

educators and public servants, Mr. Norm Kirschenbaum, who will retire on August 2nd after 39 years of dedicated service to his community.

For the past four decades, Mr. Kirschenbaum has been an integral part of the district's public school system. Involved in the educational process at nearly every level, Mr. Kirschenbaum has served as a classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal, educational director, and assistant superintendent before being asked to head the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District in 1999. His advancement through the ranks is most certainly deserved. Under his leadership, the district has achieved tremendous growth in the student Academic Performance Index. In addition, because of his unfailing dedication, the district has seen an increase in number of schools receiving California Distinguished School accreditation and has achieved a balanced budget.

In his many roles as educational coordinator, Mr. Kirschenbaum has worked tirelessly to improve management. An acknowledged trainee in Stephen Covey's "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People", Mr. Kirschenbaum started a district-wide program to train administrators, teachers, and support staff using the Covey model.

Mr. Kirschenbaum's achievements extend far beyond the district. Throughout the years, he has served on several state educational committees. In that capacity, Mr. Kirschenbaum helped to pioneer California's groundbreaking Holocaust and Genocide Framework. As a member of those committees, he worked to establish a foundation for effective year-round education. His extensive accomplishments in this area were sufficient to garner national recognition.

Perhaps the most amazing thing about Mr. Kirschenbaum is that, despite his many accomplishments, he remains humble. In a recent meeting of school officials, Mr. Kirschenbaum acknowledged the importance of working cooperatively in education and noted his delight in doing his part. "All this", he said, "could only have been possible through a team effort on the part of our entire school community. Our primary mission of raising student achievement in an environment that values the importance of relationship building and becoming more client focused has made the difference. I'm proud to have had a part in shaping this direction for our district."

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to personally commend Norm for his dedication to the students of Hacienda La Puente Unified School and the greater Southern California educational system. He is a model of the passionate American educator and devoted citizen. I know the rest of the House will join me in congratulating Norm and wishing him the best of luck in his retirement.

IN HONOR OF POLICE CHIEF  
DOMINIC V. MEUTI

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2001*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Police Chief Dominic V. Meuti who is

celebrating his retirement from the police force after 50 years with the Bedford Heights' Police Department.

Police Chief Meuti has a long and distinguished career with the City of Bedford Heights and is believed to be the longest-serving active police chief in the country. Mr. Meuti began his service in 1951 as a 21 year old mechanic. Earning just \$1.25 an hour, he accepted the position after only a few months of police work under his belt.

As chief, Mr. Meuti performed countless jobs to make sure the city ran smoothly. In the winter, he acted as the Service Department, and plowed the snow using his beat-up Chevy. In the summer, he patrolled the tiny village in his own car. Chief Meuti's dedication to his job was displayed with the countless hours of work he performed. During his tenure, the community has grown to over 11,000, and the force has expanded to 38 full-time officers.

Police Chief Meuti's life, however, is not consumed with the police force. His office is filled with family photographs and he remains extremely active in his local community. His kind spirit and warm smile attract people to him. He has served his community selflessly for 50 years and is an inspiration to many.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring a great man on his retirement. For 50 years, Police Chief Dominic V. Meuti has dedicated his life to public service. His love and dedication to his community will be greatly missed.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY APPLAUDS  
THE WORK OF ROBERT LEVINE

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2001*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to day in recognition of Mr. Robert Levine, the newly elected president of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs (FJMC), for his commitment to and accomplishments on behalf of the educational and social well being of Central New Jersey's Jewish community. Bob has helped the FJMC contribute to the health of our nation's Jewish community. On July 14, he will assume the office of president of the FJMC.

Bob Levine is a long-time resident of Central Jersey. A former Middlesex County College computer science professor and independent training consultant, he has a distinguished career which has paralleled his nearly three decades of affiliation with the East Brunswick Jewish Center.

Bob has served as president of both the Men's Club of East Brunswick Jewish Center and of the FJMC's Northern New Jersey Region. He has also served as the Vice President and First Vice President of the FJMC, and has been responsible for overseeing a number of the Federation's many programs and committees.

Bob Levine's entire life has been characterized by his devotion to his family, faith and community service. I congratulate Bob Levine on his many accomplishments. I ask my colleagues to join me in praising his many contributions to our society.

TRIBUTE TO KRISTEN SCHAEFER,  
LAURI CORBETT AND PAMELA  
CALANDRA

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2001*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize three of New York's outstanding young students, Kristen Schaefer, Lauri Corbett, and Pamela Calandra. Today, on June 19th, the women of Girl Scout Troop 130, Service Unit 44 will recognize these students for receiving their gold awards.

Since the beginning of last century, the Girl Scouts of America have provided thousands of young women each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Kristen, Lauri, and Pamela, and bring the attention of Congress to these successful young women on their day of recognition.

H.R. 333, THE BANKRUPTCY ABUSE  
PREVENTION AND CONSUMER  
PROTECTION ACT

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2001*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about H.R. 333, the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act. I had strong reservations about the measure, and voted in favor of every attempt to improve the bill during House consideration of H.R. 333.

I voted for a Democratic alternative which would have made a number of technical improvements to the bill and modified some of the most burdensome provisions on lower income debtors. I also voted in favor of the motion to send the bill back to the Judiciary Committee in order to make improvements. This motion would have prohibited credit card companies from issuing credit cards to minors who cannot show sufficient income to repay the line of credit. Although these measures failed, I voted in favor of the bill in order to move the legislation along in the hopes that the bill would be improved when it was sent to the Senate.

Unfortunately, this was not the case. The bill passed by the Senate maintains the House bill's onerous provision concerning the means