

Service, Casa Pacifica, Rubicon Theatre Company, New West Symphony, Ventura Boys & Girls Club, Foster Library, and several local hospitals.

Through their commitment to their Jewish Heritage, Larry and Barbara Meister have received Temple Beth Torah's highest honor. The Meister Scholarship Fund—Youth Trip to Israel has sent 18 students to Israel in the past 13 years.

The social hall at Temple Beth Torah, the boardroom at Casa Pacifica, and the lobby at the Rubicon Theatre Company have been named in honor of Barbara and Larry Meister.

Barbara Meister has served on the board of Casa Pacifica and is a cofounder of its Angels program. She also has served on the boards of Community Memorial Healthcare Foundation and United Jewish Appeal Women's Division. She was chair of the Rubicon Theatre Company's Education Outreach Program. She is a member of Hadassah, National Council of Jewish Women, the National Women's Political Caucus, and the Ventura County Community Foundation's Women's Legacy Fund Grants Advisory Committee. The latter organization recently established the Barbara Meister Fund for Women.

Larry Meister is a successful business leader as President and CEO of Barber Ford/Volkswagen/Isuzu and Barber Recreation Vehicles. He has received the Ford Distinguished Achievement Award for 32 years and the North American Customer Satisfaction Award for the past 5 years. He was recently awarded the prestigious President's Award from Ford Motor Co. for the second time. He has also supported a host of charitable organizations' events.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a strong supporter of Interface Children Family Services for more than 20 years. The work of the organization and its volunteers has bettered the lives of countless families in my community. I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Larry and Barbara Meister for the honor they so richly deserve and thank them for decades of dedication to others.

#### HOGAN FAMILY REUNION

### HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2000*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor and recognize the descendants of the city of Hogansville, GA, as they set aside June 15–18, 2000, to have the second, ever, Hogan Family Reunion. The founding father, William Hogan, established a one-man plantation in the 1930's which encompassed much of the current town of Hogansville.

William Hogan's efforts to stimulate the local economy began by ceding the right of way to the Atlanta and West Railroad, which eventually led to the town being chartered in 1870.

William had 18 children, accounting for 11 lines of descendants. Representatives of nine of those lines from 11 states, along with the entire town of Hogansville are invited to share in the festivities as Hogansville remembers its founding father, William Hogan.

Frances Hogan Moss, following in the footsteps of her father, William Hogan, Jr., has been instrumental in coordinating the reunion and is looking forward to the momentous occasion.

TRIBUTE TO RANDOLPH D. SMOAK, JR., M.D.

### HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2000*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Dr. Randolph D. Smoak, Jr., a renowned surgeon from Orangeburg, South Carolina. Tomorrow, June 14, Dr. Smoak will be inaugurated as 155th President of the American Medical Association (AMA) at its annual convention in Chicago, Illinois. A member of the AMA Board of Trustees since 1992, Dr. Smoak has been a member of its Executive Committee since 1994. Dr. Smoak currently chairs the American Medical Accreditation Program (AMAP) Governing Body, and is lead spokesperson for AMA's anti-smoking campaign. He served as AMA Commissioner to the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) from 1996–1999 and as the AMA's official representative to the National Health Council since 1994.

Born in Bamberg, South Carolina, Dr. Smoak received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of South Carolina (USC) in Columbia, and his medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston. After completing his internship at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia, and residency training at the University of Texas Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, he returned to his home state to establish a surgical practice.

Dr. Smoak's dedication to organized medicine has been evident through his years of service on the state and national level. He has served in virtually every leadership capacity in the South Carolina medical community, including President of SCMA, Chair of the SCMA Political Action Committee, and President of the South Carolina Medical Care Foundation. He is a founding member of the South Carolina Oncology Society and served from 1992 to 1998 as Governor to the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Smoak is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a diplomat of the American Board of Surgery. He is a clinical professor of surgery at the Medical University of South Carolina and clinical associate professor of surgery at the USC School of Medicine. Dr. Smoak's involvement in civic activities includes service as President of the South Carolina Division of the American Cancer Society, a member of the Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College Foundation Board, and Lt. Governor of Carolina's Kiwanis Club.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Dr. Randolph D. Smoak for his meritorious service, indelible leadership, and unparalleled devotion in the field of medicine, and his continued success as the President of the American Medical Association.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD DIBARI ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE JERSEY CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2000*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Di Bari on his retirement from the Jersey City Police Department after 29 years of serving and protecting the public.

Officer Di Bari began his career in 1971 as a foot patrolman. Since then, he has served with distinction and honor in a variety of positions, including scooter patrol, motorcycle radar instruction and enforcement, breathalyzer operator, grant writer, patrol officer, staff member of Support Services, Chief's office staff, and day tour desk assistant.

For three decades, Officer Di Bari has worked tirelessly to serve his community. His career reflects the character and dedication police officers require to succeed at meeting the considerable challenges of police work. This degree of dedication is based on a simple truth: the police have an obligation to serve and protect; and a community only prospers when its citizens are enabled to work and live in safety. Officer Di Bari understands this truth, and he lives by it.

He has received a commendation, a valor award FOP, a Motorcycle Unit Citation, and has been awarded four times for excellent police service.

I ask my colleagues to join me as I honor Richard Di Bari for his distinguished 29-year career as a police officer.

#### THE RETIREMENT OF JOHN BURKE

### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2000*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call to the attention of our colleagues the retirement of an outstanding teacher who dedicated his life to helping his students.

John Burke has influenced the lives of so many and is a man of great character and notoriety. He is looked upon with great respect and honor in the teaching profession.

Since 1967, John has served the Nanuet School District in Nanuet, New York, beginning his career as a Business Law Teacher. After serving as a business teacher for six years, he then became Nanuet's Assistant Principal from 1973–1978. From 1978 to the present he has served as Principal of Nanuet High School.

In 1994, John Burke was awarded the Robert J. Drennan Administrator of the Year Award from Rockland School Administrators Association. In addition to that John has other outstanding accomplishments such as the M.B.W.A., a degree in administration, known as Management By Walking Around, and two degrees. In addition to being principal, John has been involved in the school's extracurricular activities. He established the

L.E.N.S (Leadership Exchange for Network Students) program.

John's students have said: "Through the years you have always come to our games to cheer us on, to applaud our plays, to sing along with us at our concerts; wherever we look you were there to support us. If we were involved, you were involved. You have shown this affectionate concern with us and the Nanuet community. Our parents trust you and believe that we children are safe with you. We thank you for your invisible warm hands."

Mr. Speaker, I invite our colleagues to join in extending a warm thank you to John Burke for his dedication, his support, faithfulness, and love for his students, community, and his job. Well done John!

RABBI DR. H. JOSEPH SIMCKES  
AND CHANA SIMCKES

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN  
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor Rabbi Dr. H. Joseph and Chana Simckes on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of their association with the Hollis Hills Jewish Center. It is with great pride that I pay tribute to two people who I have known closely, and with whom I have worked with on numerous issues critical to the Jewish community and beyond. Joseph and Chana Simckes have made the Jewish sage Hillel's ancient dictum, "Do not separate yourself from the community," a living guide for their lives and the basis for their continuing efforts to promote social justice and human dignity from within and beyond the walls of the synagogue.

Rabbi Simckes has been an exemplary spiritual leader, teaching Jewish values and providing moral guidance by his personal example, and I confidently expect that he will continue to be a source of leadership, learning and compassion for his congregation. Rabbi Simckes came to the Hollis Hills Jewish Center from a pulpit in Massachusetts and has been an energetic community leader in Jewish philanthropy, Jewish education and pro-Israel advocacy. Holding a doctorate in Pastoral Counseling, with experience in psycho-therapy, Rabbi Simckes has been a source of counsel and comfort for hundreds of my constituents, sharing his great wisdom and boundless compassion.

Equally, Chana Simckes has won the hearts and respect of the Hollis Hills Jewish Center, and the larger Jewish community beyond, through her commitment and involvement in sustaining Jewish continuity and values. A refugee from Nazi Germany, Chana Simckes has embodied the American dream: graduating from Columbia University, succeeding as a professional in Jewish education, and rising to the leadership of numerous Jewish community organizations, all while raising a growing family.

Joseph and Chana Simckes have elevated and improved the lives of their community, providing those around them with guidance, education, support and leadership. Stalwart advocates of social action, tireless champions

of the Jewish people and the values of the Torah, I am honored to share with this House their marvelous example, and to hold them up for the recognition they both so richly deserve.

REGARDING THE SMALL BUSINESS  
SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING ON  
EMPOWERMENT ZONES

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS  
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Empowerment Zones, and strongly encourage my colleagues to support this worthwhile program. Recently, the Small Business Subcommittee on Rural Enterprises, Business Opportunities and Special Small Business Problems, of which I am a member, held a hearing to discuss the benefits of Empowerment Zones and the need to authorize funding for Round II EZs.

The EZ and Enterprise Communities (EC) program, target federal grants to distressed urban and rural communities for social services and community redevelopment, and provide tax and regulatory relief intended to attract and retain businesses in these areas. The enacting legislation designated 104 communities as either EZs or ECs. As a part of this program, each urban and rural EZ receives \$100 million and \$40 million, respectively, in flexible Social Service Block Grant (SSBG) funds. In addition, qualifying EZ employers are entitled to a 20% credit on the first \$15,000 of wages paid to certain qualified zone employees.

The district I represent in Southern Illinois is home to the Southernmost Illinois Delta Empowerment Zone (SIDEZ). SIDEZ, is one of only eight rural empowerment zones in the United States, and provides a much needed economic boost to Southern Illinois. Currently, SIDEZ is working on community and economic development in seven areas. Those seven goals are, Infrastructure, Economic Development, Tourism Development, Stronger Unity/Sense of Community, Life-long Learning and Education, Housing and Health Care.

The enactment of EZ/EC legislation brought about an innovative, 10-year program to reduce urban and rural poverty and distress. I have seen how effective and well utilized these programs have been and I urge my colleagues to support full funding of current and future Empowerment Zones.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER STONE  
"KIT" DOVE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO  
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kit Dove, an outstanding environmental activist of California's San Mateo County coast who passed away on April 20, 2000, and who will be honored in a public memorial service at Quarry Park in El Granada, California on June 17, 2000.

Mr. Dove was very active in politics since he first moved to the Coastside with his family in 1980. He served as a board member and President of the Granada Sanitary District in the 1980's, and more recently, he served on the San Mateo County Agricultural Advisory Committee. In 1986, he was a co-author of the successful San Mateo County Measure A, a growth control measure for the unincorporated areas of the Coastside. In 1994, he helped pass the Coastal Protection Initiative which closed certain loopholes in Measure A.

I had the honor of working closely with Kit to form the Midcoast Community Council in 1991 and I was always impressed with this passion and tireless dedication to the Coastside and environmental preservation. He was subsequently elected to serve on the first Midcoast Community Council and was chosen to be Chairman.

Kit Dove was not only active in politics, he was also active in getting others to participate in the public arena. Numerous Coastside environmentalists and elected officials have credited Kit with their own activism in politics, environmental issues and public participation in the community. His wisdom and ability to bring together diverse groups of individuals made him a much sought after advisor and a well respected member of the Coastside community.

Mr. Speaker, Kit Dove was a very kind, selfless man dedicated to his family and his community. Anyone who ever came in contact with him gained a greater appreciation for the environment. He lives on through his two children, through his devoted wife Mary and through all of us who were fortunate to have known him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a wonderful man who lived a life of purpose and to extend our deepest sympathy to Mary Freeman Dove and the entire Dove family.

IN HONOR OF LEONARD AND LUPE  
ORTIZ

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY  
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Leonard and Lupe Ortiz, whose devotion to the people and culture of Ventura County, CA, in my district, will be recognized this weekend at the Interface Children Family Services' Tribute Dinner.

Leonard and Lupe Ortiz have lived in Ventura County their entire lives and are close personal friends. They raised four children here, three of which continue to live in Ventura County. In 1952, the Ortiz family launched Ortiz Trucking, which flourished. While building and running a successful business and raising and nurturing a fine family, Leonard and Lupe Ortiz also made time to dedicate themselves to their community.

Leonard Ortiz has served on the boards of Interface, the United Way, Easter Seals, and Community Memorial Hospital. He has been a member of the Sheriff's Posse, which is involved in search and rescue operations. He is now a member of the newly formed La Voz—Voice of Santa Paula. Its goal is to preserve