It was Howard Elinson’s ideas that were instrumental in electing Congressman Henry Waxman Congressman Howard Berman, Congressman Mel Levine Congressman Julian Dixon State Senator Herschel Rosenthal, State Assembliesman Burt Margolin, State Assemblyman Terry Friedman and countless others.

And it was Howard Elinson who inspired the strategy and direct mail efforts that led to the election of Mayor Tom Bradley in 1973.

But Howard Elinson’s life was much more than about politics. As a devout and Orthodox Jew his faith came first. And imagine this dark suited, yarmulke wearing, fast-talking man writing the “early 60’s seminal study” of voting behavior for his Ph.D. thesis. He conducted lengthy and open-ended interviews, drawing out in their homes 50 white working class voters in Bell, California—the then-place-of-entry of the vast immigration from Oklahoma, the mid-west and the South to Southern California.

These Christian and working class people had never before met a Jew—and certainly not a readily recognizable Orthodox Jew. Yet they opened their hearts to this amazing man. They trusted him—no matter how “New York” he spoke, no matter how foreign he might have looked. That was the uniqueness, the special nature of Howard Elinson.

Perhaps inspired by his faith, or by his innate decency, Howard Elinson affected the lives of everyone who knew him. Many dozens of interns, staff, and budding politicians that came through Waxman’s office sought Howard Elinson’s advice and counsel—both personal and career. Hundreds of young people confused by the conflicts between a traditional religious life and modernity sought Howard Elinson’s advice on how to cope—who to turn to?

"Children flocked to him—no child was unworthy of his attention, his sense of playfulness, his devotion to the child’s value as a human being. No one in need (whether for a religious cause or in personal need) was turned down for a contribution. Howard Elinson’s generosity was open ended and well known.

The untimely death of Howard Elinson was not just a loss to his family and friends, but to the people who have had in him a champion of a tolerant, liberal, and more humane America.

IN HONOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA’S DELEGATION TO THE 2005 YMCA YOUTH CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL AFFAIRS

HON. JOE WILSON
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 24, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the South Carolina delegation to the 2005 YMCA Youth Conference on National Affairs. The Youth Conference on National Affairs brings together some of the best and brightest students from across the country. YMCA Youth and Government seeks to teach teenagers the process of learning about government through hands-on experiences and in-depth learning at state conferences throughout the country.

The YMCA Youth Conference on National Affairs will be held the first week of July in Black Mountain, NC, and I am proud of each and everyone of the delegates that will be representing the Palmetto State.

Viki Alvarez—Riverside High School, Greer.
Dustin Atkins—Liberty High School, Liberty.
Morgan Bauserman—Riverside High School, Greer.
Martha Bordogna—Spartanburg High School, Spartanburg.
Lucy Bullock—AC Flora High School, Columbia.
Stephanie Dunaway—Riverside High School, Greer.
Jason Hill—Riverside High School, Greer.
Stephanie Hoo—Southside High School, Greenville.
Samantha Jaeger—Riverside High School, Greer.
Quentin James—Mauldin High School, Mauldin.
Hart Mooe—Wren High School, Powdersville.
Leah Nakorn—Spartanburg Day School, Spartanburg.
Eric Novak—Porter-Gaud School, Charleston.
Megan Novak—Mauldin High School, Mauldin.
Niti Parthasarathy—Governor’s School for the Arts, Greenville.
Asha Purohit—Porter-Gaud School, Charleston.
Dave Raheja—Riverside High School, Greer.
Paul Richardson—Spartanburg High School, Spartanburg.
Monica Ryskamp—Riverside High School, Greer.
Rebecca Street—DW Daniel High School, Clemson.
Meg Turlington—Southside High School, Greenville.
Kyle Warren—Greenville High School, Greenville.
Kyle Williams—AC Flora High School, Columbia.

I wish the delegates all the best for a great conference, and continue to thank them for their keen interest in improving our government and public service.

HONORING LENORE CROUDY
HON. DALE E. KILDEE
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, June 24, 2005

Mr. KILDEE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I am truly happy to rise before you today to recognize the accomplishments of a woman who has selflessly devoted her life to education and public service. On June 24, civic and community leaders will join the “Lifetime Friends of Lenore Croudy,” and honor Ms. Croudy as she celebrates her retirement from Flint Community Schools after 39 years.

It is difficult to imagine what the Flint area would be like had it not been for the influence of Lenore Croudy, an influence which began in 1964 in Genesee County and the State of Michigan, has been acknowledged on countless occasions. Examples of this include 2005 Administrator of the Year from the United Teachers of Flint, Exemplary Role Model for Youth by the Flint Professional Black Nursing Association, Mother of the Village Award by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and an Outstanding Citizenship Award given by the Michigan House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I, along with many others in Genesee County and the State of Michigan, have benefited from Lenore Croudy’s intelligence, insight, and vision. She has always been more than an advocate for education; she has been a fighter, for she believes that a strong educational background is the basis toward improving the quality of life. As a former teacher, I applaud her efforts, and I am proud to call her my colleague, my constituent, and my friend. I ask the House of Representatives to please join me in congratulating Lenore on her retirement, and wishing her the very best in all her future endeavors.