

friend, Annette Tillemann, whom he later married. He first came to the United States on an academic scholarship in 1947. He earned a Master's Degree in economics from the University of Washington in Seattle and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California at Berkeley, teaching economics at San Francisco State University for several years before being elected to Congress in 1980.

"Representative Lantos's legacy has meant so much to our community," said Ettelbrick. "We are truly grateful for his unwavering commitment to human rights. We send our deepest condolences to his wife and family, and are honored to pay tribute to his extraordinary legacy on LGBTI rights by posthumously presenting him with our OUT-SPOKEN Award."

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support Concurrent Resolution 330, supporting the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of this resolution, which urges national and community organizations, private businesses, colleges and universities to promote awareness of sexual violence and encourage strategies to decrease the incidence of sexual assault.

We have heard the frightening statistics too many times: 1 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men have been victims of rape or attempted rape; a person in the United States is sexually assaulted every two-and-a-half minutes; one in four college-aged women has been sexually assaulted. These numbers do not even take into account the assaults that go unreported by victims too scared to notify law enforcement or too far from sexual assault victim centers.

National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month is a time to educate the American public about the unacceptable extent to which this form of violence has become common in the United States. But this month must also be a time to focus on the solutions so that come next April we can instead announce statistics measuring the progress we have made in bringing an end to sexual violence.

In communities throughout the United States, women and men are working tirelessly to develop and implement innovative programs critical to the prevention and treatment of sexual assault. In Minnesota's Fourth District, Ramsey County developed the Runaway Intervention Project, which provides counseling and support for girls who have run away—or are at risk of running away—to reduce their danger of being sexual victimized. The County also reached out to men by creating the Men's Line hotline for men to call and receive guidance on practicing healthy, peaceful relationships. According to the National Network to End Domestic Violence, in one day, over 53,000 American men, women and children

use sexual assault services like these and others.

During Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, I encourage my colleagues to learn about and promote organizations in their Districts that work to prevent sexual assault, treat its survivors and prosecute its perpetrators to bring an end to this violent crisis. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution and honoring those working across the country to bring an end to violence in our communities.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORKS OF NANCI BURTON

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to recognize the passing of one of our notable local officials and a pioneer in public service, former Santa Rosa Mayor Nanci Burton. Mayor Burton died of cancer last month, at the age of 65, leaving a legacy of goodwill and good works throughout the area.

Nanci was the second woman to serve on the Santa Rosa City Council when she won her first election in 1984. She was elected mayor in 1986 and again in 1991. She once said she entered public life at a time when women were asked such questions as, "Sweetheart, do you really understand how a business operates?" As the bookkeeper for her husband's business, she could answer with an honest and resounding, "Yes."

Nanci started her two decades of public service on the Santa Rosa planning commission and other boards. She believed that if you want change, you have to get involved.

"She was a fierce advocate for the city, the neighborhoods and all its citizens," said Dan Galvin, a friend who served on her first election campaign. "She left her mark on projects and causes throughout the city."

Nanci was not only effective, with an impressive resume of accomplishments, but she was fun. "What many people will remember most about Burton," notes the Press Democrat editorial, "was her spirited participation in the job at hand, her hometown pride, the joy she took in her children and grandchildren—and her infectious laugh, which livened many dull meetings."

Madam Speaker, Nanci Burton was a treasure to the city of Santa Rosa and its surrounding areas. She will be greatly missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF SANDY LUCAS

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, it is with the greatest pleasure that I rise today to honor a woman who has become a fixture in local politics in my District. Sandy Lucas is not an elected official or a paid political operative, but has become what can only be described as the voice of common sense in our community.

After graduating from the University of Arizona, with a bachelor's degree in history,

Sandy began her career in public service in 1974 as Director of the Counseling Job Corps in San Jose. In 1975, she became Director of Polydrug Abuse and Heroin Detox for Santa Clara County. By 1976, Sandy had obtained her license as a Marriage and Family Therapist. She currently serves as the Director of Family and Probate for Stanislaus County.

While Sandy's list of professional achievements is lengthy, it is her accomplishments as a volunteer on local government boards that make her the "go to" person when gauging the pulse of the community. As a member of the Modesto School Bond Committee, she worked to successfully pass much needed school bonds. She has served for 6 years on the Stanislaus County Commission on Aging, and most recently acted as a member of the Modesto City Charter Review Committee, working hard to update antiquated rules governing a city of more than 200,000.

Sandy Lucas has also been active on a statewide level with the Democratic Party. She spent several years as a California Democratic Party Regional Director, ensuring the voice of California's Central Valley was heard by party leaders.

Being heard has never been a problem for Sandy Lucas. Her quick wit, tempered reactions, and oh so colorful responses to various occurrences in our community have garnered the respect of area leaders. Sandy's training as a mediator has served her well in politics and given her the ability to see highly divisive issues from every angle, thus bringing workable solutions to the table.

On May 2, 2008, Sandy will receive the coveted Liberty Bell Award from the Stanislaus County Bar Association for all of the aforementioned reasons. Sandy has been a gem to our community, and I am honored, Madam Speaker, to have this opportunity to thank her for her selfless service and wish her the very best in continued community involvement.

A TRIBUTE TO JAN SCHORI

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jan Schori's 14 years of service as general manager of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District. Ms. Schori leaves a lasting legacy in Sacramento and her leadership and expertise will be deeply missed. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring one of Sacramento's finest public servants.

After earning her bachelor's degree in political science from the University of California, Berkeley, and her law degree from the University of California, Davis, Ms. Schori has spent nearly the last three decades advocating for environmentally friendly and affordable energy in Sacramento. She began her career with SMUD in 1979 as an attorney; and spent 15 years on the utility's legal staff, five of which were as their general counsel. In February of 1994 she was appointed as SMUD's general manager. During her time with SMUD, Ms. Schori has held various other leadership positions in the utility industry. She has served as chair on the boards of the American Public

Power Association, the Large Public Power Council, the California Municipal Utilities Association and the National Business Council for Sustainable Energy. In addition, she has been a tireless advocate for clean energy and is on the board of the California Climate Action Registry and the National Alliance to Save Energy.

Under her leadership, SMUD has made many significant improvements in lowering their rates, improving their reliability, increasing their renewable energy programs and their overall customer satisfaction. Ms. Schori helped keep rates 20 to 30 percent below private energy companies, and earned bond rating upgrades from the major credit rating agencies. During her tenure, Ms. Schori worked to establish and expand SMUD solar programs, new energy efficiency goals, and a Greenergy program that has become one of the largest in the nation. SMUD is now a leader in renewable energy and energy efficiency. Due to these efforts, SMUD has been ranked by JD Power and Associates as one of the top providers in California for residential customers and one of the top in the nation for commercial customers.

Ms. Schori's 14 years as general manager of SMUD is the longest of any general manager in SMUD's 61 year history. Her dedication to our community is apparent through her work both with SMUD and with other local non-profits. She serves on the board and is treasurer of Valley Vision. She also actively supports the United Way California Capitol Region's Foster Youth Initiative and was the 2006 recipient of the DeTocqueville philanthropy award. Personally, Ms. Schori has been a pleasure to work with. Her thoughtfulness and intelligence has empowered employees to work diligently with an open door policy. She has also routinely testified in front of Congressional committees on energy issues.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Jan Schori's distinguished commitment to Sacramento and our energy needs. Ms. Schori's outstanding leadership and dedication to SMUD, has helped promote the use of clean, renewable energy resources that not only benefits our community, but also sets an example for other providers across the state nation. We all are thankful for her efforts. As Ms. Schori's husband Case Buttermann, colleagues, family and friends gather to honor her service, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing her continued good fortune in her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEAN HELLER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Mr. HELLER of Nevada. Madam Speaker on rollcall No. 244, motion to adjourn, had I been present, I would have voted "nay".

IN MEMORIAL OF SGT. STEPHEN LICZBINSKI

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart. On Saturday May 3, 2008, Sgt. Stephen Liczbinski, a 12-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police Department and a constituent of the 13th Congressional District, was shot and killed while responding to a bank robbery.

Sgt. Liczbinski, who would have turned 40 today, left behind a wife, Michelle, and three children, Matt, Steven, and Amber. He was known to his friends and colleagues as "the real deal," "a great family man," and "a hero."

Sgt. Liczbinski spent most of his career working South Philadelphia as a beat cop in the Fourth District. In November 2007, he moved to the 24th District where he was promoted to Sergeant and became a valuable asset to his fellow officers. He was known as a great supervisor who treated all of his colleagues equally.

When he wasn't on the clock, Sgt. Liczbinski was known as a dedicated father who would bring his entire family with him to police barbecues.

His last words, according to the brave Northeast Philadelphia residents who ran out of their homes to provide him with comfort and assistance was "Tell my wife I'll miss her."

Like many in Philadelphia, I'm hurt and shocked that we've lost yet another courageous, outstanding officer. Unfortunately this is not an isolated incident. The lack of respect for our law enforcement officers and the failure to respect the life of any human is appalling and intolerable.

Our city owes Sgt. Liczbinski its eternal gratitude for the sacrifice he made to protect the public from these heinous criminals.

In respect of that sacrifice, I ask that the whole House of Representatives extend its condolences to Michelle Liczbinski, her family, and the Philadelphia Police Department for their loss.

May our thoughts and prayers ease their grief and help sustain the dedicated men and women of the Philadelphia Police Department who put themselves in harms way every day to protect the safety of our families and communities.

THE CINCO DE MAYO HOLIDAY

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am proud to commemorate Cinco de Mayo, the historic celebration of Mexican heritage and pride.

On May 5th, 1862, Mexican General Ignacio Zaragoza Seguin led 4,000 Mexican troops into battle against the French in the Battle of Puebla, just 100 miles from Mexico City. General Seguin led his brave troops to a spirited victory in spite of being badly outnumbered and lacking the modern weaponry possessed by the French.

The Mexican effort in the Battle of Puebla epitomized courage, as the outmanned troops survived three bloody French assaults and finally achieved resounding success. Numerous Mexicans gave their lives not solely for their country, but also for the timeless values of freedom and justice. The tremendous fight put up by the Mexican troops at the Battle of Puebla also had a substantial impact on the United States' history, as the French defeat provided President Lincoln with crucial support as the Civil War descended into chaos.

There can be no doubting the bravery, spirit or patriotism of the thousands of Mexican troops who fought and, all too frequently, gave their lives at the Battle of Puebla. In the spirit of remembering the sacrifices of those troops, Cinco de Mayo provides us with a perfect opportunity to recognize the sacrifice for sovereignty, the importance of courage and, above all, the universal yearning for freedom.

Cinco de Mayo is celebrated throughout Mexico and the United States with a joyous mixture of food, music and dancing. It has also taken on great significance in the United States as a day to celebrate broadly the culture and ancestry of Americans of Mexican heritage.

The Mexican forces who won the Battle of Puebla should not and will not ever be forgotten, nor will the values for which they fought. I commend those forces for their spirit and courage and I wish all those celebrating the holiday across Mexico and the United States a happy Cinco de Mayo.

ON THE PASSING OF YOSSI HAREL

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today with great sadness to note the recent passing of Yossi Harel, the legendary Haganah commander responsible for shepherding thousands of Jewish refugees through British blockades and to safety in the nascent Jewish homeland.

Harel was perhaps best known for commanding the ship Exodus 1947, which was intercepted off the coast of Haifa by British warships in July 1947, carrying 4,553 Jewish refugees from Europe.

The unconscionable decision by the British authorities to send these Holocaust survivors aboard the Exodus back to Germany focused the world's attention on the plight of Jewish refugees and their desire to leave the fetid displaced persons camps in Europe for a new life in soon to be sovereign Israel.

Members of the United Nations Special Commission on Palestine saw first hand as these refugees, with their meager possessions, were unloaded from the ramshackle Exodus 1947 in the port of Haifa and prepared for their return to Europe—all just precious feet away from the land they had so desperately yearned to reach.

Incredibly these refugees—just two years removed from the horrors of the Holocaust—were held by the British in a former S.S. concentration camp after their return to Germany. This shocked the conscious of much of the world and further galvanized opinion against the British blockage and in favor of the establishment of a Jewish state in Mandate-era Palestine.