

our children. We are focused on teaching responsible communication skills that fosters excellence in self-expression and community involvement.” The school has developed a rigorous curriculum consisting of a balance between college preparatory classes and voluntary community outreach. By providing such an academically rich, faith filled learning environment, Blessed Sacrament Catholic School has shaped its students into successful business owners, film producers, community leaders and philanthropists.

While upholding strong academic excellence, Blessed Sacrament Catholic School truly reflects the rich diversity of Los Angeles. Currently the school exceeds the state’s average private school diversity rate, with students coming from a multitude of backgrounds. The school’s success not be possible without a highly dedicated faculty, staff and administration who selflessly invest their time into productively influencing each student.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring Blessed Sacrament Catholic School upon the celebration of its 100th year of educating children in the Jesuit tradition and bettering the Hollywood community.

CELEBRATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, celebrating the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz—forever a symbol of human evil and depravity—and the end of WWII, history’s bloodiest war claiming 50 million lives, along with celebrating the 67th anniversary of the State of Israel reborn in its wake, we are duty-bound to remember these milestones that humanity may yet be free from threats to its very survival.

As a son of Polish Holocaust survivors who spent his early childhood in Kazakhstan, Poland, Austria and Germany, I wrote the following poem, “So unpredictably, in a humble corner/Of the Displaced Persons Camps/Exhibit in Richmond’s Virginia Holocaust/Museum, a family’s trying past at/Last has come to rest,/Guarded on a consecrated wall,/Inviting home, allowing unreservedly to/ Shed a flowing tear; among the/Remnant of a people deemed expendable/It finds acceptance that only/Those touched by common loss/Provide, for they have shared/The fire and the pain.”

We cherish the victims, survivors and liberators. The majority of the Holocaust survivors have lived in Israel where I grew up beginning in 1949, and those still alive along with their descendants and all Israelis, Jews and Arabs, are vulnerable given Iran’s genocidal agenda begrudging Jewish survival and the one and only Jewish state. Iran’s agents of terror are active on Israel’s south and north borders. I travelled this past January on a Leadership Mission of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (Reform), witnessing firsthand Israel’s unique security concerns. We visited Moshav Netiv Ha’asarah on Gaza’s border that was hit during the recent 50-day Gaza War and saw an opening of a tunnel dug from Gaza. Israel’s resilient people have

been terrorized by Hamas’ rockets and shells far too long. From Mt. Bental on the Golan Heights at a UN observation post, we gazed on a cold and foggy day at ominous Syria, aware that Hezbollah there and in nearby Lebanon possesses 150,000 rockets at Iran’s command.

Shiite Iran’s drive for a nuclear capability is an overriding goal for its dictatorial clerics whose menacing tentacles pose unacceptable risk not only to Israel, alarming enough, but also to the entire Sunni Arab world whose domination it seeks. Israel’s incredible and unshakable bond (so should it remain!) of mutual benefit and common vision with the United States whom Iran calls the “Great Satan,” further makes Israel, the “Little Satan,” a target for a repressive regime finding the West’s progressive democracy anathema. While ISIS (The Islamic State) continues planting death and destruction in a widening range of global aspirations, with brazen barbarism of medieval darkness challenging civilization’s norms. Brutal President Assad’s genocidal assaults on his own Syrian people have so tragically passed the fourth year mark, with over 200,000 dead, thousands tortured in prisons, 3.9 million refugees mostly in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan, and 7.6 million displaced within Syria, with the international community shamefully watching a catastrophe of a profusely bleeding wound infecting an entire region and beyond.

Israel, treating wounded and willing Syrians and ever present when disaster strikes anywhere, is the only source of stability and modernity in that troubled part of the world, and in its recent democratic elections Israeli Arabs freely participated (a right denied in the neighboring Arab States) winning the third largest bloc in the Knesset. The arduous search for peace with the Palestinians, who are yet to recognize Israel as the Jewish state it is, remains a steadfast goal in spite of Hamas’ avowed aim to fight Israel, and its alliance with the Palestinian Authority. Israel struggles to address its socioeconomic gap and the Jewish pluralism issue, recognizing its astonishing and leading accomplishments testimony to being heir to the great Jewish legacy enriching the human family. The misguided BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) movement only serves to weaken Israel and the prospects for peace that only a strong Israel can conclude, being the world’s only democracy whose very existence and identity are questioned. A growing anti-Semitism in Europe, scene of the unfathomable Holocaust, with murderous acts in Belgium, France and Denmark, threatens Europe’s historical Jewish presence.

At this season of sacred and soaring remembrance, we recall the 50th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery March, the preceding “Bloody Sunday” of March 7, 1965, and the following Voting Rights Act. Rabbis and Jewish laypersons were disproportionately involved in the Civil Rights Movement and stood by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to uplift America to live up to its glorious promise for all. My synagogue is the world’s only home to two African-American churches.

The forthcoming Tiananmen Square Massacre 26th anniversary on June 6th, 2015, prompts me to share my experience, “The Kaddish letters grow/Small in this overwhelming/Space of invisible evil./I shield them in the pocket,/Close to my heart,/Away from

the menacing/Look of the Chinese soldier,/To protect memory.” May our anguished planet know soon, in partnership with the Most High, Shalom’s essential blessings of healing, hope and harmony. Amen.

Dr. Israel Zoberman is the founding rabbi of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach.

TRIBUTE TO TONY ALEXANDER

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tony Alexander’s 43 years of service to FirstEnergy. As FirstEnergy’s longest-serving chief executive officer, Tony is responsible for propelling the company to the forefront of the energy industry.

Since joining FirstEnergy in 1972, Tony has served in a number of unique roles. His leadership has contributed to FirstEnergy’s success every step of the way. Over the course of his career, he guided the company through significant mergers and acquisitions, regulatory challenges, and a range of operational and financial issues.

For example, Tony was instrumental in the merger of Ohio Edison and Centerior Energy, which formed FirstEnergy. A year after he was named president of First Energy, the company doubled in size and Tony deftly managed the company through significant regulatory, financial and environmental challenges during his career.

Not only is Tony a leader in our business community, he has also dedicated much of his life to serving the Greater Akron area. Currently, Tony serves on the Board of Trustees of Akron Tomorrow and Team NEO, and as an advisory trustee to the University of Akron Board of Trustees. In addition, he is on the President’s Advancement Council of the Austen BioInnovation Institute and serves on the Institute’s board of directors.

Northeast Ohio is grateful for his service. I wish Tony the very best in his retirement.

RED ROCKS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud Red Rocks Community College for their dedication and commitment to Jefferson County and higher education.

Red Rocks Community College, with campuses in Lakewood and Arvada, offers more than 150 programs and 650 courses leading to two-year degrees or professional certificates. Since 1969, Red Rocks Community College has delivered a quality education to an eclectic mix of students of all ages, incomes and backgrounds. Serving 14,000 students each year, Red Rocks is the convenient community college down the street and a program that is worth traveling halfway around the world.

Red Rocks is also expanding its campus in Arvada for Health Careers, Technologies, and

Science program expansion. The expansion is estimated to be completed in late 2016 and will allow Red Rocks to respond to the growing workforce needs in the community.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Red Rocks Community College for their well-deserved Genesis Award and their economic contributions and leadership within and outside of Jefferson County.

TRIBUTE TO LARRIE WEST
STALKS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Larrie West Stalks, and the many contributions she made as a dedicated public servant in Essex County.

Born and raised in Newark, New Jersey, Mrs. Stalks had an extensive career in public service and worked tirelessly to improve the lives of others in her community. In 1974, Mrs. Stalks was elected as Essex County Register of Deeds and Mortgages and served four consecutive five year terms. In her fourth term she was the only African-American Constitutional Officer serving on a County level in New Jersey.

As a trailblazer, she served as Director of Health and Welfare and Executive Secretary of the Newark Central Planning Board, where she became the first African American appointed department head and cabinet member in the history of Newark municipal government. In 1984, Mrs. Stalks achieved another first, when she was elected President of the County Officers of the State of New Jersey. Following her election, she also served on the National Association of County Officer's (NACO) Human Services Steering Committee. Mrs. Stalks was then appointed to the Board of Directors of NACO which represented 48 states.

During her tenure in municipal government, she developed and supervised federally funded anti-poverty programs and instituted Newark's first mobile health unit program, which served as a national model. She then founded the Municipal Career Women of Newark and became a mentor for numerous women who worked in government. Mrs. Stalks spearheaded the development of 426 units of affordable housing and a shopping mall. She also chaired the Long Range Planning Advisory Budget Committee for St. Michael's Hospital.

A staunch democrat, her previous home at 41 Rector Street in Newark was affectionately referred to as "The House for Democrats." Mrs. Stalks resided in the Village of South Orange Township for the past 40 years but she always proudly said, "I am Newark first!" Mrs. Stalks had numerous awards reflecting her civic activities, professional affiliations and political involvement.

Mr. Speaker, I know my fellow members of the House of Representatives agree that Mrs. Larrie West Stalks was an integral part of the growth and development of Essex County. This tribute recognizes her life's work, her stellar career and her personal commitment to improving the lives of her fellow man.

TRIBUTE TO COACH ANDREW
TRENKLE AND THE MAINE
SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL CONSTITU-
TION TEAM

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Coach Trenkle and the Maine South High School Constitution Team for their achievement in winning the Illinois State Title of the "We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution" competition.

This year's competition marks the twenty-third time the Maine South team has won the title in the last twenty-four years.

The "We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution" program, sponsored by the Center for Civic Education, promotes civic competence and responsibility through course study and mock Congressional hearings.

To succeed in this competition, students must demonstrate a deep understanding of Constitutional principles as well as an ability to apply critical thinking skills and to work together. The Maine South team rose to that challenge in winning this competition and I am sure they will apply those same skills to achieve success in the future.

Congratulations to all the members of the 2014-2015 Maine South Constitution team: Coach Andrew Trenkle, Lauren Acker, Anthony Alvizu, Valerie Asimacopoulos, Chris Brendza, Paul D'Ambrosio, Tomy Deeter, Cailin Devereux, Alex Ellyin, Michael Gabel, Victoria Gawedzki, Michael Harris, Dan Hopkinson, Matt Kelly, John Klages, Meghan Martin, Bjorn Olafsson, Guy Olson, Matt Pierucci, Alex Ponder, Jake Ritthamel, Julia Samulak, Mary Grace Sharp, Elizabeth Skoronski, Alex Solberg, Lucie Sullivan, Sabrina Tamas, Mark Tamvakis, Savannah Theil, Isabelle Tobolski, and Melissa Walek.

On behalf of the Ninth Congressional District of Illinois, I congratulate you on your success, and wish you the best of luck in the national competition.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARIE PULLIN

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman, Dr. Marie Pullin, who gave of herself in order for others to stand; and

Whereas, her legacy of dedicated service to enrich the children and others in her community through her volunteerism, creative ability and unwavering advocacy for the youth, the elderly, the poor and the arts are present in DeKalb County, Georgia for all to see; and

Whereas, this remarkable, positive woman with a beautiful smile gave of herself, her heart and her talent; never asking for fame or fortune but only to uplift, expose and inspire those in need; and

Whereas, she led by example from behind the scenes, as well as front and center for the

state of Georgia, DeKalb County and the City of Atlanta, multiple ministries, homeowner associations, the Atlanta Edgewood-Kirkwood Neighborhood Center; and in her beloved church, Israel Baptist Church; and

Whereas, this virtuous Proverbs 31 woman was a mother, a wife, a daughter, a friend, a warrior, a matriarch, and a woman of great integrity; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional recognition on Dr. Marie Pullin for her leadership, friendship and 50 years of service to all of the citizens in Georgia and throughout the Nation; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 114th Congress that Dr. Marie Pullin of DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor"—Dr. Marie Pullin, U.S. Citizen of Distinction, in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 14th day of March, 2015.

HONORING EVELYN KEISER

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Evelyn Keiser, co-founder of Keiser University, who will be inducted into the Florida Women's Hall of Fame, for her dedication to improving the lives of women and all citizens of Florida.

Evelyn was born Evelyn Cahn in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1924. She graduated from Temple University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology, one of only a few women in what was then a predominately male field of study. She traveled throughout the United States where her education and ambition for the medical field led to her employment in several hospitals and medical labs.

In 1977, alongside her son Dr. Arthur Keiser, she opened the Keiser School on Oakland Park Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale with one student and 2,400 square feet of classrooms. She took a chance and paved a path for educators to better serve career-motivated students, the state, and specifically the Florida communities in which her students learn, work and raise their families.

Now, 38 years later, her dream has transformed into Florida's second largest independent university. With 15 locations statewide, Keiser serves nearly 20,000 students pursuing doctoral through associate degrees and employing 3,500 staff and faculty. Sixty-two percent of Keiser University students graduate in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and healthcare fields, providing the talented workforce needed for Florida to compete globally. Over 20 percent of students are members of the armed services, veterans, or military family members.

Ms. Keiser has held positions of co-founder, instructor, program director, chairwoman of the board of advisors, and more. Throughout her career, she has received multiple accolades including "Teacher of the Year" and "Educator of the Year." In February 2004, Ms. Keiser was awarded an honorary doctorate from Beijing University citing her commitment to educational articulation agreements between China and the United States.