TRIBUTE TO CAROLYN ALFORD

HON. FRED UPTON
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Carolyn Alford, an outstanding citizen and educator in Southwest Michigan. A dedicated and committed individual, Carolyn first arrived in Southwest Michigan in 1969 as a recent high school graduate from Montgomery, Alabama. She came to visit her sister for a couple of weeks and, 36 years later, she has yet to leave! Carolyn is retiring from a long, industrious term of almost 16 years with the Kalamazoo Public Schools Board of Education.

Throughout Carolyn's tenure with the Board, she wore many "hats," including President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, among others. In her leadership roles, Carolyn continually went above and beyond the call of duty and could always be found outside of the office talking to parents and students regarding their concerns, attending open houses, or representing the Board at graduation ceremonies, retirement dinners, awards presentations and, especially, sporting events.

However, Carolyn's community work didn't stop with the Kalamazoo Public Schools. As someone who always felt a "calling to be in public service," she is very active in her church, has served in numerous leadership positions with the NAAACP, and tirelessly participates in the Northside Association for Community Development, YWCA Domestic Assault Program, the Douglas Community Association, Kalamazoo Northside Non-Profit Housing Corporation and many other organizations throughout Kalamazoo and Southwest Michigan. All this while working full time as an administrator at Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

We in Southwest Michigan are forever indebted to Carolyn Alford for the good she has done in our community. Her lifelong contributions to students and families throughout the Kalamazoo area have had great impact and will never be forgotten. I wish Carolyn and her family all the best in retirement, and I sincerely hope she enjoys the extra time with her grandchildren.

CONGRATULATING MARGERY A. UFBERG ON THE OCCASION OF BEING THE RECIPIENT OF THE UNITED HEBREW INSTITUTE'S ANNUAL SHOFAR AWARD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Margery A. Ufberg, of Kingston, Pennsylvania, on the occasion of her being named recipient of the United Hebrew Institute's Annual Shofar Award.

Just as the Shofar has been used for millennia to sound the arrival of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, the Shofar Award symbolizes the calling together of the community to recognize and praise the good works and accomplishments of an individual. It is particularly fitting that Margery Ufberg is the recipient of the Shofar Award this year. She is well known throughout the community as a tireless advocate for the United Hebrew Institute and for the Wyoming Valley community in general.

Mrs. Ufberg's contributions toward refurbishing the UHI library and its kitchen and classrooms have been invaluable. A teacher by profession, Mrs. Ufberg also serves on the board of directors and the Executive Board of the United Hebrew Institute. She also serves on the board of directors and the board of trustees at the Jewish Community Center.

She is a past board member at Ecuumenical Enterprises, the Jewish Federation of Greater Wilkes-Barre, the Friends of Hospice St. John and Peoples National Bank.

Mrs. Ufberg remains active with Hadassah, Wyoming Seminary Preparatory School, United Jewish Campaign, Osterhout Library, Junior League of Wilkes-Barre and B'nai B'rith Women Green Circle Ethnic Diversity Program.

She has also given freely of her time to support the Camp Committee, Teen Committee, Soccer Committee, Basketball Committee and the Purim Carnival Committee for the benefit of children and teens at the Jewish Community Center.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Margery A. Ufberg on this notable occasion. Mrs. Ufberg's contributions have succeeded in raising the quality of life in the Greater Wyoming Valley and her dedication is an inspiration to all of us.

RECOGNIZING PAUL BERLANT OF WINDSOR, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Paul Berlant who is retiring after seven years as Town Manager of Windsor, California.

During his tenure, the Town of Windsor experienced a renaissance. The Town's old downtown area was redesigned as a vibrant and thriving mixed use neighborhood. The Town Green was central to this redevelopment and became the focal point for a farmers market, Movies on the Green, holiday tree lighting, summer concerts, 4th of July celebration and other seasonal festivals.

This was consistent with Mr. Berlant’s vision for orderly development throughout the town. The single-family homes in the Vintage Green subdivision use recycled water for irrigation. Keiser Park was expanded by leveraging federal, state and local grants.

Mr. Berlant also oversaw the development of the Shiloh Commercial Center, the town’s new corporation yard, various housing projects and the opening of the Arcata Lane/Highway 101 interchange.

He will be remembered as a skilled negotiator who treated everyone fairly and with respect and as someone who was able to interpret the Town Council’s vision that, as the local newspaper said, “turned a vast vacant lot into a thriving urban center.”

Mr. Speaker, Paul Berlant has spent 33 years working for cities throughout California. He and his wife, Carol Ann, plan to spend time with their new grandchild and traveling. It is appropriate that we honor him today for his public service and to wish him well on his retirement.

This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.