

The massive layoffs at AT&T reminded us again this week that indeed, the American economy is in two very different and often contradictory hands. We are, on the one hand, an extraordinary innovative people. We have the world's most productive workers. Our stock market is booming. We have captured the technological edge in vital and lucrative fields. We are the world's largest exporter. In many ways, the United States is the marvel of the international economy.

But there is another side to our rapidly changing economy. In the last decade there has been a loss of 20 million jobs due to corporate downsizing. One half of all Fortune 500 companies have seen dramatic changes in their employment. In the 1980s, 50 percent of those who lost their jobs and found new employment, did so at reduced wages. Twenty percent found themselves out of the workforce permanently. And a million of these newly unemployed found themselves without health care benefits or pensions.

A slow motion downsizing is taking place in many corporations across America which never makes the headlines. Middle class America hangs by a very thin and precious thread. Few of our families are more than a serious illness, a technological breakthrough, or a corporate downsizing away from losing a standard of life that took generations to earn.

We are becoming a nation of smaller, leaner, and much more competitive corporations. The layoffs at AT&T are the most dramatic expression of a growing phenomenon of corporate restructuring. But unlike General Motors or I.B.M. who were in serious financial crisis, AT&T is strong and profitable. Yet, AT&T has made a prospective decision about a problem it might or might not face in future years.

The impact in New Jersey of the loss of 7,000 jobs will be exacerbated by the loss of work for hundreds of contractors in the community that depend on the health of the company. These layoffs will impact families, communities, and state and local governments.

The question is not whether we can adapt to the changing economy, but whether we can do so fairly, while protecting our families, and remaining consistent with our sense of community. To do so, we must re-examine our responsibilities as corporate citizens, individuals, and government.

Every corporation has the right and the responsibility to control costs, maximize returns to its investors, to survive and to prosper. But, corporate responsibility was never to its sources of capital alone, but also to its employees, its suppliers, and to its community. Today's laid off workers are having a hard time understanding why their companies allow their chief executive to collect 200 times what their average employee makes per year. And community leaders are having a hard time understanding why they provided lucrative tax breaks to corporations to move into their areas, only to see their neighbors thrown out of work with little justification.

There had always been a sense of balance among these interests. Today's CEOs, however, have lost sight of that importance balance, and their responsibility to maintain it. In order to succeed in this new economy, corporations must correct the dangerous imbalance between the interests of financial capital and human capital.

For individual workers, it is increasingly unlikely that the corporation they join early in life will be the same one they end their careers with. The age of freelance workers is upon us. People must now identify less with a corporation and more with their skills. It means constant re-education, flexibility, and mobility. It means greater self-reliance.

And we in the government have a responsibility to adapt our tax incentives and educational culture in order to succeed in the 21st century. That means making innovative changes to our tax code and making education and training programs more accessible. Here's what government can do:

Establish Individual Training Accounts, where employees in good times can save money tax free so they have the resources available to receive retraining and continuing education to keep up with technological advances. Maintaining competitive skills is as important to individuals now as it is to corporations.

Give preferential corporate tax treatment for worker training. Ninety percent of all training of employees in America today is being done by only one percent of our corporations. We need to create incentives to make training American workers a rational business decision again.

Change the way we assess corporate taxes. Our current tax code treats equally: excessive executive bonuses; excessive compensation; and expenses like compensation for workers and retraining of employees. However, these expenses are not of equal value to society, they are not of equal value to the future of this country, and they should not be treated equally by our tax code.

Reduce capital gains taxes, to ensure that the middle class can invest and save, to finally get some security by accumulated savings. Only family savings will afford the American workforce the financial security it needs to change jobs.

Increase the availability of federally-backed student loans, and broaden them to apply to retraining, vocational, and continuing education programs. Universities must become more open to all generations who will need re-education, and their classes must become more relevant to the local economy.

Ensure that workers' pensions and health care plans are portable. Losing a job must not mean losing the security of a pension and health care coverage. Workers should be able to carry their pensions to other companies throughout their careers.

We are all in this new economy together. These are neither good times nor bad times. They are different times. And if we are like all Americans that came before us, we can make them work for our families, our community, and our country. Together we must develop good ideas and make sound decisions that help our people deal with rapid economic change. We must not allow the modernization of America to become the downsizing of America.

ELEANOR VILLARREAL NAMED WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 24, 1996

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Eleanor Villarreal, named "Woman of the Year" by the Gilroy Chamber of Commerce in Gilroy, CA. I know Eleanor and have had the pleasure of working with her over the years on matters important to the district I represent in this 104th Congress. Eleanor is being honored for her contributions to our community as a prolific volunteer and strong advocate for children.

Eleanor Villarreal is well known in Gilroy, having served on numerous local boards and for spearheading community events benefiting

Gilroy residents throughout the years. She was the first woman to become president of the Gilroy Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. She is president of the Salvation Army Council and a regular volunteer for the Special Olympics. In addition, Eleanor has lent her skills to volunteer efforts such as the Toys for Tots Campaign, the Gilroy Garlic Festival, the Exchange Club, Gilroy 2000, the Hispanic Cultural Festival and too many others to include in these remarks.

So very significant among Eleanor's contributions is her continuing work with the Odd Fellow-Rebekah Children's Home where she successfully organized a multi-million dollar campaign to fund a 20,000 square foot expansion of facilities. The new facilities allow this dedicated agency to better meet the demands of the troubled youths it serves in a more home-like setting.

Mr. Speaker, on February 2, 1996, the Gilroy Chamber of Commerce will honor Eleanor Villarreal at its 43d annual meeting and awards dinner. I would like to invite my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join with me in expressing gratitude and appreciation to Eleanor for her efforts.

IN HONOR OF LORI JEAN
MACHARA

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 24, 1996

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pay tribute to this year's recipient of the J. Robert Ladd Community Service Award, Lori Jean Machara of Mount Gretna. She is a shining example of the volunteer spirit that so exemplifies central Pennsylvania.

In addition to her tireless efforts as the manager of the Cardiac Rehabilitation Department of the Good Samaritan Hospital, Lori has been active in the hospital auxiliary and been involved with the Cornwall Children's Center. She is a member of the board of directors of the American Heart Association and coordinates several activities for the Junior Women's Club.

I congratulate Lori Jean Machara on a lifetime of success and accomplishment. The Lebanon area is profoundly richer because of her work.

ANNOUNCING THE 1995 RECIPIENT OF THE SERVICE TO MANKIND AWARD: LORI JEAN MACHARA

As the oldest of 4 children growing up in Natrona Heights, PA, it seemed that Lori was born into a leadership role. In the words of Lori's mother, "she was and still is a perfect child". Lori's formative years reads very similar to her present life and included activities such as class officer in grade school, high school class vice president, active participation in church youth group and Girl Scouts, and president of junior achievement. She was also an intricate part of a school newspaper and yearbook staff. Duquesne University was Lori's home for the next 5 years, as she received a B.A. degree in Nursing, a profession she chose to pursue to a post graduate level through Penn State University.

Lori and her husband, Lou, were married shortly after she received her undergraduate degree and at that time, the Machara family as a result of Lou's job, established residency

at Mt. Hope Estates, where they lived for approximately 7 years. Through her work as a nurse, Lori has lived her philosophy that encompasses a strong work ethic and character, contributing back to society that which she has been blessed with throughout her life. Lori served The Good Samaritan Hospital with her skills and talents as a medical/surgical nurse prior to her association with the Cardiac Rehabilitation department. Historically, the cardiac rehabilitation program consisted of a patient room converted to an exercise facility housing 3 pieces of equipment. Presently, Lori is manager of Cardiac Rehab, and through her leadership abilities, the department has grown to an extent that it is now housed in the ground floor of the Cardiac Cath Lab, serving over 1,000 community patients providing them with 21 pieces of equipment plus a universal weight set, nutrition education, and an exercise program to rehabilitate those who have experienced cardiac disease. The center benefits GSH employees as well, with fitness evaluations and personalized exercise programming. At a recent Pennsylvania work-site health promotion conference held in Harrisburg, PA, which hosted 275 attendees, The Good Samaritan Hospital's employee health program was rated among the top 4 in its content which includes educational and incentive aspects. In addition to her full time employment through The Good Samaritan Hospital, Lori and Lou maintain a family business at the Renaissance Faire.

Branching out from her responsibilities through Hospital employment, Lori also serves as secretary for the Hospital auxiliary. Upon her initiative, the Fair has a Hearty Fare Booth which provides low-fat and low-cholesterol foods. As Lori strives to promote intellectual development as well as physical development, she has been involved with the Cornwall Children's Center since its conception, in capacities ranging from a child's mom to a board member.

Through Lori who is a member of the board of directors of the American Heart Association, a Heart At Work program was coordinated. She is chairperson for both the Lebanon County Heart At Work task force and the Worksite task force for the Pennsylvania affiliates. She was nominated for volunteer of the year in 1994, and attained awards for The Good Samaritan Hospital, including Most Creative Activity for the Lebanon division and Heart At Work Company of the year. As the Heart Association National Representative, Lori has provided lectures in several states. Cornwall Lebanon School District attributes the success of their smoke free program to Lori Machara.

Amazingly, Lori is as active with the Junior Women's Club as she has been with every organization with which she becomes involved. Annually, she volunteers at the Mt. Gretna Art Show, chairs a kick-off buffet for over 80 people, coordinates the children's Halloween and Christmas parties, and instills family values and cohesiveness by organizing monthly activities, including educational trips, ski outings, Easter egg hunts, and Mother/Daughter banquets. Lori was previously a board member for the Junior Women's Club. The Albert A. Alley Developmental and Disability Services facility recently benefitted by \$15,000 due to the efforts of Lori in chairing an annual American Girl fashion show, an enormous project requiring a mailing list of 25,000 people.

Most importantly, Lori contributes most of her energies to creating family unity. She and Lou are very involved in their daughter, Jessica's, activities both in her education and gymnastic and dance studies. Lou has chosen one word to describe Lori and that is "stability". Through her caring, giving and enduring disposition, Lori has created a lov-

ing home environment. Of all of the functions that Lori has served, that which she does best is provide an excellent role model for her daughter.

Although Lebanon County may not be aware of her presence, Lori has touched the lives of many individuals through her active participation in her community. It is with great pride that the Lebanon Valley Sertoma Club honors Lori Jean Machara as the 1995 recipient of the J. Robert Ladd Community Service Award for Service to Mankind. May her example of selflessness emulate throughout the community and continue to touch the lives of our fellow citizens.

AWARDING CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO RUTH AND BILLY GRAHAM

HON. W.G. (BILL) HEFNER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 24, 1996

Mr. HEFNER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend this body for its passage of H.R. 2657 to award a congressional gold medal to Ruth and Billy Graham.

In a time when society is torn by the conflicting messages it receives, it is appropriate that we honor a couple whose decency and moral character is exemplified in everything they do. From their involvement with the flood victims of India to championing the cause of children through the Ruth and Billy Graham Children's Center, the commitment that these two have to others is unflinching.

No matter where the Lord has called them to go, they have been there, overcoming challenges which would have impeded the average person. But then these are no two average people. Citizens the world over could learn a lesson or two from Ruth and Billy. I, for one, am very proud to count them among my fellow North Carolinians.

TRIBUTE TO FATHER JAMES PAUL MURPHY

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 24, 1996

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man who has brought 15 years of joy to his parishioners at St. Patrick Church in Miami Beach, FL. Unfortunately, his archbishop has decided that his talents are more needed elsewhere.

I speak of Father James Paul Murphy, originally of Cork, Ireland. Last year Father Murphy celebrated 25 years in the priesthood, the past 15 of which have been spent at St. Patrick Church. Coincidentally, Father Murphy came to St. Patrick's the same year that I came to Congress. This parish holds a particularly special place in my heart, as I was baptized there.

Before coming to St. Patrick Church, Father Murphy was the director of the youth office at the chancellery of the Archdiocese of Miami. Since Father Murphy joined St. Patrick's he has continued his work with the youth in the community and is well liked by the children in school. He has formed a program for the youth in the parish, as well as a child care center.

Father Murphy administers to the elderly, the sick, and the needy of our community. He holds luncheons for the elderly on Tuesdays, likes to visit the homebound, holds engagement encounters, visits Mt. Sinai, and the Miami Heart Institute and serves as the chaplain of the Miami Beach Police Department.

Father Murphy's parishioners think he is a terrific pastor. He has said the pain his move is causing his parishioners is the hardest part for him and reminds him of the French song *Plaisir D'Amour*, which he remembers from his childhood in Ireland. "The joys of love are but a moment long. The pain endures the whole life through."

St. Patrick's and the town of Miami Beach are losing not only a wonderful pastor but a good friend. Father Murphy will surely be missed for the outstanding contributions he has made to his parish and community. Our Lady of Lakes will count their blessings when they see what a wonderful addition their parish is getting.

BUSINESS HONORED FOR COMMUNITY SPIRIT

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 24, 1996

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute a business in California's 16th District that has been honored for its generous support of local nonprofit organizations. South Valley Disposal and Recycling, Inc., of Gilroy, CA, was selected as Business of the Year by the Gilroy Chamber of Commerce because of its contributions to the community.

South Valley Disposal and Recycling, Inc., has been involved in many efforts to help the needy in Gilroy and Santa Clara County. Its management and employees have successfully promoted the biannual food drive for the Second Harvest Food Bank as well as charitable drives by the Salvation Army and Toys for Tots Programs. Their support has helped the nonprofit Odd Fellow-Rebekah Children's Home provide care and health services to children in crisis.

Additionally, South Valley Disposal and Recycling, Inc., is working to keep our environment clean by promoting recycling opportunities, taking a proactive role through public education.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to express gratitude and appreciation to South Valley Disposal and Recycling, Inc., as it is recognized by the Gilroy Chamber of Commerce.

A FOND FAREWELL TO AN EDUCATOR OF MORE THAN 40 YEARS

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 24, 1996

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, in Richmond Hill, GA, there was not much room to stand in the multipurpose room of the Richmond Hill Primary School as hundreds gathered to honor the woman that has had the most impact on this growing coastal community just south of Savannah. Frances Meeks has taught