

and historian, who last month marked his 5th year of work at the Tampa Tribune.

In a world of 24-hour-a-day news stations, wireless phones and Internet connections, it is easy to get so wrapped up in the here-and-now that we forget the history that shaped our community and our lives. For 50 years, Leland Hawes has worked to remind Tampa Bay residents of where we came from and how we got here.

Every Sunday, Tampa Tribune readers are treated to Leland's "History and Heritage" page where he passes on a wealth of knowledge about Tampa Bay's rich and vibrant culture. Leland's detailed stories restore the color and texture to the events that we may vaguely remember, and open the door to a fascinating past that we had long forgotten. Most importantly, Leland and his stories make us proud of our community, our history and our heritage.

Those fortunate enough know Leland personally have only the best things to say about him. During his career at the Tribune, he has earned the upmost respect as an award winning journalist, a kind mentor to young reporters, a gentleman, and a loyal friend.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I would like to express my deep appreciation to Leland for his dedication to telling our story, telling it well, and preserving our history for future generations.

HONORING DETROIT SHOREWAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OR- GANIZATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization, and neighborhood volunteers and community leaders, as they celebrate the success of the Bridge Square Project and the renovation of the historic Courtland Building.

This tangible evidence of community renewal, fostered by the hard work, vision, and persistence of the public and private sector within and surrounding the Detroit Shoreway community, shines within the spirit of the neighborhood—from house to house, and street to street. Hope has risen in the form of the Bridge Square Project—twenty-nine new homes have been built, and over one hundred housing units have been renovated. This significant accomplishment is an example of the sustainability of the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood, and other neighborhoods within the Cleveland and Greater Cleveland area.

The preservation and renovation of the Courtland Building, built in 1897, is also a testament to the renewed hope, energy and possibility of this neighborhood. This structure, once a dilapidated magnet for criminal activity, is now a monument to the focus and work of a neighborhood, whose unity, action and determination have made Detroit Shoreway better, safer, and brighter place for everyone.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor, recognition and celebration of the residents and leaders of the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood, the Detroit Shoreway CDO, and all individuals and agencies connected to the

rejuvenation of this historical, diverse and significant community. Due to the collective efforts of those who live and work in the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood—an effort that spans many years—a community has been reborn. Out of the darkness of illegal drug activity, blighted neighborhoods, and streets in decline, new life has risen—held aloft by those dedicated to their community—and accomplished one neighborhood meeting at a time, one nail at a time, and one brick at a time—rebuilding the heart and soul of this neighborhood.

CALLING ON UKRAINIAN LEADERS TO ENSURE AND DEFEND FREE- DOM OF EXPRESSION, AND TO RESOLVE AND BRING TO JUST- ICE THOSE, RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF HEORHIY GONGADZE ON THE SECOND AN- NIVERSARY OF HIS DISAPPEAR- ANCE AND SUBSEQUENT MUR- DER

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to read my address to the attendees of a meeting-requiem, commemorating the memory of murdered Journalist Heorhiy Gongadze and calling for freedom of speech in Ukraine. This event took place on Sunday, September 15, 2002, in Washington, DC.

On behalf of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, I extend my greetings to those assembled today in Washington, DC on this anniversary of the brutal and tragic murder of Ukrainian journalist, husband and father, Heorhiy Gongadze. Your presence at this important observance, and your individual participation sends a clear message about our common commitment to the unalienable right to life, our devotion to human dignity, our love for the freedom of speech and our hope that these qualities will one day be secured in Ukraine.

As a child of a Ukrainian immigrant, I celebrated Ukraine's independence in 1991 and its separation from the tyranny of Soviet communism. My heart swelled with pride as Ukrainians broke the shackles of communism and announced their desire to live free. This Ukrainian passion for liberty and justice is, in fact, why Ukrainians and our Ukrainian parents and grandparents came to America. August 24, 1991, was a great day, but today's gathering reminds us that Ukrainians, eleven years later, are still not completely free. The murder of Heorhiy Gongadze proves this.

I commend the organizers of this event and all participants for their civic and political consciousness. This is an important reflection of the gradual awakening of civil society in Ukraine. As the latest Ukrainian parliamentary elections vividly demonstrated, a democratic groundswell has started in Ukraine, and the Ukrainian people will no longer yield to oppression of their liberty and human rights.

My colleagues in the U.S. Congress share our concern about freedom of speech and freedom of the press in Ukraine. If journalists are subjected to censorship in any form, and political parties are denied equal access to mass media, civil society cannot exist.

My heart aches for the spouse, children, parents and friends of Heorhiy Gongadze and other journalists who have lost their lives in the exercise of political speech. I call upon Ukraine's leaders to solve these cases of murder and render swift justice to the guilty. I urge Ukrainian investigators to fully utilize the talents and expertise of our Federal Bureau of Investigation, just as President Kuchma personally promised he would do in February 2001.

There is no doubt the Ukrainian people are capable of developing a vibrant democratic society. Your peaceful demonstration and steadfast solidarity is proof of this, and I commend your compassion. Your sincerity inspires my colleagues and me in the Congress to pledge our continued and tireless support for a mature and durable democracy in Ukraine.

May God bless you all and may He bless Ukraine and the United States of America.

IN MEMORY OF EDITH SCHERMER FREIDENRICH

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of a very special woman, Edith Schermer Freidenrich who passed away on January 4, 2001.

Edith, the daughter of Joseph and Jenny Schermer, was born in Seattle, WA, on March 14, 1910. She studied nursing at the University of Washington before moving to San Francisco, where she married her husband of 44 years David Freidenrich on December 17, 1933.

Mr. Speaker, Edith's family was her pride and joy. She was the mother of three sons David Jr., John, and Dennis, the grandmother of seven and great grandmother to three.

Edith was an active school volunteer, an avid reader, a bridge player, and seasoned traveler. She was passionately engaged in the Democratic party and its principles. She passed on this love of politics and compassion to her children who continue their mother's legacy of community and political activism.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring the memory of Edith Schermer Freidenrich and to give thanks for all she did throughout her life to make her community and our country better for human kind.

WELCOMING MADAME CHEN WU SUE-JEN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today H. Res. 533, a resolution welcoming Madame Chen Wu Sue-jen visit Taiwan to Washington. Madame Chen's visit comes at an important moment in our Nation's relationship with Taiwan and the People's Republic of China, PRC. Although the United States has repeatedly asked Beijing to resolve its difficulties with Taiwan through peaceful means, the

Chinese military has placed hundreds of ballistic missiles on the coast of China aimed at Taiwan. To make matters worse China is building more and more of them. The communist authorities portray the peaceful cause of Taiwan independence as a terrorist movement. Nothing could be further from the truth. Taiwan threatens no one. On the contrary Taiwan has been 100 percent supportive of the war against terrorism and generously gave humanitarian support for the new Afghan Government. China on the other hand helped the Taliban build a 14,000 secure telephone line system.

China has also assisted Iraq in building a fiber optic communications network that is used by the Iraqi military. It is clear who supports terrorism and who does not.

First Lady Chen Wu will be bringing with her a strong message from her husband and the people of Taiwan that Taiwan's cooperation with the United States in the antiterrorism campaign will continue and be strengthened further. This is the sort of mature behavior that the world has come to expect from Taiwan. We hope that Beijing will soon follow in Taiwan's footsteps and become a truly constructive member of the world community. Such a change in behavior will benefit the Chinese and Taiwanese people and the region and the world as a whole. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to vote for H. Res. 533, and welcome Madame Chen to the United States. I ask that the full text of H. Res. 533 be printed at this point in the RECORD.

H. RES. 533

Whereas Taiwan's First Lady Chen Wu Sue-jen, wife and political partner to her husband President Chen Shui-bian, has been unwaveringly and courageously striving for justice, human rights, and democracy in Taiwan and has herself held a seat in the Legislative Yuan;

Whereas Taiwan is now a model vibrant democracy an one of the top ten trading partners of the United States;

Whereas supporting democracy, human rights, and free market economies has been a longstanding policy of the United States;

Whereas the Government and people in Taiwan have consistently provided tremendous support and generous contributions to the United States after the terrorist attacks against the United States that occurred on September 11, 2001;

Whereas First Lady Chen Wu was one of the main forces behind Taiwan's charity and humanitarian assistance for the victims of the terrorist attacks;

Whereas First Lady Chen Wu will visit the United States beginning on September 22, 2002, and will bring with her a strong message from her husband and the people of Taiwan that Taiwan's cooperation with the United States in this joint anti-terrorism campaign will continue and be further strengthened;

Whereas First Lady Chen Wu, on behalf of President Chen Shui-bian, visited France in November 2001 to receive the International Human Rights Award; and

Whereas First Lady Chen Wu, confined to a wheelchair due to a tragic traffic accident during a political campaign, is a strong and effective advocate for Taiwan's physically challenged citizens: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives extends its warmest welcome to Taiwan's First Lady Chen Wu Sue-jen during her visit to Washington, D.C., in September 2002.

CONTINUING CRISIS IN FOSTER CARE

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, most of us favor federal spending to promote the safety, well-being, and stability of children in the child welfare system. Yet in too many states, federal funds are being used to finance dysfunctional child welfare systems, often operating in violation of federal laws. We cannot continue to perpetuate a system that fails to protect children or their families or provide necessary services and safeguards.

In the following article, The Miami Herald reports that 183 employees of Florida's Department of Children and Families (DCF) had committed felonies, including child molestation, child abuse, sex crimes and drug dealing. In the report, a DCF official acknowledges that "the most vulnerable people in our community are trusted to people in circumstances where there is a potential for these kinds of background."

In Florida and across the nation, state, county and local agencies are facing difficulties in recruiting, retaining, training and supervising child welfare workers. Having poorly trained, overworked, underpaid, caseworkers leads to massive turnovers, which, in turn, exacerbates the challenge of accountability in a system responsible for safety and well being of children.

The child welfare system must be reformed to improve the delivery of mandated services, the efficient operation of accountability systems, and successful permanent placements for children. In addition, there must be immediate and sustained oversight of the child welfare programs by the Department of Health and Human Services, and by state governments.

The article follows:

[From the Miami Herald, Sept. 8, 2002]

STATE CHILD-WELFARE PAYROLL INCLUDES EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE CRIMINAL PASTS
(By David Kidwell, Jason Grotto and Tere Figueras)

Florida's embattled child-welfare agency—the Department of Children & Families—employs at least 183 people who have been arrested and punished for an array of felonies including child molestation, child abuse, sex crimes, drug dealing, even welfare fraud against the agency itself, a Herald investigation has found.

For instance, the head of the agency's data-security team in Tallahassee is listed on the state's list of sexual predators for molesting a 5-year-old boy.

In other cases, the crimes committed by DCF employees are directly relevant to the positions of trust they now hold.

In Miami, the director of rehabilitative services for a mental hospital has twice been arrested for cocaine buys.

In Chattahoochee, a man who supervises mental patients was charged with attempted first-degree murder in 1986 for firing a shot at his wife and racking a shotgun at her as she cowered with their son in a closet. He pleaded no contest to lesser charges.

In Kissimmee, the DCF hired a child-abuse investigator who two years earlier was convicted of violating a restraining order issued after she threw a brick through her ex-boy-

friend's living room window and smashed his car windshield with a tire iron.

In Gainesville, a night Supervisor at a home for the developmentally disabled was convicted in 1994 in a string of six burglaries at an apartment complex where her job as a maid gave her access to a pass key.

In Tampa, a family services counselor was allowed to keep her job despite charges that she beat up her 68-year-old mother in the front yard during an argument.

Administrators of the DCF—already beleaguered by criticism over the agency's handling of cases involving missing children that led to the resignation of department Secretary Kathleen Kearney—say they have worked hard to screen employees.

In most cases, they say, the agency was aware of the charges and thoroughly reviewed the backgrounds of the employees to make sure their lives were back on track and that DCF clients would not be imperiled. "In a perfect world, none of our employees would have any kind of criminal past," said Tim Botcher, a DCF spokesman in Tallahassee. "But we just know that is unrealistic. In reality, we are no different that any other large organization." He said the 183 employees found by The Herald should be considered in the context of an enormous agency with 24,000 employees statewide. "When it comes to our attitude on employees who have broken the law, we have considered the offenses and acted accordingly."

The DCF, however, had not complied with Herald requests to provide personnel files to verify many of the agency's actions in these cases. DCF administrators acknowledged that in some cases the agency did not know about the criminal pasts of its employees.

This week, three submitted their resignations after Herald inquiries. They include the Miami rehabilitative services director, a human-services worker at Florida State Hospital in Chattahoochee who pleaded no contest to selling cocaine in 1994, and a human-services analyst in Miami caught in an insurance-fraud scheme in 1997.

DIDN'T DISCLOSE

DCF administrators said each of them failed to disclose their arrests to the DCF as required by the agency.

Among the 183 employees charged were three who have been punished for child abuse, 22 for grand theft, seven for aggravated battery, two for DUI manslaughter, three for dealing drugs, 10 for aggravated assault with a weapon and nine for welfare fraud.

The Herald also found one man, a \$61,446-per-year supervisor in the DCF's data-processing center in Tallahassee, on Florida's registry of sexual predators.

Carl Avery Anderson, 43, was hired in 1988 while he was still on house arrest for molesting a 5-year old boy in his care. According to police records, he admitted to the charges and pleaded no contest to lewd and lascivious assault on a child in 1987. The charges cost Anderson his data job at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Anderson now insists he is innocent and that police tricked him into a confession. "I have never been in trouble in my life," he told The Herald. "If I had tried to fight that . . . maybe I could have gotten off. I pleaded because I was ignorant. People who know me know I didn't do this."

DATA SECURITY

He is now head of the DCF's data-security team, where he supervises three others and is responsible for making sure the agency's enormous stockpile of sensitive and private information remains that way.

"He has been an excellent employee who has been promoted during his career here," Botcher said. "It would be a concern of ours