

Supervisor in the Food Stamps Unit and moved throughout the Social Services system to include: the Multicultural Child Welfare Unit, Basic Services, Adult Protective Services, Immigration, Social Work Coordinator, Voluntary Foster Home Intake and Coordinator of Special Projects.

Mr. Borelli developed the first Immigration Services Unit for Santa Clara County in 1974, where he worked closely with neighborhood youth groups. In fact, Ken is an expert and leader in the field of Immigration Services and has exhibited his accomplishments in many ways. He not only provided professional development training in the field of immigration, but also significantly contributed to the development of the 1990 Federal legislation which established "Special Immigrant Juvenile Status" laws to help immigrant children in the Child Welfare System across the country. Ken also was responsible for the development of an invaluable "Immigration Resource and Practice Guide" which helped so many families. Ken accomplished other written work in the field of Social work practice including topics such as: Child Welfare, International Social Services, and Domestic Violence. Mr. Borelli continues to remain involved in all levels of social service issues, including: child welfare abuse issues, dependency court investigations, AIDS research and fund-raising, immigration, and development and enhancement of our library systems. His participation in Committees and Advisory Boards included: the Multi-Disciplinary Interview Committee of the Child Abuse Council of Santa Clara County (20 years), the Alum Rock Library Committee, the County Library Commission, the Advisory Board of the Eastside Athletic Club, and the Board of Catholic Charities Immigration Services.

Mr. Borelli is a prominent leader in the community and continues to demonstrate his innovative contributions. He was a founding member and Chair for 20 years of the Social Service Agency's AIDS Services Committee. He is a supporter of the Opera San Jose and is being honored as "2006 Volunteer of the Year" by the Italian American Foundation. I hereby honor Ken Borelli, on the closure of this chapter of his life, but know he will continue to have a tremendous impact on social services in the county.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF DAMU  
AMIRI IMARA SMITH

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 18, 2006*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Damu Amiri Imara Smith, a prolific fighter for justice and peace who succumbed to colon cancer on May 5th of this year. In keeping with his long and distinguished career of activism, Damu continued his fight until the very end. Helped along the way by his "Army of Angels" and inspired by his enduring love for his daughter Asha, Damu outlived all the doctors' predictions. Not letting his terminal diagnosis dampen his spirit, he turned his personal health crisis into a fight for better health care services for black and poor people.

Just as Damu's resolve to speak truth to power was not constrained by his illness, nei-

ther did his sense of justice know any limit. Damu's concerns and actions ranged from the local to the global. He started out fighting for the Martin Luther King holiday and against the apartheid regime in South Africa. Later, his concerns expanded to include environmental justice; he monitored corporate pollution on Louisiana's Gulf Coast as national associate director for Greenpeace USA. He sought to unite the civil rights and environmental movements by founding the National Black Environmental Justice Campaign, which led the nationwide fight against contaminated water and waste dumps in poor and black communities.

Damu furthered his concern for peace and nonviolence at home and abroad as the associate director of the American Friends Service Committee's Washington Bureau. He confronted police brutality and worked to end gun violence in the District of Columbia while advocating for an international freeze on nuclear weapons. He saw health disparities and the lack of adequate health care as another form of violence, and added his efforts to the campaign for universal health care. After September 11th, Damu founded Black Voices for Peace. Continuing in his fearless tradition of speaking truth to power, Damu took on the Bush administration for spending billions of dollars on the Iraq war, money that could have been used for health care, education and basic services here at home.

Damu's voice is something that we'll all dearly remember. I was privileged to be a guest on his WPFW radio show, "Spirit in Action," a number of times and I will remember Damu Smith not only for being a tireless advocate for peace and justice, but for the generosity of his spirit. He could spend his entire program excoriating Condoleezza Rice or Colin Powell, and then end by saying, "But you know I love you." He was able to rise above all of the injustices he spent his life fighting to recognize his opponents' humanity. That kind of bigheartedness is sorely lacking in America's public discourse today. We Members of Congress could stand to learn a thing or two from Damu Smith, and though he is no longer with us in body, but his spirit will live on, as always, in action.

HONORING DR. ROBIN LOWITZ

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 18, 2006*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Robin Lowitz on the occasion of her receipt of the prestigious Tikkun Olam Award from the Jewish Community Center of Sonoma County (formerly the Jewish Community Agency). The "Healing the World" Award is bestowed upon an individual who demonstrates this Jewish Value and Obligation of dedication, perseverance, creativity plus giving time, energy, talents and resources to make an important social justice impact on the quality of life in a community.

Robin Lowitz saw a great need in Sonoma County and preceded to fill it by envisioning and implementing The Jewish Community Free Clinic, a medical clinic specifically for the uninsured—"the working poor, barely able to make ends meet who fall through the cracks."

A Berkeley, California, native, Dr. Lowitz had volunteered for several faith-based free

medical clinics in the Bay Area in the 1990's. Upon arriving in Sonoma County and witnessing the need first-hand, she garnered volunteers and financial support from the Jewish Community, synagogues, and other groups and individuals. In October, 2001, she opened the Jewish Community Free Clinic in a space donated by the Lions Club of Petaluma.

That first night there were 6 patients and 15 volunteers. The Clinic now provides 2,500 free medical care visits to over 1,000 uninsured patients annually, offering free medical care for anyone in need, without regard to ethnicity, race or religion. The vast majority of patients are uninsured Latino immigrant men, women, and children (many of whom need immunizations and physicals in order to attend school). They also serve uninsured single parents, students, the elderly, homeless, and temporary/unskilled workers.

The medical equipment at the Clinic is donated, and its 100+ volunteers come from all sectors of the community—including the communities it serves. Fifteen volunteer physicians, with as many nurses, nurse practitioners and physician assistants rotate each week, supplemented by a large referral network of volunteer physician specialists. Volunteers also offer social work, growth and development monitoring, safety awareness in Spanish and English, Spanish language interpreting and community resource referrals.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to offer my congratulations to Dr. Robin Lowitz. She had the commitment, passion, and energy to make the Jewish Community Free Clinic a reality for the people of Sonoma County and truly exemplifies the spirit of Tikkun Olam, Healing the World.

TRIBUTE TO CORP. NEIL W. REID,  
POST 2358

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 18, 2006*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 70th anniversary of the Corp. Neil W. Reid Post 2358 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, created in 1936, and named after Neil W. Reid, the first casualty of World War I from Macomb County.

The Post was formed in 1936 by members of the Post in Mount Clemens who sought to establish a separate post in the Village of Roseville. At its foundation, the Corp. Neil W. Reid was operating out of the old township hall and had 24 members. Shortly after, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Post was chartered, made up of 20 former servicewomen and wives, mothers, sisters, and daughters of veterans.

In 1939, members of the Post received a charter from the Military Order of the Cooties, formed to better the metal attitude of bed-ridden soldiers through hospital visitation and fundraising activities.

By the end of World War II the membership of the Post had grown to 175. This growth was recognized in 1950 when the National Commander of the VFW visited the Post's Home, an honor that few Posts throughout the nation have received.

In 1958, Mildred Mueth, a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Post, was elected