Her reward for violating district policy occurred at the end of the school year. The students had taken the district wide achievement tests.

And one day, the principal called in Isabel and said ''Mrs. Patterson, you must have a very exceptional class. They were 25% ahead of every other 5th grade in Long Beach.''

Isabel smiled graciously and accepted the compliment.

In her heart, she knew that her teaching phonetics put her class ahead of every other class in the city.

Jack and Connie Shainline have been most helpful to her in these years when some infirmities were beginning to develop. During what would be her last evening she had enjoyed dinner with her good friend Dick Gaylord, who was always there for her at any hour of need.

Cam Killingsworth perhaps expressed the feelings of a lot of us when she wrote me a note: ''Welcome home, even though the circumstances are somber. We all have treasured memories—and maybe some not so—of our Dear Isabel, but nothing can overshadow how much I learned from her. The difference she made in my life and the hope that I might spend the rest of my life striving to make in difference in young people's lives, learning from her extraordinary example.''

Cam continues: ''I spent some time with her the night she died and I am grateful that she appeared well. We went through stacks of pictures that she had been working on for awhile preparing then to send to various friends. We had some laughs and reminisced some about the warm memories that the images evoked. But the pictures that warmed her heart the most were of the university, especially her birthdays at the Center.

Isabel was pleased to hear the latest news of our grandchild—and I know that she would understand and approve why Nini is not here for her today. She is in Pnoenix with our grandchild who was born just a few weeks ago. It is the first opportunity Nini has had to spend a week there to help. Isabel knew that children come first and babysitting assignments by grandmothers are necessary.

Isabel Patterson, as we know, was a great woman, and a good woman, a great friend, and a rare human being. She touched the lives of every single one of us in this beautiful church. And I know that in the years ahead, many of things we do will be done because she came into our lives.

TRIBUTE TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the Church of the Ascension, which is located in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. I am proud to honor the Church of the Ascension here today in celebration of its 150 continuous years of service to its community.

The early days of the Church of the Ascension are remarkable. The church began in 1846, in the borrowed parlor of a house in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. It was officially incorporated as a church in December 1846, and the Sunday school was established in the following year. Services were held during those first years in the Sunday school room of another church, and later in the Odd Fellows Hall, until October 1853, when the first service was held in the Church of the Ascension on Kent Street, in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. Ascension bears the notable distinction of being the first church established in Greenpoint, Brooklyn.

Today, I am proud to report that since June 1995, the Church of the Ascension has been led by its first female rector, Rev. Mabel Burke Lewis. Mother Lewis oversees an active Sunday school with regular classes of Bible readings, games, and projects. There are after-school programs and a summer day camp, opportunities for adult education, and adult and children's craft groups during the year. Ascension continues to take a leadership role in the Episcopal charities campaign, and has recently begun an adult literacy program and an AIDS ministry in local hospitals. Mother Lewis has introduced healing services at the church and has brought back 12-step recovery programs, after a long absence. Under the able cadence of Mother Lewis, Ascension works with other churches to feed the hungry in Greenpoint.

The Church of the Ascension has become what it is today through a long succession of very inspirational, effective, and dedicated ministers who led Ascension through good and bad times. Too numerous to list here, their contributions to the parish and to the community are the reason the Church of the Ascension can today celebrate 150 years. From fundraising and eliminating debt, to staging Shakespearian plays, to rebuilding after fire, those dedicated and selfless individuals enabled the Church of the Ascension to answer the spiritual and redemptive needs of its parishioners.

It is for these reasons, Mr. Speaker, that I rise today to pay tribute to the Church of the Ascension for its 150 years of service to the parishioners and community of Greenpoint, Brooklyn. I ask my colleagues to join with me in this tribute and in wishing Ascension another 150 years of continued service.

RECOGNITION OF SAMMY GORDON, A LOCAL HERO

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, not long ago I received word of some remarkable work by a very special young man from my district in Trenton, NJ. His efforts were truly commendable and an inspiration to us all. And so I rise today to pay tribute to Sammy Gordon for his efforts to help the victims of last year's bombing in Oklahoma City.

Last April, upon hearing of the tragedy in Oklahoma, Sammy, then age 12 and a 7th grader at Holy Cross School in Trenton, decided he wanted to help the victims. And help he did. Enlisting support from friends, parents, and local merchants, but mostly by his own wits and gritty determination, Sammy managed to raise $3,300 selling lemonade. He chose a truly ingenious location—a local drive-by ATM machine—where the customers were both easily accessible and possessed of ready cash.

Sammy and his friend's original motivation for the endeavor had been the worthwhile goal of building a clubhouse. However, when Sammy heard of the hardships that the bombing victims were enduring, he decided that it would be better to put the needs of others ahead of his own wants.

Sammy's compassion and determination to relieve suffering, stands in marked contrast to the despicable act of wanton cruelty which inspired his efforts in the first place. When a calamity like Oklahoma City is intentionally inflicted, it defies explanation. In the face of such meaningless terror, all of us can be tempted to despair. Responses like Sammy's, however, offer the rays of hope we all need to prevent this despair from setting in. By his act of kindness, Sammy reminds us that this world is far more defined by goodness, than by the evil. The extraordinary success of his endeavor also reminds us that when we take a small step to do good, it can serve as a catalyst and big things can sometimes result.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, this young man demonstrated that personal acts of charity are indispensable to the kind of society we all want to live in. In contrast to Sammy's fast action, it took the Government over a year to decide what the appropriate legal response to this tragedy ought to be. Sammy and others like him stepped forward almost immediately, as only individuals can, and began to fill the overwhelming needs of a community which had been so terribly battered.

In these respects, the money Sammy raised selling lemonade, and forgoing—temporarily, I hope—the construction of his clubhouse, not only helped those who were directly affected by tragedy, but rather it helps us all. That is no small accomplishment.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I rise not only to commend Samuel Gordon, but to thank him as well. I wish Sammy and his friends the best of luck in whatever the future brings them. I believe that if they continue to put the needs of others ahead of their own desires, they will be very happy in their own lives and we will all be richer for it.

AIRLINE PILOT HIRING AND SAFETY ACT OF 1996

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation, I am pleased that today the subcommittee approved H.R. 3536, the Airline Pilot Hiring and Safety Act of 1996. The bill requires airlines to share pilot performance records.

Over the past 8 years, there have been six commercial airplane crashes—all but one on small airlines. According to the National Transportation Safety Board, five of these crashes are attributable to pilot error; 111 people were killed in these crashes. In at least four of these fatal accidents, the employing airline was not aware that the pilots had documented histories of poor performance with other airlines that had employed them.

One of these crashes occurred on December 13, 1994, when American Eagle flight 3379 on route from Greensboro, NC, to Raleigh-Durham crashed 4 miles short of the runway while attempting an instrument controlled landing in poor weather conditions. Thirteen