

CONGRATULATING TEMPLE
EMANU-EL ON CELEBRATING ITS
50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, on July 8, 2011, Temple Emanu-El of Edison will celebrate its 50th Anniversary. I am proud to join the more than 250 families in the congregation, the clergy and temple leaders in celebrating this golden anniversary.

This special event will kick off a year-long celebration of the Temple's history, successes and contributions it has made over the course of five decades to its members and to the Middlesex County and surrounding communities.

Over the last 50 years, Temple Emanu-El has earned a reputation for its open door policy, which is a hallmark of its congregational community. The renowned religious school was the first in the area to offer special education programs. The Temple has sheltered the homeless and welcomes interfaith families with no categorizing of Jewish and non-Jewish members.

A good community partner in Middlesex County, the Temple offers adult education programs. Its members deliver weekend meals-on-wheels to those in need and collects and distributes food and funds to the needy in the community.

At the Temple Emanu-El religious school, children learn Hebrew and the traditions of Judaism. Adults study with renowned Scholars-in-Residence and to take part in an Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah program. Interfaith families can learn how to create Jewish homes.

As Temple Emanu-El celebrates this important milestone, I congratulate Rabbi Deborah K. Bravo, Cantor Jacqueline Shuchat-Marx, Rabbi Alfred B. Landsberg—Rabbi Emeritus, Jill Santoni, Educational Director, and the Temple's Board of Trustees for their dedicated efforts.

As the Temple's journey continues and traditions are passed along Dor v' Dor, I wish the Temple all the best in celebrating the next 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Temple Emanu-El in Edison, New Jersey in celebrating 50 years of service to the community. I am proud to share this important milestone with my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives and with the American people.

RECOGNIZING THE 146TH ANNIVERSARY OF JUNETEENTH AND THE 18TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THE JUNETEENTH FREEDOM & HERITAGE FESTIVAL IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 146th anniversary of Juneteenth and the 18th annual celebration of the Juneteenth Freedom and Heritage Festival in Memphis, Tennessee. On June 19, 1865,

Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas and announced in the town square that all slaves were free. Although this came nearly 3 years after the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation, the newly freed men and women rejoiced in the streets with jubilant celebrations, and thus, the Juneteenth holiday was born. The theme of this year's Memphis festival is "Juneteenth Salutes 'The Divine Nine' in 2011."

Founded out of the necessity to combat racial discrimination and segregation, the Divine Nine is a collective group of nine historically African-American sororities and fraternities that together, create the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Incorporated. The Divine Nine works to promote unity, camaraderie, academic excellence and community service.

The Divine Nine is made up of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. They have profoundly impacted the lives of both their members and those they serve. Many of these organizations address issues related to social justice, human rights, poverty and economic security in African-American communities.

Over the years, countless Memphians have become members of these organizations and have made significant contributions to our community. Some include: current city of Memphis Mayor A C Wharton Jr., Alpha Phi Alpha; Shelby County Commissioner Deidre Malone, Alpha Kappa Alpha; 6th Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Bernice Donald, Zeta Phi Beta; and Pastor Kenneth Whalum, Jr., Phi Beta Sigma. Some who have fought for civil rights and equality are: Former president of the Memphis branch of the NAACP Velma Lois Jones, Alpha Kappa Alpha; current NAACP Executive Board member O.C. Pleasant Jr., Kappa Alpha Psi; and the late civil rights leader and former executive director of the NAACP Reverend Dr. Benjamin Hooks, Omega Psi Phi.

As we celebrate sororities and fraternities this Juneteenth, Delta Sigma Theta will host their 43rd Southern Regional Conference in Memphis. Some accomplished Memphian Deltas are cofounder Mary Church Terrell, singer Aretha Franklin, State Reps. Johnnie Turner and Lois DeBerry, Olympian Rochelle Stevens and National Civil Rights Museum Executive Director Beverly Robertson. Delta Sigma Theta has organized many initiatives that have improved African-American communities such as foreclosure prevention workshops, ACT test sessions and raising millions of dollars in college scholarships.

Mr. Speaker, it is in the spirit of these great organizations that I ask my colleagues to join me in observing our nation's 146th anniversary of Juneteenth and the celebrations in Memphis. This is a time to reflect upon the end of slavery in America and to recognize the many contributions of African-American citizens. As the Alpha Phi Alpha, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, the Emancipation Proclamation "came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity."

HONORING MO ANDERSON

HON. JAMES LANKFORD

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my constituent, Mo Anderson, for her commitment to volunteer community service which has inspired true acts of kindness all across communities in North America.

Mo was an elementary school music teacher for 14 years, after which she developed her first and very successful real estate office in Edmond, Oklahoma in 1975. In her current role as vice chairman of Keller Williams Realty, Mo spends much of her time traveling across the United States teaching at real estate training events. She has received numerous awards for her hard work and dedication.

Mo is the beloved leader of her real estate firm, significantly influencing her colleagues, and it is her story that has inspired the Keller Williams annual national Renew, Energize and Donate Day. Each year, on the second Thursday in May, thousands of associates from across the United States and Canada participate in projects and devote their time to renewing and energizing aspects of the neighborhoods in which they serve.

As an Oklahoman, I am proud of Mo for setting a wonderful example. She has inspired others to see needs in communities and to be sure those needs are met. Oklahoma is very grateful to Mo Anderson and to her building a legacy of caring.

PHILLIP O. BARRY, PH.D., PRESIDENT, MESALANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN TUCUMCARI, NEW MEXICO

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Phillip O. Barry in his 15 years at Mesalands Community College in Tucumcari, New Mexico has transformed Mesalands from an area vocational school into a community college. Dr. Barry's vision for Mesalands Community College has been instrumental to the continued development and success of the College. His efforts include leading the College through a rigorous accreditation process, and establishing the College's foundation to assist students in securing their educational futures. Dr. Barry's leadership also created the Mesalands Community College Dinosaur Museum, the North American Wind Research and Training Center, and a nationally ranked intercollegiate rodeo program.

Dr. Barry has spent decades working at community colleges to improve access and learning opportunities for all students, and especially those of New Mexico. His efforts and leadership in higher education will be a help to New Mexico and to the community college students of today and tomorrow. Thanks to Dr. Barry and the institutions he has led, a growing number of Americans are able to continue their educations, achieve secondary degrees, and help ensure our country's future competitiveness in an increasingly global economy.