

commemorate the 100th anniversary of the dedication of its historic synagogue with a special Shabbat (Sabbath) service.

Thirty-two families came together in 1876 in Huntsville to form the Congregation and mobilized, dedicating their synagogue in 1899. I am proud to relay that Temple B'nai Sholom is the oldest synagogue in Alabama in continuous use. The Temple is also the only congregation affiliated with the Reform Movement in North Alabama and South Central Tennessee.

B'nai Sholom ("Sons of Peace"), the chosen name of the Temple, communicates the congregation's commitment to harmony and reconciliation. Temple B'nai Sholom has given to their community in countless ways. As members of the Interfaith Mission Service, the Temple contributes to the cause of religious tolerance in North Alabama. The Sisterhood of Temple B'nai Sholom should be commended for their efforts to raise money for breast cancer awareness and health initiatives through their design and sale of the L'Chaim pins. The Sisterhood designed the L'Chaim pin to symbolize Jewish support for breast cancer victims and survivors.

For a century, the Temple B'nai Sholom's commitment to the reform tradition has bolstered the religious community of North Alabama. Their established presence in downtown Huntsville is a testament to their perseverance and good will. I congratulate the Temple B'nai Sholom, and wish the Congregation a special centennial commemoration.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND ROBERT
NELSON, JR.

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who during his 19 years, has made many outstanding contributions to his community, Reverend Robert Nelson, Jr. Reverend Nelson, Jr. has served as pastor of Bethel A.M.E. Church West Memphis, Arkansas for 19 years. Through his ministry at Bethel, he has been able to establish the Bethel Christian Outreach Center which aides the people of the community with substance abuse problems. He also administers the Bethel Learning Academy, a childcare facility setup to target high school drop outs, low to moderate income families and children with special needs.

Along with his work for the church and the community, Reverend Nelson, Jr. also served his country. He is a three year army veteran who courageously fought in the Vietnam War. When he returned home from his service in Vietnam, he helped establish the Crosstown Fellowship in Crittenden County which holds services in the community every second Sunday. This ministry has helped several hundred families with housing and utilities expenses.

Reverend Robert Nelson, Jr. is the recipient of several awards such as the Arkansas Certificate of Merit for his outstanding service to the people of Arkansas while serving on the Governor's Arkansas Highway Safety Advisory Council. He has received several awards of appreciation from President Bill Clinton, Mayor Al Boals of West Memphis, the General Assembly, former Governor Guy Tucker, the NAACP and others.

Reverend Nelson is also a family man, who cherishes his family including his wife Mrs. Rita Wilson; four children, Marty Green, Ryan Nelson, Rashunda Nelson and Rachel Nelson; and two granddaughters, Renea Nelson and Raylyn Nelson.

When I think of someone we all should strive to be like, I think of Reverend Nelson. Through all his hard work for his country and his community and all the awards he has received, Reverend Nelson continues to be a wonderful, down to earth man who takes pride in his love of people and his love of God.

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD J.
RUBENSTEIN ON THE 45TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF RUBENSTEIN ASSO-
CIATES

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the extraordinary talents and contributions of Howard J. Rubenstein. This evening, some two thousand government, civic, and corporate leaders will celebrate the 45th anniversary of Mr. Rubenstein's firm, Rubenstein Associates, Inc.

Howard Rubenstein has been dubbed by Newsweek Magazine as the "Dean of Damage Control", one of America's foremost public relations consultants. His clients constitute a cross section of influential individuals and organizations, from Disney/ABC to novelist Danielle Steel, from the New York Yankees to the Duchess of York. Rubenstein's brilliance, insights, and innovative strategies have earned him great respect in the United States and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, my profound admiration for Howard Rubenstein is a consequence not of his public relations skills, but rather of his passionate commitment to using his talents for the benefit of his community and his country. His public service has affected a sweeping range of civic and cultural priorities. Mr. Rubenstein is currently an advisor to the New York City Commission on the Status of Women, and he is a member of the City University of New York Business Advisory Board, the board of directors of the Center for Democracy, and the Inner-City Scholarship Fund of the Archdiocese of New York.

Howard has also served on the Mayor's Committee on Business & Economic Development for New York Mayors Abraham Beame, David Dinkins, and Rudolph Giuliani, and he is currently a trustee of the Alliance for the Arts, the March of Dimes New York Chapter, the Central Park Conservancy, and the Police Athletic League. In an era when business leaders all too often fail to demonstrate a devotion to the needs of our society, Howard Rubenstein's contributions stand as a model for all others.

Mr. Speaker, one particular episode stands out in my reflection upon Howard Rubenstein's service to his community. In 1991, the Brooklyn community of Crown Heights exploded in a chain reaction of violence, riots, and ever-mounting divisions between the area's African-American and Hasidic Jewish populations. These disputes divided the city and received national attention, emphasizing the difficulties of racial reconciliation. Responding to a re-

quest for his assistance from Mayor David Dinkins and other city leaders, Rubenstein undertook the difficult task of diffusing the tensions between African-Americans and Jews.

He organized a "Peace Conference" in Crown Heights, and then planned a special "Neighbor to Neighbor" event at the Apollo Theater in Harlem. More than 1,300 people—both Jews and African-Americans—viewed a showing of "The Liberators," a film which depicts the liberation of Nazi concentration camps by African-American soldiers. The screening was broadcast live on New York television, while simultaneously 500 "Neighbor to Neighbor" meetings were held in homes and community centers around New York City to discuss race relations. Rubenstein's efforts were critical to restoring civility and understanding in Crown Heights, and I believe that they speak volumes about the character and commitment of this outstanding man.

Howard Rubenstein has come a long way since 1954, when he founded Rubenstein Associates, Inc., working on the kitchen table at his parents' home. In honor of the 45th anniversary of this event and in recognition of the outstanding contributions that he has made to his community and our country, I urge my colleagues to join me in extending warmest congratulations and our most sincere appreciation to Howard J. Rubenstein.

TRIBUTE TO STAPELEY IN
GERMANTOWN

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Stapeley in Germantown, a Quaker sponsored retirement community, as it celebrates 95 years of service and commitment to the community. Founded in 1904 by Philadelphia philanthropist Anna T. Jeanes, its mission today reflects the vision of its founder, to create an "abiding place, a refuge, a home".

Stapeley is a full-service, accredited continuing care retirement community that welcomes residents and staff of all faiths, races, and cultural backgrounds.

In an atmosphere of harmony, equality, simplicity, integrity, and concern for community, Stapeley serves over 200 older persons and includes 42 independent living apartments and a 120-bed skilled nursing facility.

Stapeley continues to attract new residents because of its reputation as a tolerant, diverse, and affordable provider of quality care for seniors. In keeping with its mission to provide high quality, moderately priced care to its residents, the Stapeley Healthcare Center maintains a Medical Assistance census that is 76 percent. Among the community of Quaker retirement facilities, it is recognized for its commitment to individuals who have exhausted their personal assets.

In recognition of its years of service to one of the most vulnerable segments of our community, I join the New Stapeley as it celebrates its anniversary and the completion of renovations to one of its original and historic buildings.