

May 9, 2000

IN HONOR OF SCOTT REDDIN

**HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2000

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Scott Reddin of Englewood, NJ. On Thursday, May 11, 2000, the Shelter our Sisters organization will be honoring Scott at their Annual Awards Program for all of his outstanding work as both a volunteer and dedicated advocate in defense of victims of domestic violence.

I am proud of Scott for many reasons: for the help he renders the constituents of the Ninth Congressional District as my aide, for his unbending dedication to his community, and for the spirit of giving that drives him to be active in Shelter our Sisters and a number of other non-profit, charitable organizations.

If you name a non-profit group in Bergen County, New Jersey, it is likely that Scott is either on their Board of Directors or active as a volunteer in some fashion or another. From his role on the Board of Directors of the Center for Food Action to his work mentoring young children as a Little League Manager, Scott epitomizes the ideal citizen-volunteer. Scott is always ready to give of himself, whether with his time, his know-how, or financially. He is, in the truest sense, a civic-minded individual, whose concern for others transcends his own self-interests.

Of all his volunteer work, Scott's devotion to helping women and children whose lives have been torn apart by domestic violence stands out. It does so because to be a part of Shelter our Sisters requires not only one's time, it also requires a big heart. Scott has an enormous ability to share the pain of victims of domestic violence and at the same time help the victims piece their lives back together.

As a volunteer with Shelter our Sisters since 1994, Scott has helped victims of domestic violence move out of dangerous environments and has mentored children whose innocence has been marred by violence. And by raising funds for Shelter our Sisters, Scott has ensured that this organization's work in delivering hope to those facing domestic violence endures.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of Scott Reddin and all that he has done to advance the worthy mission of Shelter our Sisters. I commend the leaders of Shelter our Sisters for recognizing Scott's outstanding achievements and I wish him the very best as he continues to expand on his volunteer efforts with this outstanding organization and the many other worthy endeavors he undertakes on behalf of so many people.

IN HONOR OF THE WILLIAM G.  
MATHER STEAMSHIP

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the launch-

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ing of the *William G. Mather* Steamship on May 23, 2000.

The *Mather* has had a presence on Cleveland's waterfront for nearly 75 years, first as a working Great Lakes freighter, and since 1991, as a floating maritime museum. The *Mather* is one of only four Great Lakes freighters in existence, boasting Northeast Ohio's proud heritage as a major maritime industrial and shipping center.

A former flagship of the Cleveland-Cliffs fleet, the 618 foot *William G. Mather* was a state-of-the art technology in Great lakes freighters when first launched in 1925. It is named for long-time Cleveland-Cliffs president and leading Cleveland businessman and philanthropist, William Gwinn Mather (1857-1951). The *Mather* made hundreds of trips transporting iron ore from the Upper Lakes to Cleveland's waiting steam mills. This is how the *Mather* was nicknamed, "The Ship That Built Cleveland."

The *William G. Mather* has had a long and distinguished merchant marine career. It was one of the first commercial Great Lakes vessels to be equipped with radar in 1946. It has been designated a National Historic Landmark by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers for its industrial first of a single marine boiler system, its computer-like, automated boiler system and its dual propeller bow thrusters.

In 1980, the *Mather* retired from service. In 1987, it was donated for restoration and preservation as a maritime museum and educational facility. Since 1991, thousands of visitors and area school children have "come aboard" and toured the historic *Mather* freighter.

The *Mather* freighter has served this community for years as "The Ship That Built Cleveland." My fellow colleagues, join me in recognizing the *Mather* as we celebrate its 75th Anniversary.

MARKING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE BOZRAH VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT

**HON. SAM GEJDENSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2000

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Bozrah Volunteer Fire Department. As a life-long resident of Bozrah, I appreciate this opportunity to congratulate the men and women of the Department for fifty years of dedicated service to the citizens of our community.

On May 10, 1950, First Selectman Lawrence Gilman invited residents to attend the first organizational meeting of Bozrah Volunteer Fire Department. Forty five people answered this call and many of them formed the core of the early Department. The Department's first truck was a used Mack pumper purchased from the community of Rye, New York. In May 1951, the Department was officially incorporated. Throughout the remainder of the 1950s, the Department expanded steadily. It purchased new trucks in 1954 and 1955 and built the first section of its firehouse in

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1956 which material that had been purchased using donations from residents in the community. The Ladies Auxiliary was formed in September 1955.

In the decades that followed, the Department grew to meet the needs of the community. It purchased larger and more advanced equipment. Its members became emergency medical technicians in order to provide immediate care to victims of fires, automobile accidents and other emergencies. The Department also dramatically expanded its service to the community in areas other than fire protection by sponsoring annual Halloween parties for children, supporting local Scout troops and offering fire prevention programs for all citizens.

Mr. Speaker, as the Department celebrates its Fiftieth Anniversary on May 10, I am proud to join in commending every member—past and present—for their bravery, courage and commitment to public safety. Over the past fifty years, the men and women of the Bozrah Volunteer Fire Department have answered every call regardless of the time of day, regardless of the weather, regardless of their personal commitments. Thanks to their dedication, they have saved many lives, protected countless homes and businesses, and made the community safer for every family. I wish the Department all the best as it embarks on its next fifty years of service to our community.

IDEA FULL FUNDING ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4055, not only because the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act is so important, but because what fully funding IDEA means for all students. When IDEA was first enacted, Congress promised to fund 40 percent of the increased costs associated with educating special needs students. Since Republicans took control of Congress, we have more than doubled the Federal contribution to IDEA to \$6 billion. Yet, this amount is still only 12.6 percent of the cost of educating special needs students. H.R. 4055 sets out a road map to fulfill Congress' commitment, more than quadrupling IDEA funding to \$25 billion by 2010.

By underfunding IDEA, Congress has placed an unfunded mandate on local school districts, forcing them to use increased general revenues for special education programs. Through H.R. 4055, Congress will not only help special needs students, but also free up the limited resources available to our schools which should be used for programs which benefit all students.

Our education system is at a crossroads. Some people in Washington, DC believe that the Federal Government knows what is best for our students, whether they live in Spokane, Washington or must survive in inner-city Los Angeles. I believe that local School boards, teachers, and parents know their students' needs best.

Earlier this year, the administration presented a budget proposal to Congress which

did not provide a sufficient increase for IDEA, but also proposed more than 10 new education programs which each would come with increased bureaucracy and Federal regulations. The Federal Government must first fulfill its commitment to funding IDEA before creating new programs which will only further burden school districts with paperwork and regulations.

I strongly support H.R. 4055 and fully funding IDEA which will lift this unfunded mandate from school districts and free their resources to serve all students.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE CAUSEY, COLUMNIST, "FEDERAL DIARY" THE WASHINGTON POST

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2000

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the House to join me in honoring Mike Causey, the venerable Washington Post columnist who wrote his last Federal Diary column for the Washington Post today. Most Members of the House have been unable to get through a year, and certainly an appropriations period, without consulting Causey. Federal Diary provided an always reliable place where anyone could be knowledgeable and quickly informed of all one often needed to know about federal sector matters. Especially for those of us "inside the beltway," a phrase coined by Mike Causey, his column was an indispensable resource. We welcome Mike's successor, Stephen Barr, and trust he will continue to make the Federal Diary a congressional habit as it has been for many others as well.

I ask the House to join me in honoring Mike Causey's 36 years of giving the Congress and the region the "real deal" on the federal sector "inside the beltway," and I submit for the RECORD his final column and Bob Levey's tribute, Hat's Off to a Top Colleague: Mike Causey.

[From the Washington Post, May 8, 2000]

HATS OFF TO A TOP COLLEAGUE: MIKE CAUSEY  
(By Bob Levey)

Today, his column appears in the Metro section. There won't be another. Mike Causey, longtime perpetrator of The Post's Federal Diary, is done.

My pal, my fellow scribe, my listening post, my wailing wall, is leaving a perch I thought he'd occupy forever. He is going to try columnizing in the high-tech world. The geeks had better get ready for a whirlwind.

You don't produce six careful, newsy columns a week for more than three decades without knowing how to hammer. This fellow may be a grandfather, but he can get it done like no youngster I've ever seen.

And he can get it done with surpassing accuracy and touch.

When your constituency is federal employees, someone always knows more than you about every topic. If you fumble the provisions of the latest federal retirement bill, thousands will point it out. Fumble often enough, and the gang will stop reading you.

But Mike fumbled less than most, and he built a constituency better than any. I say that because the sincerest form of flattery has been visited upon me for nearly 20 years.

People mistake me for Causey (even though he isn't very gray, and he underweighs me by 50 pounds). They've accused Mike of being Levey, too. I'm sure he grinned and bore it, with his usual wry comment about how immortal newspapering makes you.

How hard is it to be such a prolific columnist for so many years? Mike said it best many years ago, as I waltzed into the office at the spry hour of 7 a.m., only to discover him already hard at it.

"If being a columnist is such an easy job," said Mike, "why are we the only ones here?"

The Big Boss, executive editor Leonard Downie Jr., had this to say about Causey—and his output—when I asked him for comment:

"Mike Causey, of course, does not exist. Mike Causey is a pseudonym for a composite group of Washington Post reporters and researchers—1,342 at last count—with several dozen working together at any one time to produce all those columns."

Len said that "a marketing research firm" had been engaged to develop "the many male models we use to represent Mike Causey at interviews, press conferences, lunches, dinners and other appearances. Each is tan, fit and speaks with a subtle nasal accent."

Editorial writer Bob Asher and Metro editor Walter Douglas, who began as copy boys with Mike back near the Civil War, remember him as being very efficient, and a bit of a scamp.

Walter remembers the way Mike would answer the newsroom phone. Most copy boys did it formally and decorously. Causey would flip a toggle switch and announce, "Newsroom, Mike." "A bit unorthodox, but it got the job done," Walter said.

Bob Asher said Causey was a legend for running every copy boy errand route through the cafeteria. As for Causey's current office—a notorious six-foot-high collection of junk—"there's wildlife in there," Bob said.

Having sat in the next office for all this time, I can deny that rumor. Wildlife wouldn't survive—not

Of course, Mike always claimed that he knew where everything was. Since he never missed a deadline, it must have been true.

Of course, the Disastrous Causey Office led to moments of great merriment.

When Ben Bradlee was executive editor, he would wheel a huge trash can up to the lip of Causey's office door once a year.

"In two days," he'd bark.

And it would be done.

Although it would need to be done again in less than a week.

How bad was the crud? For years, Causey and I used computers that were linked somehow. If one broke, the other would have to be disconnected so the "bad" one could be worked on.

When mine broke one day, technicians tried to reach Causey's terminal to disable it. Like a bunch of disappointed explorers on the Amazon, they gave up after a few minutes.

Mike Causey invented the phrase "Inside the Beltway." He and a Post photographer were the first civilians to circumnavigate the Capital Beltway. He covered the first Beatles concert in Washington—as a bodyguard to "a more experienced (and fragile) reporter," as he put it in his official Post biography.

What Mike didn't say, there or anywhere else, was that he became an institution.

"In the mornings, federal employees have their coffee and Causey at their desks," said Bob Asher.

Indeed they did—thousands of them, across thousands of days. The guy is the Cal Ripken Jr. of journalism—even if he failed a tryout with the Cleveland Indians as a young man.

Mike even contributed to my wardrobe. One year, my wife stole a favorite Causey expression and turned it into a birthday T-shirt.

The front says: ANYONE CAN BE A DAILY COLUMNIST.

The back says: FOR THREE WEEKS.

Whenever Mike and I would pass in the halls all these years, he'd say to me, in his joking, conspiratorial way: "I'll cover for you."

From now on, I'll return the favor, Mr. C. Well done! You'll be missed in a big way.

[From the Washington Post, May 8, 2000]

TODAY'S THE DAY DIARY COLUMNIST TURNS  
THE PAGE

(By Mike Causey)

Well, there comes a time, and this is it.

This is my last Federal Diary column for The Washington Post.

I leave this job pretty much as I entered it: still suspicious of the statistics that powerful organizations pump out. For example:

The usually reliable Washington Post—my longtime home—says I produced 11,287 bylines. It seems like more than that. But who's counting?

Also, The Post says I've been here for 36 years—as messenger, copy boy, reporter and columnist. They got the job titles right. But 36 years? It seems like only yesterday. Honest.

So, how to sum up?

The most-asked question (other than, "Did a real barber cut your hair?") has been this: How could you produce six columns a week, year after year, without going nuts?

The answer is simple: For several years I did the Federal Diary column seven days a week. When they gave me Saturdays off, it removed all the pressure. Almost all.

Secondly, it was part of the job description.

Finally, I loved every minute of it. Honest.

Being here for nearly four decades has been an incredible and enriching experience. You can't imagine.

Over the years—in the line of duty—I have been shot at, gassed, tossed off a building. I covered the first Beatles concert and got to be one of the first people to circle the Capital Beltway. I was once run out of a small town in Western Maryland by a mob that, now that I think about it, had good reason to speed my departure from its fair community.

Being a newspaper reporter means never having to grow up. I got to see how things work, or are supposed to, or don't. The events and machines and tours were fascinating. The people—almost without exception—were wonderful.

Reporters get to meet lots of VIPs. But for most of us "beat" reporters, the best part is the so-called ordinary people who, more often than not, are extraordinary. Just quieter than VIPs. The reason they are so good is simple: It's part of their job description. They say (by, the way, in all these years I have never discovered who "they" are) that reporters are only as good as their sources. True, up to a point. Sources are critical. But the real secret weapon for a successful reporter has two parts:

\* The people (as in colleagues) you work with.

\* The people (as in readers) you work for. It is that simple, and that complicated.

Working with several generations of Washington Post types has been an education. Trust me on that one.