

In the short span of 36 years, Stephen S. Wise Temple has grown into the largest Jewish congregation in the West and the second-largest Jewish congregation in the world. It is both a caring and active congregation and a renowned center for spiritual, cultural and educational studies. On its beautiful campus in the hills above West Los Angeles, is found—in addition to the temple—a dynamic elementary school, a unique Jewish community high school and a religious institute, all highly acclaimed for the excellent education they offer. They represent one of the greatest legacies of Rabbi Zeldin—the origination of Reform Judaism's day school programs in Los Angeles.

It is hard to overstate the vision and the commitment that led Rabbi Zeldin to build such an extraordinary facility. This complex of eleven buildings on an 18-acre site carved out of a mountain which serves more than 3,000 families is a true testament to his hard work, his dedication, his visionary guidance, his strong sense of community and his great interest in training young people in the traditions of their religion as well as the knowledge of the world.

Upon Rabbi Zeldin's graduation from the Cincinnati School of Hebrew Union College, he became the assistant rabbi of the largest Reform congregation in New Jersey. He spent the next several years serving as a spiritual leader at various congregations and, in 1964, founded the Stephen S. Wise Temple. He is the former president of the San Fernando Valley Synagogue Council, the American Zionist Federation of Southern California, the Pacific Association of Reform Rabbis and the American Zionist Council. On a personal note, Rabbi Zeldin did a wonderful job of officiating at the bat mitzvah of Lindsey Berman.

We are very proud, Mr. Speaker, to ask that our distinguished colleagues join us in congratulating Stephen S. Wise Temple on its Double Chai Anniversary, and in extending our gratitude and appreciation to Rabbi Isaiah Zeldin for his enormous accomplishments and his tremendous contributions to the Jewish community of Los Angeles. We wish him many happy returns.

PHILADELPHIA'S LIVELY ARTS  
GROUP FOUNDER RETIRES  
AFTER 25 YEARS

### HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, this year the Lively Arts Group bids farewell to its founding director, Naomi Klein, who is retiring after 25 years of service.

The Lively Arts Group is unique as the nation's only nonprofit cultural arts touring organization since its founding in 1975 by Naomi Klein. Since then Mrs. Klein has conducted an average of 50 adult-education and cultural-arts tours each year, totaling 1,250 tours in her 25 years. Mrs. Klein has personally guided more than 62,000 Philadelphia area residents throughout our country to major museums, orchestra concerts, theater, ballet and opera performances, historic houses, mansions, villages and gardens. For many of these travelers, especially those with physical disabilities, it has been their eye-opening and mind-

opening introduction to the various cultural arts, which they have subsequently pursued and enjoyed independently.

At the same time, these group visits have provided a new outreach audience, additional new members and support for these cultural organizations and institutions. Directors of Philadelphia's museums and cultural institutions have served as the Lively Arts Group's Advisory Board, lending their prestige and professional knowledge to these tours.

The Lively Arts Group adventures have spread Philadelphia's reputation for its cultural-minded citizens throughout the country and abroad and continues into its next century on the principles and highest standards of arts-education and community service created in 1975 by its founder, Naomi Klein.

IN RECOGNITION OF BROOKLYN  
CHINESE-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION'S  
FOURTH ANNIVERSARY  
OF AVENUE U SENIOR AND COMMUNITY  
CENTER

### HON. NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Brooklyn Chinese-American Association's Avenue U Senior and Community Center on its fourth anniversary.

Gillian Anderson once said "Be of service \* \* \* there is nothing that harvests more of a feeling of empowerment than being of service to someone in need." This need is met everyday for the members of the Avenue U Senior and Community Center.

In just 4 years, the Center has enrolled more than 1,600 members, serving more than 150 senior members daily. It offers daily meals, social service information, referral and case management, medical and health-related workshops and screenings, monthly birthday celebrations, ESL, citizenship, music, dancing and arts and crafts classes, field trips, as well as other recreational activities.

The Center additionally is involved in coordinating community events such as town hall meetings, assisting senior members with their meeting housing needs, promoting voter registration and educating the community about the importance of exercising their voting rights.

President John F. Kennedy once said the definition of happiness is "the full use of your powers along lines of excellence." Members of the Avenue U Senior and Community Center understand this happiness and I wish them and members of the Brooklyn Chinese-American Association continued success and best wishes this anniversary.

SUPPORTING THE FULL FUNDING  
OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES  
EDUCATION ACT

### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4055, the IDEA Funding Act.

I am happy that this Congress has finally decided to vote on substantive legislation that

puts our children first. Hopefully, this vote is an indication of this Congress' national commitment to our children in the upcoming reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Over 25 years ago, Congress promised to pay 40 percent of the national average per pupil expenditure of all children with disabilities. However, the government has never funded more than 12.6 percent. This lack of funding has placed severe strains on local school district's budgets.

Today's vote provides the necessary financial resources to help our local school districts to provide a first rate education to students with disabilities as well as freeing up resources to be used for the education of other students.

Although it has taken 25 years for the Congress to seriously address this funding issue, the fact that there is a funding formula has made Congress accountable to providing these funds. Educators have been able to point out that Congressional funding for IDEA has fallen far short from what was promised to each disabled student. This link between program funding and the student provides Congress with an accurate measure of the amount of increased funding that is necessary to keep up with the inflationary increases in a student's education.

This fact should not be lost when we debate and vote on the reauthorization of ESEA later this year. There have been many bills introduced that would break the connection of Federal funding to each student by block granting these programs. The effect of creating block grants in such programs as title I will result in fewer poor children receiving the adequate funds to provide them a good education.

I ask my colleagues in the majority to remember the pressures that have caused Congress to vote on this bill today and how much its passage will positively impact the education of disabled children throughout the United States, I urge them to remember this when they vote on the reauthorization of ESEA.

IN HONOR OF "TERTULIAS DE  
ANTANO" ("GET TOGETHER OF  
YESTERDAY")

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I honor "Tertulias de Antano" ("Get Together of Yesterday") for its contribution to the Cuban-American community of West New York.

"Tertulias de Antano" came into existence 22 years ago because one woman, Lidia Gil-Ramos, who came to America in 1965 as a Cuban refugee, had the desire to "help make the elderly happy and help them take part in local life." She founded the program and volunteers her time as program coordinator.

"Tertulias de Antano" has helped Cuban elderly within the Cuban-American community of West New York, New Jersey to escape the disconnect and loneliness often experienced by immigrant communities.

In describing the work of a small group of volunteers dedicated to helping the Cuban elderly, Gil-Ramos said: "We work for love, not for profit." "Tertulias de Antano" does not receive any government funds—only private donations are accepted. However, this has not