

one to ten years depending on the gravity of the act. This important legislation will send a message to any potential offenders that our police dogs and horses are valued for the law enforcement functions they serve, and any offenses against these animals will have serious consequences.

This is a modest step, but an important one and I urge its passage.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI STANLEY HALPERN AND RABBI MICHAEL STEVENS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 14, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend two of Northwest Indiana's most distinguished citizens, Rabbi Stanley Halpern and Rabbi Michael Stevens. On Sunday, October 17, 1999, Rabbis Halpern and Stevens will be honored for their exemplary and dedicated service to Northwest Indiana and to the State of Israel. Their praiseworthy efforts will be recognized at the Northwest Indiana-Israel Dinner of State, as they receive the Shema Yisrael Award. The Shema Yisrael Award is given to worthy recipients who demonstrate their dedication and outstanding service of Israel and their community.

Rabbi Stanley Halpern, a resident of Portage, Indiana, came to Temple Israel in Gary, Indiana, in 1988 from Central California where he served as the Executive Director of the Bureau of Jewish Education in Sacramento. Rabbi Halpern is very involved in several organizations, including: the Jewish Deaf Congress, the Gary Interfaith Clergy Council, and the Interfaith Alliance of Northwest Indiana. He also serves as chaplain of the Gary Police Department. Additionally, he serves on the board at the Northwest Indiana Open Housing Center, the Bio-Ethics Committee of Munster Community Hospital, the Liheyot panel of the UAHC Committee on Family Concerns, and the CJF Special Committee on Accessibility. Though Rabbi Halpern is dedicated to his career and his community, he has never limited his time and love for his 16-year-old daughter, Sasha.

Rabbi Michael Stevens, a native of Brooklyn, New York, received both a bachelor's and master's degree in music, as well as a master's degree in Hebrew literature. In 1976, Rabbi Stevens was ordained as a Rabbi at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York. Before coming to Northwest Indiana in 1987 to serve the Temple Beth-El in Munster, Rabbi Stevens served as Rabbi of Beth Israel Temple Center in Warren, Ohio, and of Congregation Rodeph Shalom in Montreal, Quebec. He also served as Interim Rabbi of Congregation Keneseth Israel in Allentown, Pennsylvania. While Rabbi Stevens has dedicated considerable time and energy to his work, he always made an extra effort to give to the community. He has served on the Lake County AIDS Pastoral Care Network, reviewed concerts of the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra, composed music for the Temple Beth-El choir, and has played the role

of the Rabbi in a production of "Fiddler on the Roof." He has served for many years on the faculty of the Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute camp in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, and currently teaches in the Department of English and Philosophy at Purdue University Calumet. Rabbi and Judy Stevens are the proud parents of four wonderful children, David, Joshua, Andrea, and Aaron.

The special guest at this gala event will be Mr. Uriel Lynn. Mr. Lynn is a distinguished lawyer and businessman and a former highly regarded member of Israel's Knesset.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Rabbis Stanley Halpern and Michael Stevens for receiving the Shema Yisrael Award. Their dedicated service to both the State of Israel and our Northwest Indiana community is commendable and admirable.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT FONTI

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 14, 1999

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Robert G. Fonti as he is honored by the Saul Weprin Democratic Club on Sunday, October 17th, 1999 at the club's 42nd annual dinner dance.

Robert Fonti is an active member of the Board of Governors of the Saul Weprin Democratic Club. He is the President and the CEO of the Vincent James Management Company where he specializes in Real Estate Brokerage and Property management.

An alumni of St. John's University, Robert Fonti earned a Bachelor and a Master of Arts in Government and Politics as well as a Certificate in Public Administration. He is actively involved in professional organizations such as the National Realty Organization, the Real Estate Board of Education, the New York Association of Realty Managers and the National Asbestos Council. As a real estate consultant to the Town of Huntington, Robert Fonti advises the Town Board on all trustee and land use matters. He also serves as the VP of Budget and Finance for Respect for Law Alliance Inc.

Aside from his professional duties, Robert Fonti donates his time and energy to such worthy causes as the New York State Order of the Sons of Italy in America, the Coalition of Italian American Organizations, and the Boy Scouts of America.

Robert is a devoted husband to his wife, Barbara, and father to his daughters, Barbara Olivia and Lauren Anne.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in extending my congratulations to Robert Fonti as he is honored by the Saul Weprin Democratic Club for his years of active service to his community.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES CONLON

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 14, 1999

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an admirable and dedicated resident of Union, New Jersey who has graciously served his community for many years.

James Conlon is a graduate of the Rutgers University School of Law and member of the New Jersey State and Union County Bar Associations. He served for 21 years as a Union Township Committee member where he went on to become Mayor for five terms between 1975 and 1982. Mr. Conlon was an attorney for Union Township from 1982 to 1993 and has been admitted to practice law before the United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Conlon has contributed countless hours of his time to the younger community in Union, as well as to the fight against cancer. He has served as counsel to the American Lung Association of New Jersey and acted as a former trustee for the Boys and Girls Club of Union. In addition, Mr. Conlon has exhibited a strong involvement in the religious community as a member of, and advocate for, the Union Council Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Conlon is an example of courage, integrity, and commitment through his political, professional, and civic efforts to better the community of Union, New Jersey. Please join me in thanking him for his years of service and wishing him continued success.

HONORING WALLACE T. DREW AND DR. URSULA HENDERSON DREW

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 14, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues two extraordinary people, who on October 9th were honored by their community with the distinguished United Way Community Excellence Award.

Wallace T. Drew has had an impressive career as a managing director for Revlon, Inc., head of Coty Inc. and Vice President of the local Salomon Smith Barney. Mr. Drew has also been a driving force in countless community service organizations in Santa Barbara. He has served on the boards of the United Nations Association of the USA, United Boys & Girls Clubs, the Santa Barbara Symphony, Lobero Theatre Foundation, and the Santa Barbara Arts Council. He was also founder and Chairman of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation and Senior Warden at All Saints by the Sea Episcopal Church. In addition, Mr. Drew has served on every committee within the Santa Barbara County United Way organization, including Vice-Chair of "Burn the Mortgage in 90" Campaign, founding member of the Endowment Committee and Leadership Circle Committee, and Board Treasurer and President.