

their dedication and outstanding service to Israel and their community.

The State of Israel Bonds is an international organization offering securities issued by the government of Israel. Since its inception in 1951, Israel Bonds has secured \$25 billion in investment capital for the development of every aspect of Israel's economy, including agriculture, commerce and industry. Throughout its history, Israel has maintained a perfect record on the payment of principal and interest on the securities it has issued.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Feldman, are two of the most caring, dedicated, and selfless citizens of Indiana's First Congressional District. The Feldman's are very active members of Congregation Beth Israel in Hammond. Ed teaches Bar and Bat Mitzvah students, serves as chairman of the Ritual Committee, acts as Cantor for Shabat and holiday services, and is a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. He is the immediate past president of the Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana and serves on the Endowment Fund Trustees Committee as well as the Building Legal Finance Committee. Nancy is also a member of the Board of Directors and serves as co-chair of the Chevra Kedisha, is a member of the Mitzvah Committee, and coordinates projects for Bar and Bat Mitzvah students. Along with Gus Galante, she is co-chair of the Federation's annual fund-raising campaign, where she serves on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors as vice president.

Drs. Gus and Becca Galante are the other recipients of the Jerusalem Medal. Gus was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina and is the descendant of Jews who migrated from Lithuania, Russia, Gibraltar and Morocco. He is an active member of the Northwest Indiana Federation Board and is the current co-chairman of the general campaign. In addition, he participates in Chevra Kedisha and is the recipient of the Emanuel Marcus Leadership Award for community participation. Becca is descended from Jews who migrated from Russia, Poland and Austria and was born in Lafayette, Indiana. She serves on the Board of Directors of Congregation Beth Israel, on the Sisterhood Board and is a member of the Chevra Kedisha. She is a past co-chair of the Federation's general campaign, co-founder of the Jewish Future Forum, and recipient of the Hurst Family Leadership Award, as well as the Gevurah Award from the Jewish Federation.

The special guest at this gala event will be Ambassador Gvir. Ambassador Gvir was born in Shilde near Antwerp, Belgium, and escaped the Nazis as a child to Switzerland. He made aliyah in 1958 and has served as Israel's Ambassador to the Czech Republic, Switzerland and Liechtenstein. He was also the minister at the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the Feldman's and Galante's for their lifetime of service, success, and dedication to Indiana's First Congressional District and the State of Israel.

RECOGNIZING THE DEPARTMENT
OF LABOR FOR SUCCESS OF
COMMUNITY AND FAITH-BASED
INITIATIVE

HON. JOHN R. THUNE

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the Department of Labor for its efforts to integrate community and faith-based organizations into Federal employment and training services. The department is working with these local partners to deliver effective programs to some of our hardest to reach neighborhoods. Small community and faith-based organizations have already made significant human investments in communities throughout America and are known and trusted to deliver results.

The importance of this initiative is most evident among some of America's poorest families and individuals, where community and faith-based organizations are sometimes the only partners capable of delivering effective services. I commend the Department of Labor for creating several pilot and innovative grant programs designed to better utilize the unique skills of community and faith-based institutions in its employment and training efforts.

Given the department's growing record of success, I sincerely hope that Congress will pass and send legislation to the President's desk that ensures the Federal government will no longer ignore these critical partnerships. The House has passed H.R. 7 to make community and faith-based organizations eligible to receive federal program dollars, and again, I hope this legislation will pass both chambers before we adjourn.

Again Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the Department of Labor for its work to improve Federal services and encourage them to continue and expand their successful partnerships with community and faith-based organizations.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR GOALS
AND IDEAS OF DAY OF TRIBUTE
TO ALL FIREFIGHTERS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to be here today to speak in support of H. Con. Res. 476, providing tribute to firefighters who have died in the line of duty.

This Resolution has special meaning to my home community in that last year Jeff Chavis, of the Lexington County Fire Service of Lexington, South Carolina, lost his life as he courageously fought a fire that destroyed a home on the shores of Lake Murray. Jeff was a dedicated twenty-two year old firefighter who will always be remembered in South Carolina as a symbol of devotion to protecting the public from harm.

Jeff's death, and then the murderous attack on the World Trade Center towers, have reminded all Americans of the courage of firefighters and the sacrifice they voluntarily pro-

vide. At no time in American history has this profession been more appreciated.

My family has a personal respect for the competence of firefighters. The West Columbia Fire Department, led by Chief Barry Anderson, has three times saved our family home from a faulty water heater, a stove fire, and an electrical short of a television. In each event the Department was prompt and thoughtful.

As a newcomer to Congress, I have been impressed by the quality of my colleagues in the House. One whom I have grown to truly respect is the author of this Resolution, CURT WELDON of Pennsylvania. I know firsthand of his appreciate for and his tireless work on behalf of our nation's firefighters.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF HAROLD W. JURGENA

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Harold W. Jurgena, from Irving, Illinois.

A graduate of Hillsboro High School, Mr. Jurgena went on to work at the Hillsboro Glass Company for nearly 40 years. He and his family have been involved in farming since his birth.

In 1962, Jurgena was appointed to replace John Walters' in his term as Village President. He has been re-elected as Village President for the last nine consecutive terms.

The Jurgena tenure has been marked by a number of achievements such as improvements in the city's water system, natural gas, sewage upgrades, cable television, modernizing the city police department, lighting the ball field, a new Fire House and City Hall and the construction of the Irving Century House.

As Village President or "Mayor" as he is known, Jurgena never overlooked the needs of his city. Yet he didn't stop with just elected public service. He has also served on the Hillsboro Board of Education, as a member of the Irving Volunteer Fire Department, a member of the Farm Bureau, past president of the Lutheran Brotherhood, member of the Ansar Shrine in Springfield, Adult Leader of the Montgomery county 4-H and Past Master of the Irving Masonic Lodge.

Throughout his life, Harold Jurgena has given selflessly for his community and those around him. He has been an inspiration to generations of Irving residents and I am proud to call him one of mine as well.

The people of our area have benefited greatly from Harold Jurgena and I believe it is proper for us to take the time to recognize him and say thanks for a job well done.