

People are also the key ingredient for Terry LaVallie. "K&L has been blessed with terrific employees over the years, and that in large part is the reason for our success," he says.

From the kitchens of Sandy and Harry Krebs, Bill and Carol LaVallie, and Terry and Jeanine LaVallie, those are recipes for success that everyone can appreciate.

FIFTH ANNUAL GOLD KEY AWARDS DINNER OF THE LOS ANGELES OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the Fifth Annual Gold Key Awards Dinner of the Los Angeles Opportunities Industrialization Center (LAOIC) and pay tribute to this year's honorees. We often hear people talk about the need to provide job training for those who are unskilled or whose skills have become obsolete. For the past five years, the LAOIC has been doing just that.

Under the progressive leadership of Board Chairman Wally Fassler and President/CEO Bishop Leon Ralph, LAOIC prepares its students to be competitive in job markets with a future—automotive, computer and sales. LAOIC has been on a mission, and it has succeeded over and over. Since 1993, it has graduated nearly 600 students and boasts an outstanding job placement rate.

Job training is only part of the story. LAOIC also includes life skills lessons. It helps its students become stakeholders in their communities with a positive outlook for the future.

On October 7, 1998, LAOIC will host its Fifth Annual Gold Key Awards Dinner at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. In addition to raising much needed funds for its programs, LAOIC will honor several remarkable individuals who have blazed trails and made outstanding contributions to improving the plight of disadvantaged and disenfranchised people. The 1998 special honorees include: The Honorable Tom Bradley, the former Mayor of Los Angeles; Monsignor Gregory A. Cox, the Executive Director of Catholic Charities; and Dr. Clyde W. Oden, President and Chief Executive Officer of UHP HealthCare.

The dinner chairmen are Kenneth T. Derr, Chairman of the Chevron Corporation, and Rev. Leon Sullivan, Chairman of OIC of America. The keynote speaker is Eli Segal, President of the Welfare to Work Partnership. The Partnership, which is comprised of 3,000 private sector employers, was formed to answer President Clinton's challenge to the business community to open employment opportunities for welfare recipients.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the LAOIC for its tenacity, determination and spirit. LAOIC deserves our encouragement, applause and support.

IN HONOR OF ROBERT "WORT"
REED

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my good friend and neighbor, Robert "Wort" Reed, who passed away recently. Wort lived in my hometown of Gillett and was the perfect example of a good neighbor and friend. He was a hard worker who never failed to pitch in when a friend or neighbor needed him. Wort was always ready to do his part for the community, school, church, or profession. He had a great sense of fairness and honesty. He was one of those rare people who took care of his own business and only wanted enough. He came from a family that lived the values we talk about every day on the House floor. If the measure of a great man is the children he leaves behind, then he is by all measures great.

Let us today pay tribute to a friend, role model, community leader, and Christian whose standard we should all follow. Wort will be remembered and missed by all of his friends and family in Gillett, AR.

CRIME CONTROL ACT SHOULD
INCLUDE ALL YOUTH UNDER 21

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my sincerest thoughts and prayers to everyone who has had to endure the extraordinary dreadful experience of having a loved one abruptly disappear. In particular, my deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Suzanne Lyall. Suzanne, a resident of Ballston Spa, NY, vanished from her life as a student at SUNY Albany in March of this year. Campus security, local police, and the FBI have all investigated the matter with no success. In this case, the authorities did not hesitate to report the disappearance to the National Crime Information Center and the State Missing and Exploited Children Clearinghouse. Notification to these agencies automatically alerts and links crucial information to the appropriate authorities nationwide. However, this immediate and vital action is not required by law, and I believe it should be!

Currently, the Crime Control Act of 1990 requires that all state and local law enforcement agencies impose a 24 hour waiting period before accepting reports of missing persons over the age of 17. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced legislation that amends the Crime Control Act to include persons up to 21 years of age. I feel that this legislation is necessary to ensure that all cases dealing with missing youths under the age of 21 are handled without hesitation. When investigating any disappearance, time is of the essence. My bill would allow law enforcement agencies to contact the National Crime Information Center and the State Missing and Exploited Children Clearinghouse immediately. This slight change in the law might make the difference in a missing persons case, and help to reunite a family. I urge all

of my colleagues to consider this important bill.

BIPARTISAN EFFORT ON ISSUES
RELATING TO THE STARR REPORT
EMERGES

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, I met with Speaker GINGRICH, Minority Leader GEPHARDT, Majority Leader ARMEY, and Judiciary Committee Chairman HYDE to talk about issues relating to the report from Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr.

In the past, I have had concerns about the partisan approach taken by the majority on procedural issues relating to how the Judiciary Committee will handle the Starr report. In particular, I was concerned about the prominent role played by the House Rules Committee in drafting the procedures we will use, and about why Democrats were excluded from the process of drafting those procedures.

While I have learned over the years to be cautious about promises made to me, I must say that I was pleasantly surprised by our meeting. Of course, we did not have time during our meeting to get into the specifics of the procedures that will govern our work, but we were able to agree that our approach must be bipartisan, and that these issues are so serious to the Congress, the President, and the citizens of our country that each of us has a duty to rise above party politics and do what is best for our nation.

During our meeting today, we agreed on a number of things. First, the majority agreed to increase the minority's staffing allowance from 4 investigative slots to 6 investigative slots. This increase means that there will be 12 majority investigators and 6 minority investigators. This increase in the minority staff will allow both parties to consider and analyze the report and its accompanying materials more carefully than would have been possible under the prior allocation.

Second, the report, at some point, is likely to be made available to the public. We still hope that the President's counsel will have an opportunity to review the report before it is made public and submit any additional views that he feels are necessary to a complete understanding of the events. Such a submission is extremely important because, as you already know, the grand jury witnesses were not subject to cross examination and did not have their attorneys present while testifying. As such, the witnesses' testimony was not subject to the rigorous, adversarial process that our legal system mandates for the purpose of eliciting the truth. If the President's counsel were given the chance to review the report and submit his views on the evidence before the report is made public, Congress would have the advantage of hearing both sides of the story and determining the facts based upon all of the evidence.

Third, during our meeting this morning, we decided that the grand jury materials accompanying the report, including all testimony and any physical evidence would, for the foreseeable future, remain sealed and available only to Congress. We agreed that this would be the

best course of action because the materials may include information revealing the private lives of private citizens, people who are involved in this matter only as innocent bystanders.

A number of areas of disagreement remain, but I am pleased that we were able to talk this morning in a bipartisan manner. We look forward to working with our colleagues across the aisle, and I fully intend to hold them to the promises that they have made to us.

ELIMINATE THE FAA'S LIAISON
AND FAMILIARIZATION TRAINING PROGRAM

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the frequent flyer program that is currently being run down at the Federal Aviation Administration. But unlike other frequent flyer programs, you don't have to earn your free flight in this program—all you have to do is sign up. What I am referring to, of course, is the FAA's Liaison and Familiarization Training Program (FAM), a program that was originally created to give air traffic controllers an awareness of, and familiarization with, cockpit and pilot procedures by allowing them to ride in the cockpit's jump seat. This program, while laudable in purpose, has unfortunately turned into a "popular perk" for FAA employees who are more interested in getting free air travel for vacations and personal reasons than they are in observing and learning about cockpit and safety procedures. The abuses of this program were so bad, in fact, that the Inspector General of the Department of Transportation recently recommended a number of reforms be made to the program. It is, in the words of one airline's slogan, becoming obvious that FAA employees love to fly, and it shows. Today, I am introducing a bill that will implement the Inspector General's reforms in order to curb the rampant and widespread abuse of the FAM program by FAA employees.

In an August, 3, 1998 memo to Jane Garvey, the FAA Administrator, Kenneth Mead, the DOT's Inspector General (IG), reiterated his concern over the "serious continuing, and widespread lapse of ethics in the Liaison and Familiarization program (FAM)." This program, which dates back to the 1940's, was originally created in order to allow FAA employees, particularly air traffic controllers, to ride in an airline cockpit's jump seat in order to become familiar with the environment in which pilots operate. However, over the past two decades this program has been increasingly misused by employees. And, I don't think I need to remind you, Mr. Speaker, that accepting gifts of free travel is in direct contravention to a host of laws, regulations, and executive orders.

Among the rampant abuses that were detailed in a February 20, 1996 IG report were the following: an employee that took 12 weekend trips in a 15-month period to visit his family in Tampa, Florida; an employee that took 10 weekend trips in a 9-month period to visit the city where he ultimately retired; an employee that took 7 trips to Fort Myers or Tampa, Florida, and 2 trips to Las Vegas, Ne-

vada, utilizing weekends and regular days off to travel; travel by an employee that utilized annual leave or regular days off to take 7 trips to Los Angeles, California, and 1 trip to Munich, Germany; and employee that took 17 trips to his military reserve duty stations; and 7 couples that took 21 flights for extended weekends and vacations. And, according to an article published in the Washington Post, 247,840 authorizations for travel under the auspices of this program were issued by the FAA between January 1993 and April 1994. Unfortunately, the FAA failed to act on this 1996 report, and that is why I am introducing legislation that will reform this program so that these abuses and ethical violations will not occur in the future.

The Inspector General's August 3 memo makes several recommendations for reform. I believe these recommendations are valid, reasonable, and absolutely necessary in order to curb the ethical lapses that have occurred, while still preserving the program's valuable training and safety benefits. My bill simply adopts the recommendations of the Inspector General and requires the FAA to transmit a report to Congress on the implementation of these reforms. Specifically, the IG's report makes the following recommendations precluding FAM travel that "(1) involve travel on leave days or days off; (2) involve scheduled leave of days off between the outgoing flight and the return flight when management makes an affirmative documented determination that such is for legitimate purposes and will not create an appearance of impropriety; or (3) involve foreign overseas travel for an employee in a facility that does not work oceanic airspace." In addition, the IG report makes the further recommendation that "appropriate controls must require preapproval of FAM flights by supervisory personnel and only then when the supervisor determines that the specific flight meets official training needs of the FAA."

It is time that we reform this program. The abuses have gone on for too long, so long, in fact, that the program is considered an entitlement by air traffic controllers in their contract negotiations with the FAA. This program has, according to the IG, become "what is widely understood to be a popular 'perk' for many FAA employees"—a perk that I believe needs to end.

TRIBUTE TO BUD WILSON OF
CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA FOR
THE COMPLETION OF HIS TERM
AS PRESIDENT OF THE INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS
OF AMERICA

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a fellow Californian and good friend, Bud Wilson of Chula Vista, who last month completed his one-year term as president of the Independent Insurance Agents of America (IIAA), the nation's largest insurance association. Bud's term as president of the IIAA is the crowning accomplishment of his many years of tireless effort and dedication to IIAA, the Insurance Brokers and Agents of the West (IBA West), his 300,000 colleagues across the country, his clients, and his community.

Bud's many years of hard work and leadership as an independent insurance agent have resulted in a distinguished career marked by outstanding service to his colleagues and his profession. On the state level, Bud served IBA West on various committees and as president in 1981. From 1983–1986 he served as the IBA West representative on IIAA's Board of State National Directors. In 1987, Bud received the P.S.W. Ramsden Memorial Award, the highest honor conferred by the California state association.

Later, when elected chairman of IIAA's Government Affairs Committee, Bud's passion for the legislative process resulted in four highly successful years for the organization. In recognition of his exceptional work, Bud was honored with the IIAA's Sydney O. Smith Legislative Award in 1994.

Bud was subsequently elected to IIAA's Executive Committee in 1994 and was selected as IIAA President last year during the Association's 102nd annual convention held in Hawaii. Throughout his time as one of IIAA's top elected officials, he became known for his effectiveness and devotion to the independent agents around the country and for millions of American insurance consumers.

In addition to serving his colleagues and clients, Bud has also been extensively involved in his community. He is past-president of the Chula Vista Rotary Club, the Chula Vista Jaycees, the Chula Vista Community Hospital Board of Trustees, and the Chula Vista Salvation Army. He has also helped with numerous other Chula Vista community projects.

On an interesting aside my colleagues will appreciate, Bud also has the honor of being the nephew of our former colleague the Honorable Bob Wilson of California.

I congratulate my friend and activist citizen for a job extremely well done. Although he is stepping down as IIAA president, I am confident his service to IIAA, his colleagues, and his fellow citizens of Chula Vista will continue for years to come.

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF
TEMPLE BETH-EL

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note that the Temple Beth-El, in the Town of Bethel, New York, is celebrating its 75th anniversary. From its beginnings in a simple barn, this congregation has grown through many tribulations into a thriving, highly accepted community.

The Beth-El congregation was formed near the turn of the century by a small group of summer residents who vacationed at the shores of North White Lake, which is now called Kauneonga Lake. The congregation was comprised of Jews from New York City whose faith inspired them to organize religious services during their summer vacations. The congregation, then called the Congregation Anchai of North White Lake, met in a hotel owned by Charles Kroner. Because the congregation was Orthodox, and allowed no travel on the Sabbath or holidays, the Kroner family went so far as to donate both meals and lodging to worshipers.