

Lola was a wonderful, hard-working woman with a truly individual spirit. My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring Mrs. Lola Revis. She will be greatly missed.

[From the Washington Post, Dec. 6, 2001]

SHERRILL'S RESTAURANT OWNER LOLA REVIS  
DIES

(By Adam Bernstein)

Lola M. Revis, 97, who co-owned Sherrill's Bakery and Restaurant on Capitol Hill and was a key personality in an Academy Award-nominated documentary about the legendary eatery that brought it national attention, died Dec. 5 at the Sunrise assisted living facility in Fairfax County. She had dementia and a lung ailment.

Sherrill's, which opened in 1922 and closed in July 2000, was a relished neighborhood institution that brought together an enormously diverse clientele. Diners at 233 Pennsylvania Ave. SE might be politicians, congressional staffers, employees of the nearby Library of Congress, construction workers or mothers with their children.

Sunday was a notoriously hard day to get a seat, when the place was brimming with young professionals taking their time devouring the newspaper as well as their bacon and eggs.

Prices were low, and two could eat a huge and hearty breakfast for less than \$10.

Known for such comfort foods as creamed beef, eggs, meatloaf chock full of onions, fried fish sticks and T-bone steaks, Sherrill's never garnered rave reviews for its nuts-and-bolts cooking.

The exceptions were mainly on the dessert side. Its eclairs were "excellent," according to one Washington Post food writer. Others considered the gingerbread cookies sublime.

Part of Sherrill's allure was the legendarily abrupt waitstaff. At least one waitress was known to tell a patron to "sit down and shut up" or to eat his dinner before it got cold.

Over the years, some visitors interpreted such brusqueness favorably. There were those who even welcomed it as a sign of humanity compared with the robotic, humorless approach in more fleet or fancy chains.

Sherrill's was far from fancy. Its furniture was emblematic of another era, with its high-back wooden booths and banquettes upholstered with gold-glitter plastic. The linoleum floor dated back more than 50 years.

At the center of it all was a petite woman with black-cat eyeglasses and a beehive hairdo—Mrs. Revis. "When things break down, we don't call a repairman, we call an antique dealer," she told the Maturity News Service in 1990.

Many customers described her as the heart and soul of the place, a woman who believed everyone deserved a home-cooked meal, even on most holidays. She kept the place running 364 days a year, taking a break on Christmas Day.

For much of its existence, hours were 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., with Mrs. Revis taking four buses from her Silver Spring home to arrive at dawn to open the store.

David Petersen, a local lad, walked in one day and discovered a whole new world—more accurately, quite an old world—that resulted in his 1989 documentary about the venerable restaurant. The 28-minute film, "Fine Food, Fine Pastries, Open 6 to 9," was mostly funded by the D.C. Community Humanities Council.

"It's a place that contains time," Petersen once told The Post, "There was a different perspective on the way in which people gathered and ate together that was a complete anachronism."

He added: "I recognized a whole change in the rhythm of the speech people had among

themselves. The conversation. The movement. The way the light comes in—the architecture of the light. All the advertisements, the clocks, the appliances, the rib-trimming around the pastry cases, the booths."

Lola Mamakos, a Pittsburgh native, grew up in Washington and was a graduate of the old Central High School. Her parents were Greek immigrants, and her father owned a candy store that over time became Louie's Bar and Grill, about a block away from Sherrill's.

In 1927, she married restaurateur Samuel A. Revis, who became manager of Louie's. They purchased William Sherrill's diner in 1941 and kept the name.

The Revises ran the business together until Samuel Revis suffered a stroke in 1969; he died in 1975. By the 1970s, their two daughters also were involved, and all three ran it until Mrs. Revis retired at age 94 after falling and injuring her back.

The daughters, Kathyleen Belfield Milton of Fairfax and Dorothy Polito of Wheaton, sold the business in July 2000. They wished to retire, and Sherrill's had become too expensive to run in an increasingly gentrified neighborhood.

The end of Sherrill's became the subject of much mourning in the era of the low-fat latte, including a front-page Post article and television coverage.

The family sold Sherrill's to a developer, and a Ritz Camera now occupies the space. A Starbucks is on the same block.

Mrs. Revis once said of the business: "If I stay at home, I have to think too much, I'd rather get out and meet the public. It keeps me young."

She moved from Silver Spring to Sunrise in 1998.

She was a member of St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Washington.

Besides her daughters, survivors include five grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

#### A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JASON PAUL HUBER

#### HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Jason Paul Huber has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America; and,

Whereas, Jason Huber has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides; and,

Whereas, Jason Huber has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and,

Whereas, Jason Huber has kindly built a deck and set of stairs for Jefferson Lake State Park; and,

Whereas, Jason Huber must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award; and,

Therefore, I join with the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Jason Paul Huber for his Eagle Scout Award.

#### TOO MANY FEDERAL COPS

#### HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am inserting in the RECORD a copy of an article by former cabinet member Joseph Califano that appeared in today's Washington Post. I call this article entitled "Too Many Federal Cops," to the attention of Members. It presents a balanced and even-handed assessment of how successive administrations over the decades have expanded Federal police powers at considerable cost to our endangered civil liberties.

I wholeheartedly agree with the points raised by Mr. Califano, having spoken in this House concerning the same topic on many occasions. I wish to commend Mr. Califano for his timely and important piece, and recommend it to Members and others concerned with preserving civil liberties.

#### TOO MANY FEDERAL COPS

(By Joseph A. Califano Jr.)

As defense lawyers and civil libertarians huff and puff about Attorney General John Ashcroft's procedural moves to bug conversations between attorneys and their imprisoned clients, hold secret criminal military trials and detain individuals suspected of having information about terrorists, they are missing an even more troubling danger: the extraordinary increase in federal police personnel and power.

In the past, interim procedural steps, such as the military tribunals Franklin Roosevelt established during World War II to try saboteurs, have been promptly terminated when the conflict ended. Because of its likely permanence, the expansion and institutionalization of national police power poses a greater threat to individual liberties. Congress should count to 10 before creating any additional police forces or a Cabinet-level Office of Homeland Security.

Pre-Sept. 11, the FBI stood at about 27,000 in personnel; Drug Enforcement Administration at 10,000; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms at 4,000; Secret Service at 6,000; Border Patrol at 10,000; Customs Service at 12,000; and Immigration and Naturalization Service at 34,000. At the request of the White House, Congress is moving to beef up these forces and expand the number of armed air marshals from a handful to more than a thousand. Despite the president's objection, Congress recently created another security force of 28,000 baggage screeners under the guidance of the attorney general.

In 1878 Congress passed the Posse Comitatus Act to prohibit the military from performing civilian police functions. Over Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger's opposition, President Ronald Reagan declared drug trafficking a threat to national security as the rationale for committing the military to the war on drugs. (Weinberger argued that "reliance on military forces to accomplish civilian tasks is detrimental to . . . the democratic process.") Reagan's action gives George Bush a precedent for committing the military and National Guard to civilian police duty at airports and borders.

Given the president's candor about the likelihood that the war on terrorism will last many years, the administration and a compliant Congress are in clear and present danger of establishing a national police force and—under either the attorney general, director of homeland security or an agency combining the CIA and State and Defense intelligence (or some combination of the above)—a de facto ministry of the interior.

The fact that George Bush has no intention of misusing such institutions is irrelevant. You don't have to be a bad guy to abuse police power. Robert Kennedy, a darling of liberals, brushed aside civil liberties concerns when he went after organized crime and trampled on the rights of Jimmy Hoffa in his failed attempt to convict the Teamsters boss of something. He bugged and trailed Martin Luther King Jr., even collecting information on the civil rights leader's private love life, until Lyndon Johnson put a stop to it.

Bureaucratic momentum alone can cross over the line. After President John F. Kennedy privately berated the Army for being unprepared to quell the riots when James Meredith enrolled at the University of Mississippi, we (I was Army general counsel at the time) responded by collecting intelligence information on individuals such as

civil rights leaders, as well as local government officials in places where we thought there might be future trouble. We were motivated not by any mischievous desire to violate privacy or liberties of Americans but by the bureaucratic reflex not to be caught short again.

In the paranoia of Watergate, the CIA followed a Washington Post report for weeks, even photographing him through the picture window of his home, because he had infuriated the president and the agency with a story containing classified information. Faced with our discovery (I was The Post's lawyer at the time), CIA Director William Colby readily admitted that "someone had gone too far."

All 100 members of the Senate voted to create the newest federal police force under the rubric of airport security. In its rush to judgment, the Senate acted as though a federal

force was the only alternative to using the airlines or private contractors. Quite the contrary, policing by the individual public airport authorities, guided by federal standards, would be more in line with our tradition of keeping police power local.

It's time for the executive and Congress to take a hard look at the police personnel amassing at the federal level and the extent to which we are concentrating them under any one individual short of the president. Congress should turn its most skeptical laser on the concept of an Office of Homeland Security and on any requests to institutionalize its director beyond the status of a special assistant to the president. We have survived for more than 200 years without a ministry of the interior or national police force, and we can effectively battle terrorism without creating one now.