

complex off Kisker Road had been a property insured and subsidized by HUD when neighbors began to complain about its poorly maintained and rundown condition.

As a HUD official in St. Louis at that time, Dribin sought to solve the problem at The Farms. He was able to acquire \$3 million from HUD to repair the project and got a voluntary deed from the owners in lieu of foreclosure, then conveyed the property to St. Charles County. Today, the property—now called Sterling Heights—is well maintained and provides affordable housing to dozens of families.

In previewing his job for the county, Dribin wrote that the problems of affordable housing are increasing in rapidly growing areas such as St. Charles County. Most residents are benefiting from the expanding economy, but “the working poor are finding housing options more limited.”

Dribin may rely on Development Strategies Inc., to gather census data for his study. The county had hired Development Strategies after the Flood of 1993 to study ways to provide replacement housing for the hundreds of people left homeless by the flood.

Dribin said that after the census figures are analyzed, he will prepare a comprehensive report “detailing the housing conditions and the overall need for affordable housing” in the county.

Further, based on the identified needs of the community, Dribin will present to the County Council “a detailed proposal outlining alternative strategies for implementing an affordable housing policy.”

The consultant added, “Forming a housing authority is only one option in a range of public and private sector alternatives to address (the county’s) housing needs.”

Dribin expects to have an initial report completed by mid-August and to issue a completed report by the end of September.

Recently, business leaders have joined in voicing concern about providing more affordable housing for their employees.

Gregory D. Prestemon, president of the county’s Economic Development Center, said late last year that he had heard from almost all of the county’s larger employers “that they see a need for housing to fit the needs of people of all income levels.”

Ortwerth has told the County Council that although state law authorizes a county housing authority—such as the one in the city of St. Charles—to construct, acquire, lease or operate housing complexes, that is not his goal.

Ortwerth said a county housing authority should concentrate on working with the private sector to promote the construction of affordable housing. He contends that such housing can be built so that it will maintain its value and does not depreciate the value of other residential properties in a community.

One purpose of studying the county’s housing needs is to qualify under state statutes to form a county housing authority. Earlier, Ortwerth had hoped such an authority might be able to take over the voucher program administered by the North East Community Action Corp., also known as NECAC.

In a related move, Ortwerth last year filed suit seeking a declaratory judgment on whether NECAC or the county should be eligible to administer Section 8 housing assistance to low-income individuals and families.

No judgment on the suit has been rendered.

Meantime, NECAC traditionally has administered the Section 8 program in the county—at least 575 vouchers at present—excluding the city of St. Charles. The vouchers are the equivalent of holding cash as low-income people search for suitable and affordable housing in the county. But even among the holders of the vouchers, many give up when they are unable to find places to rent.

TRIBUTE TO SARA FORDE AND ANGELA RETEGUIZ

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2001

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize two of New York’s outstanding young students, Sara Forde and Angela Reteguiz, on the occasion of their Gold Award Ceremony. On July 19, 2001, the women of Service Unit 35 will recognize Sara and Angela.

Since the beginning of this century, the Girls Scouts of America have provided thousands of youngsters each year the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. The Gold Awards represent the highest awards attainable by junior and high school Girl Scouts.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Sara and Angela, and bring the attention of congress to these successful young women on their day of recognition.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SPEECH OF

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2001

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY, former Congressman from the ninth Congressional district of Massachusetts.

JOE MOAKLEY was first sworn in as a representative in 1989. We know him most recently for his long service on the Committee on Rules—he was chairman of that committee from 1989 to 1994, and continued to serve as the ranking member from 1995 until this year.

As my colleagues have noted before me, JOE MOAKLEY never forgot his roots. Even as Chairman of one of the most influential committees in the U.S. Congress, he always had time for constituents in need, and junior Members of Congress who didn’t understand the intricacies of House operations. He was known for his ability to diffuse tense situations with a humorous comment, and was welcomed and appreciated by all for his direct yet respectful manner. As my colleagues from the

other side of the aisle have noted, we all thought of him as a fair chairman and an honest human being.

I began my elected service in the House of Representatives in 1989, and it was in that year that six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter were murdered in El Salvador. Congressman MOAKLEY was appointed as the head of a special task force directed to investigate the murders and the response of the Salvadoran government. It was this task force which first reported the connection between these murders and several high-ranking military officers in El Salvador. This report was of sufficient gravity that it resulted in the termination of U.S. military aid to El Salvador. The end of the civil war in that country is often attributed to his work in this area and the change in U.S. policy which resulted therefrom. JOE MOAKLEY did not have to take on any of this extra work. It didn’t help him get elected, he didn’t get paid any more money—he did it, I believe, because he felt a need to right a wrong, and this is how I will always remember him.

We here in Washington are all missing him very much right now. I know his surviving family and other relatives will miss him even more. To them I say JOE MOAKLEY was as good as they come. He was a true public servant in every positive sense and I stand today to honor this gentleman of all time.

TRIBUTE TO GILDA’S CLUB

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2001

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Gilda’s Club of New York City on the occasion of its sixth anniversary. Since opening its doors in 1995, Gilda’s Club has welcomed over 2,600 people—men, women and children—all of whom have been affected by cancer. The Club was founded in honor and named after the late Gilda Radner. While best known for her work as a comedienne, Radner’s legacy continues in Gilda’s Club as it carries out her dying wish: that persons, like herself, living with cancer would find a community in which to meet, support, and share with those also struggling with this deadly disease.

Gilda’s Club is a non-profit organization that provides free-of-charge services to anyone living with cancer, from those struggling with their own illnesses to their families and friends. Most noteworthy of these services is the Club’s innovative and effective Basic III ‘Plus’ program. The program focuses on providing members with an emotional and social foundation from which to draw hope and strength. From encouragement in Support and Networking Groups, to education in Lectures and Workshops, to family bonds in Noogieland, The Family Focus and Team Convene, the Basic III ‘Plus’ program covers all the bases in creating the network patients need to heal both emotionally and physically.

This network is made possible by the volunteers and members of Gilda’s Club, who strive to create a welcoming atmosphere for newcomers. These members and volunteers form lasting bonds while participating in Club programs. It is this unique bond that allows members to feel comfortable turning to the Club in