

as well as the Armenian student newspaper, Hye Sharzhoom.

Since 1988, he has served as the first incumbent of the Haig & Isabel Berberian Endowed Chair of Armenian Studies at Fresno State. Dr. Kouymjian has taught a wide range of subjects: Armenian, Islamic, Classical, and Byzantine history and art, Western and Oriental humanities, film, genocide and Saroyan studies. He also serves on the editorial boards of five publications in Armenian studies and the Board of Scholars of the Zoryan Institute, NAASR, and the Armenian Film Foundation.

Dr. Kouymjian has been awarded a Fulbright Senior Lectureship by the United States government to teach in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature at Yerevan State University in Armenia. Along with his many other accomplishments, he has been given the highest honor bestowed by the Armenian church to scholars and writers, the St. Sahag and St. Mesrob medal, by Catholicos Karekin I.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Dr. Dickran Kouymjian for being named "Man of the Year" by the Armenian National Committee of Central California. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Dickran Kouymjian many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO ESTHER K. SHAPIRO

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Esther K. Shapiro who will be awarded the Anti-Defamation Lifetime Achievement Award on April 4, 2000. This is indeed a high honor.

Esther Shapiro has devoted her life to social justice and civil rights. Her passion for human rights is longstanding. It began in the 1940's when Esther and her late husband, Harold, were evicted for hosting an African-American in their government-owned housing.

In the 1960's, she was drawn to the civil rights activities in the Deep South, and was part of the Michigan Friends of the South, an organization that courageously supported the efforts of Martin Luther King, Jr., the Freedom Marchers.

In her hometown, Detroit, Esther devoted her effort to win equal opportunities in housing, labor and politics for African-Americans. She was the first director of Detroit's Consumer Affairs Department where she worked to protect all consumers from abuse and scams.

Although recently retired, Esther Shapiro remains an activist as a consumer consultant to non-profit, government and business organizations, and currently serves as advisor on consumer affairs to Councilwoman Maryann Mahaffey, President Pro-Tem of the Detroit City Council.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this remarkable woman, Esther K. Shapiro, for her passion for human rights. I wish her good health and happiness as she continues to make this world a better place for all.

CONGRATULATING THE STEEL—HIGH ROLLERS BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Steel-High Rollers Boys' Basketball Team of Steelton, Pa., on winning the PIAA Class AAA State Championship. This is not the first time for these talented young men. They also celebrated victories upon winning at the state championship in 1998 and in 1992.

Starters Walt Chavis, Tanel Woodward, Kurt Cheatham, Joe Zimmerman and Scott Attivo play important roles on the Rollers. But it is all the players on the team who deserve the credit for this victory. These young men have sweated through hours upon hours of warm-ups, drills and scrimmages to become the great team they are today.

Coach Rick Binder is to be commended on training and shaping these young men into a formidable team. In just three seasons, Coach Binder has guided the Steel-High-Rollers to three District 3 AAA championships and two PIAA—AAA championships.

I must also recognize the communities of Steelton and Highspire for the support they have given to their hometown team. When communities join together in a unifying spirit, the sky is truly the limit. It is self-evident the amount of pride and support these towns show, not only to this winning team, but to their school and all of its fine students.

The Steel-Rollers deserve much praise for their victory. I know the U.S. House of Representatives joins me and the communities of Highspire and Steelton in honoring these hard-working and talented young men. Congratulations and continued success.

JEWISH WOMEN'S ARCHIVE MAKING VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HISTORY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to represent a Congressional District that is home to an important cultural institution known as the Jewish Women's Archive. The organization, which is located in the town of Brookline, Massachusetts, was established in 1995 to record and publicize the remarkably rich history of Jewish women in North America. Among JWA's key projects are a "virtual archive" that provides an on-line directory of source materials that are available on Jewish women in libraries and other facilities in the United States and Canada, and its Oral History Project, which is focused on the life stories of twentieth century Jewish women.

Another important JWA initiative, which coincides annually with Women's History Month in March, is the "Women of Valor" program, an educational and outreach project aimed at helping the Jewish community and, indeed, people of all faiths in North America, to de-

velop a better understanding of the accomplishments of Jewish women. Each year, JWA, in collaboration with Ma'ayan: The Women's History Project in New York, selects three Jewish women who have made notable contributions to our history, creates posters and other educational material providing details about their lives, and then disseminates the materials to more than 8,000 schools, libraries and other interested institutions. Past honorees have included Hadassah founder Henrietta Szold, trade union leader and social welfare activist Rose Schneiderman and poet Emma Lazarus. This year's Women of Valor are former Congresswoman Balla Abzug, anthropologist Barbara Myerhoff and Canadian track and field Olympian Bobbie Rosenfeld.

I would add that, as part of Women's History Month, Joyce Antler—JWA Visiting Director of Research—made a presentation on March 22 before the President's Commission on the Celebration of Women in American History. Her testimony, which touched on many aspects of the role of women in history, cannot be reproduced here in toto, but I would like to excerpt one paragraph, because it sums up so well the important mission of JWA:

I would like to mention one final strategy used by the Jewish Women's Archive to bring women's history to the public. Last spring, we mounted a program in Boston around the life and legacy of Justine Wise Polier, the activist judge who was a 1999 Woman of Valor. The evening began with moderator Martha Minow of the Harvard Law School asking the question, "How can a woman so influential in her own lifetime be largely forgotten less than two generations later? And how does a legacy get passed on to another generation?" The evening began with my own remarks about Polier's life and legacy, followed by personal reflections from Nancy Gertner, a U.S. District Court Judge in Massachusetts, who enthusiastically embraced the similarities between her life and Polier's and left audience members greatly stimulated by the current relevance of Polier's concerns, convictions, and commitments. We have developed other programs across the country in which we bring the past to the present by matching the life and legacy of women of achievement in other generations to those of women today. These programs highlight historical materials that we have collected but place them in new contexts that have local and contemporary relevance. This matching process generates great excitement by allowing audiences to connect in fresh ways to the lessons of the past.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of the excellent work the Jewish Women's Archive performs in helping us to connect with the past in new ways, I submit the following JWA statement on this year's Women of Valor program to be printed in the RECORD.

SCHOOLS, SYNAGOGUES, UNIVERSITIES AND JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER TO HIGHLIGHT JEWISH WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2000

In Boston and around the country, Jews and non-Jews, women and men will have the opportunity to learn about the important, but often-ignored accomplishments of Jewish women during Women's History Month this March. This month, thousands of institutions will celebrate Women's History Month by showcasing the accomplishments and contributions of three Jewish women: a leading political activist, a pioneering anthropologist and a gold-medal winning Olympic athlete.