

work has focused on empowering the brave men and women who defend this country to become more and achieve more than they ever could have without education.

The VA education benefits that Mrs. Dollarhide has so masterfully administered have helped countless thousands of veterans and servicemembers to make their dreams a reality. I can say this from experience, as I myself have directly benefited from VA education benefits under the GI Bill program. In this regard, I want to personally thank my friend Celia—for her tireless energy, for her unwavering advocacy efforts and for her leadership.

At VA, Mrs. Dollarhide has spent her working days seated behind the large lawyer's desk that used to belong to her late husband, Charles "Lew" Dollarhide. Mr. Dollarhide also served as VA's Director of the Education Service from 1980 to 1986. Mrs. Dollarhide's service and that of her husband have been an exemplary contribution to public service by two remarkable people. For the betterment of veterans and their families, Celia Dollarhide leaves behind an outstanding record of achievement at VA and for this we are all grateful. Thank you, Mrs. Dollarhide, and best regards to you in your well deserved retirement.

NO ESCAPE, NO MORE TO GIVE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of my colleagues to a poignant and powerful article about the increasing violence we are witnessing in Israel. The author of the article, Sherri Lederman Mandell, is the mother of one of the two teenage boys who was found stoned to death in a cave last week. Her words provide us with an insightful look into the lives of Israelis living on the front lines of the violence in Israel.

We must not lose sight of the human element of the issues which we debate. The decisions we are trusted to make impact the lives of real people, a fact too often forgotten. This is especially true for the current violence in Israel, where personal testimonies are often drowned out by pools of rhetoric and propaganda. The fact is, Mr. Speaker, that innocent Israelis are forced to live lives full of fear of violence and terror. Confined to their homes by the violence that surrounds them, these brave people hold out hope that peace will occur one day.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this entire article "No Escape, No More to Give" by Sherri Lederman Mandell, and published in the May 14th edition of the Washington Post be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I urge my colleagues to carefully consider the tragic human suffering that persists in the Middle East and which the author describes so vividly in this excellent article.

[From the Washington Post, May 14, 2001]

NO ESCAPE, NO MORE TO GIVE
(By Sherri Lederman Mandell)

We want to stop listening to the news and watching TV. It is so unbearable that we

have reached the point of saturation; no more—no more listening to reports about our children, our soldiers, our husbands, our mothers, our fathers dead, maimed, dying, lost, suffering.

My friend Leah this morning had to pay a mourning visit to a friend whose husband died on Friday. He was on his way from Neve Yaakov, home to Beit Shemesh, and was found in the trunk of his car, dead. It's not clear whether the killing was criminal or terrorist. The astonishing thing is that we talk about this story and feel as though the world is lost. Then, 10 minutes later we're talking about our diets. Everyone I know is on a diet. Why? Because our weight is all we can control.

I am cleaning house, something I generally don't do. Each corner has to be swept, each bed needs to be made. It is a way of feeling that I can cope. My house is clean and in order, so the world is good.

My friend Shira who is a former SDS member, a feminist and now a therapeutic masseuse, has been reading romance novels—for the first time in her life. She also is decorating the walls of her house with shell sculptures that she fastens with concrete glue. She is busy designing waves and a sun. She is building a life of freedom within the confines of her four walls, the only place she feels safe nowadays.

Suddenly, everyone is home for Independence Day. The only picnic is one that is close by, one that we don't have to drive to with our whole family in the car. We say a special prayer in the synagogue on Friday for Linda and Bobby who were shot at on the tunnel road—shots were fired over their car, the road was closed and they turned around and went back, unhurt.

This is our freedom and independence in our own country. During Holocaust Day, you could hear the sounds of gunfire and tank fire from Gilo and Bethlehem as the prime minister made his speech at Yad Vashem praising Israel as the land where the Jews are free to defend themselves.

On Independence Day, my daughter read the names of 12 people from our area who were killed in the most recent battles. This is not Holocaust Day; this is not some distant battle. This is the battle of today.

We can try to deny it, but we can't escape it—a battle is raging around us. No matter how much we don't want to listen, we lie in bed and hear the shooting.

There is no way not to listen. But what is the message we are supposed to hear? It's not clear anymore. We want peace, but peace is a word that is not the absence of war. Peace has to have value in itself. We have been dreaming about peace. But we have been dreaming with our eyes closed.

Now our eyes are open. We can't escape the sounds of battle. And what is most alarming is this: The battle is a result of giving everything we could. To give more, makes no sense.

The writer's 13-year-old son, Koby, was stoned to death in a cave in Israel last week; she wrote this piece before her son's death, and it is published now with her permission.

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE WILLIAMS

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, and I am

proud to recognize Joyce Williams in the Congress for her invaluable contributions and service to our nation.

Joyce comes from the small town of Bono, Arkansas, but her resume shows that she has not had a small town life. In the first place, she is one of the best-educated people I know, having attended Arkansas State University, the Graduate Institute of Politics, Jonesboro Business College, John Robert Powers Modeling School, and of course, Bono High School.

Right now she and her husband Jim—who also is a wonderful friend—operate Williams & Associates Management Consultants, but I came to know her when she worked for me after I was elected in Congress. In total Joyce spent 22 years employed with the U.S. House of Representatives, and her experience in the offices of my predecessors was crucial as I learned how to represent the First Congressional District of Arkansas. Before working for our institution, Joyce had jobs in industry with General Electric and A.D.T., as well as in the bookkeeping trade and sales.

In addition to these professional responsibilities, Joyce somehow found time to be the Governor of Altrusa International, and hold memberships in the Altrusa Club of Jonesboro, the Order of the Eastern Star, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, the Girl Scout Council, the National Association of Retired Federal Employees, the Arkansas Democratic Women, the Craighead County Democratic Women, the Craighead County Election Commission, the Walnut Street Baptist Church.

Joyce is a devoted mother to her daughter Teresa Jo—now Mrs. Michael Watkins—and spends a great deal of time with her grandchildren Seth and Sarah Watkins, and she is a devoted daughter to her own mother.

I am proud to recognize Joyce Williams for everything she has done to help me and the residents of the communities that have been lucky enough to count her as a member. Today I want to express my appreciation on behalf of those people, and on behalf of the citizens of this nation.

PHIL KENT, PRESIDENT, SOUTH-EASTERN LEGAL FOUNDATION

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, those who would argue that a successful career in the news media and sensible conservative views are mutually exclusive traits have obviously never met Phil Kent.

Phil's service to his country began with duty as a military police officer in the United States Army, and as press secretary to Senator STROM THURMOND. After finishing his tenure in Washington, Phil returned to Georgia where he began a job as opinion page editor for the Augusta Chronicle.

His work at the Chronicle brought him widespread recognition and honors. Even his liberal opponents will admit, Phil's written work was always well-researched, well-written, and interesting to read.