

He was known for his ability to work with all people. The late Floyd McKissick, Sr., himself an attorney in Oxford, once said of Mayor Currin, that he was a "man of vision." He said the Mayor, "had the nature and capacity to treat a man fairly. He converted Christianity to the political arena." Indeed, despite his many activities and responsibilities, he still found time to teach Sunday School class for more than 40 years.

His years of service were perhaps captured best, in his own words. He said, "The City of Oxford has improved, not because of me or the commissioners, but because of the people in this Town cared, and still do." Then, he added, "That's why Oxford has come so far—the people."

Mayor Currin was a devoted husband and loving father, whose son, also a lawyer, practiced with him in Oxford for many years. I know his wife, Doris; his son, Hugh Martin, Jr.; his daughter, Patricia Currin Mangum; and his two granddaughters will miss him dearly. All who knew him were touched by his humility, strength of character and faith in God. He was loved and well respected.

God's finger has gently touched Mayor Currin, and he now sleeps. I am confident that he has left a lasting impression on those who came to know him, and the principles that guided him will now serve as guideposts for those he leaves behind. He shall surely be missed. I feel certain, however, that he would want all of us to rejoice in his life and the time he spent on this earth.

ALEXIS DEVIN BLACK RECOGNIZED FOR SPECIAL PRAYER

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2000

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding accomplishments of one of my younger constituents, Alexis Devin Black. Miss Black was recently selected as the Grand Prize Winner of the "My Prayer for America" contest conducted by KQCV, a Christian radio station in Oklahoma City. I would like to draw my colleagues' attention to this 13-year-old's eloquent prose, My Prayer for America, which outlines the characteristics that many hope our future America will acquire. Miss Black's special prayer follows:

MY PRAYER FOR AMERICA
(BY ALEXIS DEVIN BLACK)

Dear God,
My prayer for America comes from younger lips, but it speaks the truth of experience. I pray countless things for America, but above all I pray America come back to its forefather's beliefs. America's history speaks many things, but one that was spoken so clearly from the beginning was You. I pray that America will look at America and stop trying to save a world from problems that arise from some of its own influences.

My prayer for America comes from sighted eyes, but it has looked through blind ones. I pray America will realize that all people are truly created equal and though some may be different, that does not make them a lesser

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

person. I pray that one day a disability can be ignored and a person recognized.

My prayer for America comes from a stable home, but it can easily recognize a broken one. America has created a chicken exit for those who cannot handle marriage. They call it divorce. I pray that even if couples only "stay together for the kids" that they will stay together, not just for their children, but for You.

My prayer for America is one of hope, but it knows degeneration. America has degenerated in every possible and driven God away, therefore falling into its present state. I pray we will, as Americans, take responsibility for our actions and stop blaming our country. For a country can be no stronger, or righteous than its citizens. Amen

TWA FLIGHT 800

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2000

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the families of those passengers killed in TWA Flight 800. It has been four years since the Boeing 747 exploded over the ocean, 10 miles from Smith Point Park in Long Island, killing all 229 passengers and crew. Yesterday, the families of those aboard came together on the anniversary of the July 17, 1996, crash to remember their loved ones and to break ground on the memorial that will honor the memory of all those who were lost on that fateful night four years ago.

The memorial will have the names of all 229 people killed on Flight 800 chiseled into a curving slab of black granite, the centerpiece of a 2-acre garden that is scheduled for completion on the fifth anniversary of the crash one year from now. The memorial will provide a place for the families of the victims to go and pay tribute to their loved ones.

These families will always remember the day the jet burst into flames at about 8:45 p.m. and then plummeted into the dark waters. What ensued was a massive search over five square miles of debris in the open ocean. Hours later, the Coast Guard and rescue workers began the sad, sad task of turning their rescue mission into a recovery mission.

While the cause of the crash remains uncertain, the end result is still the same. Families that were once happy and complete still experience a deep sense of loss that endures. Life will continue for the parents, husbands, wives and children of those lost and though the years will pass, these families will never again be whole.

On this anniversary of TWA Flight 800, I encourage everyone to pause and remember the victims and their families. Remember those who waited so many hours only to learn that there was no hope for survivors. These are the people that struggle to make it through every day without those who were lost. For most of us, the events of that day have begun to fade into vague memory. For the families devastated by this tragedy, the memories will be forever vivid and full of pain. Let us take this day to rededicate ourselves to the memory of those lost on this day in 1996.

July 18, 2000

**A TRIBUTE TO THE PHILLIP
WHITE FAMILY REUNION**

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2000

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a proud example of American family values, the Phillip White Family Reunion.

Phillip White, Sr., was born a South Carolina slave in 1810. By 1870, he and his wife Elizabeth had established roots in Newnan, Corveta County, Georgia. They gave birth to four children during slavery, and one other child four years after the end of the civil war. Amazingly, they kept their family group together while enduring that most evil of institutions. Their model of love of family endures to this day.

Since that time, the Phillip White Family has established itself in many states in this great nation, including Maryland, Michigan, Georgia, Ohio, California, Connecticut, New York, and especially in my own District in Philadelphia.

Mr. Speaker, the Phillip White Family began holding its reunions on the fourth Sunday in July in the early 1900's in Monroe, Georgia. In 1969, these family meetings evolved into today's Phillip White Family Reunion.

Each year, the reunion is held in a different city. Fittingly, the first White Family Reunion of the new millennium will be held in America's First City, my own Philadelphia. I am proud to welcome this great family to our fine city and I invite all my colleagues to join me in honoring them today.

**MARGARET M. GENERALI K-5
SCHOOL**

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2000

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker and my distinguished colleagues, I ask that you join me today in recognizing the achievements of a group of youngsters from the Margaret M. Generali K-5 School in Waterbury, Connecticut. The students, along with their student council advisor, Mrs. Laura Dunlap, succeeded in raising over \$1,500 for the National World War II Memorial.

Mrs. Dunlap and the schools' student council members worked for two months at their fundraising campaign, including \$1,000 raised standing outside a local grocery store. Moreover, the students did not merely rely on adults to donate money; \$563 was given to the fundraising effort by their fellow classmates from Generali School.

At a time when young people are often tempted in harmful directions, it is especially important to acknowledge and reward positive efforts made by our newest generation. The students of Margaret M. Generali K-5 School are the very youngest in our public school system. Yet, through their fundraising, they have demonstrated an understanding and patriotism that is a credit to any age group.

These youngsters clearly recognize the contributions of the millions of men and women who fought and died in a war fifty years before they were born. They decided to make it their goal to help build a memorial honoring those courageous heroes of World War II.

On behalf of the House of Representatives and World War II Veterans and their families throughout our great nation, I want to thank the students of the Margaret M. Generali K-5 School for their hard work, their commitment, and their patriotism. It is gratifying to know that these industrious, bright, young Americans will be the ones leading America in the future.

AIMEE'S LAW

SPEECH OF

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, the amended version of H.R. 894, which we are considering today does not include the section in the original bill that provided compensation to the victims of the crimes covered under this bill. This section, which would have transferred \$100,000 to each victim of these crimes, was removed from the legislation over a year ago. In fact, the version of Aimee's Law that the House passed by a vote of 412 to 15 on June 16, 1999, as an amendment to the Juvenile Crime Bill (H.R. 1501), also did not contain the \$100,000 transfer section. Although I believe strongly that victims of recidivist crime deserve compensation, out of deference to Members who raised concerns that this could complicate the administration of the act, the section was removed. Additionally, the comments provided by the Department of Justice [DOJ] on the transfer section apply to Aimee's Law as introduced, not the current version, and should also be discarded.

The amended version of H.R. 894 simply provides additional funding to states that convict a murderer, rapist, or child molester, if that criminal had previously been convicted of one of those same crimes in a different state. The cost of prosecuting and incarcerating the criminal would be deducted from the Federal crime assistance funds intended to go to the first state, and instead be given to the second state that obtained the conviction. This is fair. Most would agree that a state that releases a violent predator who commits another murder, rape or sex offense in another state should be held responsible for their actions.

As to the administration of Aimee's Law, if you can operate a calculator, you can perform the calculations required to implement the bill. DOJ conducts far more complicated calculations than those required under H.R. 894. Smartly, the bill provides DOJ with maximum flexibility in administering the act. DOJ may use different sources of Federal assistance to implement the transfer provision of the act. The burden on the states is minimal. The act requires DOJ to consult with the chief executive of the state affected to establish a payment schedule. In any event, states should seize the initiative and respond to this law by

keeping dangerous rapists, murderers, and child molesters behind bars until they are no longer a threat to society.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the following endorsements and editorials for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

GRAND LODGE, FRATERNAL ORDER
OF POLICE®,
Washington, DC, July 10, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am writing this letter to advise you of the strong support of the more than 290,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police for H.R. 894, "Aimee's Law: No Second Chances for Murderers, Rapists or Child Molesters Act," which we understand will be brought to the House floor tomorrow under suspension of the rules.

The F.O.P. has been working closely with the bill's sponsor, Congressman Matt Salmon (R-AZ), for several years now. The legislation passed the House as an amendment to H.R. 1501, the "Consequences for Juvenile Offenders Act of 1999," by a 412-15 vote and passed the Senate as an amendment to S. 254, the "Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Accountability and Rehabilitation Act" by an 81-17 vote. Clearly, this is a bill for which there is broad bipartisan agreement.

This bill as amended will provide additional funding to States that convict a murderer, rapist or child molester, if that criminal had previously been convicted of one of those crimes in a different State. The cost of prosecuting and incarcerating the criminal would be deducted from Federal crime funds received by the first State and instead be sent to the State that obtained the second conviction. If criminals are convicted in a "truth-in-sentencing" State and the criminal served at least eighty-five (85%) percent of his or her sentence, then there would be no transfer of funds.

Criminals who get locked up and stay locked up no longer pose any danger or threat to public safety. Recidivist rates for murderers, rapists and child molesters are high—but the cost to the victims and the communities they terrorize is higher still. Congressman Salmon's bill takes the right step by encouraging States to employ the death penalty where available and appropriate, or at least keep our most heinous criminals behind bars for the rest of their lives.

One of the most frustrating aspects of law enforcement is seeing the guilty go free and, once free, commit another heinous crime. Lives can be saved and tragedies averted if we have the will to keep these predators locked up. Congressman Salmon's bill addresses this issue smartly, without Federalizing crimes and without infringing on the State and local responsibilities of local law enforcement by providing accountability and responsibility to States who release their murderers, rapists, and child molesters to prey again on the innocent.

On behalf of the membership of the Fraternal Order of Police, I urge the House to again adopt this bill and send it to the Senate. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me, or Executive Director Jim Pasco, at my Washington office, (202) 547-8189.

Sincerely,

GILBERT G. GALLEGOS,
National President.

FROM THE DESK OF FRED GOLDMAN

I am pleased to lend my continued support of Matt Salmon's bill "HR 894"—Aimee's Law. I strongly urge quick passage of "No second chances for murders, rapists, and child molesters."

Violent crime has become part of our way of life in this nation. Every second of every day, a violent criminal strikes somewhere in our country. A violent crime is committed every 19 seconds. A girl or woman is raped—every 70 seconds. A child is molested—also every 70 seconds. And a child or adult is murdered—every 28 minutes. We are a nation besieged with violence.

Since the introduction of this bill in July of 1998, as an amendment to the Juvenile Crime Bill, approximately 825,000 women or girls have been raped—and an equal number, 825,000 children have been sexually molested—and more than 36,000 people have been murdered.

Less than 3% of our total population commit 100% of this violence. These people recommit their horrible crimes over, and over again—because we let them. The average time served in prison for rape—5 years, the average time served for molesting a child—less than 4 years, and the average time served for committing murder—7½ years. And then, these monsters are released, and out recommitting these same crimes again. Because we let them! We are a nation that continues to put violent felons back on the street, knowing full well, that they will rape, molest and murder again.

There are no accurate records maintained as to where violent felons go after their release from prison. Good common sense, however, tells us that many of these monsters will travel to different states and recommit their heinous acts—again.

Rapists don't stop raping, child molesters don't stop molesting, and murders don't stop murdering—just because they move to a new state. To take the chance that they might, is too big a risk. One more victim, is one to many.

Encouraging States, through the passage of this bill, to get tough on violent criminals and keep them behind bars for at least 85% of their sentence is the only smart thing to do. A released violent felon is a new violent crime just waiting to happen. The longer these people are kept in prison, the safer the rest of us will be.

Every step must be taken, no matter how small, to insure the safety of the citizens of this country. If the passage of this bill prevents only one woman from being raped, only one child from being molested—or, only one murder from being committed then each and every legislator can feel proud.

Don't wait until your loved one is a victim of violent crime. I can assure you, that is a nightmare you don't want to experience. Any delay in the passage of "HR 894" is unacceptable. Remember—lives are at stake.

BRUCE AND JANICE GRIESHABER,
Camillus, NY, July 8, 2000.

To: Congressman Matt Salmon.
From: Bruce and Janice Grieshaber.
Re: HR 894—Aimee's Law.

Our daughter, Jenna, was murdered on November 6, 1997, by a paroled violent felon. Her death deeply impacted two large communities in New York—Albany, where she was killed, and Syracuse, her hometown. Both communities rallied to force passage of legislation in New York that effectively eliminates parole for all violent felons and creates up to five years of post-release supervision. This legislation was dubbed "Jenna's