The growth of Wright-K Technology has exploded in the past 4 years, evidenced by over a doubling of employees from 146 to nearly 350 today. This manufacturing company designs, builds, and rebuilds special assembly, test, metal removal, laser, and welding equipment. In fact, its superior performance has placed it among the 100 fastest growing firms in Michigan, moving up to No. 55 after debuting at No. 86 in 1996.

Wright-K's management team also gives back to the community many times over by volunteering their time and resources to support important initiatives like school-to-work programs, hospital and church programs, the Boy Scouts, and chambers of commerce. It is through these types of involvement that a company's dedication and staying power in the community is truly characterized.

I am enormously pleased to commend Wright-K Technology, Inc., and to highlight the accomplishments of this firm and its employees both from an economic and a philanthropic standpoint. I believe that this company serves as a model for aspiring small businesses nationwide and globally, and I look forward to witnessing continued years of growth and success.

SULLIVAN LEADS BY DOING

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 1997

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, we hear a lot from from time to time about burnout—about people whose constitutions are too delicate to allow them to continue with hard work. Unfortunately, that is a condition which often affects those who have taken on a commitment to serve others, especially recently, when the Nation has, sadly, cut back on the resources it makes available to people who seek to alleviate poverty and injustice.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the next time someone committed to this fight starts to feel sorry for himself or herself and contemplates easier work, they will read the following editorial and take some inspiration from the example of Mark A. Sullivan.

As this editorial in the Fall River Herald News explains, Mark Sullivan has been the chief executive—and chief strategist, motivator, and philosopher—of Citizens for Citizens in Fall River, MA, an effective community action agency.

I was fortunate enough to meet Mark Sullivan 15 years ago when the Massachusetts congressional district lines were changed and I found Fall River and myself in the same congressional district. Throughout the ensuing period, Mark Sullivan has been one of the strongest sources of advice, encouragement, and inspiration to me.

The Fall River Herald News editorial aptly describes the respect in which he is so justifiably held by those who work for him and, perhaps most interestingly, against him. Mr. Speaker I have always felt lucky to hold this

job, and one of the examples I give when people ask me to explain why I feel that way is that I have had the chance to work, befriend, learn from, and work with Mark Sullivan.

SULLIVAN LEADS BY DOING

The row of crock pots lined up along the buffet table at Mark A. Sullivan's silver anniversary celebration just about said it all.

The decidedly casual affair, held at Citizens for Citizens headquarters on Griffin Street, was organized as a surprise to the man who has served as its executive director for the past 25 years.

Clearly, Sullivan's employees know him well. Home-cooked chourico and peppers is more his style than filet mignon and Delmonico potatoes. And that unpretentiousness is the source of both Sullivan's charm and success.

The son of a bus driver/union president and community activist in his own right, Sullivan learned to accept people from all walks of life at a tender age. Sullivan credits both his mother and father with teaching him—by example—to treat all people equally.

That's a quality Sullivan has carried into his work at the community action agency, where he put his own unique and refreshing spin on it.

Renowned—at least in *The Herald News* newsroom—for knowing how to turn a phrase, Sullivan is seldom without an opinion on issues that effect his constituency.

"That designation qualifies us for a grant of \$256,000 to eliminate poverty in southeastern Massachusetts," Sullivan once said, explaining the Fall River City Council's endorsement of the agency. "And that's enough to buy everybody a hamburger and send them home."

Indeed, Sullivan has demonstrated a gift for glibness, but also for putting a human face on dry statistics with irreverent, non-nonsense—sometimes bordering on offensive—explanations.

The sideburns that dipped an inch or two below his earlobes have long since been trimmed and the thickly pin-striped suit probably placed in mothballs since Sullivan began as CFC director in 1972, but his passion about his job remains undiminished.

Even though Sullivan expresses disdain for what was once known as the war on poverty, pointing to the absurdity of its existence in the greatest economic nation in the history in the world, he has been one of its finest warriors.

The secret to his success, Sullivan says with characteristic modesty, is his talent for hiring good people. "I've hired people of good character and intelligence," he said. None of them, we suspect, doubt where the ultimate authority lies, however. A sign on Sullivan's wall in a 1985 photograph reading, "Never mind the dog—beware of the owner," sums up his philosophy on those who cross him.

His shirt sleeves ever rolled up, Sullivan has well earned his reputation as a hands-on administrator. Having never hesitated to admit his own foibles, Sullivan's empathy for those he serves no doubt comes from having experience in life's valleys himself.

Citizens for Citizens is an apt name for an agency of people helping people. And no one seems better suited to leading the organization than the unassuming Sullivan.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. FRANCISCO F. AND GERALDINE LEVINSON

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to congratulate Dr.

Francisco F. and Geraldine Levinson on their receipt of the 1997 Merrillville Exchange Club's Book of Golden Deeds Award. Dr. and Mrs. Levinson will receive this award at a luncheon held at the Radisson Hotel at Star Plaza in Merrillville, IN, tomorrow, June 12, 1997. The Levinsons will be joined by friends and family on this special occasion.

The Exchange Club, a national organization devoted to a variety of initiatives involving the Nation's youth, the well-being of its communities, and responsibility of its citizens, bestows the Book of Golden Deeds Award upon individuals who have accepted leadership roles in bettering the communities and/or world in which they live. The Levinsons have been awarded the Book of Golden Deeds Award, the most distinguished award the service club can bestow, for their many contributions to the communities of Gary and Merrillville.

The Levinsons have positively impacted these communities by contributing their time and energy in the areas of health, community organizations, and sports. Dr. Levinson served on the Gary Board of Health for 25 years, and the Indiana State Board of Health for 20 years. Among his many accomplishments while with these organizations was his instrumental role in bringing water fluoridation to the area's filtration system. Dr. and Mrs. Levinson were also essential in the erection of the main building for the Lake County Association for Retarded Children.

In addition, Dr. and Mrs. Levinson have devoted their efforts to numerous volunteer organizations. Dr. Levinson served 5 years of active duty in the U.S. Army, followed by 29 years in the Active Reserves, from which he retired as a lieutenant colonel. He was also an active member of the Gary Exchange Club where he instituted the Toothbrush fund raiser, which successfully raised money for the organization by selling toothbrushes to large corporations. Dr. Levinson has also maintained leadership positions in numerous professional, civic, and community service organizations. Over the years, he has served as president of the Gary Dental Association, the Northwest Indiana Dental Association, the Indiana State Dental Association, Jewish War Veterans, and B'nai B'rith. He has also served on the board of directors for the YMCA, Jewish Welfare Federation, and Consumer Credit Counseling of Northwest Indiana.

Mrs. Levinson has been active in many community organizations, as well, including the Methodist Hospital Auxiliary, the Job Corps Agency, Israel Bond Drive, Jewish Federation, Temple Beth-El, and Temple Israel. She was also a soloist for the Macedonian Choir, and has served on the auxiliary of the Northwest Indiana Dental Society.

The Levinsons have also devoted much time to promoting sports within the community. Over the past 10 years, the Levinsons have been positive influences on the members of the Merrillville High School tennis team, during which Dr. Levinson has acted as a volunteer assistant coach. Creating organizations for community sporting activities has also been a priority for the Levinsons. Some of their endeavors have included the highly successful Gary Junior Tennis Association and the Ross Township Tennis and Racquet Club. The Levinsons were also very active in Club Vida, a social, athletic, and recreational club, where Dr. Levinson was the financial manager of the