JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPÉECH OF
HON. GENE GREEN
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share a few words on the vast and significant contributions Jewish Americans have made towards making America the greatest country in the world.

The first Jewish Americans arrived on our shores in 1654, for the same reason millions would follow in later years, as refugees from harm, poverty, and persecution.

These first Jewish Americans would settle in New Amsterdam (now New York) and eventually spread throughout our country from places as dispersed as Charleston and Philadelphia in the 18th century to nearly every corner of our country today, including a large and thriving community in my hometown of Houston.

The contributions of American Jews to our Nation’s history, culture, and development are almost too numerous to list—from the legal contributions of Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis, to the musical talents of Leonard Bernstein, to the athletic prowess of Sandy Koufax, to the unknown thousands of Jewish American men and women who struggled for equality, workers’ rights, and fought and died bravely for our country against tyranny.

Today, the Jewish American community, now over six million strong, continues this long and proud tradition as members of every segment of American society—from the classroom and the boardroom to the battlefield and the halls of Congress.

I ask all my colleagues in this chamber to join me in celebrating May as Jewish American Heritage Month.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE "THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL HISTORY BOWL TEAMS

HON. ADAM SMITH
OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the two teams of Thomas Jefferson High School students who have qualified for the National History Bowl’s Championships in Washington, DC.

The teams made up of seniors John David McClure, Sarah Lee, and Matthew Kullberg, and juniors Abigail Rood, Julia Huber, Hanna Moore, Anna Metcalf, Elissa McDavid, and Paul Jaquish, battled teams from across Washington State to qualify for the National Championships. They were challenged with questions ranging from Chinese dynasties to Black life and de facto segregation ruled the 1930s—before the 1954 Brown decision when Jim Crow de jure legal segregation was still the law of the land, while hangings of Blacks in the South were still a major concern in Black life and de facto segregation ruled the North.

The New York Times pointed out in its obituary of one of the most important of these was Harold Baron Jackson—better known as Hal Jackson—who helped to break down such barriers as a popular cross-over radio broadcaster in New York City.

Mr. Jackson was also an avid sports fan and helped to establish WBLS as the highest rated radio station in New York City.

He was married four times and divorced three. His current wife, the former Debi Bolling, survives him, along with two daughters, Jane and Jewell; his son, Hall Jackson, Jr., a former Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

IN RECOGNITION OF OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL YELLOW JACKETS BASEBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 6A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the House’s attention to pay recognition to the Oxford High School Yellow Jackets baseball team, who recently won the Alabama High School Athletic Association Class 6A State Championship.
York. Had I been present, I would have voted to a memorial service for first responders at rollcall No. 295 I was away from the floor due to a mechanical problem during travel causing me to miss rollcall vote 295 on H.R. 4201, the Servicemember Family Protection Act. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted "aye".

Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act (PRENDA) of 2012

Speech of
HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I am opposed to H.R. 3541—Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act (PRENDA) of 2012, because it is a backdoor attempt at reversing decades of precedent established by Roe v. Wade. I have always believed that a woman’s right to choose is a constitutional right. And personal decisions, such as deciding whether or not to have an abortion, should involve a woman, her family and her faith. If an abortion is a personal decision, the government should not interfere.

The passage of the Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act presents the onerous on health care providers in deterring the intent of the woman seeking an abortion. The legislation would create a civil cause of action for an injunction that could take months to resolve, leaving the woman with limited options. Most egregiously, the legislation would, for the first time in almost forty years, allow the government to legislate this personal decision in the first trimester of pregnancy. It is clear that the ultimate goal of this legislation is an outright ban on abortion services. For these reasons, I oppose this legislation and urge my colleagues to stand with women and against the Republican continuous attacks on their rights.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT L. TURNER
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. TURNER of New York. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 295 I was away from the floor due to a memorial service for first responders at the World Trade Center Memorial in New York. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."